



**Hastings-on-Hudson
Regular Board of Education Meeting
Tuesday, October 11, 2022**

Members present

Doug Sundheim
Jeremy Galland
Silvia Robles
Alexander Dal Piaz
Damaris-Lois Lang
Doreen Bucher
Maureen Lennon-Santana

1. OPENING OF MEETING

A. Call to Order at 6:15 PM - it is expected that a motion will be made to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter, non-represented staff raises.

- Meeting called to order at 6:20 PM

Motion to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter, non-represented staff raises.

Motion by Silvia Robles, second by Maureen Lennon-Santana.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Doug Sundheim, Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Maureen Lennon-Santana

B. Public Hearing on Code of Conduct at 7:15 PM

- No public comments

2. PRESENTATIONS

A. Audit Report

Jeff Shaver from PKF O'Connor Davies presented the draft Audit Report to the Board, then answered questions from the Board regarding the financial statements presented.

[Click here to view the Draft Audit Report](#)

[Click here to view presentation and discussion](#)

3. REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT

A. District Highlights

Dr. McKersie:

- In Portrait update is a listing of the core team group invited into the process. The Superintendent, with guidance from Leadership Team, made the selections.
- The POHL Core Team will meet later this month for intensive work sessions.
- The POHL surveys are out - distinct surveys for parents for various grades, all personnel, community, and students who will be surveyed Wednesday and Thursday.
- The Panorama surveys have been pushed out.
- The Portrait process will be an open public process, with many opportunities for discussion and input.
- By the end of the week, we will have a dedicated part of the webpage for the Portrait process.

B. Portrait Update

Portrait of a Hastings Learner - Core Group	
Louis Adipietro	Principal (HHS)
Keith Barca	Teacher
Faye Barenfeld	Teacher
Gina Bellavia	Teacher
Christopher Campbell	Teacher
Alexander Dal Piaz	BOE President
Kamillah Dawkins	Assistant Principal (FMS)
Jada Dickens	Teacher
Ezra Elliot	Teacher
Shannon Gray	Teacher
Emily Kehoe	Teacher
Michael LaRocco	Assistant Principal (HES)
Steven Lopez	Teacher
Jenice Mateo-Toledo	ENL & Diversity Coordinator
William McKersie	Superintendent
Robin Muskin	Parent (HHS)
Joan Paradis	Teacher
Jocelyn Perez	Counselor
Raquel Reid McFarlane	Teaching Assistant
Gus Renzin	Student
Robin Farrell	Teacher
Silvia Robles	BOE Trustee
Tanya Rynders	Parent (HES)
Jael Sanchez	Student
Stephen Sullivan	Teacher
Tesfa Stewart	SPED Assistant Director
Doug Sundheim	BOE Trustee
Melissa Szymanski	Assistant Superintendent
Sharon Wallach	Parent (FMS)
Judith Wilson	Facilitator

4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Digital Learning & Technology Update

Melissa Szymanski presented a Digital Learning & Technology Update to the Board:

[Click here to view the slide presentation](#)

[Click here to view the presentation and discussion](#)

5. STUDENT REPORT

A. Student Report

Gus Renzin:

- First off, I want to congratulate Emma Leddy for being nominated as LOHUD's player of the week. Captain of the Hastings Field Hockey team, Emma scored twice in Hastings' 5-0 win over Albertus Magnus and made four assists against Bronxville. As of right now, the Field Hockey team is 9-2-1 and ranked first in the section.
- Hastings Girls Cross Country won the Woodlands Extravaganza meet. Hastings runners placed first in both the girls and boys races.
- Ms. Shandroff's Science Research juniors are currently designing at-home experiments to hone skills that will be used over the summer in real research experiences. Right now, the largest number of seniors in

Hastings High School History are finishing their research papers and are preparing to submit them to the Regeneron Science Talent Search, the nation's largest science competition.

- Thanks to the guidance office, seniors and juniors have been lucky enough to participate in visits from a variety of colleges, universities, and other post high-school opportunities. Some highlights were presentations from Northwestern University, the U.S. Army, and SUNY-Binghamton.
- Project Share's second midnight run of the year was a massive success. For the first time since Covid, significant numbers of freshmen made the trip down to New York City to distribute food. In preparation for the annual Thanksgiving Dinner for the homeless, which will be held in the Cochran Gym. SHARE is fundraising aggressively and planning a schoolwide assembly for November 2nd at 11:00 a.m.

Elianna Carvalho:

- The school play is very soon: Friday and Saturday, October 21st and 22nd. Everyone is working hard and excited to be back on the stage without masks. We just had the set constructed yesterday and it looks really cool. I recommend checking it out if you pass the high school auditorium. Organized by the lovely Ms. Udice, the playbill for *The Outsiders* will include a bio and photo of every cast and crew member. This is a first. I definitely recommend that everyone come see it! It's going to be great!
- Senior Julien Amsellem was selected as New York State's Young Birder of the Year, and spent last weekend in Albany receiving his award.
- To add onto the sports update from Gus, although we did not win our last football home game this past Friday, we did make an impressive touchdown in the last few moments of the game. We honored the senior football players and Hudsonettes, giving them each a flower. It was exciting for all spectators to watch some real Friday night lights!
- Everyone's favorite early school year activity, Pictureday, was two weeks ago, for all high school students other than the seniors, who take theirs based on appointments. Picture day makeup is October 21st.
- On October 26th, juniors will be going on a history trip to Philadelphia (a trip that used to be an annual tradition before Covid). We will be seeing various historic landmarks, such as Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell.
- The Junior Formal is set for November 7th, and the student planning committee has already made plans for the decor, food, and activities—all under the theme Starlit City. Tickets are being sold and everyone seems very excited.
- Finally, Safe Rides is back! Safe rides is a free car service that runs in Hastings Friday and Saturdays from 10pm to 1am (funded by the Hastings Youth Council) and is designed to act as a reliable, local transportation that teens can use if they ever need a ride home on a weekend night. It was shut down because of Covid, but now it's back and the SADD club is enthusiastically making keychains with the safe ride number on it.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Public Comment

- No Public Comment

Senior Citizens Tax Update:

Maureen Caraballo:

- Advised the Board that Governor Hochul signed into law the opportunity for local municipalities to adopt an increase in the income tax limits for Senior Citizens. She will present more information at the next BOE meeting.
- Will need to provide how many community members would be eligible for this increase. The Board will need to vote by mid-November if they wish to adopt the increase.

