



**Hastings-on-Hudson
Regular Board of Education Meeting
Tuesday, August 23, 2022**

Members present

Jeremy Galland
Alexander Dal Piaz
Doreen Bucher
Maureen Lennon-Santana

1. OPENING OF MEETING

A. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 7:36 PM by Alex Dal Piaz, Board President.

2. REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT

A. School Opening Update

Dr. McKersie:

- The Board had a productive and successful Board retreat last week, facilitated by Ken Mitchell and Susan Wollin.
- The Leadership team has a 2-day retreat today and tomorrow focused on team building, strategic issues, and goal setting. Tomorrow they will have a presentation by Judy Wilson to begin digging into the Portrait of a Hastings Learner.
- The Board of Education walk-through of the building with facilities will be rescheduled for next week.
- Fall athletics have started.
- Next week faculty will be back starting on August 30th for Superintendent's Conference Day.
- COVID-19: Late yesterday the state released guidance on how schools should operate with COVID. Waiting to hear from the county and will work with Quad village on the next steps. We still don't know if we will continue with Livestream. Isolation is still a requirement for positive cases.
- Suggested shifting BOE Meetings upstairs in the FMS Auditorium and occasionally at Hillside.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Report from Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction

Dr. Szymanski:

- Over the summer, mathematics teachers in Grades 6-8 came together to debrief our 2020-2021 Big Ideas implementation efforts. The department explored and reported out on the originally designed classroom implementation and parent communication agreements. State and local mathematics assessment data were investigated, and discussion ensued about homework. After sharing implementation areas of strength and areas for growth, the team set group goals in the areas of assessment and differentiation. Each teacher also set an individual professional goal.
- Grade 5 teachers also met together this summer to engage in an inquiry into mathematics. Part of this process was to investigate the Big Ideas resources. Overall, the 5th grade team was pleasantly surprised. We decided together to pilot for the upcoming school year.
- Laura, Tesfa, and I began working with the special education advisory committee, a group representing various roles and school buildings. The work of the group was rooted in the principles and practices of improvement science. The process was focused on continuous improvement through the identification of a key problem of practice and related theory of action for the problem identified. The committee analyzed

quantitative and qualitative data together, including a review of reports related to special education, discussion of the history and culture of the district related to special education, inquiry into leadership, teaching and learning practices related to curriculum, instruction, assessment, professional learning and the learning environment. After much deliberation, the group coalesced around the problem of academic performance disparities for students with IEPs and created the following theory of action:

- If we focus on improving the academic performance of students with disabilities, Then students will feel supported, comfortable, and confident to pursue whatever path is best suited for their individual success.
- The committee will reconvene in the fall to continue the improvement science process.
- Members of the science department met in early July to continue alignment efforts to the P-12 science learning standards. 4 middle school units were modified. 106 hours were requested. 72 hours were approved. Due to reductions in the professional development budget, the additional hours requested could not be approved at this time.
- Members of the Art department met with Ezra Elliot, Department Chairperson this summer to enhance the art curriculum. While this content area was not a primary area of focus in the curriculum review cycle, hours were approved for the team to engage in a day of planning together. 120 hours were requested. 30 hours were approved. Due to reductions in the professional development budget and the priority areas of focus for the year outlined in the curriculum review cycle, additional hours requested could not be approved at this time.
- Drew and I met with members of the middle school and high school health and physical education team to begin the Phase I/II inquiry and design processes indicated in the Curriculum Review cycle document. Given the Panorama survey data and the need for content for 6th grade health, the group decided to prioritize the health curriculum. The work occurred over a period of three days and included a review of data, curriculum and standards, research across districts, and identification of measures for success. The group created an articulated scope and sequence for middle and high school health, determined key topics for each grade level, and articulated student learning outcomes for each topic. In addition, a series of performance assessments were created. Collaborative design and peer feedback were integral to the process. An implementation was planned and the curriculum will be piloted starting in the fall. The process was positive and successful, as indicated in feedback from anonymous exit tickets and the products that were created. The group is looking forward to a similar process with physical education once the new school year begins. Department time will be used for this purpose to ensure full participation and to support savings to the professional development budget line.

B. Report from Business Official

Maureen Caraballo:

Facilities Update

- The work required due to Ida to restore the Reynolds Field facility is being completed and we anticipate reopening the entire complex next week. The athletic department has made some adjustments to practice locations for the next week to accommodate the completion of this work.
- The District is working closely with the Village on the next steps required to improve the drainage systems at Reynolds. As you may know, the Village is currently upgrading drainage systems. The District is responsible to improve the culverts and drainage systems at Reynolds that will be in line with the planned Village improvements. The District's engineers and architects have met with the Village engineer to ensure we are communicating and coordinating these efforts. We will be reporting on the next steps in the coming month. The District is working closely with FEMA on these necessary improvements.

