

HUDSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 24, 2007  
HUDSON HIGH SCHOOL

Minutes Meeting #5

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A workshop meeting of the Hudson City School District Board of Education was held on September 24, 2007 at Hudson High School, 215 Harry Howard Ave., Hudson, NY. The meeting was called to order by President John Mabb at 6:02 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Corrective Action Plan attached was discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Hudson City School District Board of Education was called to order at 7:04 P.M. by President John Mabb with the following Board Members in attendance:

PRESENT:

- John J. Mabb
- Peter Rost
- Patricia L. Abitabile
- Mary Daly
- Peter Meyer
- John M. Rutkey, Jr.

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent  
 Assistant Superintendent  
 Business Manager

- Dr. Fern Aefsky
- Dr. Amanda Bagnato
- Daniel P. Barrett

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Presentations/Awards

1. Mr. Edward Nabozny was presented with a plaque in recognition of his many years of service on the Board of Education.
2. The Board of Education welcomed Samantha Hallenbeck, student member to the Board for the 2007-2008 school year.
3. Steven Spicer, HHS Principal, updated the Board on Homecoming Events

PRESENTATIONS/  
AWARDS

Public Comments - Topics Raised:

1. Special needs addressed
2. Corrective Action
3. Child placement
4. School Board vacancy
5. Middle School schedule, class size, band & chorus and website
6. Letter of Intent for board vacancy
7. Clerk of the Board
8. Music cuts

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Board Comments -

1. Board of Education Goals – next meeting
2. Resignation of Board Member John Rutkey, Jr.
3. Middle School lunch and music
4. Letter requesting information
5. Mentor Program
6. Contracts over \$10,000
7. Baldwin Report
8. Special Ed services
9. Website
10. D.W.I. Program
11. Teacher response

BOARD COMMENTS

- SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
- A. Upcoming Events: Clearwater, ArtsWalk, Parent University, College Fair
  - B. Website
  - C. Home Instruction Plan – Board indicated to move forward
- AGENDA CHANGES
- No changes to the agenda noted.
- PETER ROST
- Board Member Peter Rost left the meeting at approximately 9:09 P.M.
- OLD BUSINESS
- A. Microphones – add podium
  - B. Tour of ALP
  - C. Selection process for vacant Board seats – submit letters by October 1<sup>st</sup>
- SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL BOARD VACANCIES
- Mr. Peter Meyer made a motion that a special election be held to fill the Board vacancies. There was no second to the motion.
- APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD
- A motion made by Mrs. Daly with a second by Mrs. Abitabile, to allow individuals to submit by October 1, 2007 a letter of intent to fill one board vacancy was not passed due to lack of a majority vote.
- Ayes – 3 Mrs. Daly Nays – 1 Mr. Meyer Abstentions – Mr. Rutkey  
Mrs. Abitabile  
Mr. Mabb
- NEW BUSINESS
- A. School Athletic Policy Issue
  - B. Wellness Committee – October 23 Staff Development – Dr. Aefsky gave an update
  - C. E-Rate – Dr. Aefsky gave an update
  - D. NYSSBA Annual Meeting – Patricia Abitabile will be the delegate. Mr. Rost will be the Alternate
  - E. Website Photos – Policy School Boards developed
- EXECUTIVE SESSION
- On a motion by Mrs. Daly with a second by Mrs. Abitabile, the Board of Education went into Executive Session at 9:30 P.M. to discuss personnel and litigation issues.
- Ayes – 5 Nays – 0
- The Board of Education came out of Executive Session at 10:05 P.M. on a motion by Mrs. Abitabile with a second by Mr. Rutkey.
- Ayes – 5 Nays – 0
- COMMITTEE REPORTS
- A. Policy – 1500 Public use of School Facilities Policy & 1500R – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading was conducted.
    - 2270 School Attorney – On a motion by Mrs. Abitabile with a second by Mrs. Daly, the Board suspended the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> readings of this policy.  
Ayes – 4 Nays – 1 Mr. Meyer
    - On a motion by Mr. Rutkey with a second by Mrs. Daly, the Board of Education adopted Policy 2270 School Attorney.  
Ayes – 4 Nays – 1 Mr. Meyer
    - 2342 Agenda Preparation and Dissemination – On a motion by Mrs. Abitabile with a second by Mrs. Daly, the Board suspended the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> readings of this policy.  
Ayes – 4 Nays – 1 Mr. Meyer
    - On a motion by Mr. Rutkey with a second by Mrs. Daly, the Board of Education adopted Policy 2342 Agenda Preparation and Dissemination.  
Ayes – 4 Nays – 1 Mr. Meyer

