

**Hague School Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting
Thursday, 12 December 2024, 10:00AM
Town of Hague Community Center and Zoom**

Present: Jack Bast and Linda Fusco in person; Beth Barton-Navitski, Peter Carney, Susan DeLarm-Sandman and Sandy Smith on Zoom

Absent: Kathe Allen, Sally Thurston

Meeting opened at 10:01 am

Pledge of Allegiance

Approved Minutes of 11/07/2024 SAC Meeting

Meeting Notes

1. Rural Schools Association of New York – Winter Conference
 - Linda and Beth attended Dec 4th and 5th in Saratoga Springs
 - Linda talked with Dr. Roger Catania, our 4th Judicial District Regent. He can help us with educational aspects, not taxes. We'll invite him to attend a SAC meeting in the future when we have a specific agenda.
 - Beth confirmed with many contacts that a \$2,500 curriculum development budget is ridiculously low!
 - AI is being implemented to some degree in some places. Linda mentioned Bolton and a Harvard reference.
 - Mike Ford reported that not a single national or statewide award is being made to upstate NY schools!
 - The NYS Dept of Education Commissioner Betty Rosa reported increasing regionalization activity in light of changing demographics.
 - The Rockefeller Institute reported on the Foundation Aid amounts.

2. TCSD Streaming
 - Mark Russell's 11/22 response to Josh's 11/22 follow-up reminder was incongruous. He stated the School Board has "no plans in the foreseeable future for (streaming) to occur due to the multiple reasons already provided. It will remain however under consideration if appropriate." This is unacceptable and we must persist in advocating for this essential measure of accessibility, especially in light of winter weather and nighttime driving considerations.
 - Sandy will survey local CSDs to get a measure of who is streaming. Sandy knows from her personal experience that all the Albany CSD schools do.

- The concept of Hague doing its own streaming was discussed. Why not?! Perhaps we could get The Sun to make a joint effort with us. Again, we need to get Ti citizens demanding it, too.
- **Is there some mandate about streaming by 2027????**

3. PILOT Agreements – White Paper

- No response from either Ti or TCSD to our 10/23 follow-up letters requesting PILOT cooperation having been received, Josh issued another reminder to them both on 12/10.
Mr. Wright responded promptly on 12/11 that his 09/16 response stood – it was and still is meaningless! Our further action is warranted.
- Rev 6 of the White Paper was transmitted to the Town Board on 12/05 for their comments.
- Rev 6 is pretty tough; it was agreed that the final Rev needs to be more constructive.
- It was suggested that a Public Hearing would be useful. Gather all citizens to listen, Zoom it. Will probably take a few months to get them up educated on the subject.

4. Education emphasis with our school was discussed.

- One area must be to get more Hague-sympathetic members on the BoE. There will be three openings again in May 2025.
- The Committee needs to better know the opinions of the Hague residents with children currently attending Ti CSD. The names of these families are not publicly available, we have to reach out to individuals. The next Chronicle article will urge parents to contact SAC – Jack to submit for Jan 1 issue.

5. The next BoE meeting will be on December 19 at 6:00 pm. Jack plans to attend, Sandy will attend, weather permitting. Hague citizens were encouraged to attend by Jack in the Dec 10 Town Board Meeting. We will continue to advocate for streaming. Jack will request a May 2025 Budget meeting be held in Hague.

6. There are two open positions on SAC. A Hague parent of students at Ti CSD would be good. Peter suggested contacting Walt Lender at SB YMCA. Jack will make a contact; Beth knows him well enough to follow up.

The next SAC meeting will be held Thursday, 09 January 2025 at 10:00 am. (Note that we will continue to plan to usually meet on the first Thursday of the month so as to prepare any inputs for the regular Town Board meetings which are scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month. January 2025 is different, the first Thursday being 02 Jan, still in the Holiday Season.)

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 11:222 am.

SAC Meeting Minutes – 12/12/2024

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Bast