

**Hastings-on-Hudson  
Regular Board of Education Meeting  
Tuesday, June 25, 2024**

---

**Members present**

Silvia Robles  
Alexander Dal Piaz  
Damaris-Lois Lang  
Doreen Bucher  
Maureen Lennon-Santana  
Jodie Meyer

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A. Call to Order at 5:00 PM - it is expected that a motion will be made to move into Executive Session to discuss: 1) A personnel matter, non-represented staff raises; 2) A personnel matter, the employment history of a particular person; 3) Collective Bargaining.

- Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm

Motion to move into Executive Session to discuss: 1) A personnel matter, non-represented staff raises; 2) A personnel matter, the employment history of a particular person; 3) Collective Bargaining.

Motion by Jodie Meyer, second by Silvia Robles.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

**2. PUBLIC HEARING**

A. [Public Hearing on the District Wide Safety and Emergency Management Plan](#)

1. Public Hearing on the amendments to the District Wide Safety and Emergency Management Plan for the 2024-2025 school year.

**3. OPENING OF MEETING**

A. Announcements

- June 25, 2024 - Last Day of School

**4. PRESENTATIONS**

A. HEF Grant Awards

Presented by Michelle Greenwald and Marie-Angie Vassallo of HEF

**2024-2025 HEF Grant Awards**

District:

- Cochran Gymnasium & Reynolds Field Sound System Update - \$16,401.53
- Facing History (Already approved, funds earmarked from last year) - \$14,000.00 (Already approved, funds earmarked from last year)
- Imani Winds Masterclass, Assembly and Concert - \$15,000.00
- Restorative Practives - \$25,000.00

Hastings High School:

- Hastings Robotics Team - \$9,574.00
- Raku Firing: Fire, Clay and Community - \$6,100.00

Hillside:

- Staff Room Makeover - \$5,300.00

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the grant funds from HEF.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer

#### B. [Technology Committee Update](#)

William McKersie, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools presented the following Technology Committee Update to the BOE:

- [Click here to view Technology Committee Update slide presentation](#)
- [Click here to view video presentation and discussion](#)

#### C. [Public Comment](#)

1. Nicholas Baker, 71 Mt. Hope Boulevard - re: Technology
2. Brian Langel, 111 Mendham Avenue - re: Technology
3. Josh Saltzman, 13 Crossbar Road - re: Technology
4. Louise Mullen, 5 Zinsser Way - re: Technology
5. Aarthi Muthukrishnan, 160 High Street - re: Composting program at Hillside
6. Cara Eisenpress, 14 Euclid Avenue - re: Technology
7. Aarthi Muthukrishnan, 160 High Street - re: Technology

#### D. [Future Steps - Class of 2024](#)

William McKersie, Ph.D. and Melissa Szymanski, Ed.D. presented the Future Steps - Class of 2024 to the BOE:

- [Click here to view Future Steps - Class of 2024 slide presentation](#)
- [Click here to view video presentation and discussion](#)

### 5. REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT

#### A. [Update & District Highlights](#)

Presented by William McKersie, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools

- [Click here to view Superintendent Report](#)

### 6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

#### A. [Report from Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction](#)

Melissa Szymanski reported that the end of the school year has been focused on evaluations, hiring, staffing decisions, and summer curriculum work. The team is continuing efforts initiated through inquiry work, with teachers engaging in deeper development over the summer.

#### B. [Report from Business Official](#)

Maureen Caraballo presented Understanding Fund Balance and Reserves presentation to the BOE:

- [Click here to view Understanding Fund Balance and Reserves slide presentation](#)
- [Click here to view video presentation and discussion](#)

## 7. BUSINESS

### A. [Business Items](#)

1. WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Section 6-n of the General Municipal Law, the Board of Education may establish a reserve fund for the purpose of paying for losses, claims, actions or judgments (including settled or compromised claims) for which the School District is authorized or required to purchase or maintain insurance (e.g., liability and casualty), known as the Insurance Reserve Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes it to be prudent to establish the Insurance Reserve Fund in anticipation of claims, actions and proceedings that may result in monetary judgments, settlements, or compromised claims;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby establishes a reserve fund pursuant to Section 6-n of the General Municipal Law, to be known as the Insurance Reserve Fund, for the purpose of paying for liability, casualty and other types of losses, claims, actions or

judgments (including settled or compromised claims); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby appropriates the sum of up to \$750,000 for such purpose from 2023-2024 unappropriated unassigned fund balance and authorizes the transfer of such monies from the general fund to the Insurance Reserve Fund.

2. Be it resolved, that the Hastings on Hudson UFSD Board of Education retain \$2,385,835 of the 2023-24 year fund balance as an Unassigned Fund Balance for 2024-25.
3. Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves to increase the balance of the RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION RESERVE FUND, in an amount not to exceed \$850,000.
4. Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves to increase the balance of the LIABILITY RESERVE FUND, in an amount not to exceed \$350,000
5. Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves to increase the balance of the TAX CERTIORARI RESERVE FUND, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.
6. Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves to increase the balance of the TRS RETIREMENT RESERVE FUND, A SUB-RESERVE OF THE RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION RESERVE FUND, in an amount not to exceed \$350,000.
7. Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves to increase the balance of the CAPITAL RESERVE FUND, in an amount not to exceed \$500,000.
8. Increase Non-Resident tuition rates for the 2024-2025 school year by 3.53%.

2023-2024	2024-2025
Grades K-6, \$21,207	Grades K-6, \$21,956
Grades 7-12, \$23,669	Grades 7-12, \$24,505

9. Warrants.
10. Stipulation of Settlement.
11. PearlCare Search Group, LLC. Agreement for the 2024-2025 school year.
12. Budget Transfer.
13. Approve the use of tax certiorari reserve to increase budget in the amount of \$7,641.28.

