

# **SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

### **October 3, 2012**

#### **MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENT:**

Mayanne Briggs, Chair	Joe Heisler, Vice Chair	Kevin Coughlin	
Dimitria Sullivan	Tom Ryan	Jen Barsamian	Susan Butler-Walko

#### **MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION PRESENT WERE:**

June Doe, Superintendent  
Cynthia Kelly, Assistant Superintendent  
Michael LaFrancesca, Assistant to the Superintendent for Business  
Kathy Gaudreau, Director of Special Education

#### **Meeting began at 7:03**

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

Superintendent Doe outlined the steps that the district is taking to assure we are modeling and teaching a culture of respect, appreciation of differences and characteristics that define successful leaders in our athletic programs. Northeastern University Sports and Society will begin an initiative with us for mandatory training for our coaches the week of October 15<sup>th</sup>. This program will focus on anti-bullying and anti-hazing, but also the best practices for creating healthy relationships within the athletic teams. Our team captains for all of our fall sports will also training during the school day on the week of October 15<sup>th</sup>. Our plan is to continue with additional focus training for all participants in our athletic programs throughout our school year using outside resources to enhance and insure a culture of respect and support for one another in our schools. DHS has about 80% of our students participating in athletics during the school year. I am proud of each student who wishes to participate. It is an individual commitment and responsibility to participate in a sport on part of the student athlete. It is our responsibility as adults to provide the education and training needed to develop their leadership skills and we have to be vigilant that we are providing adults who are the best role models with the highest professional conduct that we expect in all of our athletic and academic programs. I will keep the committee informed as we proceed with each of these initiatives throughout the school year. Our goal is to develop and assure all participants that we have effective, cooperative and supportive team relationships.

All elementary schools have had open house in the month of September. Principals report that the open houses were very successful. MCAS Scores were sent home with grades 4 and 5. If you have any questions, please contact the building Principal, or

**Oakdale** – Completed the Fall book Fair, with Breakfast with Books and culminated with a whole school mingle before Open House. Building Our Oakdale Community Day Event will take place October 5 9:00-12 with various field events and activities.

**Riverdale** - Open house was held Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:30. Students of the Month were honored by their teachers and names of the September's honorees were shared over the morning announcements by the principal.

**Avery** families gathered together on Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> to recognize the student who had completed the reading and math work over the summer. 65% of the students returned their reading materials and math materials.

Avery first grade students were visited by the member of the Dedham Fire Dept. at East Dedham, an annual event which students were able to use the fire equipment. Many of our students will once again be participating I the SMILE Dental program on October 15 getting their teeth cleaned and checked.

**ECEC** – Annual Open House tomorrow evening at 6:30 in the gym with the PTO kicking off their meeting.

**Greenlodge** – PTO will hold their Annual Pumpkin Patch Fair on Sat. Oct. 13 from 10-12 with proceeds to be used to support programs, field trips and supplies. Afterschool enrichment program will offer 11 classes begin next week.

**Middle School** – Enrichment program began Sept. 18th. Afterschool MCAS Enrichment commencing Oct. 4 – every Thursday throughout the year. This program is free to identified students and transportation home will be provided. Middle School Open House Parent Meetings with teachers on Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> Last Names A-K and Oct. 18th Last Name L-Z.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE** – Jackie Sullivan

DHS Progress reports will be issued tomorrow, parents need to sign and return back to the school. DHS Parent/Teacher Conferences take place on October 9th, if parents need to make an apt, they will need to email the teachers. Members of the Junior/Senior class will take the SAT, ACT, with many taking the subject test this Saturday. School Spirit Week starts on Tuesday October 9 ending with a pep rally in the afternoon and evening. Homecoming is October 13<sup>th</sup>. Chris Herring, a HS Basketball star from Fall River came to speak at DHS last week speaking to us about his many successes but most of all his battle with alcohol and heroine, then becoming clean and sober. Distractology Program, a 45 minute simulation of distracting driving experiences, anyone who wants to sign up please contact Ms. Bohan. David St. Cyr, Brian Connell, Matt Maloney from the Golf Team will be representing DHS at the Baystate Conference Championship on Oct. 3at Framingham Country Club. Congrats to Laura O’Hanlon who came in first in the Cross Country Meet vs. Natick on Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>. Swim team beat Weymouth on Set. 21<sup>st</sup>. and finally Booster’s Club drive will take place on Sunday October 21<sup>st</sup>.

