

DEDHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

December 3, 2014

MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENT:

Jen Barsamian, Chair

Tom Ryan, Vice Chair

Joe Heisler

Kevin Coughlin

Mayanne Briggs

Susan Butler-Walko

Rachel McGregor

MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Michael J. Welch, Superintendent

Dr. Cynthia Kelly, Assistant Superintendent

Sam Rippin, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance

RECOGNITION OF THE DHS GIRLS SOCCER TEAM

Principal McCarthy introduced Coach Savi who won the MIAA Division 3 South Championship Captains Vanessa Chiampa, Meghan McFarland, and Andrea Bradbury were presented with a certificate from the School Committee.

RECOGNITION OF THE DHS GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY TEAM

Principal McCarthy introduced Coach Erin MacDonald for becoming the MIAA Divisional 2 South Sectional Finalist. Captains Jenn Wadman, Sam Girard, Meghan Simone were presented with a certificate from the School Committee.

LINK CREW

Mason Maternowski, senior presented the School Committee with information regarding the LINK Crew does. A peer mentor group to the freshman students. Mr. McCarthy introduced advisors, Dr. Dudley and Mr. Carney who thanked the students for all their hard work.

STUDENT UPDATE

Alison Sullivan - National Honor Society coat drive will take place Dec. 1-8. All coats go to Big Brother Big Sister. Term 2 progress reports will take place December 9th. Dec. 9 student athletic parent meeting at 6:00. Athletic team try outs were this week, practices start next week. The fall banquet took place this week – thanked the Booster's club.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE - Mr. Welch thanked members of the School Committee for being present at the Thanksgiving football game. He stated that he is in his 61st day of the school year today. He stated the circumstances that would warrant a school closure in inclement weather, being in communication with the DPW Director, Joe Flanagan at 4:00 am in the event school is called off, parents would know 2 hours in advance, and the staff and faculty would get that phone call immediately. Mr. Welch stated "We will have school when it is safe to do so".

On-going entry plan visiting Faculty focus groups visits – at the ECEC for two hours yesterday – visiting every single classroom, and thanked the board for their endorsement for the progress toward working on free full day Kindergarten in Dedham in the future.

Mr. Welch attend the Avery PTO meeting and attended the Athletic awards last night. PTO visits to most of the schools have been completed. The entry findings report will be shifted to the January 21st School Committee Meeting.

Mr. Welch has put out a survey to students who have exited the Dedham Public Schools, he anticipated these will be sent out before the holiday.

Budget submission sheets have been passed out to all the Principals and Directors. Enrollment projections are being put together so we know how many classrooms are needed next year. Budget production process is well underway, the Budget Sub Committee has had a very productive meeting.

We are initiating a project called 4 I's project with Don Langenhorst. Information, Integration, Improvement, Initiative which will combine all our databases, it will take about a year to get better access to improve student learning.

Tomorrow with Richard McCarthy from the Planning Board, with Principal Clare Sullivan and Office Ron Pucci regarding the traffic patterns here are Avery School.

Needham High School has contacted us, regarding our 1:1 initiative, their technology team will be visiting us on December 18th to find out what we are doing so well here, a tribute to Don Langenhorst for his hard work here. Also, 1:1 Initiative will be implemented at the Middle School in the days ahead.

Next Wednesday, Mr. Welch will be meeting with the Tri county Superintendents to discuss incubators of innovations.

ECEC project SBRC meetings – heading in a good direction, thanked the SBRC for attending the meetings, good information coming out. On Monday night next week there will be a community night meeting regarding the new ECEC.

Mr. Welch is working with the Miriam Johnson, HR Director and Mr. Rippin participating in a Webinar – discussing criteria around the Family Medical Leave Act in public schools.

Thanks to the Booster's Club, Mr. Welch recently attended The Hall of Fame Induction on November 23rd.

The DEA and Mr. Welch have established a meeting next week regarding the Unit Anegotiations and the Paraprofessional negotiations will hopefully be wrapping up next week.

CHAIR'S UPDATE

Mrs. Barsamian thanked the Boosters for inviting her to the Booster's Night last night. Congratulations and thanked JuJuMucciaccio for all they do. Today there was a productive meeting with the new town Manager Jim Kern and Bob Stanley regarding Parks and Rec at the town hall to discuss maintenance of the fields and permitting, things are moving in the right direction. Parks and Rec will be discussing the issue at their meeting next week as well.

REPORTS

Budget Sub Meeting update – Rachel McGregor updated the committee, on the Capital Budget meeting. Denise Moroney, Director of Facilities, and Don Langenhorst, Director of Technology discussed on-going projects and proposals and upcoming future projects. This proposal will come before the Dec. 17 School Committee meeting. Meeting once again on Dec. 10 briefly.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Assistant Principal Margo Fraczek and Middle School Teacher, Liz Hegarty presented a proposal for a pilot trip to take fifty (50) 8th grade students on a field trip to Washington DC on June 4th – 6th in the spring 2015. Tentative costs: \$938 for 3 days 2 nights with flights. Then in June 2016, the trip to Washing DC Trip would then be offered to all 2015-2016 grade 8 students at the Middle School. Fundraising events will take place to help with the costs for that trip. Superintendent Welch commended Mrs. Fraczek and Ms. Hegarty for the work they have done to put this together.

KBA & DeJong-Richter Presentation

Kerriane Wolf presented a PowerPoint presentation to inform the School Committee about the highlights envisioning the Facility at the upcoming community meeting that will take place on Monday, Dec. 8th at Avery School 7 – 9 p.m.

Agenda for Monday Night's meeting:

- Welcome and Introduction – Superintendent Welch
- Presentation: Envisioning the Facility – Form follows Function – Kerriane Wolf, REFP Project Director, DeJong-Richter
- Report – Process & Timeline
- Report – Planning Lab #1 Visioning
- Report – Planning Lab #1 Program Areas Discussions
- Report – Benefits and Challenges Discussion: Stand Alone ECEC vs Shared with Grades 1-5. Ms. Wolf discussed read the survey questions that will be put on the website.
- Small Group Questionnaire & Discussions
- Questions & Answers
- Next Step: Planning Lab #2 on Monday & Tuesday, January 12 & 13, 2015

Discussions followed

MINUTES

None

DONATIONS:

1. Mrs. Briggs motioned to accept a donation of \$75.00 from Sky Zone to the Dedham High School to be used to purchase prizes for students during Computer Science Week. Mrs. Butler-Walko seconded with grateful appreciation, voted unanimous.
2. Mr. Heisler motioned to accept the donation of \$200 from the Dedham Savings Bank to support Computer Science Education Week. Mrs. McGregor seconded with grateful appreciation, voted unanimous.
3. Mrs. Briggs motioned to accept a donation of a used Meade 8” SchmidtCassegrain telescope, Model 2080 LX3 valued at \$650.00 from Linda Kobierski, Science Dept Chair, to the science program at the Middle School, Mrs. Butler-Walko seconded voted unanimous.

ACKNOWLEDGES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Ryan suggested that the High School chorus students visit the next School Committee meeting. Concert schedules to get out to everyone

Mrs. Barsamian stated the need to go into Executive Session under exemption 2 to discuss Mrs. Briggs motioned, Mr. Ryan seconded. Roll call vote taken to go into executive session Mr. Heisler – Yes, Mrs. Butler-Walko, Yes, Mr. Coughlin – Yes, Mrs. Briggs – Yes, Mrs. McGregor – Yes Mr. Ryan – Yes, Mrs. Barsamian – Yes.