

HUDSONVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WORK SESSION MINUTES
Freshman Campus Media Center
3370 Allen Street
April 25, 2022
6:00 PM

Board Members Present: Bowerman, Davis, Hall, Hooper, Kapenga, Sneden

Administrators Present: Armstrong, Baer, Briggs, Taylor, Thomas, VanderJagt

President Hall called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Sneden, supported by Kapenga, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion by Bowerman supported by Hooper to approve the agenda with the amendment that the 2nd Life Mac Settlement be moved to closed session. Ayes: All

Motion Carried

Recognition of Visitors and Hearing of People Present

President Hall opened the floor to the audience. The following addressed the board:

Jennifer Dougherty
Gwen Snoeyink
Jen Adams
Jeanette Schuiteman
Audrey Black

Administrator Leave of Absence

VanderJagt explained Baer will be seeking a leave of absence from August 1, 2022, to the end of January 2023. VanderJagt indicated Baer wants to pursue an opportunity in Denmark. Baer indicated he would be assisting in setting up a school relating to project-based learning.

Fieldhouse Line of Sight

Briggs explained the sightline issue. Briggs noticed this flaw in the design the morning after the site visits to surrounding fieldhouses.

Policy Additions/Updates

VanderJagt reported the changes would come in May for a first reading. There were changes to 1616, 5522, 6110, 6114, and 6125.

Grow Your Own Grant

Armstrong indicated the Michigan Department of Education is trying to address the teacher shortage by allowing any school employee taking education classes or seeking further endorsements to apply for grant funding. Armstrong stated she and Andy Secor worked on the project and ultimately 18 staff members apply.

Selection of Auditors

Briggs shared that Plante Moran had quoted \$47,050 for the 2022 audit, whereas Maner Costerisan Had quoted \$41,500. Briggs indicated that he was likely to recommend Maner Costerisan. A four-year estimate has been provided and if approved the preliminary work would begin in June.

2nd Life Mac Settlement

Moved to closed session.

RULER Curriculum

VanderJagt indicated Thomas had been working to evaluate the program. Thomas stated she met with grade-level chair people and looked for sustained gaps where supplemental materials were needed. The board commented that RULER should be piloted for one additional year with periodic reporting to the board regarding progress.

Book Review Update

Taylor reported a family had initiated the book review process for the book "Half a Yellow Sun" and consequently it was removed from the book club reading list but remained on library shelves in the classroom and the school library. Taylor stated the decision to maintain the book in the library had been appealed so the book review committee had been formed. Taylor reported she facilitated the committee but was not a voting member. Taylor stated the committee consisted of parents, teachers, and curriculum office staff. Taylor indicated the committee read the book, completed a notes page for concerns and merits, and were introduced to a rubric that would be used. Taylor stated the committee had expressed concern that confidentiality be maintained to create a safe space where all members could freely share their thoughts without fear of retaliation. Taylor reported that the second committee meeting took place last week and they reviewed the complaint document from the parent, notes of merits and concerns, and the HPS guidelines. Taylor stated the committee then used the rubric and anonymously completed the review. The committee unanimously decided to keep the book in classroom and school libraries.

Security System Renovation

Briggs reported that ample staff time and money were being utilized to keep the current security system functioning. Briggs stated the current system is outdated and proprietary making it difficult to integrate. Briggs indicated he will likely be recommending a system from Parkway that would cost \$500,037. Aram from Communications by Design was present and fielded questions from the board.

Alward Principal Search

Armstrong reported the Alward staff has shared they are seeking a solid communicator who is flexible and experienced in special education. Armstrong stated she received 23 applicants and selected 14 applicants to submit an introductory video. Armstrong indicated the pool of applicants had been narrowed to 6 qualified candidates.

Climate Survey

VanderJagt reminded the board that a survey was conducted last fall and would be sent out again in May. VanderJagt reported the only change to the survey was an open-ended question added to the middle/high school student survey.

Closed Session

Snedden made the motion to move to closed session, which was seconded by Hooper. Ayes: All
Closed session was entered into at 8:06 p.m. and the board returned to the regular session at 8:36 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion by Davis, supported by Bowerman to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Ayes: All
Motion Carried

Stephanie Fast, Recorder