14. Westchester Behavior Analysts, contract for the 2024-2025 school year.
15. LHRIC District Registration Document Management Software: Operoo, proposal.
16. Recommendation to accept bid from Purity Laboratories, for the District Boiler Water Treatment.
17. Recommendation to accept bid from Joe Lombardo Plumbing & Heating Services of Rockland, Inc., for the District Plumbing Services.
18. Recommendation to reject bids for fencing, asphalt paving and concrete due to mail delivery issues and proceed with rebidding process.
19. Crafc0, Inc. Proposal for Track Resurfacing at Reynold's Field.
20. Almstead Tree Company, Proposal for tree removal at Reynold's Field.
21. Diane Cunningham Consulting, FMS ELA Inquiry work, proposal.
22. HTA Side Letter.
23. Facing History and Ourselves, Professional Learning 2024-25, proposal.

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

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer

#### 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 2023-2024 school year:

CPSE: 12834

CSE:

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 2023-2024 school year:

CPSE: 12709, 12549, 12373, 12436, 12604

CSE: 12071, 12390, 11279, 12083, 7669, 12697, 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 Silvia Robles, second by Doreen Bucher.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer

#### C. [Salaries of Non-Represented Staff](#)

1. Salaries of Non-Represented staff.

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approve the salaries of non-represented staff.

Motion by Damaris-Lois Lang, second by Maureen Lennon-Santana.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer

## 8. PERSONNEL (CONSENT AGENDA)

### A. [Approve Consent Agenda](#)

RESOLVED, to approve agenda items 8B through 8E as contained in the Consent Agenda for this meeting.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer

### B. Appointments

1. Vanessa Vaglio, appoint to 1.0 FTE probationary Earth Science teacher at Farragut Middle School, MA Step 11, \$101,541 effective August 28, 2024. Probationary period August 28, 2024-August 27, 2028. Tenure eligibility date August 28, 2028. Certification held: Earth Science 7-12 - Professional, Childhood Education Grades 1-6 - Professional.
2. Ellen Driscoll, re-appoint to .6 FTE teacher, MA Step 13, \$108,140 (to be pro-rated) at Hastings High School for the 2024-2025 school year. Certifications held: Latin 7-12 - professional, Latin 5-6 Extension - Professional, School Building Leader - Initial.
3. Mohammed Zeshaun Mirza, appoint to 1.0 FTE Athletic Trainer district wide August 15, 2024-June 15, 2025, after verification of NYSED fingerprint clearance, \$68,500 as per his contract.
4. Lisa Adipietro, appoint to position of part-time Teacher Assistant at Farragut Middle School, 16 hrs/wk, Column 1B, Step 10 effective August 28, 2024.
5. Jennifer Lee, appoint to 1.0 FTE English Language Arts Regular Substitute/Leave Replacement at Farragut Middle School, BA+10, Step 2, \$66,154 effective August 28, 2024 for the 2024-2025 school year. Certifications held: English Language Art 7-12 - Initial, English Language Arts 5-6 Extension - Initial.
6. Joseph Vaccaro, re-appoint to 1.0 FTE Earth Science leave replacement, MA+30, Step 12, \$111,445 at Farragut Middle School, effective August 28, 2024 for the 2024-2025 school year.

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: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer

### C. Amendments

1. Maureen Bassman, amend appointment from 11-month to 12-month Office Assistant Automated Systems effective July 1, 2024.
2. Theresa Terry, amend appointment from 10-month to 12-month Office Assistant Automated Systems effective July 1, 2024.
3. Alyssa Santiago, amend appointment from 10-month to 12-month Teacher Aide effective July 1, 2024.

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

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer

#### D. Leave of Absence

1. Kristin Sorano, Teacher Assistant at Farragut Middle School has requested a leave of absence as follows:  
Unpaid Parental Leave of absence for the 2024-2025 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: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer

#### E. Resignation

1. Jamie Nedwick, Library Media Specialist at Hillside Elementary School has provided notification of resignation effective June 30, 2024.

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

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer

## 9. MINUTES

### A. [Approval of Minutes](#)

1. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of June 11, 2024.

RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of June 11, 2024.

Motion by Doreen Bucher, second by Damaris-Lois Lang.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer

## 10. POLICIES

### A. [Second Read](#)

Policies for Second Read:

1. Policy 4321.12 Timeout and Physical Restraint (All students)
2. Policy 4321.12-R - Timeout and Physical Restraint (All students)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education adopt policies.

Motion by Damaris-Lois Lang, second by Maureen Lennon-Santana.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer

## 11. NEW BUSINESS

### A. [Adoption of 2024-25 District Wide Safety and Emergency Management Plan](#)

1. Approval of District Wide Safety and Emergency Management Plan for the 2024-2025 school year.

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approve the District Wide Safety and Emergency Management Plan for the 2024-2025 school year.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer

## 12. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT

- ### A. Second Public Comment
- No Public Comment

## 13. AGENDA REVIEW

### A. [Agenda Review](#)

- July 9th BOE Meeting:
  - Annual Organizational Meeting
  - Business Meeting - State of the District End of the Year Update

## 14. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMENTS

### A. [Comments](#)

- [Click here to view the Board of Education comments and discussion](#)
- [Click here to read Dr. Lang's comments](#)

## 15. ADJOURNMENT

### A. [Adjournment](#)

- Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:37 p.m.

Motion by Doreen Bucher, second by Damaris-Lois Lang.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Silvia Robles, Alexander Dal Piaz, Damaris-Lois Lang, Doreen Bucher, Maureen Lennon-Santana, Jodie Meyer

*Melissa DeLaBarrera*

Submitted by:

Melissa DeLaBarrera

District Clerk