Hinsdale School Board Meeting
SAU Conference Room
October 8, 2025
6:00 PM

Zoom Link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88075005127?pwd=XoWLTeS9JBs7WSfwL1bmqQV24LMVYS.1

Meeting ID: 880 7500 5127

Board Members Present: April Anderson, Kaylah Hemlow, Wayne Dingman, Jr., Kendra Gardner, and Jameson Stebbins

Board Members Excused: Marc Sprague

Administration Present: Dr. Molly Bremner, HES Principal; Jane Fortson, Business Administrator; Anna Roth, HMHS Principal; and Dr. David Ryan, Superintendent

Administration Excused: Nathan Boudreau, Facilities Director; Justin Therieau, Director of Technology; Karen Thompson, Director of Academics and Career Readiness; and Patty Wallace, Director of Student Services

Minutes Recorded by: Maria Webb, Executive Assistant

Call to Order:

A. Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

A. Anderson reviewed the guidelines for holding the Zoom meeting.

Review of the Manifests:

The Board signed the manifests. There were no questions.

Minutes:

1. Public and non-public minutes of September 10, 2025.
2. Public minutes of September 15, 2025.

K. Hemlow MOVED to approve the minutes listed above as amended. W. Dingman, Jr. SECONDED. VOTE: 4-0-0, MOTION PASSED.

Citizens' Comments:

A. Anderson opened Citizens' Comments for 30 minutes. There were no comments at this time.

Student Presentation – Eagle Scout Project:

HMHS Sophomore, Sarah Schumaker, presented her Eagle Scout project: Flag Retirement Boxes. She described the process that she has undertaken and all of the agencies in the town she has spoken with.

W. Dingman, Jr. MOVED to approve having a flag retirement box on school grounds. K. Hemlow SECONDED. VOTE: 4-0-0, MOTION PASSED.

Dr. Ryan commended Sarah on the work she has been doing on her project. The Board thanked Sarah for her presentation and how she included a plan for sustainability.

Student Board Member Items:

Jameson Stebbins shared a petition from HMHS to keep the snake in the Science classroom. Shared how students feel this is educational and positive for students with anxiety.

Mrs. ONeil shared how the snake has been a great learning opportunity in the past and has always been in classrooms. The snake is not venomous.

Dr. Ryan shared that the removal of the snake was in accordance with School Board policy. Dr. Ryan and A. Roth commended the students for going through the process to present their request.

The Board members did not wish to suspend the policy but discussed approving an exception to the policy. Dr. Ryan noted that Mrs. ONeil must purchase a liability policy regarding the snake.

K. Hemlow MOVED to approve an exception to Policy IMGB to permit the snake to reside in B125, and for the Board to review and revise Policy IMGA. W. Dingman, Jr. SECONDED. VOTE: 3-1-0, MOTION PASSED.

Mrs. ONeil will obtain a liability policy for the snake under her homeowner's policy.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Ryan reviewed his report with the Board. Highlighted:

- Results of the Winchester High School Selection Survey Process. There will be 25 additional freshmen attending HMHS next school year.
- 2026-2027 Budget Planning
- Attending the College Board Regional Council and National Forum in NY, 11/3rd – 11/7th
- Mascenic and Hinsdale Athletics Situation
- Attending the Future Ready Solutions Collective, starting 10/23rd

The Board thanked Dr. Ryan for his report.

Business Administrator’s Report:

J. Fortson reviewed her report with the Board.
- The 2026-2027 budget process has begun.
- Shared the Title allocations.
- Shared a preview of the health insurance increases for next year.

Discussed the Resolution entitled, “Resolution to Authorize $390,452 as Schedule No. 1 of a Master Lease Purchase Agreement for Equipment,” be approved in form presented to this meeting and that an attested copy of said Resolution be included with the minutes of this meeting.

K. Hemlow MOVED to accept the resolution. A. Anderson SECONDED. VOTE: 4-0-0, MOTION PASSED.

The Board thanked J. Fortson for her report.

Academics and Career Readiness Report:

Dr. Ryan reviewed K. Thompson’s report with the Board. Highlighted:
- ELO placements
- Curriculum & Instruction
- Advisory Program at HMHS

The Board thanked K. Thompson for her report.

Principals’ Reports:

A. Roth reviewed her HMHS report with the Board. Highlighted:
- Schoolwide testing begins next week.
- Advisory leads and social-emotional supports
- NEASC Collaborative Conference Visit on 10/21st – 10/22nd
- Supervision/evaluation
- Upcoming events
- Winchester transition process

The Board thanked A. Roth for her report.

Dr. Bremner reviewed her HES report with the Board. Highlighted:
- 2026 Dog Tag Project
- Updated Student Concern Team Process
- Staffing
- Therapy dog visiting
- Upcoming events
    - Pumpkin Carving is now back to Oct. 16th, 4-6 PM

- Ice Cream Social is Oct. 21st

The Board thanked Dr. Bremner for her report.

