

DEDHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES
November 16, 2016

MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENT:

Susan Butler, Chair
Mayanne Briggs, Vice-Chair
Kevin Coughlin
Lisa Laprade
Tom Ryan (arrived @ 6:45 p.m.)
Tracey White

MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ABSENT:

Steve Bilafer

MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Michael Welch, Superintendent
Ian Kelly, Assistant Superintendent
Samuel Rippin, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance

Meeting Location: Avery Elementary School

Meeting commenced at 6:39 p.m.

Executive Session

Ms. Briggs motioned to enter Executive Session under Article 3, Collective Bargaining; Mr. Coughlin second, a roll call vote was taken:

Susan Butler, Chair- Yes	Mayanne Briggs, Vice-Chair- Yes
Kevin Coughlin- Yes	Lisa Laprade- Yes
Tracey White- Yes	

Ms. Butler announced the Committee would be returning immediately following Executive Session.

Regular meeting reconvened at 7:55 p.m.

Student Update

None

Reports

School Dude/Facilities Usage Review/Report - Denise Moroney & Virginia Cullen

Denise Moroney, Director of Facilities, and Virginia Cullen, Administrative Assistant to the Business and Finance department, updated the Committee on the progress of the implementation of the School Dude FX Direct System. School Dude is an automated system used to manage and monitor school facility rentals and events as well as to track work orders. The presentation included a review of the building use process, work flow from a building use request through the approval process and a summary of the uses of DPS facilities including the athletic complex. The anticipated date for the system to go 'live' to outside users for rental purposes is July 1, 2017.

Comments and questions from the Committee followed.

Ms. White made a suggestion to review the fee schedule and facilities policies. Supt. Welch supported a motion for this purpose.

Ms. White motioned to have the Policy Subcommittee review the current fee schedule and facilities policy, Mr. Coughlin second, the Committee voted in favor, 6-0.

Suggestions by the School Committee included better communication with neighbors when large events take place at the schools; monitoring attendance of large groups for better parking and police details, and hosting a community meeting with local groups who frequently rent the facilities to walk them through the new online system. There was also a discussion on the lifespan of the turf field which is approximately 10 to 12 years. Mr. Rippin reported purchasing equipment to help maintain the turf field and extend its life. Ms. Butler questioned the fees associated with the use of lights on the field. There is an additional fee for outside organizations if the lights are requested.

Guidance/Counseling Services Overview - Michelle Singer

Michelle Singer, Interim Director of Guidance, updated the Committee on the Guidance Department and student body. Ms. Singer announced some new staff to the Guidance Department - Erica Stone, Guidance Counselor; Jesse Elston, DHS Secretary; and Katie Murray, DMS secretary. The presentation included demographic breakdowns of Dedham High School students, the class of 2016 post-secondary review and current programming and services provided by the Guidance Department.

Comments and questions from the Committee followed.

Mr. Coughlin was interested in hearing more on what businesses are involved with the Career Fairs.

Ms. White inquired on how many counselors worked in the Guidance Department. There are only five counselors (including Ms. Singer) in the High School.

Supt. Welch displayed the Guidance Department website page on the large screen. It included a large amount of resources including dates, newsletters, important events, contact information, forms, The Education Cooperative, career information, and college planning tools.

Ms. Briggs commented that, as a parent of a senior, communication from the Guidance Department has been 'great'.

Suggestions from the Committee included following up with post-secondary data, having scholarship applications on line, and a follow up presentation in January on the 9th grade team.

A discussion ensued around scholarships, why students are not applying for them, the equity of the recipients and trust scholarships that are organized by the Town.

Ms. Butler also inquired about the shared resources between DMS and DHS and suggested the guidance counselors attend a PTO meeting. She also voiced her concern about the disparity of boys to girls in the National Honor Society.

Superintendent's Update

Michael J. Welch, Superintendent

On November 14, Dedham's Fall Town Meeting approved Article 10 (via unanimous vote) in favor of a \$100,000 supplement to the FY17 school budget. This supplement will be allocated to moving the half-time DMS/DHS nurse to full time status, adding a 0.6 FTE psychologist, and adding a 1.0 FTE Career Counselor/Transition Specialist at Dedham High School.

Next week the Dedham Public Schools will have a half-day of school on Wednesday, November 23 to begin the Thanksgiving recess. This year's traditional Thanksgiving Day football game against Norwood High School will take place in Norwood.

The District completed a full day of professional development on Election Day. The EdCamp was held at Dedham High School and the Avery School.

Dr. Kelly discussed an overview of the day and the topic of "Student Engagement." The day concluded with discussions on how teachers can take what they learned throughout the day and

apply it to their classrooms. Dr. Kelly also thanked Dr. Don Langenhorst, Judy Foley and Dr. Linda Kobierski as well as the teachers who volunteered to lead group discussions.

Dr. Kelly also presented an update on the ELA audit. He has begun meeting with elementary teams and has gained some perspective on what is working and what is not working. The goal is to better support the teachers while aligning the curriculum across the district.

Supt. Welch noted that we currently have a pool of substitutes available allowing teachers the time and opportunity to do collaborative work.

Supt. Welch attended the MASS/MASC Conference last week where he attended discussions on early childhood education, students with anxiety disorders and social emotional learning.

A tentative agreement has been reached with the Food Service workers union.

The first meeting of the Budget Subcommittee was held on November 15. The subcommittee reviewed the requests submitted from the schools and from the Technology department. The next meeting is November 30.

