

**TOWN OF HINSDALE
School Board
MINUTES OF NONPUBLIC SESSION**

DATE: 1-29-2025

PRESENT:

April Anderson	Y
Wayne Dingman, Jr.	Y
Kendra Gardner	Y
Kaylah Hemlow	Y
Marc Sprague	Y

MOTION TO ENTER NONPUBLIC SESSION MADE BY: K. Hemlow

MOTION SECONDED BY: W. Dingman, Jr.

SPECIFIC EXEMPTION RELIED UPON AS A FOUNDATION FOR THE NONPUBLIC SESSION:

RSA 91-A:3 II

(k): Consideration by school board of entering into a student or pupil tuition contract authorized by RSA 194 or RSA 195-A, **which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit** a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general public or of district that is considering a contract, including any meeting between the school boards, or committees thereof, involved in the negotiations.

THE BOARD ENTERED INTO A NONPUBLIC SESSION AT 6:03 PM.

OTHER PERSONS PRESENT DURING THE NONPUBLIC SESSION:

Jacob Blake, Jane Fortson, Peggy Higgins, Dr. Karen Jerome, Dr. David Ryan, and Amanda Winchester

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT MATTER DISCUSSED AND FINAL DECISIONS:

Dr. Ryan thanked both parties for getting to this point, and for the Winchester School Board for choosing to negotiate with Hinsdale. He stated that we want to give all of the students in the area the best possible education at the most reasonable cost.

The parties discussed their expectations, the process and a timeline toward reaching a tuition agreement.

Dr. Ryan will share a recommended agreement modeled upon the Oyster River agreement, which has been used throughout the state. He recommended that the parties have the agreement draft reviewed by Attorney Dean Eggert.

The Winchester School Board shared their hopes and expectations for a smooth, positive transition and for the students to feel welcome at Hinsdale. They want their students to know what to expect at Hinsdale and during the transition.

Stressed the importance of open communication regarding how their students are doing, and that communication is two-way. They want a voice in decisions regarding their students. They hope for their students to feel part of the Hinsdale community and to have opportunities to join sports and clubs.

They would like to see PD days aligned so that Winchester and Hinsdale staff can come together. Would like both Middle Schools to coordinate and better prepare students for high school. Suggested creating a Joint Committee to meet during the school year to assess how their students are doing in Hinsdale.

Other items to negotiate include Special Education tuition and transportation.

The Hinsdale School Board would also like a positive partnership and agreed with the importance of communication. Shared they are also eager for a smooth transition and discussed ideas to help Winchester students feel welcome, such as an orientation and meetings with the Hinsdale teachers and students. Hope that we can offer more sports teams and clubs in Hinsdale if Winchester students come to HHS. Dr. Ryan noted that K. Thompson and A. Roth are working on an orientation that would involve grant funds to help with the transition.

Both parties feel it is beneficial that Dr. Ryan is the Superintendent for both Winchester and Hinsdale.

Dr. Ryan stated that Hinsdale will honor school choice. Will develop MOUs with the other towns.

Discussed how an agreement with Hinsdale can positively impact the start and end times for the Winchester Elementary School.

Dr. Ryan advised that the parties reach a five-year agreement.

- Both Boards will need separate public hearings before they vote on the agreement.
 - The public hearings will be noticed at least 14 days, and preferably 30 days, in advance in print newspapers.
 - All drafts of the agreement will be posted to the public.

- The Hinsdale Board feels that direct mailings of the public hearing will be needed.
- Both Boards will reconvene to amend and/or to approve the agreement.
- There will be a special Board meeting for public approval of the agreement.
- The committee will include two members from each Board.
- The Business Administrators will begin preparing information on tuition, special education costs and capital expenses.

The goal is to complete the process prior to July 1, 2025.

MOTION TO RECONVENE THE PUBLIC SESSION MADE BY: K. Hemlow

SECONDED BY: W. Dingman, Jr.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

April Anderson	Y
Wayne Dingman, Jr.	Y
Kendra Gardner	Y
Kaylah Hemlow	Y
Marc Sprague	Y

THE BOARD RECONVENED TO PUBLIC SESSION AT 7:04 pm.

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

Maria A. Webb