

DEDHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

October 21, 2015

MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENT:

Tom Ryan, Chair	Susan Butler, Vice Chair
Mayanne Briggs	Kevin Coughlin
Rachel McGregor	Lisa Laprade
Steve Bilafer	

MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Michael Welch, Superintendent
Dr. Cynthia Kelly, Assistant Superintendent
Samuel Rippin, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance

Meeting began at 6:32p.m.

Mr. Ryan opened the meeting at 6:30p.m. and stated the need for the School Committee to enter into executive session under exemption 3 for the purpose to discuss litigation.

Roll call vote taken:

Mayanne Briggs-Yes	Kevin Coughlin-Yes	Rachel McGregor-Yes
Lisa Laprade- Yes	Steve Bilafer-Yes	
Susan Butler-Yes	Tom Ryan- Yes	

Reconvened at 7:18 pm. Mr. Ryan called to order from the previous executive session to discuss a legal matter with Murphy, Hesse, Toomey and Lehane

RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS

The Summer Youth Fit Club recognition has been posted until the next School Committee meeting on November 4, 2015.

Mr. Welch introduced Mr. Joseph Russo, the Interim Greenlodge School Principal. Mr. Russo is a retired Principal and a retired Human Resource Director. Mr. Russo had previously filled in for Kate Conway at the Riverdale School last January and also mentored Principal Sullivan and Human Resource Manager Asha Marshall. Mr. Russo spoke briefly about his transition to the Greenlodge School.

STUDENT UPDATE - Kyle Fonseca and Kayla Haney

Riverdale

- The After School Enrichment Program is up and running with over 50 students participating.
- The Girls on the Run program has also started with great success.
- The BOKS Program will be starting next Tuesday, October 27th, and will run on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:45 - 8:30 until December 17th.

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Avery School

- The Dedham Police and Fire Departments are in the process of providing our students with practice drills. On Tuesday the building had a Shelter in Place drill with the Dedham Police and this morning, they had a fire drill with the Dedham Fire Department. On Tuesday, Avery students were entertained with the NED Show. This character education enrichment program uses yo-yos and a cartoon character, NED, to stress three simple messages: **N**ever give up, **E**ncourage others, and **D**o your best.

Early Childhood Education Center

- The ECEC Back to School Night was held on Thursday, October 9th. Parents and families had the opportunity to meet with their children's teachers and share information about the programs offered at the ECEC.
- Several Kindergarten classes have taken, or will soon take, a field trip to Tangerini Farm in Millis. There the children get to experience many elements of the Fall season on a working farm. They generally return to school with a small pumpkin and a large smile!
- All of the ECECC classes are busily preparing for the 22nd annual ECEC Halloween Show and Costume Parade. It will take place on Friday, October 30. Parents and families are invited.

Dedham Middle School

- The DMS Fall sports season is finishing up this week and they'd like to thank and acknowledge their coaches:
 - Mr. Barbuto, Cross Country
 - Ms. Tapply, Girls Soccer
 - Ms. Hasenfuss, Field Hockey
- They would also like to thank State Representative Paul McMurtry for providing the students in grades 7 & 8 a discounted opportunity to view the movie "He Named Me Malala" at the Dedham Community Theatre on Thursday, October 22nd and Friday, October 23rd. This film chronicles the incredible life, struggles and inspiring achievements of 18 year old , 2014 Nobel Peace Prize winner, Malala Yousafzai.
- MCAS enrichment program began on October 8th with classes offered in Math and English Language Arts to their students in grades 6, 7 & 8.

