

Dedham Public Schools
School Committee
Meeting Minutes

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

Bob Crisp, President of the Alumni Association presented an update on the field lights fundraising efforts. The goal of \$200,000 was reached. The lights have been ordered with a lead time of 2-4 weeks. Thanks to the numerous people involved in the fundraising effort. Community wide effort was larger than the committee thought was possible with 532 total donors. Specific acknowledgement went to Chuck Spiegel who donated all the printing, and Amy Paxton, Maureen Teti, and Nancy Clements for their assistance.

Superintendent's Update:

Superintendent Doe reported on many events occurring in the district. The annual James Joyce Ramble was held May 1st. Will Weeks, a junior at DHS, was elected to the State Student Advisory Council to the DESE. Victoria Ellis won the Ryan Law Day Essay Contest. The last day for seniors is May 20th. The Spring musical "Guys and Dolls" was held at the Middle School. Five eighth grade students submitted winning entries to the Cambridge Science Festival at MIT. The All-Town Art Festival was held at the Middle School. National Public Works Week was recognized at the elementary schools with a visit from our DPW workers. Officer Ron Pucci is working in the elementary schools to provide yearly assemblies on bullying. A video from the DA's office was viewed and discussion regarding bullying followed. Family Math Night was held at the Avery. Oakdale held a can drive called "Cans for Japan". The Annual Open House at ECEC is scheduled for June 2nd. Riverdale students participated in Safe Routes to School Program. Peter Reynolds is working with Greenlodge School to create a school logo.

Chair's Update:

Chair Coughlin recognized Carmen Dellolocono III, recipient of the American Leadership Program scholarship through the National Education Travel Council. He is one of 15 students in the US to receive this scholarship. Town Meeting is May 16th with the Special Town Meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Student Representative's Update: none

Reports:

Update on Winter Sports – Michael Plansky, Director of Athletics

Mr. Plansky reported on the successes of the winter sports teams. The parent survey is up on the website. The strength and conditioning summer program is open for enrollment. There will be a cap of 45 participants. Two time periods will be offered beginning June 27th. The cost is \$200.00. Mr. Plansky elaborated on the importance of working on core strength through muscular sports and fitness

programs which are not sport specific. Student athletes need to commit to a 12 month program. The coaches can learn directly from this program and then use this knowledge to provide training to future teams. All coaches have been given clear guidelines and expectations to follow. Mr. Plansky is working on an idea for a Parent Advisory Athletic Council.

MCAS Analysis – presented by Dr. Radha Kalathil.

Power Point presentation was made with material sent in packets to Committee members. Dr. Kalathil presented an overview of the 2010 MCAS scores in mathematics grades 3-8.

Dedham High School Improvement Plan – presented by Assistant Principals John Murray and Jim Forrest. Also present were members of the School Council: Denise Connell and Liz Merino.

Middle School Improvement Plan – presented by Principal Debbie Gately and Assistant Principal Margo Fraczek. Also present were members of the School Council: Lynne Canavan, Anthony Morganelli, and Samantha Bradley.

Superintendent Doe reported on the schedule for grade 9 students. There are two 9th grade teams and they are balanced. There is some fine tuning of the schedule still to be done with Mr. Dewar but the first run is encouraging.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Ms. Sullivan, and seconded by Ms. Briggs to accept the minutes from March 30, 2011 as printed. Approved: 6:0:1 abstention

Motion made by Ms. Sullivan, and seconded by Ms. Butler Walko to accept the minutes from April 13, 2011. Approved: Unanimous

Donations:

Motion to accept 1992 Honda Accord, 1997 Chevrolet Lumina, and 1995 Chevy 1500 car donations to the Occupational Ed Department with grateful appreciation was made by Ms. Butler Walko, and seconded by Mr. Heisler with grateful appreciation. Approved: Unanimous

Old/New Business:

Motion made by Mr. Roberts, and seconded by Ms. Sullivan to accept the 2011-2012 School Calendar as presented. Approved: Unanimous It will be available on the DPS website.

Superintendent Doe recognized to students, Elizabeth Dellea and Kate Rocha as high scorers in the PSAT National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

Public Comment:

Mr. Jim Maher spoke concerning Freshman Academy and the process involved in determining students placement in the Academy.

Motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Exemption 3, Collective Bargaining was made by Mr. Roberts, and seconded by Ms. Briggs. 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. Regular meeting adjourned: 9:24 p.m.