A. Policy- 2230 Appointed Board Officials Bylaw – On a motion by Mrs. Abitabile with a second by Mrs. Daly, the Board suspended the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> readings of this policy.  
Ayes – 5                      Nays – 0

COMMITTEE REPORTS  
CONTINUED

On a motion by Mrs. Abitabile with a second by Mrs. Daly, the Board of Education adopted Policy 2230 Appointed Board Officials Bylaw.  
Ayes – 5                      Nays – 0

- 2510 New Board Member-Elect Orientation – On a motion by Mrs. Daly with a second by Mr. Rutkey, the Board suspended the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> readings of this policy.  
Ayes – 5                      Nays – 0

On a motion by Mrs. Abitabile with a second by Mrs. Daly, the Board of Education adopted Policy 2510 New Board Member-Elect Orientation.  
Ayes – 5                      Nays – 0 (Mr. Meyer commented that the existing policy had not been followed.)

B. Facilities (Presentation at October 15 meeting)

On a consent motion by Mrs. Daly with a second by Mr. Rutkey, the Board of Education approved action on the following consent agenda items:  
Ayes – 5                      Nays – 0

CONSENT MOTION

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education corrected the September 10, 2007 Board of Education minutes to indicate an hourly rate of \$15.00 instead of \$10.50 for HMS Afterschool Program instructors under the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant, as recommended by the Superintendent.

CORRECTION RE  
AFTERSCHOOL  
HOURLY RATE

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education approved the following Board of Education minutes, as recommended by the Superintendent.

APPROVED BOARD  
MINUTES #3 & #4

1. Minutes Meeting #3, dated August 20, 2007, pages 2805-2809
2. Minutes Meeting #4, dated September 10, 2007, pages 2810-2816

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education approved three transportation contracts as follows, per attached memo, as recommended by the Superintendent.

TRANSPORTATION  
CONTRACTS

1. One emergency contract with Warren Dierkes for a CSE student to the Rensselaer Ed Center/Columbia High School at a rate of \$190.00 per attendance day, beginning September 10 and ending September 28, 2007. Bid opening is scheduled for Sept. 28.
2. One emergency contract with Warren Dierkes for a CSE student to the Questar III Ed. Center/Columbia High School at a rate of \$190.00 per attendance day, beginning September 13 and ending September 28, 2007. Bid opening is scheduled for Sept. 28.
3. One emergency contract with Warren Dierkes for a CSE student coming from a group home location to the Hudson High School at a rate of \$65.00 per attendance day, beginning September 6 and ending October 5, 2007. Bid opening is scheduled for Sept. 28.

On a consent motion by Mrs. Daly with a second by Mr. Rutkey, the Board of Education approved action on the following consent agenda items:  
Ayes – 4                      Nays – 1      Mr. Meyer

CONSENT MOTION

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education arranged for placement of students with disabilities. CSE meetings on: June 11, 2007, July 25, 2007, August 14, 22, 29, 2007, and Sept. 14, 18, 2007.

SPECIAL ED  
PLACEMENTS

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education approved payment of an auto insurance rider for Francis Abitabile and William Hallenbeck, our School Safety and Security Officers, to transport district students, with an annual cap of \$500.00, as recommended by the Superintendent.

AUTO INSURANCE  
RIDER

INCREASE IN HOURS AIDE POSITION Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education increased the 6 hour teacher aide position recently posted for Hudson High School to a 6.5 hour position to additionally cover bus duty, as recommended by the Superintendent.

AIDE POSITION AT HHS CREATED Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education created a 6 hour per day 1:1 special education teacher aide position at Hudson High School in accordance with a student's IEP, as recommended by the Superintendent.

