

**Hinsdale School Board Meeting
Hinsdale School District
SAU Conference Room**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81396086401?pwd=OFNZcDRtVWJ4b3VyN1hGU0dram1Udz09>

**February 9, 2022
6:15 pm**

Board Members Present: Holly Kennedy, Sean Leary, James O’Malley, April Anderson, and Julia Kilelee

Board Members attending remotely: N/A

Administration Present: Wayne Woolridge, Superintendent; Ann Freitag, Principal; Joseph Boggio, Principal; Jodie Holmquist, Business Administrator; Christopher Ponce, MHS Assistant Principal; Karen Thompson, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Ann Diorio, Director of Human Resources

Administration attending remotely: N/A

H. Kennedy called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

H. Kennedy reviewed the guidelines for holding the Zoom meeting.

H. Kennedy welcomed Maria Webb, new Executive Assistant to the District.

S. Leary MOVED to accept the nonpublic minutes of December 8, 2021, the public minutes and nonpublic of January 12, 2022, and the public minutes of January 26, 2022. J. Kilelee SECONDED. 5-0-0 MOTION PASSED.

New Board Business

Update on COVID-19 related items:

W. Woolridge shared the current COVID -19 positivity rate in Cheshire County and the school community, noting that Cheshire County has the highest rate in the state. The positivity rate in the U.S. is down 44%. He noted that we are down to two cases in our district, and feels the worst is behind us. He also noted that the *Safer at School* Screening Program is going well. W. Woolridge thanked the school nurses, Elyse and Jan, for all of their hard work.

W. Woolridge shared that ESSER II and ESSER III funds are still available to help with costs associated with learning loss and increasing safety measures. The funds must be used by September 2024. As part of the funding, the district seeks public input regarding ideas for using the funds. Those with ideas should email or call W. Woolridge. He noted that there are strict criteria for applying for funds.

Winter Sports Update:

A. Freitag shared an update for S. Kilelee who was away at two games this evening. She shared that both varsity teams are doing well. The Girls' team is currently in 12th place, and the Boys' team is currently in 11th place. Two games have been cancelled due to covid-related concerns. She thanked everyone for their support.

Program of Studies:

A. Freitag highlighted minor changes in the Graduation Requirements regarding Science (page 4 of the Program of Studies).

S. Leary shared a concern that scheduling issues may cause certain elective classes to be cancelled. He noted that we spend a lot on SPED, but it seems we don't do a lot for the students who need more.

A. Freitag noted that we value personalized learning and that scheduling will not dictate the course offerings. She noted that we expect smaller class sizes in the elective classes.

H. Kennedy noted that, given our size, we don't expect large classes for electives, and that it is more helpful to look at percentages than numbers.

Election Warrant Signatures:

A. Diorio noted that the warrants are in the office for the School Board members to sign. H. Kennedy also noted that there is a need for help counting the election ballots and to let her know if anyone is interested in counting. The Board reviewed and signed the Warrant for Election of Officers.

Budget Discussion:

J. Holmquist shared an update regarding the budget and the public hearing that was held on February, 2, 2022. We were asked to reduce the budget by another \$47,000.

A. Diorio passed out a revised copy of the warrant with the proposed reductions.

J. Holmquist explained that, due to weather issues and time constraints, the group was not able to meet again last week, and subsequently the requested budget cut was placed under the athletic transportation account line. She is not happy with that and doubts that anyone is happy with that.

J. Kilelee shared concerns with the proposed athletic transportation cuts. Removing the athletic transportation would mean eliminating the sports program from the district.

Further discussion followed regarding concerns with reducing transportation funds for sports. H. Kennedy noted that we do not have to reduce the transportation funds.

J. O'Malley noted that the HEF may be able to assist with funding for field trips, but this is not a guarantee.

S. Leary voiced that everyone is unhappy with the request to reduce more, but we can make it work.

H. Kennedy noted that everyone has already been impacted by the prior reductions. She cited examples of recent vacancies that were not filled and noted that the regular education budget is down \$80,000.

J. Killee noted that SPED can't be cut and a lot of tough decisions have already been made over the past couple of years. Noted that it feels like the \$52,000 we recently cut was not appreciated.

W. Woolridge shared that SPED costs are unpredictable. For example, we thought we would have funds from one student graduating early, but then we were notified of two more OOD placements coming soon.

