

**HADLEY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
HADLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS 01035
Minutes August 31, 2020**

6:00 PM – Regular Meeting [Zoom](#)

1. Call to Order

Klesh called for a motion to open the meeting. Fasihuddin made motion. Phifer seconded and the vote carried 5-0-0.

2. Adjustments to the Agenda

Resolution on COVID Testing to be added under Discussion items

3. Public Comment

Jane Nevinsmith reminded the public of the change in location for voting as well as the date and times.

Heather Klesch thanked the administrators for the Q & A session. It was most helpful and responsive.

Amy Langone- asked about some of the decisions made by SC on metrics.

McKenzie strongly encouraged email or phone calls to administrators or SC members with any specific questions.

Linda Loebel- asked of the Q & A was recorded as she was unable to record it. Since it was not recorded (an oversight), McKenzie again encouraged questions be submitted by email.

4. Presentations/Discussion Items

a. Review of Sports Guidance

AD Sudnick was present to inform the SC about the Sports Guidance for Fall Athletics.

Sudnick shared his written proposals and MIIA guidance documents. The new Fall Start time is September 18 and end date of November 20. Sports recommended are golf, cross country, soccer and field hockey. Practice limitations were also addressed. Sudnick presented specific plans/ proposals for Hopkins Academy. He provided dates and locations for each sport. He also said that participation numbers would have to be considered.

Middle School Sports teams would be eliminated this year. Contests would be at the varsity level and limits of practice groups would be by cohort and limited to 10 players. Sudnick reviewed the procedures for attendance records, temperature taking, face coverings, locker room access, benches, and sharing of and sanitizing of equipment for each sport. Co-op sports were also addressed and due to busing issues, these may not be offered. Sudnick also reviewed the guidelines for competitions, contests and tournaments, including the number of spectators allowed. Sudnick provided detailed information which is available as The Hadley Fall Athletic Plan on the Hopkins Academy website. Sudnick recommends going forward with the plan and assures adherence to the guidelines. Klesch thanked Sudnick for his thorough presentation. She asked if MIIA was planning to revisit the guidelines if needed and Sudnick responded that they are always trying to stay in front of problems. Phifer asked about the Middle School teams and the Equestrian Team. Brugger asked if the SC is being

asked to approve the entire plan or by individual sports. Klesch said it was her understanding that the SC would vote to participate in the plan or not. Brugger asked about sports participation at the elementary level. Sudnick said that would have to be addressed by Parks & Rec. Fasihuddin said she was impressed with the level of detail and thought put into the MIIA guidelines document. She asked about student athletes participating in other outside athletic activities. Sudnick reviewed the bonafide player rule but said that there is no rule which prevents concurrent participation in other outside sports activities. Percy asked about the number of competitions in soccer per week. Phifer also mentioned transportation as an issue. McKenzie added that if the SC approved the Athletic participation, the SC would have to consider the same opportunities for extra curricular activities if all safety guidelines are met. Brugger asked about scenarios where metrics showed a spread of infection and if sports participation would be affected by the metrics. McKenzie said the SC has the authority to change policies around Athletics participations. She added that the SC could include consideration of participation in Athletics and extra curricular activities when reviewing metrics and phase movements. Camuso and McKenzie said that plans were being developed for both in-person and remote participation and no in-person extra curricular activities are currently taking place.

7:15 pm Klesch asked for a motion to approve participation for HPS in athletics and extra curricular activities under the guidelines outlined in the documents presented and established by governing authorities. Phifer moved; Percy seconded and the vote carried 5-0-0.

b. HA Handbook

Camuso outlined the summary of changes to the HA handbook. These include the Statement of Core Values which will go to the School Council for approval. She said that she made some changes based on the school philosophy of restorative justice. The consequences for tardiness would include making up the time with the teacher whose class they missed. Other changes include Updated Academic Integrity, Title IX updates to include new procedures for reporting and processing, Pass policy, Cell Phone Policy, and Dress Policy and VHS classes. Camuso provided a copy of the Handbook with the tracked changes. McKenzie said that data can be collected and analyzed through the Student Data Information System to make sure that disciplinary referrals and consequences are being tracked through a lens of diversity and inclusion. Fasihuddin made a motion to approve the Hopkins Academy 2020-2021 Handbook as presented. Brugger seconded the motion and the vote was 5-0-0.

