

# DEDHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

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## MEETING MINUTES September 23, 2015

### MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENT:

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

### RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

Mr. Welch welcomed Denise Moroney, Director of Maintenance and Facilities, who made a presentation to all the custodial and maintenance dept. staff for all their hard work over the summer months in all their hard work with delivering and unpacking over 1300 pieces of new furniture, renovating over 4000 square feet of space at the High School in the new guidance, nurse and Youth Commission space and thanked the staff for their dedication. Mrs. Moroney also thanked Roger Lazdowsky.

Mrs. Moroney Introduced the staff: Roger Lazdowsky, Tom Mucciaccio, Renee Zarthar, Joe Zarthar, Tom Rogers, Bill Quinlan, Peter Kaltsounis, Jim Abdallah, and Steve MacDonald

Mr. Welch also thanked the custodial staff for their hard work this summer.

### STUDENT UPDATE

Kyle Fonseca and Kayla Haney

#### Riverdale School

- The opening weeks have been extremely hot at the Riverdale school. The Riverdale PTO bought fans for classrooms in need and popsicles for the entire during the opening weeks of school due to the heat.
- Friday September 11th, the Riverdale School celebrated the summer reading and writing the students had done with an assembly and Popsicle party organized by the Literacy Specialists, Older students were paired with younger students and shared pieces of writing they had done as well as their favorite book from over the summer,
- The Riverdale School had three PTO events: The first was a back to School Pizza Picnic on Friday, September 11th from 5:30 - 7. Families' pre-ordered pizzas and set up blankets and chairs on the field and playground. They also had a 1st and 2nd Grade Ice Cream Social was hosted on Tuesday, September 15th. Donahue Real Estate supplied ice cream and toppings for this event where 1st-grade families were able to meet each other and meet parents who have been at Riverdale for at least a year. The PTO had their first meeting of the year following the Ice Cream Social and many new faces joined veteran members to start out the year.

- Riverdale's Back To School Night was Monday, September 21st from 6-8. Many families came out to see their students' classrooms and meet school staff.

### **Oakdale School**

- On Thursday, September 24th Oakdale will be having their annual Community Day. This is a team-building day revolved around sportsmanship. Students participate in field events, creating a community mural, a visit from the Animal Rescue League, and dancing with DJ Jim.
- Oakdale's Annual Open House is Wednesday, September 30th from 6-8 for both students and families.
- The Fall Book Fair will be open that night as well.

### **Greenlodge School**

- Greenlodge had their ice cream social on September 8th that was also sponsored by Donahue Real Estate.
- There will be an open House is this Thursday Sept. 24th.
- Students from Greenlodge made a video "Get up and Learn" that will be shown to parents that attend.
- September 30th is the First Grade parent pizza dinner hosted by Grade 2 parents.

### **Dedham Middle School**

- Today the Dedham Middle School Parent Group started their annual Jennine gift items fundraiser with assemblies for all students.
- On September 29th an open house for all students in grades 3-5 will be taking place.
- Families are invited to come to the middle school from 6:00 - 8:00 to learn more about the middle school programs and activities.

### **Dedham High School**

- The "activity day" that took place in the cafeteria was a great success. There are a record number of members in Dedham High's student council.
- Mr. McCarthy was very pleased at the turnout we had at the open house.
- The Senior college planning night was very informative.

Upcoming events:

- This Friday will be picture day for all students.
- This coming week will be spirit week at DHS. Spirit week will end with a pep rally on Friday with many activities that challenge grades against each other, as well as the staff. Friday night will be our homecoming football game followed by our homecoming dance on Saturday.
- Dedham High's grades 4-8 open house will be October 6th. Students have been recruited to help out.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

