

**HADLEY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
HADLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS 01035
Minutes July 27, 2020**

6:00 PM – Regular Meeting [Zoom](#) Meeting

Present: Klesch, Phifer, Fasihuddin, Brugger, Percy, McKenzie, Desjardins

Klesch called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Fasihuddin made a motion to open the meeting, Percy seconded and the vote was 4-0-0.

1. Public Comment

Klesch noted that there were no members of the public present and briefly reviewed the items on the agenda. She mentioned that several meetings were pending to discuss the District Final Reopening Plan. Klesch thanked Hadley Media for their continuing coverage.

2. Adjustments to the Agenda- None

3. Presentations/Discussion Items

Fields Update

Well Repair

Desjardins reported that the Athletic Fields Project had started but there were some new issues that had surfaced. These issues will be addressed at this meeting:

Desjardins informed the SC members that there was a problem with the existing well as it would not provide the water pressure needed. There had been some miscommunication with the installation of the original well. Desjardins said he did not have a written estimate at this point, but the cost was about \$20,000. Desjardins confirmed that there was contingency money available in the Fields Project Fund. Fasihuddin made a motion to approve the change order to provide the funding needed to repair the well as part of the Athletic Funds Project. Phifer seconded and the motion carried 4-0-0.

Abutter Crops

Desjardins said an abutter had leased some land from the town and had planted crops in the area of construction. After speaking to the Town Administrator and the farmer, Desjardins said that the value of the crops that could not be harvested due to field construction is approximately \$6,000. He suggested that funds other than athletic funds be used for this expense. Klesch asked if the payment for use of the land would be returned to the town. Phifer said he wanted to be fair to the farmer and supported the proposal. Fasihuddin mentioned that since we were purchasing the crops, the schools could receive and utilize some of the produce. Desjardins said that some of the crops will be destroyed during the construction, but will check on it. Percy asked if the agreement/ payment could be completed in one transaction once the farmer establishes what he will pay the town. Fasihuddin made a motion to purchase crops from abutter in value up to \$6,000, retain any reasonable produce for use by the schools, and attempt to complete the agreement with one transaction. Phifer seconded and the vote was 4-0-0. Percy asked about the funding source. Desjardins said he recommended funding through School Choice.

Field Projects Liaison

This proposal allows SC liaison to the fields project, Paul Phifer, to approve change orders in accordance with bid documents with the understanding that all change orders will be reported to the entire Committee at its next regular meeting. Fasihuddin made a motion, Brugger seconded and the vote carried 5-0-0.

Roll Over of Vacation Time

McKenzie explained that the 12 month contracted employees found it difficult to utilize their vacation time during COVID. She presented an agreement prepared by the school attorney to resolve the issue through options of rollover of vacation time or transfer vacation time to the sick time accrual benefit. Klesch spoke of the importance of taking vacation time but acknowledged that it was difficult to take the time. Fasihuddin said she agreed. Phifer made a motion to approve a one-time vacation rollover and/or conversion to sick time for 12-month administrators due to COVID-19. Percy seconded and the motion carried 5-0-0.

Breakfast Lunch Prices FY21

Klesch reviewed the proposal to increase breakfast and lunch prices. Desjardins informed the SC that the increases are usually aligned with the reimbursement for free lunch, was considered the price too high (\$3.48/ lunch. Phifer asked if there was a penalty for not meeting the federal reimbursement threshold. He also asked about the potential increase in revenue from the price increase. Desjardins said there was not penalty, just a recommended guideline and approximated a revenue increase of \$7,000- \$9,000. Klesch said she is in favor of the moderate increase. Fasihuddin made a motion to increase the school breakfast and lunch prices by 10 cents each. Phifer seconded and the motion carried 5-0-0.

Klesch thanked Hadley Media and everyone that contributed to the Hopkins Academy Graduation video. Fasihuddin mentioned the importance and appreciation of Public Comments during SC meetings. Klesch referred to the Public Comment Policy BEDH and briefly reviewed some specifics of the policy.

McKenzie reviewed the upcoming meeting agenda items and noted that plans could change concurrent with changes in public health information and guidelines.

Phifer asked if the District Reopening Team would be making a recommendation at a future meeting. McKenzie said that they would be making recommendations based on current science and health information and guidelines. She noted that flexibility was key in responding to ongoing current circumstances. McKenzie confirmed to Klesch that the Board of Health did not have to approve the Reopening Plan.

Adjournment

Fasihuddin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Phifer seconded the motion and the vote was 5-0-0.

Action Items

- a. Approval a change order of estimated \$20,000 to the field's renovation project for the repair of well- Motion: Fasihuddin; Second: Phifer; Vote: 5-0-0.
- b. Approval a change order of estimated \$6,000 to the field's renovation project for Agreement for Abutter/ Athletic Fields-Motion: Fasihuddin; Second: Phifer; Vote: 5-0-0.
- c. Allow SC liaison to the fields project, Paul Phifer, to approve change orders in accordance with bid documents with the understanding that all change orders will be reported to the entire Committee at its next regular meeting -Motion: Fasihuddin; Second: Brugger; Vote: 5-0-0.
- d. Approve a one-time vacation rollover and/or conversion to sick time for 12-month administrators due to COVID-19 and DESE requirements/timelines for reopening plans- Motion: Phifer; Second: Percy; Vote: 5-0-0
- e. Increase in Breakfast and Lunch Prices for FY21 from \$3.00 to \$3.10 for lunch and from \$1.75 to \$1.85 for breakfast- Motion: Fasihuddin; Second: Phifer; Vote: 5-0-0.

4. Next Regular Meeting Dates

- a. July 30, 2020- Initial Review of Reopening Plan
- b. August 6, 2020 – Review and final approval of Reopening Plan
- c. August 24, 2020 – Review and revision of district strategy document and superintendent goals
- d. August 31, 2020 – Regular School Committee Meeting August