

## HILLSBORO-DEERING SCHOOL BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 21, 2021 – 7:30pm

**Virtual Location:**

<https://zoom.us/j/97247628393?pwd=Y3krRU8zY3o3VGNKOVhLbHBBWmpJQT09>

**Meeting ID:** 972 4762 8393

**Passcode:** 962555

**Audio by Phone Only:** 888 475 4499 US Toll-free; **Meeting ID:** 972 4762 8393

*The mission of the Hillsboro-Deering School Board is to articulate and develop the educational goals of the community and to allocate community resources effectively and responsibly. It strives to create with educational professionals, a dynamic learning environment in which all students are inspired to realize their individual potential, learn critical academic skills, develop intellectual curiosity and moral courage, and prepare to be active citizens.*

### MINUTES

**In Attendance:**

**Board Members:**

Herla Iadonisi  
Chris Bober  
Jessica Morris  
Paul Plater  
Heidi Welch

**Administration:**

Patricia Parenteau, Superintendent  
Jennifer Crawford, Director of Curriculum  
Instruction and Assessment  
Mary Henry, Business Administrator  
Stacey Vazquez, Director of Student Support  
Services  
Jeni Laliberte, Lower HDES Principal  
Donna Furlong, Upper HDES Principal  
Jim O'Rourke, HS Principal  
Marc Peterson, MS Principal

**A. Call Meeting to Order – Compliance Statement**

1. Chair Iadonisi called the Meeting to order at 7:31pm
2. As Chair of the Hillsboro-Deering School Board, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, I am confirming that we are:

1. Providing public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access possibilities by video or other electronic means:
  - a. We are utilizing Zoom for this electronic meeting.

- b. ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through dialing the following phone # 888 475 4499 and Meeting ID: 973 9662 4282, or by clicking on the following website address:  
<https://zoom.us/j/97247628393?pwd=Y3krRU8zY3o3VGNKOVhLbHBBWmpJQT09>
      - c. Meeting ID: 972 4762 8393
      - d. Passcode: 962555
- 2. Providing public notice of the necessary information for accessing the meeting:
  - a. We previously gave notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing the meeting, including how to access the meeting using Zoom or telephonically. Instructions have also been provided on the website of the Hillsboro-Deering School Board at: <https://www.hdsd.org/>
- 3. Providing a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access:
  - a. If anybody has a problem, please call Carol Fogarty or email at: [cfogarty@hdsd.org](mailto:cfogarty@hdsd.org).
- 4. Adjourning the meeting if the public is unable to access the meeting:
  - a. In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled.

Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by roll call vote.

Roll call attendance - each member states their presence, please also state whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-to-Know law.

- i. Roll
  - 1. Herla Iadonisi - Present
  - 2. Chris Bober - Present
  - 3. Jessica Morris - Present
  - 4. Paul Plater - Absent
  - 5. Heidi Welch - Present

**B. Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

- 1. Chair Iadonisi led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

**C. Board Discussion**

- 1. ConVal Lawsuit
  - a. The Board was well within its rights to add any discussion about the lawsuit that was brought to the Board in Correspondence in Board Discussion.
  - b. Morris
    - 1. There was an article in the Concord Monitor that said that there were 26

other districts that signed on to the lawsuit?

- a. Those were the school districts that signed their support to the lawsuit.
  2. Agrees that
  3. Injustice happens when good people do nothing. This feels like the right thing to do.
- c. Bober
1. Concerned about the money
    - a. There should be some communication to the public about why the Board is spending money from the budget on this lawsuit.
  2. Would be more inclined to go along with the lawsuit if we put a funding cap on it like we did last time.
  3. We do need to develop a plan for the Board to reach out to the public.
- d. Iadonisi
1. Feels that HDSD should join in this lawsuit.
  2. We won't know the number until the lawsuit is over, and at that point it would be too late.
- e. Welch
1. What is our current per student cost?
    - a. The state kicks in \$3,704/per student at this time.
  2. Is not on the fence anymore. This could be a landmark decision for the state of New Hampshire that could change the way schools in our state are funded.
  3. Someone at the meeting on Monday said that the Board could not legally move money from other line items to cover legal expenses. Is this true?
    - a. The Board has the right to move money from one line of the budget to another. You can move money, you can't overspend the budget.
- f. Plater – (joined via phone call with Morris at 7:45pm)
1. Not in favor of joining the lawsuit. It's too much of a hurry.
  2. Would like a more solid number of what the new funding rate would be before we join in the lawsuit.
  3. The state taxes would go up as a result of the formula changing.
  4. We could end up losing money from the state.

**D. Public Comment**

1. None

**E. School Board Response to Public Comment**

1. None

**F. Action Items**

1. Join ConVal Lawsuit
  - a. Welch moves to join the Con-Val lawsuit with a cost cap of \$25,000 as discussed. Bober seconds. Motion passed 4-1-0 (Plater - No

b. Roll vote

1. Herla Iadonisi - Yes
2. Chris Bober - Yes

3. Jessica Morris - Yes
4. Paul Plater - No
5. Heidi Welch - Yes

**G. Adjournment**

1. Bober moved to adjourn. Welch seconds. Motion passed 5-0 @ 7:53pm
2. Roll Vote
  - a. Herla Iadonisi - Yes
  - b. Chris Bober - Yes
  - c. Jessica Morris - Yes
  - d. Paul Plater - Yes
  - e. Heidi Welch - Yes

Respectfully Submitted,  
Megan Fleagle