DHS

- The sophomores and juniors took the PSATs last Wednesday in hopes of preparing them for the redesigned SAT. Thanks to the testing the Seniors got to come in late and then take part in some senior activities that included cap and gown sizing as well as taking the class picture.
- MEFA Night was October 19th and was very beneficial in understanding the college financing process.
- Parent Conferences took place last night at DHS.
- A Link Crew check-in will be held next Tuesday the 27th. Students will play a big game of Kahoot in the cafeteria in hopes of achieving some bonding between the class and their Link Leaders
- Many seniors have been working with their guidance counselors to prepare for the first set of early application deadlines.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

- Mr. Welch sent out the 30-Day update to all educators and parents. The next one will go out Dec. 2.
- Next Level Urban Superintendent's meeting was held today in Hudson, MA Superintendents from Malden, Melrose, Fitchburg, Webster, Milford, Chelsea, and Westfield. Discussions about homeless transportation, DCF, second-language needs, school choice, charter schools, etc were held.
- MCAS vs. PARCC debate and Board of Education - Possible MCAS 2.0 exam possibly for the years ahead.
- Last week Mr. Welch attended the Tri-County Superintendent's breakfast. Brooke Clenchy from the DESE was the speaker.
- October 10th Mr. Welch attended the TEC Superintendent's luncheon. Mr. Welch was the guest speaker talking about the TEC trip to N.C. State for the Blended learning Conference. Lots of enthusiasm for having Dedham host a pilot cohort beginning in March 2016.
- Today was the first day of the MassCUE (Computer Using Educators) conference. There were 20+ educators from the Dedham Public Schools that were in attendance, and two different groups were presenting their work. Mr. Welch will be attending the event tomorrow morning.
- Mr. Welch taped the first segment of "Ask The Superintendent" for Dedham Visionary Access Corporation last week. Airing on Public Access Cable now.
- Dr. Kelly updated the School Committee on the CAPD Committee:
- Full PD Day on Tuesday, November 3, there will be an "Ed Camp" model at the Middle School all day which is being coordinated by Dr. Kobierski and Dr. Langenhorst, and Wendy Garland the Avery School Librarian. Representatives from the committee visited every single building to acquaint the staff with the Ed Camp model and show them a video clip and PowerPoint.
- The ECEC project has its next SBRC meeting on Tuesday, October 27th at the Middle School at 7:00 pm. This information meeting regarding the Dexter site, and the town will be reaching out to abutters with specific letters to invite them.
- Paul Sullivan and Mr. Welch met with KBA Architects last week to further refine the ECEC plan
- The Supervision process is moving forward. Leadership training was held yesterday with all principals, directors, and central office administrators. In the last 7 days, there were 6 announced and 78 unannounced observations performed by district administrators.
- School Committee retreat was held last Monday night and Tuesday night before. Discussion of Superintendent and School Committee goals as well as the 5-year strategic plan

CHAIRS UPDATE

Mr. Ryan thanked Mr. Welch, Dr. Kelly and Mr. Rippin, Ms. Liza O'Connell, Don Langenhorst and Paula Jacobs for spending time with the School Committee during the workshops last week. Smart Goals will be discussed. Mr. Ryan is hoping that when Dept. of Ed looks at the MCAS vs. PARCC, that they will consider the MCAS 2.0 option.

REPORTS

NONE

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- Vote FY17 Budget Calendar - Sam Rippin
- We have not received the town budget timeline. Operating budget is done one year ahead. Capital budget is a 5 year budget (FY17-21). The FY17 will be budgeted first by the town. The School Committee has a budget Sub Committee - (the active committee) and finance reviews the invoices for signatures. Mr. Rippin strongly recommends approval of the budget calendar. Mr. Coughlin would like to schedule a budget Sub Committee meeting in the next few days. Mrs. Butler requested that the members be informed whenever there is a meeting with FinCom or Capital to be able to show support. Mr. Coughlin will communicate with the town Finance Committee.
- Mr. Welch thanked Mr. Rippin, Denise Moroney, and Don Langenhorst as they typically have large Capital items.