7. BUSINESS

A. Business Items

1. Facing History and Ourselves - Teaching for Equity and Justice, proposal.
2. Warrants December 17, 2021 - September 23, 2022.
3. Approve Audit Report for year ending June 30, 2022 and District Responses.
4. CBS/XEROX Financial Services LLC, Lease Renewal Agreement.
5. Budget Transfer.
6. Proposal for IAQ/Mold and Lead Paint Survey.
7. Approve the use of Reserve for Liability Claims, to increase the budget in the amount of \$65,000 for a Special Education Settlement.
8. LHRIC - Proposal Day Automation #014623.

9. David Lovett LLC Dance Lighting & Design, Hastings High School production of Outsiders, invoice.

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approve the business items.

Motion by Jeremy Galland, second by Doug Sundheim.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Doug Sundheim, Jeremy Galland, Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana

B. Placement and/or Services for CSE and CPSE

RESOLVED, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Preschool Special Education, the Board accepts the classifications and arrangements for the placement and/or services for the 2022-2023 school year:

CPSE: 12563

CSE: 11526, 9046, 12470

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Preschool Special Education, the Board of Education accepts the classifications and arrangements for the placement and/or services.

Motion by Jeremy Galland, second by Damaris-Lois Lang.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Doug Sundheim, Jeremy Galland, Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana

8. PERSONNEL

A. Appointments

1. Kathleen Purdy, appoint to position of part-time School Monitor, effective October 3, 2022.
2. Katrina Moreno, appoint to position of Substitute Clerical Assistant, effective October 3, 2022.
3. Paula Pereira, appoint to position of Substitute Clerical Assistant, effective October 3, 2022.
4. Gordon MacDonald, appoint to 1.0 FTE Physical Education Regular Substitute/Leave Replacement at Hastings High School, BA Step 1, \$60,154 (to be pro-rated), effective October 11, 2022-January 20, 2023. Certification held: Physical Education-Initial.
5. Anthony Scioscia, appoint to Per Diem substitute teacher district wide retroactive to October 3, 2022.
6. Updated Schedule B request spreadsheet. (Enc)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approve the appointments.

Motion by Jeremy Galland, second by Doug Sundheim.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Doug Sundheim, Jeremy Galland, Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana

B. Amendment

1. Michelle Macri, amend appointment of 1.0 FTE Math Regular Substitute/Leave Replacement at Farragut Middle School to effective date September 16, 2022-November 21, 2022.

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approve the amendments.

Motion by Jeremy Galland, second by Doug Sundheim.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Doug Sundheim, Jeremy Galland, Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana

C. Retirement

1. Carlos Castaneda, district-wide custodian, has provided notice of resignation for the purpose of retirement effective January 13, 2023.

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accept the retirement.

Motion by Silvia Robles, second by Maureen Lennon-Santana.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Doug Sundheim, Jeremy Galland, Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana

D. Leave of Absence

1. Meghan Reina, Speech and Language Pathologist at Hillside Elementary School has requested leaves of absence as follows: NYSCPL January 11, 2022-January 21, 2022 and NYSCPL September 15, 2022-September 21, 2022.

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approve the leaves of absence.

Motion by Silvia Robles, second by Maureen Lennon-Santana.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Doug Sundheim, Jeremy Galland, Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana

9. MINUTES

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 28, 2022.

RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 28, 2022.

Motion by Jeremy Galland, second by Silvia Robles.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Doug Sundheim, Jeremy Galland, Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana

10. POLICIES

A. Second Read

Policy 103-a - Videoconferencing

Board discussed policy and items that will need to be clarified before the final policy is approved:

- Will need to determine "extraordinary circumstances."
- Will they need to add a limit to the number of times a Board member can join remotely?
- How will they hold each other accountable?
- Will need to determine if the technology supports it should there be more than one virtual participant.
- Board voted to schedule a public hearing to consider the resolution to adopt the new policy.

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education adopt Policy 103-a.

Motion by Damaris-Lois Lang, second by Silvia Robles.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Doug Sundheim, Jeremy Galland, Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana

11. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution to adopt the 2022-2023 Code of Conduct

- Policy #5300 District Wide Code of Conduct

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board adopt the 2022-2023 Code of Conduct.

Motion by Silvia Robles, second by Damaris-Lois Lang.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Doug Sundheim, Jeremy Galland, Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana

12. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Second Public Comment

- No Public Comment

13. AGENDA REVIEW

A. Agenda Review

Dr. McKersie reviewed the upcoming meeting agenda items with the Board:

October 25th:

- Budget Work Session
- SPED Advisory Committee

November 9th:

- Voting on Budget Calendar

November 22nd:

- Executive Session on Security

14. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMENTS

A. Comments

- No comments

15. ADJOURNMENT

A. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Doreen Bucher, second by Maureen Lennon-Santana.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Doug Sundheim, Jeremy Galland, Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana

Melissa DeLaBarrera

Submitted by:

Melissa DeLaBarrera

District Clerk