

Dedham Public Schools
School Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2011

The Chairman of the School Committee, Tom Ryan, convened the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Members of the School Committee present were:

Tom Ryan, Chair	Joe Heisler
Kevin Coughlin, Vice Chair - Absent	Dimitria Sullivan
Dave Roberts	Mayanne Briggs
Tracy Driscoll	

Members of the Central Administration present were:

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

Presentation of Everyday Math Curriculum: Nancy Clements and Bonnie O'Neill
Power Point presentation was made to the Committee. This presentation has been shared with parents at the Math Curriculum nights at each of the elementary schools. Parents are an important element in the program; students go home with work that is directly connected to the lesson received during the day. This program will be taught pre-K to grade 5 this September. An abundance of resource materials are available to the teachers. The number of parents who participated in the Math Nights was disappointing. There is strong support of the program throughout the staff and principals.

Superintendent's Update:

Mr. David Flynn was appointed as Head Varsity Football coach for Dedham High School. There is a new initiative being discussed about the logistics of going "paperless" in the Town with a meeting planned at City Hall in March. Mr. Keegan has also requested the School Department create space for their technology team in the High School. This initiative is being looked at. Siemens meetings are held weekly. Significant progress was made at the ECEC, Greenlodge, and Riverdale schools over the vacation week. The Class of 2011 invited Mr. Jim Calhoun, Head Basketball Coach at the University of Connecticut, to be the keynote speaker at graduation and he has accepted. Mrs. Doe reported on other events going on at each of the schools during the next couple of weeks. "Read Across America Today" was celebrated this week.

Chair's Update:

The Chair offered a follow up from the last meeting regarding the parent of an Avery School student concerns on homework. The Superintendent is meeting with second grade teachers and will look at all the grades to see how homework is conducted at all four elementary schools. The Chair read an article in the Boston Globe about Coach Paul Podolski who went to bat for Needham's Hockey team in the top sixth seat for the Super Eight.

Student Representative's Update: not available

Reports: Avery School Project and the High School Athletic Field Project

Jim Byrne, Principal/Project Manager from CMS, Inc., is the Owner's Project Manager and works directly for the Town of Dedham. Mr. Byrne presented an update to the Committee on the Avery School and

Athletic Field Renovations Projects. Consigli Construction is the Construction Manager for both projects. The Avery Project is progressing. Steel is being erected and foundations are being poured. The project is on schedule. John Donner is the Clerk of the Works for the project and represents the School Committee on the construction site. The Athletic Fields Project budget is still being established. An early site package was put together and demolition of the structures on the site has occurred. Mr. Byrne described the different contingencies established in the budget for the Avery Project.

Old/New Business:

The revised school calendar was presented to the Committee for approval. The DESE denied the request to extend the school day for Greenlodge in order to make up the day lost due to a heating issue in the building. Adjustments were made to move the two Professional Development days to the end of June. Motion made by Ms. Sullivan, and seconded by Ms. Driscoll to accept the revised 2010-2011 school year calendar as presented. Approved: 6:0

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Mr. Heisler, and seconded by Ms. Briggs to accept the minutes as corrected (misspelled name) for the February 2, 2011 meeting. Approved: 5:1 abstention

Motion made by Ms. Briggs, and seconded by Ms. Sullivan to accept the minutes as corrected (correct name) for the February 16, 2011 meeting. Approved: 6:0

Donations:

\$750.00 donation was presented from Joan Connors through the Verizon Foundation's Volunteer Incentive Program Grant. It is requested the money be deposited in the SEPAC account.

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

Public Comment: none

Motion to Adjourn: Mr. Roberts, Ms. Briggs Approved: Unanimous