

**Hinsdale School Board Meeting
Hinsdale School District
Hinsdale Middle High School – Library
April 28, 2015
Community Forum
6:30 PM**

Board Members Present: Holly Kennedy, Jeana Woodbury, Sean Leary, and James O'Malley

Absent; Tina McCosker

Administration present, Patricia Bassett, Superintendent, Tom OConnor, Business Administrator Ann Freitag, Principal, Juliet Fenrich, Special Education Coordinator, Jeffrey Kenney, Assistant Principal, High School, Deborah Child-Trabucco, Director of Technology; Susan Taft, Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Mark Taft, Facilitator

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm.

H. Kennedy welcomed everyone and introduced the facilitator Mark Taft.

M. Taft reviewed the format for the evening. The discussions would revolve around three topics, what you liked about the Hinsdale School District, what you were frustrated or concerned about and the hopes and dreams for the district.

The basic ground rules are; be respectful of people and their opinions, no personally identified individuals, no monopolizing of conversation.

Likes:

- Small
- Administration
- Administration supportive and receptive
- Zone in on student likes/interest and help guide
- School Board has student member
- Sense of community and continuity
- Many Activities for students
- Supportive PTA at HES
- Technology is top of the line; smart boards
- School continued to support SHOC (administration and Board)
- HIP
- Supportive Special Education; open communication and problem solving
- Cooperation within district
- Some courses are challenging
- ELO

Concerns and Frustrations:

- Training for staff about special needs students
- Not enough challenges for high achieving students
- Discipline at the school
- Staff familiarity with student IEPs/504
- Understanding how things work (e.g. what is a community meeting who can attend etc.)
- Space issue for K- 1 specials (art, music)
- Monopoly of athletics
- Lack of music program
- Shifting of teachers with a “bubble” class
- ELO transportation

- Location of Prom(move back to school)
- Loss of established traditions
- Need for more college/career prep/advice
- Scheduling of required classes
- Students want schedule earlier such as before the end of school as opposed to right before school starts
- More facilitation of unstructured time (e.g. recess)
- Enrolling and registering for preschool problems with how lottery etc. is run
- Transition from Pre School to Kindergarten
- Pre- School schedule

Hopes and Dreams:

- Additional foreign languages
- Cursive writing to be able to sign checks
- Auditorium
- IEPs for gifted students
- Track
- Longer school day
- More time for teachers and paras to plan
- More parent education evenings (i.e. once a month with a topic-teachers, guidance and social worker)
- Some kind of outside time for HS students – can be structured
- New SAU building with restrooms
- Environmental/landscaping
- HS students as mentors/ ‘big kids” for HES
- Designated weight room
- Better pay for staff
- Retention of teachers
- Fire escape fixed at HES
- Lots of college prep
- Vocational opportunities
- More transportation for ELO
- Opportunities for HS parents to be involved in classes
- Seat belts on busses

Mark Taft thanked everyone for their participation. The last mission was each person was given 10 dots, you would put three dots on your top priority for each category and have one dot for you to choose the bullet that meant the most to you.

Ann Diorio will be compiling the data for review at the June Board meeting.

J. Woodbury MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 PM A. S. Leary SECONDED. VOTE: 4-0-0, MOTION PASSED.

I attest that this a true copy of the minutes:

Ann Marie Diorio

approved on _____