Appointing Members of the Principal Search Committee:

H. Kennedy suggested appointing members for the Principal Search Committee during the non-public session.

Appointing Members of the Technology Director Search Committee:

H. Kennedy suggested appointing members for the Technology Director Search Committee during the non-public session.

Update Job Description – Director of Technology:

A. Diorio shared that the SIS (PowerSchool) Administrator responsibility was added to the job description.

S. Leary MOVED to approve the updated job description. A. Anderson SECONDED. 5-0-0 MOTION PASSED.

Update Job Description – Director of Human Resources & Contract with MRI:

The Board discussed and agreed upon several revisions to the language in the job description.

S. Leary MOVED to accept the job description with the revisions as discussed. J. O'Malley SECONDED. 5-0-0 MOTION PASSED.

S. Leary MOVED to approve that the Chair sign the agreement with MRI. J. O'Malley SECONDED. 5-0-0 MOTION PASSED.

S. Leary MOVED to approve the makeup of the Director of Human Resources Search Committee. J. O'Malley SECONDED. 5-0-0 MOTION PASSED.

Policy Update - Final Reading - GBI, IB, IGE, IHBG, IHCD/LEB:

After discussion, the following motion was made:

J. Kilelee MOVED to accept the Final Reading of policies: GBI, IB, IGE, IHBG, IHCD/LEB. S. Leary SECONDED. 5-0-0 MOTION PASSED.

Policy Update - First Reading – JCA, JICC, JICC-R, JICD:

After discussion, the following motion was made:

S. Leary MOVED to accept First Reading of policies: JCA, JICC, JICC-R, JICD. J. Kilelee SECONDED. 5-0-0 MOTION PASSED.

Other Business:

There was no other business.

Financial Report: J. Holmquist reviewed her report with the Board. There were no questions. The Board thanked Jodie for all of her hard work so far, and acknowledged that she has had a remarkable and impressive first year.

Curriculum Report: K. Thompson reviewed her report with the Board. There were no questions.

Technology Report: W. Woolridge reviewed the report on behalf of D. Trabucco. There were no questions.

Principal's Reports: A. Freitag reviewed her report with the Board. There were no questions.

J. Boggio reviewed his report with the Board.

A. Anderson asked for clarification on the Roadmap Reflection and also noted that she appreciated the social emotion learning aspect.

J. Boggio credited all the teachers. He mentioned that without their hard work and input, it would not be possible.

Superintendent's Report: W. Woolridge reviewed his report with the Board. There were no questions.

Committee Reports:

Personnel Committee - No update.

Health and Wellness - Committee met on 1/24/2022. They are working on organizing new healthy challenges. The next meeting will be on 3/21/2022.

Finance/ Budget Committee - Preparing for the District meeting.

Staff Development - J. Kilelee shared that the Professional Development Master Plan is due to the state by June. The committee will meet monthly to prepare this. They will meet next on 3/3/2022.

Legislation/ NHSBA - H. Kennedy noted that the NHSBA will be sending a representative to the conference.

HASP Advisory Board - No update.

Selectmen - R. Johnson requested clarification on Article II transparency. J. Holmquist will provide the requested information.

Emergency/ Facilities Maintenance - There is a meeting next week. J. O'Malley will forward the agenda by this Friday. He noted that the state inspection has been delayed until next spring.

Community Connections - A. Anderson shared that the first staff member was highlighted on the Community Connections Facebook page.

Tuition Committee - No update.

Behavioral Support Team - No update as the team did not meet in January. The meeting has been rescheduled to 2/18/2022.

Joint Loss Committee - No update. The next meeting will be in April.

Citizens' Comments: R. Johnson was present and had no comments.

A. Diorio asked those attending via Zoom for any comments. Karyn Hammond requested to host Heart & Sole again this year. After discussion the following motion was made:

S. Leary MOVED to approve and A. Anderson SECONDED. 5-0-0 MOTION PASSED.

Non-Public Session:

A. Anderson MOVED to go into a nonpublic session according to RSA 91 A:3 II (a) (b) (c) at 7:24 pm. J. O'Malley SECONDED. Roll Call: S. Leary – yes, H. Kennedy – yes, J. O'Malley – yes, J. Kilelee – yes, A. Anderson - yes. VOTE: 5-0-0, MOTION PASSED.

S. Leary MOVED to reconvene the public session at 7:54 pm. A. Anderson SECONDED. Roll Call: S. Leary – yes, H. Kennedy – yes, J. O'Malley – yes, and J. Kilelee – yes, A. Anderson - yes. VOTE: 5-0-0, MOTION PASSED.

S. Leary MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm. J. O'Malley SECONDED. VOTE: 5-0-0, MOTION PASSED.

I attest that this is a true copy of the minutes:

_____ approved on _____
Palak Patel

_____ approved on _____
Maria A. Webb

_____ approved on _____
Ann Marie Diorio