On November 7, Supt. Welch participated as a member of the Board of Directors for the Schools-To-Careers partnership. This is an organization that coordinates visits and exposures to industry and is comprised of 13 different school districts. Dedham is a member district and high school counselor Tim Geary is our local contact.

On November 9, Supt. Welch met with a group of Dedham officials to discuss possible off-site mitigation measures for traffic flow and speeds along High Street (Rt. 109) in front of the ECEC at Dexter site. A comprehensive menu of options was developed and it was ultimately determined that the proposal for Article 9 at Town Meeting should be postponed until next spring. This issue should not delay the demolition of the building or the bidding of the construction documents.

On November 3 and 4 all students in Grades 6-12 completed the MetroWest Adolescent Health Survey. Results should be available in March.

Supt. Welch attended Open Meeting law training on November 9. New legislation will go into effect on January 1.

Old/New Business

Naloxone (Narcan) Policy Recommendation from the Policy Subcommittee - Ms. Laprade

Ms. Laprade announced that a Naloxone/Narcan policy has been drafted. Ms. Laprade read the following statement summarizing the policy:

The Overdose Education and Naloxone distribution prevention program under the direction of the Mass Department of Health says the schools must provide and maintain Naloxone for the school nurses to administer to a student, staff member or visitor of the school suspected of having an opioid overdose while on school property. The policy and procedure describes the signs and symptoms of an opioid overdose. There is then a carefully laid out sequential set of procedures which state that emergency medical response such as calling 911 must be initiated, then a careful health assessment of the suspected overdose victim performed followed by a set of detailed Naloxone administration directions to the victim if warranted pending the health assessment results. The policy and procedure also describes the potential victim's reaction as well as adverse effects. It is then stated that the victim must be transported to the nearest hospital by EMS. Student support services will be notified if the victim was a student and substance prevention resources will be provided to the student and family as appropriate. An incident report must be filled out in all cases. This policy and procedure then goes on to describe the necessary training for administration, procurement, storage and disposal of Naloxone.

This policy has been shared with Dedham Police Chief Michael D'Entremont and Fire Chief William Spillane who both provided support for the policy as written.

Supt. Welch noted that all Dedham Public School nurses have been trained in the administration of Narcan.

Ms. Butler suggested that the Policy Subcommittee connect with Jennifer Gardner, the Dedham Public Health Nurse on this issue.

The Policy Subcommittee noted a need to review the MOU with the Dedham Parks & Recreation Department by 11/30/16. Ms. Butler stated she would contact John Maida to begin discussions.

Minutes

Ms. Briggs motioned to approve the minutes of November 2, 2016 as presented, Mr. Coughlin second, the Committee voted 5-0 in favor. Ms. Laprade abstained since she was not in attendance at the meeting on November 2.

Donations

Ms. Laprade motioned to accept with grateful appreciation a \$1,000 donation from the Dedham Education Partnership to support the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support Program at Dedham Middle School. Ms. Briggs second, the Committee voted 6-0 in favor.

Mr. Rippin summarized three additional donations:

A \$100 donation from Costco to assist with the Grade 7 Copley Team field trip transportation costs.

A \$500 prize donation from teacherslist.com won by Dr. Fraczek which will be used for DMS student activities.

Three Fuji cameras and accessories (valued at \$500) won by Maura Bennet, Reading Specialist at DMS, from Scholastic Book Company

Ms. Briggs motioned to accept with grateful appreciation the aforementioned donations, Ms. White second; the Committee voted 6-0 in favor.

Mr. Rippin acknowledged the following restaurants for donating food for the Family Pasta Night at Dedham Middle School on November 17, 2016 to support the 8th grade trip to Washington D.C.

Comella's of Westwood and West Roxbury
Vincenzo's of Dedham
Chuck Wagon
Chateau Italian Family Restaurant
Wegmans
Roche Brothers

Ms. White motioned to accept with grateful appreciation the food donations from the aforementioned restaurants, Ms. Briggs second; the Committee voted 6-0 in favor.

Ms. Butler announced that a vote was taken in Executive Session to accept the paraprofessional contract that was ratified by the paraprofessional's union last week and asked for a motion to accept this contract in open session.

Ms. Briggs motioned to accept the paraprofessionals contract dated Sept 2016 through August 2017, Ms. Laprade second; a roll call vote was taken:

Susan Butler, Chair- Yes
Kevin Coughlin- Yes
Tracey White- Yes

Mayanne Briggs, Vice-Chair- Yes
Lisa Laprade- Yes

Public Comment

None

Acknowledgements and Announcements

Ms. White noted she attended the Veteran's Assembly at Dedham Middle School and at Oakdale School. She thanked the Principals for the great job they did acknowledging this important day.

Ms. White also announced the Turkey Trot taking place on Thanksgiving Day.

Supt. Welch congratulated all the inductees into the Dedham Athletic Hall of fame.

Supt. Welch also congratulated the National Honor Society inductees. The induction will be on Monday night.

Ms. Butler announced that the group Learn to Cope which helps families dealing with addiction will meet on Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm at Mother Brook Community Center.

Ms. Butler also announced the Church of the Good Shepherd hosts meetings on Saturdays at 4:30 to help support families of addicts.

Ms. Brigs motioned to adjourn the meeting, Ms. White second; the Committee voted 6-0 in favor.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 p.m.