NEXT BOARD MTG. The next Board of Education meeting will be held on October 15, 2007 at 7:00 PM at HHS.

EXECUTIVE SESSION On a motion by Mr. Rutkey with a second by Mrs. Daly, the Board of Education went into Executive Session at 11:04 P.M.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

The Board of Education came out of Executive Session at 11:09 P.M. on a motion by Mr. Rutkey with a second by Mrs. Abitabile.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

PERSONNEL AGENDA ADOPTED Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education, on a motion by Mrs. Abitabile with a second by Mr. Rutkey, adopted the following personnel agenda items:

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

EXTRA-CURR. SPORTS APPOINTMENTS The Board of Education appointed the following to extra-curricular sports positions for the 2007-2008 school year at 2005-2006 stipends, pending contract negotiations, as recommended by the Superintendent. Such appointment is subject to and shall not constitute employment by the District unless and until clearance for employment has been received from the State Education Department relating to the fingerprinting and criminal history record check of the prospective school employee, where required by law.

Antonio Abitabile	Boys' JV Basketball Coach	\$3,096.00
Dominic Merante	Girls' Varsity Soccer Asst. Coach	\$2,578.00

APPOINTMENT M. RENNEN – CHESS The Board of Education appointed Mark Renner as Chess Club Advisor for the 2007-2008 school year at the 2005-2006 stipend of \$699.00, pending contract negotiations, as recommended by the Superintendent.

RESIGNATION – LISA DOLAN – 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE LEVEL CO-CHAIR The Board of Education accepted the resignation of Lisa Dolan as Fifth Grade Level Co-Chair for the 2007-2008 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent.

APPOINTED LORI BELOW-5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE LEVEL CO-CHAIR The Board of Education appointed Lori Below as Fifth Grade Level Co-Chair for the 2007-2008 school year at the 2005-2006 stipend of \$1,547.58, pending contract negotiations, as recommended by the Superintendent.

APPOINTMENT-HMS AFTERSCHOOL STAFF The Board of Education appointed the following staff to work at the HMS Afterschool Program under the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant effective September 10, 2007, at the contractual rate of no more than five (5) hours per week, as recommended by the Superintendent.

Kim Del Principe	Kid Biz
Lynn Dykeman	The Big Read
Adrienne Ross	3 R's – Reading, Rhythm & Rhyme
Edward Sisk	Electric Piano

The Board of Education appointed the following staff to work at the HHS Afterschool Program under the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant effective September 17, 2007 through January 17, 2008, at the contractual rate for four (4) hours per week, as recommended by the Superintendent.

APPOINTMENT-HHS  
AFTERSCHOOL  
STAFF

Janet Brust	Journalism
Theresa Cipollari	Adolescent Literature
Dan Hernandez	Physics for Everybody
Kim Lockman	Exploring Science
Phelicia Near	Young Women's Studies
Diana Praus	ESL
Lance Wheeler	Video & Digital Photography
Thomas McDonald	Homework Help

The Board of Education appointed Robert LaCasse, Jr. to teach Phys. Ed (Bigger, Faster, Stronger) at the HHS Afterschool Program under the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant effective December 1, 2007 through March 31, 2008, at the contractual rate for four (4) hours per week, as recommended by the Superintendent.

APPOINTMENT  
R. LaCASSE –HHS  
AFTERSCHOOL  
STAFF

The Board of Education appointed Judith French to a three-year probationary position as a teaching assistant, Level I, year 1 of service, assigned to a 1:1 special education teaching assistant position at Hudson High School for 6.5 hours per day, at the rate of \$9.50 per hour, effective September 25, 2007 and extending through September 24, 2010, as recommended by the Superintendent. Such appointment is subject to and shall not constitute employment by the District unless and until clearance for employment has been received from the State Education Department relating to the fingerprinting and criminal history record check of the prospective school employee, where required by law.