- Mr. Rippin will not be in attendance this evening due to observance of Yom Kippur.
- Today is the first day of Autumn (Autumnal Equinox was today at 4:22 am) when the sun is directly over the equator on its journey southward. I will be over the Tropic of Capricorn on December 21st when we have the Winter Solstice.
- MCAS state scores will be out tomorrow. Student score reports will be in the district on Oct. 1 (Thursday). We will be mailing ALL individual student score reports to homes on Wed. Oct. 7.
- The hiring process is complete.
- Dr. Kelly will be meeting with the Reading Specialists to discuss on-going writing work and teacher familiarity with the CCSS.
- CAPD leaders meeting with Dr. Kelly. Great work on-going.
- EdCamp discussion with PD group last week in preparation for Nov. 3 full PD day around technology integration. Full committee in planning mode. EdCamp for librarians organized by Wendy Garland (Avery Librarian) this weekend September 26 from 8:45 - 4:00 @ Dedham Middle School. Mr. Welch showed a PowerPoint presentation.
- Heather Peske, DESE Associate Commissioner for Educator Quality is on-board as the speaker for our first Aspiring Leaders Academy meeting on Tuesday, October 27 at the MIT Endicott House. All administrators and 22 teacher members from last year will be nominating about 20 new Dedham Public School educators for this year's group. About 65 members should be involved this year. 4 dates have been set for 2015-16. All School Committee members are invited to attend.
- The Supervision process is moving forward at breakneck pace. Mr. Welch states this is a major focus of work this year and was the primary topic of conversation at yesterday's Leadership Committee meeting. 271 logins from educators just today. 66- logins last 3 days took place. Over 200 documents uploaded to TeachPoint in the last 3 days. All self-assessments being reviewed and Goals being posted/reviewed in individual meetings with supervisors, and then approved by principals. All goals are due by October 1. Ongoing meetings with DEA to review/revised process.
- The School Committee retreats are scheduled for MIT Endicott House on October 5 and 13. School Committee goals, calendar development, and sub-committee work will be discussed.
- Tentative school department budget timeline sent to the Town manager by Sam Rippin.
- Mr. Welch and Don Langenhorst will be attending National One-To-One conference in North Carolina on Sept. 28- Oct. 1.
- Mr. Welch, Dr. Kelly and Dr. Langenhorst will be attending the TEC meeting with Superintendent Marc Edward regarding leadership to improve teaching and learning.

- The next School Committee Meeting will begin with a workshop on October 7 at 6:00 pm for the purpose of Superintendent Evaluation training my MASC trainer Dorothy Presser. The School Committee meeting will start at 7:30 pm.

**Mr. Welch attended the following meetings:**

- September 11 - The TEC Superintendent's meeting @ Wellesley College Club on Friday. Millis reported on the fabricated police officer shooting and subsequent interventions by local police and nearby towns complicated by state police, ATF, and FBI made for an interesting discussion.
- September 10 - Continued negotiations with Custodians. Hoping for minor changes and ratification vote within the next few weeks.
- September 18th - Dedham Greenway meeting with Virginia LeClair, Chief D'Entremont, Parks and Recreation, as they need to set up discussions with School Committee members and Virginia LeClair regarding concerns about adjacency to schools.
- September 17 - New Superintendent Induction Program meeting last Thursday. Mr. Welch states the district is in great shape relative to our Strategic Planning timeline and the opening of school. 29 new Superintendents this year. 28 still in program from last year. 4 more meetings over the course of the year, mostly focused on Strategic Planning endorsement and action.
- ECEC discussion @ SBRC last week. Next SBRC meeting is Tuesday, October 6. Informational meeting re: Dexter Site is scheduled for Monday, October 19. Paul Sullivan and Mr. Welch had a phone conference with KBA architects this Friday.
- September 18 - met with Chief D'Entremont regarding emergency planning meetings for the year.
- September 21 - met with Dedham Coalition for Substance Abuse to discuss upcoming plans for action in the community and the involvement of the schools in supporting and publicizing this effort.
- September 23 - Wellness Committee meeting with Food Service Director Jeanne Johnson and Nurse Leader Gail Kelley to discuss overall student health/wellness policies and planning.

