

MINUTES

Hoosac Valley Regional School Committee
School Committee Meeting
Monday, June 17, 2024 - 6:30 p.m.
Hoosac Valley High School
125 Savoy Road, Cheshire, MA

PRESENT: John Duval, Mike Henault, Adam Emerson, Robert Tetlow, Erin Milne, Fred Lora

ABSENT: Andrew Przystanski

OTHERS: Superintendent Aaron Dean

104203 Call to Order

Chairman Adam Emerson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

104204 Public Comment or Question - None

104205 Approval of Minutes - May 20, 2024

MOTION: On Motion of Erin Milne and second by Mike Henault:

VOTED: to approve the May 20, 2024 minutes. The vote was unanimous.

104206 Report of Business Manager - None

104207 Report of Sub Committee - None

104208 Communications -

- A. CPPI Presentation - Shelley Fachini
Presentation by CPPI team - Rosa from Magic Seasons, K Riechers, and J Daniels - as well as Mary Girard - parent of student in full day pre k class - who spoke about impact this program has had on her life personally and what the opportunity to put her child in school full time meant to her. The presentation then outlined the program at each site and what was offered with CPPI funds and next steps with expansion funds. See presentation documents for detail. At the end of the presentations a Q&A took place - Fred Lora asked how many we had attending each program - and if we were at max capacity. Next year we will have 3 full time classrooms. Bob Tetlow - asked about attendance - reported as great and transportation helped with that. Mike Henault asked about PD and how everyone will get trained on a single set of curriculum - challenges with coordinating PD dates when two sites offer childcare - October 28th will be a county wide PD for all sites. Adam Emerson asked about communication and how it is coordinated to have a better impact having a cohesive, single platform will be beneficial.
- B. End of Year Report - Kristen Palatt
Kristen Palatt introduced building principals and VPs to recap the year and look forward to what's in planning stages for next year. Refer to PowerPoint Presentation Document. HVE Highlighted Full Day Preschool, Reading through Ignite! Reading Grant, Buddy / Mentor Program with HVMHS, success with Family Engagement and Partnerships and strengthening the HVE Identity. Fred Lora mentioned Memorial Day celebration - asked if this is a model for events to come in regards to getting more bodies in the building beyond just students and families. Asked about future collaborations with S.t Stans. Erin Beaulac said

continued connections with community members and organizations are a focus. HVMS Highlighted a year of learning - specifically school culture through CREW and pride rallies with help from HVHS spirit crew. Spoke about the new Hurricane Hero program for 7th graders and new Staff Crew, parent engagement improvement and success as well as grant opportunities accessed throughout the school year and into summer. Discussed the new building schedule based on student and staff feedback for FY25 and the use of The Advisory book and SEL / Academic support system to aid in the changes in schedule and structure of the day and classroom learning. HVHS presentation highlighted Portrait of a graduate work, and how student and adult voices will drive the work in FY25, PBL works program, CREW and Pathways success and plans for continuation in FY25. Communication and collaboration is an FY25 focus. Erin Milne asked if arts and entertainment is still the most popular pathway and if so, have we taken steps to explore more opportunities for this population given its popularity. Kristen Palatt spoke to other pathways options that would feed from this population that they are currently exploring. Closed by speaking to the summer professional learning series being offered to educators in July to support work to be done in the next school year.

C. School Committee FY25 meeting calendar - provided to the S.C. Members

104209 Report of Superintendent

A. Budget Discussions - discussed next steps given the results of each town vote. Committee's opinion is that both towns rejected our budget and at this time we are able to vote a new budget and hold a district wide majority vote. Superintendent is consulting with legal counsel about what our options are and next steps to securing a budget vs operating on 1/12.

104210 Chairman's Report - None

104211 Unfinished Business - Mike Henault made a motion to postpone unfinished business to our next meeting - second by Fred Lora - unanimous vote

A. Review of Field trip requirements -

B. Mike Henault - discussion on the Superintendent Evaluation - indicators

104212 New Business -

A. State Fire Marshall - Jon Davine - Fred Lora spoke about John Davine - state official who is a Hoosac alumni - would like to make a formal invitation to have him come talk to each schools students - perhaps fall given its fire prevention week - to talk about fire safety

104213 Action Items - None

104214 For the Good of the Order - Mike Henault wanted to thank Superintendent Dean for speaking so well under attack at the Cheshire meeting. Was handled very well and was commended for his ability to speak under the circumstances. Erin Milne wanted to speak to the presenters tonight and the work that they have done - and to the superintendent and business manager for budget management and ability to bring good programming to the district. John Duval recognized the work presented tonight and wished more people could hear and see what was presented. Fred Lora - adjusting to the learning curve and appreciating the support. Still learning and taking opportunities to meet with principals - is more hands on and wants to know what goes on first hand. Mike Henault wants to make sure we follow policy and procedure when being present in the schools and meeting with administration. Fred Lora registered for the Charting the Course which will be in October. Adam Emerson also wishes more people could see the good the district is doing. Spoke to the graduation ceremony and how great it was.

MOTION:

On Motion of Mike Henault and second by Erin Milne

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aaron Dean, Superintendent

Erika Snyder, Recording Secretary