

**Hastings-on-Hudson  
Regular Board of Education Meeting  
Tuesday, January 9, 2024**

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**Members present**

Silvia Robles  
Alexander Dal Piaz  
Doreen Bucher  
Maureen Lennon-Santana  
Jodie Meyer  
Theresa McCaffrey

**1. OPENING OF MEETING**

A. Call to Order at 5:00 PM - it is expected that a motion will be made to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter, the employment history of a particular person.

- Meeting called to order at 5:06 PM

Motion to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter, the employment history of a particular person.

Motion by Silvia Robles, second by Theresa McCaffrey.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer, Theresa McCaffrey

B. [FMS Principal Appointment](#)

1. Scott Wynne, appoint to 1.0 probationary Middle School Principal at Farragut Middle School, MS P, Step 17, \$212,253, effective July 1, 2024. Probationary period: July 1, 2024-June 30, 2026. Tenure date: July 1, 2026. Certifications held: School District Leader-Professional, School Building Leader-Professional, Mathematics 7-12 - Permanent.

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

Motion by Maureen Lennon-Santana, second by Theresa McCaffrey.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer, Theresa McCaffrey

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

A. [Approve Consent Agenda](#)

Resolution: RESOLVED, to approve agenda items 2B through 2H as contained on the Consent Agenda for this meeting.

RESOLVED, to approve agenda items 2B through 2H as contained on the Consent Agenda for this meeting.

Motion by Jodie Meyer, second by Doreen Bucher.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer, Theresa McCaffrey

B. Business Items

1. Warrants.
2. November 2023 Revenue and Expenditure reports.

3. Learning Laboratories, Restorative Practices Professional Development, invoices.

4. Lawrence R. Wolf, pianist, HHS and FMS rehearsals and concerts, invoice.

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

RESOLVED, to approve agenda items 2B through 2H as contained on the Consent Agenda for this meeting.

Motion by Jodie Meyer, second by Doreen Bucher.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer, Theresa McCaffrey

#### C. Placement and/or Service for CSE

RESOLVED, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the Committee on Special Education, the Board accepts the classifications and arrangements for the placement and/or services for the 2023-2024 school year:

CSE: 10922, 10158, 12670, 10663, 12398, 12684, 12742, 11127, 12377, 12083, 12563

Resolution: 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.

RESOLVED, to approve agenda items 2B through 2H as contained on the Consent Agenda for this meeting.

Motion by Jodie Meyer, second by Doreen Bucher.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer, Theresa McCaffrey

#### D. Appointments

1. Lara Lazar, appoint to the position of part-time School Monitor at Hillside Elementary effective January 4, 2023.

2. Sydney Sullivan, appoint to the position of part-time School Monitor at Hillside Elementary School effective January 10, 2024.

3. Schedule B requests as per attached spreadsheet. ([Enc](#))

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

RESOLVED, to approve agenda items 2B through 2H as contained on the Consent Agenda for this meeting.

Motion by Jodie Meyer, second by Doreen Bucher.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer, Theresa McCaffrey

#### E. Amendments

1. Samantha Manners, previous Regular Substitute/Leave Replacement, current Per Diem Substitute, amend her appointment to Permanent Building Substitute teacher at Hillside Elementary School effective January 4, 2024 for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.

2. Alexa Masucci, Elementary K-6 Regular Substitute/Leave Replacement at Farragut Middle School, amend appointment date of Regular Substitute assignment to November 30, 2023-March 19, 2024.

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

RESOLVED, to approve agenda items 2B through 2H as contained on the Consent Agenda for this meeting.

Motion by Jodie Meyer, second by Doreen Bucher.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer, Theresa McCaffrey

#### F. Resignations

1. Michael Limitone, School Monitor at Hillside Elementary School has provided notice of resignation effective December 22, 2023.
2. Maximilian Bratescu, School Monitor at Hillside Elementary School has provided notice of resignation effective January 10, 2024.

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

RESOLVED, to approve agenda items 2B through 2H as contained on the Consent Agenda for this meeting.

Motion by Jodie Meyer, second by Doreen Bucher.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer, Theresa McCaffrey

#### G. Leave of Absence

1. Shannon Gray, Elementary K-6 teacher at Farragut Middle School has requested a leave of absence as follows: FMLA with pay November 29, 2023-January 23, 2024, FMLA without pay January 24, 2024-February 20, 2024, Unpaid Parental Leave of Absence February 21, 2024-March 19, 2024. She will return to work on March 20, 2024.

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

RESOLVED, to approve agenda items 2B through 2H as contained on the Consent Agenda for this meeting.

Motion by Jodie Meyer, second by Doreen Bucher.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer, Theresa McCaffrey

#### H. Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of December 19, 2023.

Resolution: RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of December 19, 2023.

RESOLVED, to approve agenda items 2B through 2H as contained on the Consent Agenda for this meeting.

Motion by Jodie Meyer, second by Doreen Bucher.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer, Theresa McCaffrey

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

#### A. [Public Comments](#)

1. George Wichelns, 86 Hillside Avenue - expressed concern about a recent conflict related to a board member's question about teaching gender to young children. He emphasized the importance of open and authentic discussions without division, sharing his perspective as a pre-K and kindergarten teacher. George believes that young children should not be instructed about adult notions of gender and should be granted the space to form their identities. He highlighted the influence of media and marketing on children's views and advocated for conversations about social-emotional curriculum, kindness, fairness, and empathy in early childhood education.
2. Alex Solounias, 14 Euclid Avenue - raised concerns about the recent two school delays and questioned if there have been changes in protocols or a need for improved infrastructure. He emphasized the importance of

understanding the thought process behind these decisions and requested more information in future emails.

#### 4. BOARD COMMENTS

##### A. [Board Comments](#)

- Theresa McCaffrey expressed concern about the lack of composting at schools. Dobbs Ferry has a successful composting and gardening program with a dedicated position. Theresa has been assisting at Hillside on Fridays to help students sort garbage. She mentioned a forthcoming proposal for a scheduled seat position, Schedule B, or a contract to address the need for someone to assist with composting.
- Doreen Bucher raised the question of whether the waste issue has increased since the cafeteria compared to when students brought their own lunches. She reflected on the difference in managing waste at home when students brought their lunch in lunchboxes. Doreen fully supports finding solutions and commends the initiative of those wanting to address the matter.
- Jodie Meyer commended those who attended the board meeting on a stormy night to share their thoughts. She emphasized the importance for the board to consider communication regarding changes and policies related to closures. Jodie acknowledged the challenges and suggested addressing the matter in the future.
- The board discussed the decision-making process for school closures due to inclement weather. Dr. McKersie highlighted the collaborative approach with neighboring districts and the need for a delay to assess conditions during severe weather events. The decision prioritizes safety, and Dr. McKersie expressed a willingness to communicate and refine the process. The conversation also touched on the historical context of snow days and the impact on instructional time. Board members shared insights into the challenges faced by staff and the importance of safety considerations in decision-making. The discussion emphasized the need for community understanding and collaboration during weather-related decisions.

#### 5. ADJOURNMENT

##### A. [Adjournment](#)

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer, Theresa McCaffrey

*Melissa DeLaBarrera*

**Submitted by:  
Melissa DeLaBarrera  
District Clerk**