Dr. Kelly updated the School Committee on curriculum, assessment, and professional development and working with the reading specialists. Dr. Kelly and Mr. Welch met with the Chairs on September 11. The PD Committee has been working hard for the October 9th and November 3rd professional development. All the elementary reading teachers are busy unpacking the common core state standards for all the teachers. The assessment groups have been divided into 3 groups; data collection and analysis, pilots of different programs to replace Acuity. The CAPD Committee will be conducting CAPD road shows to recruit more members.

Paul Sullivan provided a brief update about the ECEC project. John Malnati, KBA Architect, visited the school yesterday to get information regarding the Pre-Kindergarten program. He visited all the Pre-K's to see what the space requirement limitations were and how the programs were being presented in our current space. He did a lot of data collection. Meeting with him again on Friday morning.

## **CHAIRS UPDATE**

After speaking with Representative McMurtry, Mr. Ryan apologized for his name being on the agenda for the last meeting, as he is always willing to come but was not aware he was on the agenda.

## **REPORTS**

Assistant Principal, Dr. Fraczek presented a proposal for an annual Middle School Grade 8 trip to Washington DC. Middle, for approx 230 students. Last spring the Middle School went to DC as a pilot program. School wide fundraising and community service was discussed. The School Committee will vote when more specific information is provided.

Principal Debbie Gately - Middle School presented a proposal and approval of two faculty-led student trips - February 2017 trip to Peru and April 2017 trip to England and France for students in grades 7 & 8. 15 students would be attending each trip with Middle School chaperones accompanying the trips. There will be an informational meeting on Oct. 14. Discussions followed.

Superintendent Welch recommends the two international trips in the spring of 2017. Mrs. Briggs motioned to approved the 2 trips, seconded by Mrs. Butler Walko. Voted unanimously.

Fine Arts Director, Mr. Jeff Bolduc presented a proposal and approval of a High School field trip to New York City to take 50 DHS music students to perform at the Statue of Liberty on May 14, 2016. Mr. Welch recommended the trip, discussions followed.

Mrs. Butler Walko motioned to approve the High School trip to New York City on May 14,2016, seconded by Mrs. McGregor, voted unanimously.

## **Discussions regarding Livable Dedham**

Mr. Ryan stated The Dedham Council on Aging is launching an effort to make Dedham more livable, and age-friendly on Dedham a more livable place. The first meeting will be held on October 5 at 7:00 at the Endicott Estate and they are looking for a representative from the School Committee. Mr. Welch will reach out to the Council On Aging.

## **MINUTES:**

Mrs. Briggs motioned to accept the minutes from the July 27, 2015 School Committee Meeting, Mrs. Butler-Walko seconded, voted unanimously. Mr. Bilafer abstained.

Mr. Coughlin motioned to accept the August 13, 2015 School Committee minutes, seconded by Mrs. Briggs with one amendment. Add Lisa Laprade's name to the section at the top under Members Present. Voted unanimously with that one change. Mr. Bilafer abstained.

Mr. Coughlin motioned to accept the August 18, 2015 School Committee minutes, seconded by Mrs. Laprade, with one amendment. Take our Mr. DelloIacono's name on page 2 and replace with the person who seconded that vote, voted unanimously with that one change. Mr. Bilafer abstained.

Mrs. Briggs motioned to accept the September 9, 2015 minutes, seconded by Mrs. Butler-Walko. Voted unanimously with Mr. Coughlin and Mrs. Laprade abstaining.

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### **DONATIONS**

Mrs. Briggs motioned to accept a donation of \$400 to the Early Childhood Education Center from Shaw's Supermarkets' and Start Markets' "We Love Our Schools' campaign, seconded by Mrs. Butler Walko, voted unanimously.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Welch thanked parents for attending the open houses recently.  
The Dedham Youth Commission College fair will be held on October 3 in Dedham Square with 50 colleges and universities attending.  
Bernie's Run will be held October 4th at 11:30. Proceeds will go to the Dedham Education Foundation grants

Mrs. Butler Walko motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. McGregor. Meeting concluded at 8:31 p.m.