c. Program of Studies HA Approval

Camuso presented the summary of changes and the rationale for changes made in the HA Program of Studies, including two new courses, streamlining the independent studies, and pathways courses. Phifer made a motion to approve the Hopkins Academy Program of Studies for the 2020-2021 school year. Percy seconded and the vote carried 5-0-0.

d. HA School Council Process Approval

Camuso outlined the process and representation that would be used for the School Council meetings, including the election process for membership. Camuso responded to questions

from committee members. Camuso said she would add clarifying language to cover a member who only served one year of the two year term. Fasihuddin said she would urge that membership be a 2 year role. McKenzie explained the difference between the HA School Council and the HES School Council, whose membership is composed of volunteers. It was noted that all School Council meetings are open to the public. Fasihuddin made a motion to approve the HA School Council Process as presented. Phifer seconded the motion and the vote carried 5-0-0.

e. HA Student Survey Remote Learning Results

Camuso presented results of a survey of students and faculty for their feedback on remote learning in the Spring. She said the response rate was good with 142 respondents. She provided data on demographics of the responses. She shared her report with graphs, noting that over 70% of students had never taken on on-line class before. 20.8% of the students did not enjoy the remote learning experience. 52% of the students felt that they learned an average amount or more. Camuso noted that the spring remote learning only allowed about 2 hours on on-line instruction a day. Students responded as to what they liked and did not like about remote learning. SC members thanked Camuso and Bobby for the work they did on the survey. The survey was sent out in August 5th and closed on August 25th.

f. Review of Public Health Data/Metrics

McKenzie thanked Brugger for her work on Health Data Metrics and Brugger presented her finding to the committee. She had collaborated with the Health Dept to determine the most effective and meaningful metrics to use for HPS guidance. She discussed the risk indicators and risk levels. She suggested looking at regional statistics. Brugger mentioned that Hadley population was so small that the data was not always meaningful. She reviewed the method for calculating the case count for the county and determining the risk factor. The formula for calculating the daily positivity rate was presented. This information may be helpful in determining phase movement. Brugger also presented data on Positivity rates and Daily Count and how to extrapolate meaningful data. McKenzie brought of the issue of who is being tested and the number of tests done and its effect on the data. She also noted that school transmission must also be considered. Klesch summarized the metrics guidance that would be used to determine phase movement, those being, school transmission, county case count, town count, and county positivity rate. Phifer agreed that the metrics make sense. Phifer mentioned that there has been rigorous testing done at UMass and that they have had 12 positive cases, which alleviates some concern. Percy mentioned the testing being done at Hampshire College and Smith College. Phifer made a motion to accept the metrics as presented as guidance for the SC to consider phase movement for HPS. Percy seconded and the motion carried 5-0-0.

g. COVID Testing Resolution

Fasihuddin presented a resolution on COVID testing and shared the document which advocates for the state to work on obtaining inexpensive and available testing for schools and support for testing. The resolution is a policy issue that several school committees are adopting as an assertive testing strategy. McKenzie suggested that the committee members review the resolution and place it on the agenda for the September 17th agenda. Phifer said

he had some issues with the specific language. Klesch said the SC could craft their own language for the resolution.

5. Action Items

- a. Approval of AP Warrants Submitted July 2020 – Motion: Brugger; Second: Phifer; Vote 4-0-1, with Klesch abstaining.
- b. Approval of Warrants Submitted July 2020 Motion: Phifer; Second: Brugger; Vote 4-0-1, with Klesch abstaining.
- c. Approval of Minutes 07-27-20 with one amendment- Motion: Brugger Second: Percy; Vote: 5-0-0.
- d. Approval of Minutes of 07-30-20 Motion: Brugger; Second: Phifer; Vote: 5-0-0.
- e. Recommendation of metrics for progressing through reopening phases Motion: Phifer; Second; Percy; Vote: 5-0-0.
- f. Approval of Recommendation regarding athletics and extra-curriculars- Motion: Phifer; Second: Percy; Vote: 5-0-0.
- g. Approval of HA Handbook 2020-2021- Motion: Fasihuddin; Second: Brugger; Vote: 5-0-0.
- h. Approval of HA Program Studies 2020-2021- Motion: Phifer; Second: Percy; Vote: 5-0-0.
- i. Approval of HA School Council Process- Motion: Fasihuddin; Second: Phifer; Vote: 5-0-0.

6. Next Meeting Dates

9/17/2020 @ 5:30 **Thursday**

Adjournment- 8:52 pm

Fashuddin made a Motion to adjourn the meeting. Phifer seconded and the motion carried 5-0-0.