Hinsdale School Board Public Forum
Robin Beauregard Gymnasium at HMHS
Tuesday, October 27, 2026
6:30 PM

Board Members Present: April Anderson, Kendra Gardner, and Laura Hubbard

Board Members Excused: Wayne Dingman, Jr. and Kaylah Hemlow

Administration Present: Jane Fortson, Business Administrator; and Dr. David Ryan, Superintendent

Minutes Recorded by: Maria Webb, Executive Assistant

Opening:

A. Anderson opened the forum at 6:32 pm.

Presentation on HB 1300/Ballot Question #2:

Dr. Ryan explained that this is a ballot question mandated by NH RSA 32:5. He presented what the new school tax-cap law is and what it means for Hinsdale.

At the outset, Dr. Ryan noted that the School Board will provide factual information only and will refrain from answering all subjective questions.

There is one local vote, with the school tax cap and SAU/central office cap included in one question. The cap takes a supermajority (60%) yes vote among voters in the district to pass. The caps are not automatic. They only take effect if voters approve them. The law schedules votes in Nov. 2026 and Nov. 2028.

HB 1300 does not mean that school taxes can't rise. It also does not cap school spending at 6%. The caps do not start immediately. If passed by 60%, they start July 1st.

Dr. Ryan noted that the school tax cap and central office cap do not automatically cut the school budget or lower property taxes.

Community Questions and Comments:

After the presentation, the community members asked questions.

The Board was asked about the benefits costs increases for 2027-2028 and decreases in the adequacy funding.

Discussed local control of the school budget versus state control.

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Other Business:

There was no other business.

Adjournment:

K. Gardner MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 PM. L. Hubbard SECONDED. VOTE: 3-0-0, MOTION PASSED.

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

_____ approved on _____

Maria A. Webb

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