

**HADLEY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
HADLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS 01035
Minutes November 5, 2020**

[Zoom Meeting](#)

5:30 PM – Regular Meeting

Present: Klesch, Fasihuddin, Brugger, Percy, McKenzie

Absent: Phifer

1. Call to Order

Brugger made a motion to call the meeting to order, seconded by Percy. The vote was 5-0-0.

2. Adjustment to the Agenda

Decision to participate in Pilot Testing to be discussed during review of public health data.

3. Public Comment

Allison Donta-Venman- Spoke of an unanticipated issue of test taking at Hopkins. She explained that her child wanted to stay home on days that she had a test for the purpose of a quiet environment. When students are in person learning, they are in cohorts and are not all working in a test environment. McKenzie said that she would follow up with Camuso and thanked the parent for her valuable input.

4. Presentations/Discussion Items

a. Presentation of NSDC Academic Growth and Student Leadership Award

McKenzie shared accomplishments of the recipient of the award, Kieran Cullen. She said how proud she is of his academic record and service to the community. Kieran thanked McKenzie and said he was honored. SC members congratulated Kieran.

b. Update on Current Phase and Preliminary Planning for Phase 3

Dowd was present to report on the status of HES. She reported that the current Phase II was going well, with approximately 200 students. She worked with the police and fire departments to safely accommodate the large amount of arrival and pick up traffic. The recess committee has been working on protocols for recess and the students are enjoying the outdoors. Families and school community have been very cooperative. Phase III plans are being worked on by staff. Communication, adjustments, and problem-solving is ongoing. Dowd encouraged parents to contact her with any questions or concerns. Brugger asked if additional students are expected back for Phase III and if the gym is being used. Dowd said that 58 students remain remote and 197 are attending in person. She said she will reach out to families to confirm their plans. All students are in regular classrooms. Indoor recess takes place in the classrooms. The gym is not used as a classroom. McKenzie said that Michele Wojowitz was present and may be able to share their perspective. Wojowitz said that teachers are pleased to have students back and the teaching is more productive with the students in the classroom. She did say the workload and staffing are the most problematic issues. Fasihuddin asked about feedback from families of students who are learning remotely. Dowd said that teachers compared schedules so

that remote learning schedules would be consistent with in person learning as much as they can. Teachers are trying to include the remote learners in as much real time instruction as possible. Brugger said she appreciated feedback from teachers and staff. Fasihuddin said that periodic surveys to families should continue, keeping the communication and feedback in mind when making decisions.

McKenzie provided an update on Hopkins. She said there were about 80 students attending in person in Phase II. Students are eager to follow their regular schedule and so are the teachers. There is a potential increase in students for Phase III since the regular schedules would be followed. Comparisons from what was planned during the summer and what has had to be changed in practice are being made. Multiple variables will be introduced and work is being done to address them. The School Committee will be informed of progress and recommendations. McKenzie spoke of HPS success in that they are open five days a week for in person learning and meeting the needs of remote learners as well.

c. Review of Public Health [Data](#)

Klesch announced that the Town cases were not available at this time. McKenzie said she would share that information in her newsletter the following day. McKenzie reviewed the most current available public health data. She added that she did share it on a weekly basis. McKenzie said that there is an antigen test approved for diagnostic testing in pilot schools. The school nurses and the school physician do not recommend participating at this time as it is meant for symptomatic individuals and requires special licensing. McKenzie summarized the procedure HPS follows in the event that a student or staff member exhibits symptoms.

5. Business Manager Reports (11/19/2020)

6. School Committee Reports/Discussion

- a. Policy- First Reading of Policies reviewed by Sub Committee. These are policies with language changes recommended by MASC and reviewed by the attorney. These will come back to the SC for a second review.
- b. TriBoard/Finance- Percy summarized the TriBoard meeting discussions- Keeping property taxes stable for this year, level funding or cuts in the budget for next year due to revenue shortfalls. Levinsmith was present and encouraged attendance at Town Meeting.
- c. Capital/Fields- Phifer was not present
- d. CES- Fasihuddin mentioned the most recent newsletter was sent to SC members. The director is resigning and there is a search for his replacement.
- e. Negotiations- Collective Bargaining for Unit A and Unit D will be taking place this year. Klesch explained the procedure for negotiations of the contracts. Klesch said that two SC members were needed for the Negotiations for each Unit. Klesch and Brugger volunteered to serve on Unit A Negotiations Committee. Percy said he would volunteer for Unit D. It was decided to check with Phifer to see if he could be the second representative for Unit D.

7. Action Items

- a. [First Reading of Policies](#) ADC, BBA, BBA/BBB, BDD, BDF, BEDH, BHE, BIBA,CB, CBI, CHA, CHC
- b. Approval of AP Warrants submitted in October, 2020- Motion: Brugger, Percy 3-0-0.
Second: Vote:

- c. Approval of Warrants submitted in October 2020- Motion: Brugger Second: Percy 3-0-0.
- d. Approval of Minutes of September 17, 2020 and October 1, 2020- Fasihuddin, Brugger 4-0-0.
- e. Appointment of negotiations subcommittee for Unit A Fasihuddin, Percy 4-0-0.
- f. Appointment of negotiations subcommittee for Unit D

Fasihuddin spoke about Hadley Learns group and announced that they would be meeting on November 15 at 10:30 on Zoom. Book Reviews and conversations will be held.

8. Next Meeting Dates

11/19/20 @ 5:30

9. Adjourn Regular Meeting- Fasihuddin Percy