

HADLEY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
HADLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS 01035
August 28, 2023

5:00PM – School Committee Retreat (Full Recording: [Click Here](#))

HES Pavilion

Hadley Public Schools – We are guided by the mission to provide a safe and supportive environment that fosters cooperation, critical thinking, creativity, and integrity; and educating students to contribute positively to a global society.

Present: H. Fasihuddin, C. Pipczynski, A. McKenzie, T. Brugger, E. Percy

5:37pm – P. Phifer joined the meeting.

Student Representative: N/A

Absent:

Guests: Chris Desjardins, Business Office Manager, Michelle Wojotowicz

Hadley Media (recording meeting)

1. Call to Order : (5:00pm)

Motion: Brugger

Second: Percy

Vote: 4-0-0

2. Adjustments to the Agenda – discuss “moving Business Management Services In House” as first agenda item, and add review of change order(s) to the Hadley Athletic Fields.

3. [Public Comment](#)

4. **Presentations/Discussion Items**

a) Move Business Management Services In House – Superintendent McKenzie proposed moving the Business Management Services role, which is now a contracted service, to a Full Time direct employee for Hadley Public Schools, and hire Christopher Desjardins as the full time Business Manager. The need for this change is great, especially considering the number of upcoming capital projects that require oversight. She noted that Mr. Desjardins is certified as a chief procurement officer. This position will be funded by what we already pay to the third party contractor as well as school choice funds.

Action: Move Business Management Services in house and hire Christopher Desjardins as the full-time Business Office Manager for Hadley Public Schools.

Motion: Pipczynski

Second: Brugger

Vote: 4-0-0

b) Change order to Hadley Athletic Fields project. – Mr. Desjardins reviewed change orders to the Hadley Athletic Fields project. One big change is to add sod in replacement of hydro -seeding in order to have the fields playable in spring 2024. There is also a need for a drainage pipe underneath the currently paved walkway. Another change was to put in a retaining wall near the bleachers.

Action: Approve change orders to the Athletic Fields project as presented by Business Office Manager Christopher Desjardins.

Motion: Percy

Second: Pipczynski

Vote: 5-0-0

c) Creating a Culture of Belonging – School Committee members discussed strategy plan and creating a culture of belonging.

5. **Next Meeting Dates**

a) Regular School Committee September 26, 2023 (note change in original date to Tuesday due to Yom Kippur holiday) at 5:30 pm

6. **Adjournment - 7:40pm – Motion: Percy**

Second: Phifer

Vote 5-0-0