HUDSONVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BUDGET HEARING AND WORK SESSION MINUTES
3886 Van Buren Street
June 23, 2025
5:45 p.m.

Board Members Present: Bolhuis (arrived at 6:12 p.m.), Chanski, DeWitt, Hall, Hooper, Sneden

Administrators Present: Armstrong, Briggs, Taylor, Thomas, VanderJagt

President Chanski called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda
Motion by Hall to approve the agenda with two additional items as recommended by the Superintendent, supported by Sneden to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: All
Motion Carried

Recognition of Visitors and Hearing of People Present
There were no requests for public comment.

A Truth in Taxation Budget Hearing was held as required by law (PA 60 of 1995) and presented by Patrick Briggs, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance. The proposed tax levies, budget for 2025-2026, millage rates, and a General Appropriations Resolution were reviewed.

Public Comment for Budget Hearing
There were no requests for public comment.

Action Item – Consent Agenda
Motion by Hooper, supported by DeWitt to approve the following consent agenda item:
Approval of Minutes
- Regular Meeting – June 12, 2025

Ayes: All
Motion Carried

2024-2025 Budget Revisions
Motion by Sneden, supported by Hall to approve the 2024-2025 budget revisions as presented. Ayes: All
Motion Carried

2025-2026 Original Budget
Motion by Hall, supported by DeWitt to approve the 2025-2026 original budget as presented. Ayes: All
Motion Carried

Tax Rates for Summer of 2025
Motion by Hall, supported by Sneden to approve the tax rates for summer as presented. Ayes: All
Motion Carried

Sex Education Advisory Board
Ami Taylor, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, discussed the positive outcomes of the surveys conducted across all levels, elementary, middle school, and high school, regarding educational topics as they related to the Sex Education curriculum.

SOAR V Updates

- Ami Taylor, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, shared the short term, long term, and ongoing goals as it relates to the SOAR V Strategic Plan, which included improving parent communication, increased elementary support, ELA and Math support at the middle school and also looking at the addition of Algebra 1 for 8th grade students.
- Anne Armstrong, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, shared the short term, long term, and ongoing goals as it relates to the SOAR V Strategic Plan, which included the creation of common handbooks for elementary, middle, and high school, hiring an assistant transportation director to aid with student discipline on the bus and ways to empower drivers to help retain them. Also, looking into ways to add more career and technology opportunities for students.
- Mandy Thomas, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services and Special Education, shared the short term, long term, and ongoing goals as it relates to the SOAR V Strategic Plan, which included data to support the benefits of having students with IEPs learn alongside peers within the classroom. Exploring additional certificates of completion or diplomas for those who receive special services to help them enter the workforce.
- Patrick Briggs, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, shared the short term, long term, and ongoing goals as it relates to the SOAR V Strategic Plan, which included the addition of air conditioning in buildings that currently do not have it. Increased security by adding cameras, and also continuing with conservative budget practices.
- Doug VanderJagt, Superintendent shared the short term, long term, and ongoing goals as it relates to the SOAR V Strategic Plan, which included career and technology expansion for students, the addition of more summer tutoring options for kids.

Superintendent Mid-Year Goal Review
Dr. VanderJagt provided the board with his mid-year goal review.

Focus Group Findings
Dr. VanderJagt gave a report on the focus groups that took place in the spring and shared the most requested items which were, air conditioning, accessible playground equipment, updated furniture and flexible learning spaces, a 5/6 school on the south side.

Closed Session
Motion by Hall, supported by Bolhuis to go into closed session at 7:48 p.m. to discuss a legal matter.
Roll call vote: Bolhuis – yes, Chanski – yes, DeWitt – yes, Hall – yes, Hooper – yes, Sneden - yes
Motion Carried

Regular Session
Motion by DeWitt, supported by Bolhuis to return to regular session. Ayes: All
Motion Carried

Action Item
Motion by Hall, supported by Bolhuis, to approve the recommendation by the Superintendent to approve settlement authority consistent with the terms proposed by legal counsel in Case No: 24-7690-CZ
Roll call vote: Bolhuis – yes, Chanski – yes, DeWitt – yes, Hall – yes, Hooper – yes, Sneden - yes
Motion Carried

Adjournment
Motion by Sneden, supported by Hooper to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Ayes: All
Motion Carried

Rebecca Fabiano, Recording Secretary