

DEDHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

August 14, 2013

MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENT:

Joe Heisler, Chair

Jen Barsamian, Vice Chair

Tom Ryan

Kevin Coughlin

Mayanne Briggs

Susan Butler-Walko

Rachel McGregor

MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Cynthia Kelly, Assistant Superintendent

Michael LaFrancesca

Kathy Gaudreau

Meeting began 6:38p.m.

SUPTERINTENDENT'S UPDATE:

Dr. Cynthia Kelly gave the Superintendent's update:

The gray school calendars were mailed this week. We have had two summer workshops, the Science workshop completed in June with Ruth Dorsey and Bernadette Costello. The science kits were re-vamped and were aligned with the frameworks. The Treasures Workshop was modified infusing a lot more writing with Maureen Simonson and ten 4th and 5th grade teachers. Next week there will be a workshop from Everyday Math to teach twenty teachers E-Suite which will be available on-line.

Attended a workshop in Boston with Nancy Clement last week to see how them.

Acuity workshop – twenty-five teachers will be coming. Letters went out this week inviting 1st and 2nd year teachers to the Endicott estate for new teacher orientation on August 27th. Everyone is welcome to come and meet the new staff at 8:30. At 9:00, the new teacher orientation with Lyndy Johnson will take place for the whole day. Teachers will earn 5 hours toward the mentoring training. Discussions took place regarding professional development.

CHAIRS UPDATE:

Mr. Heisler gave an update of the draft of the master plan that they have been working on with the consultant. More discussions will take place at the next meeting.

REPORTS:

Special Education Action Plan – Kathy Gaudreau, Director of Special Education, provided an update in response to the special evaluation audit. A time has been set up with Mr. John Provost – Superintendent in North Brookfield on September 13th to meet with the elementary principals, Mrs. Gaudreau and Mrs. Kelly to discuss how to move forward with this plan. The plan would recommend professional development to revisit differentiated instruction. Mrs. Gaudreau discussed the SAT process, revising the program descriptions and entry/exit criteria along with providing training in classroom management. The RTI model will require monitoring initial referrals, collaborative problem solving model. Discussions took place.

MASS BAY

Dr. Kelly gave an Update regarding the dual enrollment through Mass Bay Community College. Dedham High School courses were all examined by Mass Bay . They felt if a student took these classes, they would be dual enrolled. Most state schools would accept this. TEC offers a number of courses on-line. Students need to see their guidance counselor for more information. Mrs. Butler-Walko requested that any guidance materials or announcements that are to be distributed by Dr. McCormick be reviewed by Dr. Kelly or Principal McCarthy.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

None

MINUTES

None

DONATIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

James Maher, parent of a high school student commented regarding his son's request to take a music course at the high school. Mr. Maher's son Andrew also spoke about the importance of this course. Mr. Heisler responded that he would hear soon from Mr. McCarthy.

Mrs. Butler motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Barsamian, voted unanimous. The meeting ended at 8:15 p.m.