

Dedham Public Schools  
School Committee  
Meeting Minutes June 22, 2011

The Chairman of the School Committee, Kevin Coughlin, convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**Members of the School Committee present were:**

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

**Members of the Central Administration present were:**

June Doe, Superintendent  
Cindy Kelly, Assistant Superintendent  
Michael La Francesca, Assistant to the Superintendent for Business

The Chair welcomed representatives from the Dedham 375 Committee, Tom Clinton and Louise Marie Keough. A coloring book was created for the celebration and delivered to all schools. Art students from the high school contributed to the creation of the coloring book and were invited to the meeting to be recognized. Tee shirts are on back order but will be presented to the students. The project was funded by Dedham Savings Bank. Mrs. Keough announced plans for the "town wide" barbeque on September 10, 2011.

Mr. Clinton also spoke on the road trip representatives from the Youth Commission took to Kansas City, Missouri. Robert Blaney is the new director of the Youth Commission but was not able to attend the meeting. The Youth Commission van was driven country and the students performed community service along the way.

Principal Debbie Gately, Assistant Principal Margo Fraczek, and Nancy Clements recognized and introduced the remaining Middle School winners of the New England Math League Contest who were not able to be present at the June 8 meeting.

**Superintendent's Update:**

Ms. Doe spoke of her experience in Kansas City. Nine students from the band were outstanding. Parents should be very proud of the child's character and leadership; how they interacted with twenty-three other communities. The videographer, Tommy McQuaid was very busy and should be recognized for his contribution to the group.

Credit Recovery Program will begin at the high school. Parents can register student by clicking on the link and payment can be made on line.

Teacher Carol Margolis is studying in China representing Massachusetts as the MTA Teacher of the Year.

Students that participated in Boys and Girls State this year are: James Lawless, Kevin Mawe, Shawn Coughlin, Anthony Guccioni, Siobhan McAlister, Emily Mosca, Brook Sheehan, Courtney Nolan.

The Middle School held an induction ceremony for students in the National Junior Honor Society. Middle School Summer School program will begin June 27<sup>th</sup>.

Avery 5<sup>th</sup> grade promotion ceremony had Sarah MacDonald as their guest speaker.

ECEC still has summer camp openings available.

**Chair's Update:**

The Chair congratulated all students and teachers for a job well done and wish all a very safe summer.

**Student Representative's Update:** none

**Approval of Minutes:**

Motion made by Ms. Sullivan, and seconded by Mr. Heisler to approve the minutes from June 8, 2011.

Approved: Unanimous 7:0

**Donations:**

A donation of \$250.00 was received from the Office of the District Attorney for "Operation Graduation" to offset costs associated with post prom and post graduation activities.

The Norfolk County Registry of Deeds through Commissioner Francis O'Brien's office donated forty-four 19" flat screen monitors.

Motion made by Ms. Sullivan to accept the donations with grateful appreciation, and seconded by Mr. Heisler with grateful appreciation. Approved: Unanimous

**Avery/Athletic Field Update:**

The access road from Whiting Avenue to High Street is in. Post holes are being poured for fence at the pool practice field. Building the retaining wall along the road/field side will begin. Extra crews are working on the field. The school side of the project is flying along with no major problems. The gas line is complete.

**Old/New Business:**

MOU for the High School Handbook: Mr. Roberts updated the Committee. The Policy Sub-Committee met. Some questions have been presented to legal counsel. Contact the police department for their input as well as the high school Administrative staff.

Ms. Butler Walko reminded parents to complete the Guidance Survey.

Bowling Down the Barriers, a fundraiser for a fully accessible playground will be held at Kings Bowling Center on June 26th.

Ms. Doe discussed the 9<sup>th</sup> grade orientation and training on the use of the Netbooks with incoming students. This is planned for mid-August. Then an additional student/parent orientation will follow.

**Public Comment:**

MaryEllen McDonough heard the high school is no longer offering Latin next year. Latin is crucial as a foundation in many areas such as grammar, English, learning romance languages, medical, science, and law fields. She would like the Administration and School Committee to look into this for next year.

Laura Park read a statement regarding the condition of the student desks and chairs at Oakdale School. The age of the furniture is approximately 35-40 years old. Teachers have tried to reach out in the past without any return correspondence. She would like to know if there are funds in the budget to purchase these items.

Superintendent Doe stated furniture replacement is carried in Capital every year and is presented to the Capital Committee. Each year we struggle with Capital to fund the projects we put forward. The classroom furniture needs to be replaced across the district, not just Oakdale. Mr. La Francesca has toured all the schools and the building principals know the capital requests are in existence. The Capital needs will be addressed for FY13 in the Fall.

Tentative meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2011.

The Chair expressed a need for Executive Session for the purposes of Exemption 3 to discuss strategies with respect to collective bargaining with the Custodian/Maintenance Workers, and Exemption 2 to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel which is the Superintendent. Motion made by Mr. Roberts, and seconded by Ms. Butler Walko. Vote conducted by roll call: Ms. Butler Walko-yes, Mr. Roberts-yes, Mr. Ryan-yes, Mr. Heisler-yes, Ms. Sullivan-yes, Ms. Briggs-yes, Mr. Coughlin-yes.