Transportation

- Our transportation portal for parents is now open. There have been some routes that were incorrect and will be needed to be adjusted. The Transportation office has been making sure that the routes are adjusted so that we don't experience the issues we were faced with last year. Although, as of today there were still children that are being routed based on District placement, we are optimistic that these will all be addressed prior to the start of school.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Public Comment

Sandy Ramirez - Hastings Parent - 475 Wilmington Avenue:

- New to Hastings, brought up the idea of school uniforms.
- Asked if student work is going to be completed online or on paper.
- Suggested a parent community app for parents to communicate with one another.
- Health options for vending machines.

5. BUSINESS

A. Business Items

1. Capital Region BOCES cross contract for GASB 75 services.
2. Stipulation of Settlement.
3. Change Order No. M1, Contract M, S&O Construction Services, Inc.
4. Change Order No. G2, Contract G, APS Contracting, Inc.
5. Month End Revenue Report - July 2022.
6. Month End Expenditure Report - July 2022.
7. 2022-2023 Extended School Year, Hendrick Hudson Central School District, contract.
8. H2M architects + engineers - Proposal for Professional Services.
9. Con-Tech Construction Technology - Sidewalk Replacement Proposal.
10. Precision Roofing - Proposal for Roofing Services.
11. Almstead Tree, Shrub & Lawn Care.
12. 2022-2023 Mid-Westchester Special Education Consortium Agreement.

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

Motion by Jeremy Galland, second by Maureen Lennon-Santana.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Jeremy Galland, Alexander Dal Piaz, 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 2021-2022 school year:

CSE: 11665, 8035, 10408, 11496, 7421, 7289, 11085, 11444

CPSE: 12263, 11907, 12376, 12261, 12378, 12029

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:

CSE: 11239, 10673, 10493, 10922, 10725, 10972, 11166, 11916, 12071, 7602, 12263, 7672, 11905, 12375, 7261, 10804, 12085, 11914, 11522, 11860, 11498, 11497, 11806, 10300, 11276, 11098, 12116, 12346, 11218, 11411, 10679, 10541, 10208, 10309, 11101, 10681, 11926, 11392, 11888, 12294, 11865, 11691, 11279, 10852, 10483, 11924, 11373, 11286, 11272, 11378, 11150, 10115, 10974, 11915, 10465, 12363, 7286, 11665, 11664, 11306, 11196, 10480, 10863, 12080, 11127, 10733, 7757, 10824, 7756, 11393, 11216, 11897, 11552, 10968, 11071, 10129, 11934, 10489, 7421, 12359, 11405, 10242, 6835, 10590, 11413, 12344, 11689, 11474, 11904, 7644, 11102, 11103, 10655, 11998, 11561, 12077, 12273, 12261, 12030, 10816, 11601, 10633, 11495, 10027, 10448, 10726, 11138, 12292, 12293, 12007, 9098, 10755, 7717, 6957, 11856, 11713, 10697, 11605, 11058, 10664, 12014, 9027, 10908, 12298, 10699, 10897, 11850, 10898, 10421, 7542, 7498, 11284, 10950, 8054, 11882, 11490, 10572, 10600, 12222, 12351, 11697, 7622, 7645, 11516, 11514, 12377, 11061, 7408, 11159, 11055, 11262, 11207, 12362, 10912, 10542, 11050, 10466, 12283, 12282, 10709, 7662, 11510, 12357, 11743, 10914, 11783, 10359, 10534, 11900, 10591, 10915

CPSE: 12375, 11806, 12436, 12376, 12430, 12359, 12431, 12427, 12435, 12378, 12014, 12420

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 Maureen Lennon-Santana.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Jeremy Galland, Alexander Dal Piaz, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana

6. PERSONNEL

A. Appointments

1. Kristie Broms, appoint to 1.0 FTE probationary School Psychologist, District-wide, MA, Step 4, \$75,038, effective August 30, 2022. Probationary period August 30, 2022-August 29, 2026. Tenure date: August 30, 2026. Certification held: School Psychologist-Provisional.
2. Danielle DalCero, appoint to 1.0 FTE probationary School Counselor at Farragut Middle School, MA, Step 8, \$87,651, effective August 30, 2022. Probationary period August 30, 2022-August 29, 2026. Tenure date: August 30, 2026. Certification held: School Counselor-Permanent.
3. Christina Hatjygeorge, appoint to 1.0 FTE probationary Special Education teacher at Hillside Elementary School, MA Step 6, \$81,342 effective August 30, 2022. Probationary period August 30, 2022-August 29, 2026. Tenure date August 30, 2026. Certifications held: Early Childhood Education (Birth-Grade 2)-Professional, Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)-Professional, Students with Disabilities (Birth-Grade 2)-Professional, Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6)-Professional, Literacy (Birth-Grade 6)-Professional.
4. Samantha Morello, appoint to 1.0 FTE Speech and Language Pathologist Regular Substitute/Leave Replacement, MA Step 1, \$65,574 effective August 30, 2022 for the 2022-2023 school year. Certification held: Speech and Language Disabilities-Initial.
5. Una Mullen, appoint to 1.0 FTE 11-month probationary School Nurse at Hillside Elementary School, Column VI, Step 10 effective August 22, 2022.
6. Maria Roditis, appoint to part-time (4 hours/day) 10-month School Nurse at Hillside Elementary School, Column VI, Step 3 effective August 29, 2022.
7. Updated Schedule B appointment requests as per attached spreadsheet. ([Enc](#))
8. Re-appoint previously appointed substitute teachers and office staff as per attached. ([Enc](#))
9. Brendan O'Sullivan, re-appoint to .8 FTE Physical Education teacher at Farragut Middle School, MA, Step 2, \$68,733 (to be pro-rated).

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

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Jeremy Galland, Alexander Dal Piaz, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana

B. Leave of absence

1. Darin Harrell, Custodian has requested a leave of absence as follows: FMLA with pay July 20, 2022-September 19, 2022. He will return to work on September 20, 2022.
2. Cheryl Jett, Teacher Aide at Hastings High School has requested a leave of absence as follows: Medical leave of absence: August 30, 2022-October 12, 2022. She will return to work on October 13, 2022.
3. Ross Abrams, English Language Arts teacher at Hastings High School has requested a leave of absence as follows: FMLA with pay July 11, 2022-October 2, 2022, Medical Leave October 3, 2022-January 11, 2023. He will return to work on January 12, 2023.
4. Gina Kowalski, School Nurse at Hillside Elementary School has requested a leave of absence as follows: Unpaid Leave of absence for the 2022-2023 school year.

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

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Jeremy Galland, Alexander Dal Piaz, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana

C. Retirement

1. Alexine Hollocou, Office Assistant has provided notice of resignation for the purpose of retirement effective November 1, 2022.

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

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Jeremy Galland, Alexander Dal Piaz, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana

D. Resignation

1. Melissa Vigada, Special Education teacher at Hillside Elementary School has provided notice of resignation with a tentative effective date of August 19, 2022 with the caveat that a suitable replacement for her vacancy be obtained by the start of the 2022-2023 school year.
2. Patricia Feeney, School Nurse at Hillside Elementary School has provided notice of resignation effective July 1, 2022.

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

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Jeremy Galland, Alexander Dal Piaz, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana

7. MINUTES

A. Approval of Minutes

- Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of July 14, 2022, Annual Organizational Meeting of July 14, 2022, and the Special Board Meeting of July 27, 2022.

RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of July 14, 2022 and July 27, 2022.

Motion by Jeremy Galland, second by Maureen Lennon-Santana.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Jeremy Galland, Alexander Dal Piaz, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. BOE Meeting Topics 2022-2023 - Draft Update

Dr. McKersie:

- Provided a brief overview to the Board of the BOE Meeting Topics 2022-2023 spreadsheet structure.
- Noted the Executive Session for September 28th to discuss non-represented staff.
- Pointed out the Budget discussions in early fall.
- Noted that this will possibly be the last meeting in the Lecture Room, suggestion to move the meetings to the FMS Auditorium.

Jeremy Galland:

- Raised the idea of an earlier time slot - 6:30 for BOE meetings.
- The 4 members that were present discussed the earlier start time and agreed it would work for them.
- Alex will reach out to the remaining board members separately to see if starting at 6:30 PM would be feasible.

B. BOE Committee Assignments

- The Board reviewed the BOE Committee Assignments
- Maureen pointed out the need to have Board Member(s) as a liaison for the District Wellness Committee and the District Safety Committee.
- Alex to poll the Board to see who is interested.

9. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Second Public Comment

- No public comment

10. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMENTS

A. Comments

Doreen Bucher:

- Was happy the parent came in who had just moved here, is hopeful now that we are back in school and the community will start getting back together again and form relationships.

Jeremy Galland:

- Nice hearing about all the summer work that went on over the past 2 months. Great to hear how much work is being done year-round.

Alex Dal Piaz:

- Added on to what Jeremy stated. Thanked Dr. Szymanski for the work during the summer. Thanked Bill for starting budget talks in the fall.

11. ADJOURNMENT

A. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 PM

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Jeremy Galland, second by Maureen Lennon-Santana.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Jeremy Galland, Alexander Dal Piaz, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana

Melissa DeLaBarrera

**Submitted by:
Melissa DeLaBarrera
District Clerk**