

# Dedham Public Schools

## School Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 1, 2014

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

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

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

Michael J. Welch, Superintendent  
Cynthia Kelly, Assistant Superintendent  
Samuel Rippin, Assistant Superintendent of Business & Finance  
Kathy Gaudreau, Director of Special Education

The Meeting began at 7:05 p.m.

### **Recognition and Awards**

Library Media Specialist Innovation Recognition: Dr. Don Langenhorst, Director of Technology, provided a PowerPoint presentation with and three Library Media Specialists: Alice Johnson-High School, Wendy Garland - Avery, and Ingrid Mayyassi - Riverdale, which included IGNITE overview of the Innovative Incentives, a 5-year Library Media Plan including the Mass Board of Library Commissioner's grant - MakerSpace and the presentation at MassCue.

### **Student Update:**

Alison Sullivan provided information on the High School:  
Last week was Spirit week, pep rally was very enthusiastic  
Senior class officers had a meeting and activities to make the senior year fun.  
This coming Sunday - Oct. 5th - The Dedham Youth commission 2nd Annual College Fair  
Block Party to be held in Dedham Square. Live music, schools from all over.  
Heather Schmidt provided additional information:  
Tomorrow is the home football game. Progress reports issued tomorrow.  
Sat. 4th Marching Band Competition  
October 11th - SAT's  
Columbus Day - No School on October 13  
Parent conferences coming up  
PSAT for juniors and sophomores coming up

### **Superintendent's Update**

Mr. Welch stated that the MCAS results were mailed home today. Dr. Kelly will be following with the MCAS Presentation. The School Committee had a wonderful retreat last week, making great strides. A designer has been selected for the ECEC feasibility study. Mr. Welch participated in the New Superintendent Induction Program, meeting 36 Superintendents today

from around the state along with 12 other mentors who are retired Superintendents. Right on track with the Entry Plan and Leadership Team working towards a strategic plan this spring. There was a productive meeting with the Dedham Education Association regarding the Supervision Evaluation process. last week– moving forward productively. Mr. Rippin and Mrs. Welch have spent time on the selection of the Technology Study Committee - there may be a vote tomorrow for the technology study on both the municipal and school side. Mr. Welch thanked Don Langenhorst also for his time. The Safety Meeting met last week with the principals, police and fire going over traffic patterns. We have implemented an on-line recruitment process –thru School spring, and thanked Kathy Gaudreau for her efforts moving forward with a company that is linked in with School Spring - TalentEd. Hoping to see a better pool of candidates. Completed 2<sup>nd</sup> set of instructional rounds at Riverdale School on September 23rd and thanked Kate Conway for hosting the morning. Administrative Team visited every classroom, making great process, the next meeting is next Tuesday at the middle school. Mr. Welch has visited 46 classrooms to date focusing in on elementary school and will continue to closely watch the enrollments, there have been no spikes there.

### Chair's Update

Mrs. Barsamian thanked the MIT Endicott House, for hosting the recent School Committee Retreat. This was a very productive meeting and appreciate them reaching out to us. Dedham Education Foundation opened up their grant cycle today. Bernie's run will be held on October 5th, proceeds to help support the Dedham Education Foundation.

### Reports

Dr. Kelly presented a PowerPoint presentation on the 2014 District MCAS results. This presentation is available on the Dedham Public School website (Administration, Presentations, 2014 buttons).

Dedham has been name labeled Level 2 from the state, Dr. Kelly stated the District and State Comparisons and also the following:

Grade 3 results - English and Math

Grade 4 results – English and Math

Grade 5 results – ELA, Math, Science and Technology

Grade 6 results – ELA and Math

Grade 7 results – ELA and Math

Grade 8 results – ELA, Math, Science and Technology

Grade 10 results – ELA, Math, Science and Technology

District Achievement and Growth Mathematics by grade

Grade 4 ELA Writing Prompt

Superintendent stated that the High School is Level 1 and stated that the district is starting to recognize a trend in writing. the long composition portion – something we need to look at and have a comprehensive plan for. Mrs. Barsamian stated that parents can get more information from the individual schools. Discussions followed.

### OLD/NEW BUSINESS

None

## Minutes

Mrs. Briggs motioned to accept the September 10, 2014 minutes. Mrs. McGregor seconded.  
voted unanimous

Mrs. Briggs motioned to accept the September 17, 2014 minutes. Mrs. Butler-Walko seconded.  
voted unanimous

## Donations

1. Mr. Heisler motioned to accept \$400 donation from Shaw's Supermarket to support the Middle School. Mrs. Butler-Walko seconded with grateful appreciation, voted unanimous.
2. Mrs. Briggs motioned to accept \$100 donation from MIT Endicott House, to the Dedham Public Schools. Mr. Heisler seconded, voted unanimous.;

Mr. Heisler motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. McGregor, voted unanimous.

Meeting ended at 8:05.