<u>Technology Report:</u>

Dr. Ryan reviewed J. Therieau's report with the Board. Commended Drew Cooper for his work. Highlighted the focus on instructional technology. Daisy Frederick has brought game design and robotics to the afterschool group.

W. Dingman, Jr., expressed appreciation to Drew Cooper for his assistance at the town.

The Board thanked J. Therieau for his report.

<u>Student Services Report:</u>

The Board reviewed P. Wallace's report. Discussed progress reports.

The Board thanked P. Wallace for her report.

<u>Facilities Report:</u>

J. Fortson reviewed N. Boudreau's report with the Board. Discussed the capital improvement plan process and budgeting.

The Board thanked N. Boudreau for his report.

<u>School Board Goals 2025-2026:</u>

K. Gardner MOVED to approve the School Board Goals for 2025-2026. W. Dingman, Jr. SECONDED. VOTE: 4-0-0, MOTION PASSED.

<u>School Board Handbook:</u>

Dr. Ryan provided an update. The Board has approved the draft.

<u>Strategic Plan 2025-2030 Draft:</u>

Dr. Ryan shared an overview of the Plan draft and the 18-month planning process. Sean Leary, Chair of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee, discussed the inclusion of measures to assess progress (i.e., We know we will be successful when we"). There will be a glossary of terms added.

The Board thanked S. Leary and the Steering Committee for all their work on the Strategic Plan.

Budget Transfer Request:

A. Roth shared the rationale for the request. This is to move funds from the ESL accounts to cover a sixth class taught by Mr. Fraser for ESL services.

K. Hemlow MOVED to approve the budget line-item transfer request as presented by A. Roth. W. Dingman, Jr. SECONDED. VOTE: 4-0-0, MOTION PASSED.

Policies – Final Readings:

1. AB - New Hampshire Parental Bill of Rights
2. BEDG - Meeting Minutes
3. DID – Fixed Assets
4. EHAG - Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence
5. Appendix JICJ – R(1) - Unauthorized Communication Devices - RESCINDED - Procedures for Handling Unauthorized Communication Devices

Discussed AB and related policies. Under EHAG, discussed the District's responsibility for ongoing and meaningful training for students and staff.

After discussion, the following motions were made:

K. Gardner MOVED to approve the policies listed above as Final Readings as a group. W. Dingman, Jr. SECONDED. VOTE: 4-0-0, MOTION PASSED.

Policies – First Readings:

1. BBAA – School Board Member Authority
2. BBA-R – School Board Powers and Duties - Part Ed 303 Duties of School Boards
3. EBCH – Chemical Safety and Chemical Hygiene Plan
4. EBCH-E(1) – Chemical Hygiene Plan – this is the template, so will be removed from the Policy Manual.
5. IHBH – Extended Learning Opportunities
6. IHBI – Alternative Learning
7. IHCA – Summer Activities
8. IIB – Class Sizes and Student-Educator Ratios
9. IJ – Instructional Resources and Instructional Resources Plan
10. JFABD – Admission of Homeless Children and Unaccompanied Youth
11. JFABD-R1 – Homeless Education Dispute Resolution Process
12. JFABD-R2 – Homeless Education Dispute Resolution Process – Written Notification of Enrollment Decision (Denial of Enrollment Request)
13. JFABD-R3 - Homeless Education Dispute Resolution Process – Written Notification of Enrollment Decision (Dispute)

After discussion, the following motions were made:

K. Hemlow MOVED to approve the policies listed above as First Readings as a group. K. Gardner SECONDED. VOTE: 4-0-0, MOTION PASSED.

Other Business:

The Board requested that paper Board packets be ready for pick up by Noon on the Friday before the Board Meeting.

Committee Reports:

1. **Budget Committee** – J. Fortson provided an update.
2. **Community Connections** – A. Anderson is posting upcoming events.
3. **Facilities Maintenance/Emergency** – Meeting October 24th.
4. **HASP Advisory Board** – Met today. K. Hemlow is the new committee Chair. Staff will receive ALICE and CPI training.
5. **Legislation/NHSBA** –Delegate Assembly has been rescheduled to October 25th. A. Anderson encouraged all to see the legislative updates online.
6. **Personnel Committee** – Met September 23rd. Next meeting is October 28th.
7. **Policy Committee** – Met today.
8. **Selectboard –** No update.
9. **Strategic Planning Steering Committee –** The draft was presented today.
10. **Tuition Exploratory Committee** – Dr. Ryan shared an update in his report.
11. **Wellness** – Meeting October 29th.

Citizens' Comments:

There were no comments.

Non-public:

W. Dingman, Jr. MOVED to go into a nonpublic session according to RSA 91 A:3 II (a)(c)(i) at 8:04 pm. K. Gardner SECONDED. Roll Call: A. Anderson – yes, W. Dingman, Jr. – yes, K. Gardner – yes, and K. Hemlow - yes. VOTE: 4-0-0, MOTION PASSED.