- Mr. Ryan read the proposed FY17 Budget Calendar:
 - **October 1-30, 2015**
 - *Asst. to the Superintendent for Business & Finance reviews the Capital Budget with the Superintendent and the Administrative Team*
 - **October 21, 2015**
 - *School Committee adopts the FY17 budget calendar*
 - **November 19, 2015**
 - *Budget Sub Committee reviews Capital Budget*
 - **December 1, 2015**
 - *Asst. to Superintendent for Business & Finance distributes FY17 budget spreadsheet to Principals & Department Chairs*
 - **December 1-15, 2015**
 - *Asst. to the Superintendent for Business & Finance and the Superintendent meet with all Principals and Department Chairs to identify staffing needs and non-staffing expenses*
 - **December 16, 2015**
 - *School Committee votes to approve the FY17-FY21 Capital Budget*
 - **January 5, 2016**
 - *Asst. to the Superintendent for Business & Finance presents FY17 Budget recommendation to the Budget Sub-Committee*
 - **January 20, 2016**
 - *Public Hearing on the FY17 Budget*
 - **February 3, 2016**
 - *School Committee adopts FY17 Budget*
 - **TBA**
 - *FY17 Presentation to Finance Committee*
 - **May 18, 2016**
 - *Annual Town Meeting*

Mr. Coughlin motioned to adopt the FY17 Fiscal Budget Calendar, Mrs. Butler seconded, voted unanimous 7-0.

Review and adoption of School Committee Goals - Mr. Welch thanked the committee for their eager participation during the retreat on Monday.

REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE GOALS - generated from the School Committee deliberations during the recent retreat. A vote will not be taken this evening.

Mr. Ryan read the five SMART goals:

- **ECEC at Dexter - Support For Favorable Vote at Town Meeting**
Secure the funding, provided through the Robin Reyes Fund, for the construction of a new ECEC building at the Dexter School site by majority 2/3 vote at the Town Meeting in May 2016.
- **Focus on Academic and Curriculum - Support 20/20 Strategic Plan by march 1 2016**
To support the Superintendent in bringing the Strategic Plan (20/20) vision to all stakeholders for their support and implement fully by March 1, 2016. Educate the community and seek their input.
- **Student Blended/Specialized Learning**
Secure and provide funding to explore what 21st century collaborative learning skills are for but not limited to Pre-K-12 learning. Connecting technology to personalize instructional practice, building a personalize culture and offering hands-on project based learning options, where students can build and participate and process and present their learning.
- **Start Times For All Levels - Review and Possible Changes**
By the end of February 2016, a committee will be established including representatives from all stakeholder groups (parents, students, staff, community members, the athletic director, etc.) to collect benchmarking data regarding the most appropriate start times by grade level and recommend any appropriate changes to maximize student learning and well being.
- **Fund next phase of Free Full Day Kindergarten - Explore Pre-K**
By the end of 2015, Dedham School Committee will continue discussions with stakeholders to establish the second stage to support funding and understanding of a free full day kindergarten program to open no later than the fall of 2018.
- Mr. Welch recommended that edits to the SMART Goals be forwarded to Paula Jacobs.
- Mrs. Butler suggested that the Strategic Plan be moved to April 2016 timeframe so to give enough time with the winter months and talking to the community. Mr. Welch agreed.
- Mr. Welch recommended that the School Committee move to a vote on the SMART Goals at the next meeting on November 4th.

MINUTES

- Mr. Coughlin motioned to approve the October 7, 2015 minutes, seconded by Mrs. Briggs, voted unanimously.
- Mrs. Butler motioned to accept the October 13, 2015 minutes, seconded by Mrs. McGregor, voted unanimously.

- Mrs. Laprade motioned to accept the October 19, 2015 School Committee minutes, seconded by Mrs. Butler, voted unanimously.

DONATIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Russ Poole suggested parents attend SBRC meeting on Tuesday October 27 at 7:00pm with the abutters. This is an open meeting and encourages other parents and residents to attend to get their questions answered. Also Mr. Rippin stated that the excess books from a few weeks ago were recycled.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Paul McMurtry will be hosting a discussion tomorrow night at the Middle School on October 22nd at 7:00 with other officials and resources regarding drugs opiate drug abuse to help our community who may be affected by this problem.

Mr. Ryan stated there was no need to enter into executive session. Mrs. Butler motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. McGregor, voted unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11pm.