APPOINTMENT  
JUDITH FRENCH  
TEACHING ASST

The Board of Education appointed Drew Carpino to a three-year probationary position as a teaching assistant, Level IV, year 6 of service, assigned to a special education classroom position at Hudson High School for 6.5 hours per day, at the rate of \$15.33 per hour, effective September 25, 2007 and extending through September 24, 2010, as recommended by the Superintendent. Such appointment is subject to and shall not constitute employment by the District unless and until clearance for employment has been received from the State Education Department relating to the fingerprinting and criminal history record check of the prospective school employee, where required by law.

APPOINTMENT  
DREW CARPINO  
TEACHING ASST.

The Board of Education appointed Meegan Shea to a three-year probationary position as a teaching assistant, Level I, year 8 of service, assigned to the In-School Suspension room at Hudson High School for 7 hours per day, at the rate of \$15.59 per hour, effective September 25, 2007 and extending through September 24, 2010, as recommended by the Superintendent. Such appointment is subject to and shall not constitute employment by the District unless and until clearance for employment has been received from the State Education Department relating to the fingerprinting and criminal history record check of the prospective school employee, where required by law.

APPOINTMENT  
MEEGAN SHEA  
TEACHING ASST.

The Board of Education appointed Steven Markowitz to a three-year probationary position as teaching assistant, Level IV, year 1 of service, assigned to the In-School Suspension room at M.C. Smith Middle School for 6.5 hours per day, at the rate of \$10.99 per hour, effective September 17, 2007 and extending through September 16, 2010, as recommended by the Superintendent. Such appointment is subject to and shall not constitute employment by the District unless and until clearance for employment has been received from the State Education Department relating to the fingerprinting and criminal history record check of the prospective school employee, where required by law.

APPOINTMENT  
S. MARKOWITZ  
TEACHING ASST.

APPOINTMENT TEACHER SUBS	<p>The Board of Education appointed the following individuals as substitute teachers for the 2007-2008 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent. Such appointment is subject to and shall not constitute employment by the District unless and until clearance for employment has been received from the State Education Department relating to the fingerprinting and criminal history record check of the prospective school employee, where required by law.</p> <table><tr><td>Erin Doyle</td><td>Cheryl Halleran</td><td>Rebecca Lee</td></tr><tr><td>Ryan Graziano</td><td>Sheila Homalon</td><td>Heather Moro</td></tr></table>	Erin Doyle	Cheryl Halleran	Rebecca Lee	Ryan Graziano	Sheila Homalon	Heather Moro
Erin Doyle	Cheryl Halleran	Rebecca Lee					
Ryan Graziano	Sheila Homalon	Heather Moro					
APPOINTMENT CHERYL HALLERAN	<p>The Board of Education appointed Cheryl Halleran as a home instructor for the 2007-2008, as recommended by the Superintendent. Such appointment is subject to and shall not constitute employment by the District unless and until clearance for employment has been received from the State Education Department relating to the fingerprinting and criminal history record check of the prospective school employee, where required by law.</p>						
KIMBERLY BERRIN OFF SUB LIST	<p>The Board of Education removed Kimberly Berrin from the 2007-2008 substitute teacher list, as recommended by the Superintendent.</p>						
APPOINTMENT TASLIMA KHANAM	<p>The Board of Education appointed Taslima Khanam to a 6.5 hour per day 1:1 special education teacher aide position, assigned to John L. Edwards Elementary School, effective September 25, 2007, at a rate of \$8.44 per hour pending contract negotiations, as recommended by the Superintendent. Such appointment is subject to and shall not constitute employment by the District unless and until clearance for employment has been received from the State Education Department relating to the fingerprinting and criminal history record check of the prospective school employee, where required by law.</p>						
APPOINTMENT ETHEL BLANCHARD	<p>The Board of Education appointed Ethel Blanchard as teacher aide (lunch time) at Greenport Elementary School for 1.75 hours per day, at the rate of \$8.44 per hour pending negotiations, effective September 25, 2007 replacing Holly Eger, as recommended by the Superintendent. Such appointment is subject to and shall not constitute employment by the District unless and until clearance for employment has been received from the State Education Department relating to the fingerprinting and criminal history record check of the prospective school employee, where required by law.</p>						
RESIGNATION JANICE SCALI	<p>The Board of Education accepted with regret the resignation of Janice Scali, teacher aide for over 20 years at John L. Edwards Elementary School, for the purpose of retirement, effective September 28, 2007, as recommended by the Superintendent.</p>						
RESIGNATION JEAN RAYMOND	<p>The Board of Education accepted the verbal resignation of Jean Raymond, teacher aide at Greenport Elementary School, assigned to bus duty for ½ hour each morning, effective September 4, 2007, as recommended by the Superintendent.</p>						
TRANSFER FOR WAYNE FRANCIS	<p>The Board of Education approved the transfer of Wayne Francis from a 6 hour per day teacher aide position at M.C. Smith Middle School to the vacant 7.5 hour per day teacher aide position at the middle school, effective September 25, 2007, as recommended by the Superintendent.</p>						
TRANSFER FOR JEANNINE DEMSKI	<p>The Board of Education approved the transfer of Jeannine Demski from a 1:1 special education teacher aide at Hudson High School for 6.5 hours per day to a 6.5 hour per day teacher aide position at Hudson High School replacing Carol Bartholomew, effective September 25, 2007, as recommended by the Superintendent.</p>						
TRANSFER FOR DAWN MILLER	<p>The Board of Education approved a transfer for Dawn Miller from a 6 hour per day 1:1 special education teacher aide position at John L. Edwards Elementary School to a 6 hour per day teacher aide position replacing Deborah Dobrowski at John L. Edwards, effective September 25, 2007 with no change in pay, as recommended by the Superintendent.</p>						