W. Dingman, Jr. MOVED to reconvene the public session at 8:48 pm. K. Gardner SECONDED. Roll Call: A. Anderson – yes, W. Dingman, Jr. – yes, K. Gardner – yes, and K. Hemlow – yes. VOTE: 4-0-0, MOTION PASSED.

K. Hemlow MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 pm. W. Dingman, Jr. SECONDED. VOTE: 4-0-0, MOTION PASSED.

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

_______________________________ approved on ____________________

Maria A. Webb

October 8, 2025

MOTION: I move that the Resolution entitled, "Resolution to Authorize $390,452 as Schedule No. 1 of a Master Lease Purchase Agreement for Equipment," be approved in form presented to this meeting and that an attested copy of said Resolution be included with the minutes of this meeting.

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE $390,452 AS SCHEDULE NO. 1 OF A MASTER LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR EQUIPMENT

The School Board of the Hinsdale School District (the "District") hereby resolves as follows:

1. That, pursuant to RSA 33:7-e and all other applicable laws ("the Authorizations"), the Superintendent or Business Administrator, acting singly, is authorized to enter into an tax-exempt lease financing agreement with Customers Commercial Finance, LLC, with a non-appropriation clause, to finance the furnishing and installation of LED lighting fixtures, together with all accessories, attachments, substitutions and accessions (the "Equipment"), said work to be carried out by Affinity LED Light LLC, and any such prior action is ratified and confirmed;

2. That pursuant to the Authorizations, the Superintendent or the Business Administrator acting singly in the name and on behalf of the District is authorized to execute and deliver Schedule No. 1 to provide lease purchase financing, with a non-appropriation clause, in a principal amount not to exceed $390,452 to fund the Equipment, on such terms and in such form as the Superintendent may approve, such approval to be conclusively evidenced by the execution and delivery thereof, and any such prior action is ratified and confirmed ("the Lease");

3. That the Superintendent or Business Administrator acting singly is authorized to covenant on behalf of the Lessee that neither the proceeds of the Lease nor the Equipment shall be used in any manner that would cause the Lease to be an "arbitrage bond" or "private activity bond" within the meaning of Sections 148 and 141 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code");

4. That the Superintendent or Business Administrator acting singly is authorized to covenant on behalf of the Lessee to file any information report and pay any rebate due to the United States in connection with the issuance of the Lease;

5. That the Superintendent or Business Administrator acting singly is authorized to execute and deliver such tax certificates, arbitrage and use of proceeds certificates, and other documents and certificates as may, in the Superintendent or Business Administrator's opinion, be necessary or convenient to effect the transactions herein authorized, to be in such form not inconsistent with this Resolution as the Superintendent or Business Administrator may approve, said approval to be conclusively evidenced by the execution and delivery thereof;

6. That the Superintendent or Business Administrator acting singly is authorized to designate the Lease as a qualified tax-exempt obligation within the meaning of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code;

7. That the Superintendent and other appropriate officials of the Lessee, acting singly, are authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the Lessee such security agreements, UCC-1 financing statements, fixture filings, and other documents and certificates as may be required in connection with the Lease;

8. That the Superintendent and other proper officials of the Lessee, acting singly, are authorized and empowered in its name and on its behalf to do or cause to do all such other acts and things as may be necessary or desirable in order to effect the execution and delivery of the Lease in accordance herewith;

9. That if the Superintendent or any other officer or official of the Lessee is for any reason unavailable to, as applicable, approve, execute or attest the Lease, or any related financing documents, the person or persons acting in any such capacity, whether as an assistant, a deputy or otherwise, is authorized to act for such official with the same force and effect as if such official had herself/himself performed such act;

10. That the Superintendent or Business Administrator, is authorized in consultation with Bond Counsel to implement written procedures with respect to the Lease for the purpose of: (i) ensuring timely "remedial action" for any portion of the Lease that may become "non-qualified bonds," as those terms are defined in the Code and regulations thereunder; and (ii) monitoring the District's compliance following the issuance of the Lease with the arbitrage, yield restriction and rebate requirements of the Code and regulations thereunder;

11. That the District hereby resolves and declares its official intent pursuant to Section 1.150-2(e) of the Treasury Regulations that the District reasonably expects to use the proceeds of the Lease to reimburse certain original expenditures from the District's general, reserve, or other fund, paid not earlier than 60 days prior to adoption of this Resolution or to be paid, which original expenditures have been or will be incurred in connection with costs of the Equipment; and that the District reasonably expects that the maximum principal amount that the District will issue to finance the Equipment is $390,452;and

12. That an attested copy of this Resolution be included with the minutes of this meeting.

A true copy as adopted by the School Board of Hinsdale School District, attest:

Melissa Lowe

Melissa Lowe, District Clerk