**CHAIR’S UPDATE:**

Mrs. Briggs read the following:

On behalf of the School Committee, I would first like to reassure parents that their children are safe in the Dedham Public schools. This incident is an aberration, NOT indicative in any way of the character of our student or the culture of respect we are cultivating in our system. The past week has been a very difficult time for Dedham and the Dedham Public Schools. Superintendent Doe, along with the School Administration and the Dedham Police have handled this situation with the skills and the sensitivity required. We are fortunate and appreciative to have as community partners; highly trained and capable professionals, who have taken swift and appropriate actions, in accordance with district policies and state laws. Again, I want to reaffirm that the student in the Dedham Public Schools will continue to receive the highest quality education in a safe learning environment.

NEASC Self-study working groups – The High School has started to meet in sub groups, studying curriculum, instruction, assessment of student learning, school culture and leadership, school resources for learning, community resources for learning, and core values. These meetings will continue thru April, each of us will need to pick one sub group and attend as many meetings as we possibly can to support the self-study program.

Warrant Article coming out in November at Special Town Meeting, Mr. Ryan and Mr. Roberts gave information on updating the master plan. Mr. Ryan spoke regarding the SBRC Project proposing an evaluation of the master plan so the School District can prepare to move forward. The Article will be sponsored by the School Committee and School Dept.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

SHAC – School Health Advisory Committee – Gail Kelley, Nurse Director and Marge Bohan, Director of Health and Physical Education, spoke regarding the history of SHAC, Membership, and Student Risk Survey. Sponsored performances have been “Yellow Dress”, “Remote Control”, and “Fitness Fundamentals. Introduction meeting was on Sept. 12. The next meeting of SHAC will be October 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Middle School.

DEDHAM YOUTH COMMISSION

Director Robert Blaney and Greg Cabral updated the School Committee regarding Dedham’s recent award to a top community for young people. Information given regarding the RISE Program for rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders, as well as information regarding the College Bound Program. Thirty 8<sup>th</sup> grade middle school students lived on a college campus/dorms, participating in many tours, classes, and workshops for 2 weeks.

**REPORTS:**

DISTRICT MCAS REPORT – Assistant Superintendent Cynthia Kelly informed the School Committee on the new performance measuring changes for MCAS accountability (PPI). Dedham is a Level 2 district. Please see the MCAS PowerPoint presentation on the DPS website. Each Principal reported individual results.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Request to bring back guidance, for report on how many colleges they have visited, with a review in January.

**MINUTES**

Motion made by Mr. Coughlin to accept the September 19, 2012 SC minutes, seconded by Mr. Ryan, voted unanimous.

**DONATIONS**

1. Dedham Shines to the Dedham High School Guidance Dept. to be used as a grant program “Give It A Shot” for students to apply to a “Reach” college, from Monica Wilkinson and Jennifer Barsamian, co-founders of Dedham Shines.
2. Greenlodge PTO raised money for 2 classrooms, donated \$7704.40 for 2 smart boards.
3. Greenlodge PTO raised \$3,830.38 by the Grade 5 students (a gift) for the grade 5 classrooms to purchase new shades.
4. \$736.00 donated from Laney MacDougall and brother Paul MacDougall (in memory of former Nurse Mary MacDougall) to be used for a new recovery couch and a locking medicine cabinet. Helped paint the nurses office, requesting a plaque “Mary MacDougall Health Center”.
5. Colpitts Travel donated 7 boxes of presentation folders (3000) for all schools.
6. 35 jars of ceramic jars from Noble and Greenough School – value approx. \$1000.

Mr. Heisler made the motion with grateful appreciation, Mrs. Butler-Walko seconded with grateful appreciation, voted unanimous.

Naming of the Greenlodge school Nurse’s office to the Mary MacDougall Health Office will be brought to a Policy Sub Committee next week. Need to schedule a Policy Sub Committee Meeting next Wednesday.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

– None

The motion to adjourn made by Mr. Coughlin and seconded by Mrs. Butler-Walko, voted unanimous. Meeting ended at 9:43.

Next meeting please bring report in folder (Feasibility Study Report).