

HOOKSETT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING – August 18, 2020

Approved

**HOOKSETT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Minutes
REMOTE (Zoom) Meeting
TUESDAY, August 18, 2020 – 6:00 pm.**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Denbow called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PROOF OF POSTING

William Rearick, Superintendent of Schools provided proof of posting

ATTENDANCE

Chair Phil Denbow, Jillian Godbout, Wayne Goertel, Lindsay Laliberte, Greg Martakos, Kara Salvas and Jim Sullivan

Staff: William Rearick, Superintendent, Marge Polak, Assistant Superintendent, Amy Ransom, Business Administrator, Principals Ben Loi, Matt Benson, and Steve HARRISES, Meghan Largy, and Dean Farmer, Maintenance Director Dean Farmer.

MINUTES

Approval of July 29, 2020 Minutes

K. Salvas motioned to approve the minutes of July 29,2020 with the corrections “students meet teachers” on the bottom of page 2 and “week in place of semester on page 4. Seconded by W. Goertel.

Roll Call vote unanimously in favor as amended..

Approval of July 29, 2020 Non-Public (Sealed) Minutes

Not available

NEW BUSINESS

Instructional Time Schedules

K. Salvas motioned to approve the instructional time schedule as presented. Seconded by G. Martakos.

This document relates to in person instruction.

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Roll Call vote unanimously in favor

Handbook Changes

This is the parent student handbook for K-8 which is typically approved in June. The changes were the cover, the principals letters, the PTA letter and School Board letter.

K. Salvas asked if the School Board letter changed why was it not reviewed by the Board and volunteered to proof all documents.

K. Salvas motioned to accept the changes to the handbook pending School Board approval to the PTA and Hooksett School Board letter via email. Seconded by G. Martakos.

Roll Call Vote Unanimously in favor

Approval of Revised Calendar

W. Rearick recommends adding 3 more days for Professional Development September 1st, 2nd and 8th and allow principals more time to prepare. These days would not be required to be made up because there are enough hours in the calendar.

G. Martakos motioned to approve the revised calendar. Seconded by W. Goertel.

Roll Call vote unanimously in favor

Use of Facilities (Policy KF*) -discussion

K. Salvas suggested that no one would be allowed in the building after hours. It could be reconsidered if things are progressing positively.

J. Sullivan stated that they should clarify that the facility will be used for the Primary.

G. Martakos asked to clarify this does not include the New Morning Program which was approved by the Board.

M. Benson stated that he has been asked for use of outside facilities.

A. Ransom stated that all requests should go to her and the Board's position should be no use inside or outside at this time.

Dean Farmer stated that Todd Rainier submitted a Covid response plan for the election.

L. Laliberte motioned to limit Use of Facilities to the New Morning Program and the Town for voting and outdoor use will be reviewed by the Board and revisit at the October meeting.

Seconded by G. Martakos.

Roll Call vote unanimously in favor

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OLD BUSINESS

Re-Entry to School –Discussion

P. Denbow asked about the cost implication of Covid.

Superintendent Rearick stated that he asked Dean Farmer to see how long it would take to disinfect the schools following the protocols that were discussed at the last meeting and it was determined that we need four (4) additional staff members for the 3 schools. In addition, we would like to hire an LNA at each school to assist the nurses. They will be very busy during the regular school year and will be extraordinarily busy with COVID. The third item is Mr. Benson needs a second long term sub for a science position so we have someone in class teaching students. We don't want to hire four (4) new custodians because if we close during the year we would have to pay them or lay them off. We are trying to contract this service so we can discontinue that service if needed. We would like to do the same for the LNA's. We don't have the hard cost for the custodians, a long term sub is 12,000 and the LNA's are 900 per week for \$2700 per week for a total of \$97,000. We are looking at significant increase in costs.

A. Ransom stated that per the FEMA representative, some operating cost are not allowable for reimbursement. Hired staff are not reimburseable but contract cleaning services and contracted nursing services are. The long term sub is not.

Superintendent Rearick gave an update of the survey for re-entry. Initially, there were 280 parents that did not respond. M. Lary and the three (3) Principals put together the data and called the parents. As a result of this effort, there are now 47 parents that have not responded. Of the 94% that have responded, 24.3% chose remote learning and 71% chose in-person instruction. The breakdown of the numbers has created challenges in scheduling and staffing at all schools.

M. Benson stated that currently we have reallocated staff members but will not offer Unified Arts classes remotely. The remote learning numbers were higher than expected. We are missing an in-person teacher as mentioned earlier.

S. HARRIS stated that they are trying to fill long term subs for reasons other than COVID. We have a couple Unified Arts teachers that are looking at whether they will be teaching remotely or in-person. I am happy that we have real data now. At Memorial School we have a higher than expected number that will be remote but we will be solid with 2 classes per grade level for remote learning. We are trying to hire out a couple more positions.

B. Loi stated they are looking at the numbers and they are little higher than anticipated. There are enough for one full remote class in 2nd, 1st and Kindergarten for AM and PM. Staffing is being reviewed and they need to designate remote teaching staff. There are possibly two (2) teachers that will need to change assignment from in house to remote. There is a concern about Special Education staffing and Para-professional vacancies.

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Christine Gialouis reported that they are shorter than normal with Paras. The majority of the children with services will be in school. Financially things are tight so we are looking how many we can take on. We are looking at the needs of staff and we are problem solving to be efficient and effective.

Superintendent Rearick stated that all staff members have confirmed whether they will be in person or remote.

G. Martakos motioned to have all student temperatures taken at lunch. Seconded by W. Goertel.

W. Goertel. Other schools are making this happen. It can be done quickly. I feel this is one of the best things we can do to mitigate symptomatic transmission. It would prevent sending students with new symptoms home on the shared bus and ensure they stay home the next day.

L. Laliberte warned that some lunches are earlier in the day and this will put teachers in closer contact with students.

K. Salvas stated she supports the theory but not practically and restated that we need to have parents take on this role.

G. Martakos stated he doesn't believe it is burden. It should only take a few minutes in class.

K. Salvas stated that if we can secure an LNA then possibly this could be revisited. Also teachers need a lunch break as well.

J. Sullivan stated he would support this and could be a reassurance to teachers in the mid-day that students are healthy. If it can be done in three minutes, it should be done.

Superintendent Rearick stated that if a child has a symptom, they need to see their pediatrician and if it is not COVID related they can get a doctor's note and return to school. Otherwise they will get tested and quarantine until the test is returned.

Roll Call Vote

K. Salvas No

J. Godbout No

W. Goertel Yes

L. Laliberte No

G. Martakos Yes

J. Sullivan Yes

P. Denbow No

Vote 3:4 motion failed

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Superintendent Rearick stated that if parents have not responded by Friday of this week, they will be assigned to in-person.

G. Martakos suggested putting a statement out to the public informing the parents of the deadline for responding.

PERSONNEL

Resignation-Orndorff

K. Salvas motioned to accept the resignation of Jill Orndorff with appreciation. Seconded by J. Godbout.

Roll Call vote unanimously in favor

P. Denbow stated that if people are having difficulty getting into the remote meeting for public comments, they can submit their questions or comments via email to the SAU.

A. Ransom stated that the Para professional sub rates are hourly will be no more than the lowest hourly para-professional rate on staff.

ADJOURNMENT

G. Martakos motioned to adjourn. Seconded by L. Laliberte.

Roll Call vote unanimously in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ann Moynihan