The Board of Education approved a transfer for Donna Keeler from a 6 hour per day 1:1 special education teacher aide position at John L. Edwards Elementary School to a 6 hour per day teacher aide position replacing Lynn Wolfner at John L. Edwards, effective September 25, 2007 with no change in pay, as recommended by the Superintendent. TRANSFER FOR DONNA KEELER

The Board of Education approved a 15-minute per day increase in hours for each of the following Teacher aides for bus coverage at M.C. Smith Middle School, as recommended by the Superintendent. INCREASE IN HOURS FOR AIDES

Mary First from 6 hours to 6.25 hours per day  
Darlene Clark from 6.5 hours to 6.75 hours per day  
Deborah Reardon from 6.5 hours to 6.75 hours per day

The Board of Education approved a reduction in hours for teacher aide Robin Hoysradt at John L. Edwards Elementary School, from 6.25 hours per day to 6 hours per day, effective September 25, 2007, as recommended by the Superintendent. DECREASE IN HOURS FOR R. HOYSRADT

The Board of Education approved the termination of Glenda DeJoy from a 5-hour cook position in our district, effective September 4, 2007, as recommended by the Superintendent. GLENDA DeJOY TERMINATED

The Board of Education appointed Courtney McDonald to the clerical substitute list for the 2007-2008 school year at an hourly rate of \$16.16, as recommended by the Superintendent. APPOINTMENT C. McDONALD

The Board of Education, on a motion by Mrs. Abitabile with a second by Mrs. Daly, adopted the attached resolution in regard to the settlement of the pending Article 7 and Article 78 proceedings for the 2004 assessment rolls in the City of Hudson. 2004 ASSESSMENT ROLLS SETTLEMENT

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0 Abstentions – 1 Mr. Meyer

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education, on a motion by Mr. Rutkey with a second by Mrs. Daly, agreed to adjust the school nurse's salary, Irene Porcaro, upward of \$2,000. as per contractual consistency, effective September 26, 2007. SCHOOL NURSE IRENE PORCARO SALARY INCREASE

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

Public Comments: Topics Raised: PUBLIC COMMENTS

- DWI Program – No more smoking – Teachers are source of status for District's standings
- Band question – Length of Board Meetings
- Use of facilities
- Open board positions
- Middle School schedule
- ALP problems: smoking, language and loud voice of Principal

Board Comments: This time was set aside for Board comments. BOARD COMMENTS

Items for Follow Up: No items listed FOLLOW UP ITEMS

On a motion by Mrs. Abitabile with a second by Mrs. Daly, the Board of Education adjourned the meeting at 11:33 p.m. ADJOURNMENT

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0