

Dedham Public Schools
School Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2011

The Vice Chairman of the School Committee, Kevin Coughlin, called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Members of the School Committee present were:

Tom Ryan, Chair – arrived late	Joe Heisler
Kevin Coughlin, Vice Chair	Dimitria Sullivan
Dave Roberts	Mayanne Briggs
Tracy Driscoll	

Members of the Central Administration present were:

June Doe, Superintendent
Cindy Kelly, Assistant Superintendent

Superintendent Doe recognized the three students from the Middle School who were the Top Readers participating in the summer reading program, READ-WRITE-WIN. This program is funded by a grant from the DEF. The top winners this year were: Alec MacLean, grade 6; Caroline Snyder, grade 7; and Elizabeth Doherty, grade 8.

Superintendent's Update:

Superintendent Doe updated the Committee on events occurring in the schools. Eighth grade student, Bailey Mudge, participated in Project 351, a day of service sponsored by Governor Patrick's office. The Middle School Student Council is raising funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and are selling blue and red wristbands to commemorate the one year anniversary of the earthquake in Haiti. The Riverdale drama program is presenting *You are a Good Man Charlie Brown – Part II*. Riverdale students are also participating in "National No Name Calling Week".

Chair's Update:

Mr. Ryan apologized for his tardiness. There will be a public hearing at the next School Committee meeting on the school's FY12 budget.

Student Representative's Update: None

Reports:

Meredith Laban, the Director of the Horizons Program at Dedham Country Day provided a power point presentation to the School Committee on the summer program that has been in place for two years and continues to grow each year. Fourteen students from Riverdale and Avery schools are participating in the program. The Horizons Program was recently recognized as one of the best summer learning programs in the nation and received funding from the Wallace Foundation.

Michael Plansky, Athletic Director, provided an update on the fall athletic program at the high school. 280 student athletes participated in fall sports. Non-league games have been scheduled for next year with Sharon, Westwood, Weston, and Medford High Schools for football. A search committee is in place for a new head football coach. The Field Hockey team advanced to the South Semi-Finals. Girls Soccer

advanced to the South Semi-Finals as well. It is clear when the girls' field hockey and soccer teams step onto the field, they are as fit or more fit than any team they played against. It cannot be said of the other programs. Mr. Plansky's intent is to implement a summer strength and conditioning program for all student athletes. This program will support up to 150 participants. The goal is to have the coaches learn from the instructors and then continue the program on their own. Mr. Plansky informed the committee of a proposal his name is attached to concerning public and non-public school state tournaments in conjunction with the Duxbury Athletic Director. Sports that have 20 or more non-public schools participating would have their own state tournament. There is an inequity with students from other states participating in Massachusetts tournaments.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Mr. Roberts, and seconded by Mr. Coughlin to accept the Minutes of the January 5, 2011 School Committee Meeting. Approved: Unanimous

Donations:

Leuders Environmental Inc., donated \$50.00 to be used as deemed appropriate. Their annual contribution is an effort to thank their Dedham clients for their patronage. Motion made by Ms. Sullivan to accept with grateful appreciation, and seconded by Mr. Heisler with grateful appreciation. Approved: Unanimous

Avery Project:

Last SBRC meeting concentrated on the field project and establishing the budget. Footings are being poured for the new Avery. The video camera is installed and being fine tuned to get it up and running on the website.

Public Comment: None

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Roberts, and seconded by Ms. Sullivan. Approved: Unanimous