

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
January 18, 2011**

MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL, COMMITTEE PRESENT WERE:

Kevin Coughlin, Chairman	David Roberts
Mayanne Briggs, Vice Chair	Dimitria Sullivan
Joe Heisler	Susan Butler Walko
Tom Ryan	

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

The Chair of the School Committee, Kevin Coughlin called the meeting to order at 7:04pm

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE:

Recognized Kate Lundy, DHS Senior, Abigail Adams Scholar Award.

Avery School – Special Education staff participated in a professional development program Orton Gillingham and EMPOWER, for use with persons who have difficulty with reading. Grade 1 students visited New England Aquarium for the Tidepools Alive Program on Friday, grant funded from the Dedham Educational Foundation submitted by Mrs. MacLean. Avery students will begin a new home reading program next week, 1st and 2nd grades theme “*Read With Me Under The Sea*”, upper grades have the theme “Go Wild For Books” receiving bookmarks to design the theme to be celebrated with Dr. Seuss’ birthday.

Oakdale School – On Friday, January 13th Oakdale celebrated Hero Day in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Students were encouraged to dress up as their hero. Teachers did writing lessons and social studies lessons about what a hero is and who are some of the heroes in society today, followed by a school assembly where selected students read about their hero. A Satisfaction Survey is being created to help the School Council create the new School Improvement Plan. It will be posted on the Oakdale Website in the next couple of weeks.

ECEC

The Curran Early Childhood Education Center held the annual Kindergarten Information Night last night. A special thank you to Mr. Paul Sullivan, Mrs. Emily Hutton and Mrs. Julie Lally for sharing their kindergarten experiences and expertise with parents last night. (There were over 75 parents in attendance). The Full Day Kindergarten Lottery will be held on Wednesday, January 25 at 9:30 am in the ECEC gymnasium. If you have a child who will be 5 on or before September 1, please contact Dr. Jess Hammond at the ECEC to register your child.

Riverdale – The primary reading incentive program began last week for grades one, two and three. It is titled “*Read With Me Under The Sea*”. The students should read at home eight books, four fiction and four nonfiction, by the end of March. Student council members recognized the life and accomplishments of Dr. Martin Luther King by reading facts to the student body Friday morning, January 13th. Detailed information went home today for ELA and Math Family Fun Curriculum Night which is January 26, 2012. School aged children and their parents are welcome to come that evening.

Middle School - Joseph Borsellino, grade 8 ambassador for Governor Patrick’s Project 351 attended a day of service in Boston on Saturday, January 14th. Joe reports that it was an incredibly fulfilling experience. Joe will be reporting about his experiences at a future school committee meeting. Term 2 will end at the middle school on Wednesday, January 25. In-school assemblies will be held on Friday, February 10th for all honor roll recipients and information will be sent to all families with the details. This change was generated from our student representatives on our school council.

High School – College Fair will take place on Feb. 13 and the Career Fair will be on March 29th for sophomores. Girls Engineering Career Day at the new Avery School sponsored by Judith Nitche Engineering on March 14, 2012.

CHAIR'S UPDATE

Dedham Education Foundation is holding a dinner to recognize grants on February 9, 2012.

REPORTS:

Nancy Sullivan, Director of The Education Cooperative and Marla Colarusso gave an overview of the TEC Program which includes 15 towns and 16 Dedham students. Discussed Grants, Monthly and quarterly meetings, job-alike meetings with district representatives to discuss problem solving, Curriculum and instruction, Cooperative Purchasing, college and career readiness, Internship Program, On-line Academy.

Mid-year Budget Update: Mr. LaFrancesca reported on that we are on target for personnel salaries, where we should be today, 50%, except for teachers, which would be slightly lower due to teacher's lump sum payments in the summer. Non personnel, supplies, operations, transportation, utilities, policy admin, assessments, instructional support, prof. dev., 40% budget has been spent. Utilities budget is currently below in the heating budget, projecting going over heating budget by approx. \$37,000 considering the trend, and projecting going under budget in the heating by approx. \$20,000.

Community Services Hours: Discussion on the requirements for DHS students to complete 40 hours of community service to graduate. Mr. McCarthy discussed the explanation and requirements, the deadline, specific number of hours, written component and connection to the High School's 21st Century Learning Expectations. Suggests changing to 10 hour requirement per year starting with the sophomore class. Documentation would be needed by January 31st each year, holding the student more accountable, and making the experience more meaningful. Creating the culture early on, the High School Administration and Guidance office would be responsible to promote the activities. Guidance Counselors would track the hours initially, and Class Advisors and Advisory classes would provide additional support and communication through curriculum.

Freshman Academy Team – Dr. McCormick updated information regarding the Freshman Teaming, 33 senior students have continued since grade 9. Discussed the concept of academy team.

NEW BUSINESS

Connolly Bus Transportation Contract – School Committee Members signed contract.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Mr. Roberts to accept the minutes of the January 4, 2012 general meeting, Mrs. Sullivan seconded, voted unanimous.

Motion made by Mrs. Sullivan to accept the minutes of the January 4, 2012 Executive Session, Mrs. Walko-Butler seconded, voted unanimous.

DONATIONS

\$750 from Verizon Foundation award grant on behalf of Mrs. Joan Connors for the Dedham Advisory Council, SEPAC account.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Mr. Heisler invited everyone to join the Mother Brook Community Meeting on Tues Jan. 24 at the American Legion Hall .

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Heisler, seconded by Mrs. Butler-Walko. The next meeting will be held on February 1, 2012