

Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee

Meeting of April 1, 2008

Members Present: Shelley Poulsen, Chair
Mark Linehan, Vice Chair
Ellen Williamson
Rainie Pearson
Beverly Madden

Also Present: Dr. Robert E. Couture, Interim Superintendent
Richard Mathieu, School Business Manager
Denise Lonergan, High School Headmaster
Frederick Randall, Middle School Headmaster
Zachery Sokol, Student Representative
Citizens

1. Call to Order

Ms. Poulsen called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM in the Dover Sherborn Middle School Library. The members of the Committee took a look at a few possible spaces for additional student parking before the meeting began.

Member Resignation – Mr. Linehan will resign from the School Committee effective Wednesday April 2, 2008. Mr. Poulsen thanked Mr. Linehan for his service on the Committee. Anyone interested in filling the seat for the one year remaining can contact a member of the Committee.

School Committee Vacancies – There was no caucus nominee in Dover for the open seat. Anyone interested in running to fill the seat can contact a member of the Committee.

2. Approval of Minutes

a. Regional School Committee– March 4, 2008

Ms. Williamson made a motion to approve the minutes of March 4, 2008. Mr. Linehan seconded.
08-19 VOTE: Unanimous

Ms. Pearson made a motion to approve the executive session minutes of March 4, 2008. Ms. Anderson seconded.

08-20 VOTE: Unanimous

The Sherborn School Committee minutes of February 12, 2008 and the Dover School Committee minutes of February 12, 2008 were noted.

3. Reports

a. Student Advisory Council – There was discussion about Senior Privilege. Ms. Bublely and Ms. Gilbert requested on behalf of the Senior Class that there be no limit on the number of times a senior in good standing could leave during DR (the current limit is 15x). The Committee will vote next month. Mr. Sokol updated the Committee on recent and upcoming events of the Student Council.

b. Business Manager's Report –

- Finance – The monthly report by function code was provided. One area of concern is the facilities and maintenance area which is approaching a deficit. Mr. Mathieu has a meeting scheduled with the Director to review the accounts.
- FY09 Budget –At the March meeting the Committee approved a bottom line budget of \$18,762,294 with \$60,000 in reductions that needed to be detailed:
 - Superintendent's projected salary \$6,000
 - Athletics – request for locker replacement 10,000
 - Athletics – facility rentals 2,000
 - Technology 10,000
 - Legal Services – reduce contingency 5,000
 - Heating – reduce to level funding 12,000
 - Facilities/Maintenance – no purchases 5,800
 - SPED tutors 5,000
 - Health Insurance – reduce contingency 4,200
- Cafeteria – The participation rate has leveled off (54%) and will continue to be monitored.

- c. Dover-Sherborn High School Report – Ms. Lonergan made a request to accept a gift of \$1,500 from the Anderson Family and FOPA for an Upright Bass. The gift was given in the memory of Chuck Anderson. The FOPA also donated 4 books in the amount of \$105.16.
Ms. Pearson made a motion to accept the \$1,500 gift from the Anderson family and the FOPA as well as the books from the FOPA. Mr. Linehan seconded.
08-21 VOTE: Unanimous
Ms. Lonergan then updated the Committee on recent and upcoming events at the High School.
- d. Dover-Sherborn Middle School Report – Mr. Randall announced that NEASC has reviewed and accepted the decennial evaluation report of the Middle School. The Commission voted to award the school continued accreditation in the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.
- e. Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Couture reviewed enclosures provided to the Committee including:
- Superintendent’s Transition Plan – Dr. Couture has contacted NESDEC about the Assistant Superintendent position. A candidate will be interviewed over April vacation when Ms. Spriggs is visiting the district.
 - Emergency Response Plan – Dr. Couture is working with the faculty to create a “flip-chart” that edits the Emergency Response Plan down to easily to follow instructions for teachers. Dr. Couture will also have more information on the “reverse 911” program.
 - Parking Spaces follow up – The Administration is working to get additional parking spaces cleared and paved through the remaining monies in the building project warrant. Dr. Couture will have more information at next month’s meeting.

4. Special Items

- a. Stipend Positions – There was discussion about the Sailing Team coach stipend that was not approved as part of the FY08 budget and an effort by parents to supplement his stipend for this year.
Ms. Williamson made a motion to approve the recommendations of the Advisory Council on Extra Duties for the Sailing Team Coach from a ratio 2.5 to 4.0 and the Middle School Team Leaders (6 positions) from a ratio 3.5 to 4.0. Mr. Linehan seconded.
08-22 VOTE: Unanimous
Ms. Madden made a motion to approve the recommendations of the Advisory Council on Extra Duties for the N-er-G Advisor at a ratio of 1.5 and the Personal/Social Issues Advisor at a ratio of 1.0. Ms. Pearson seconded.
08-23 VOTE: 4-1
- b. Athletic Department Review – Ms. Madden updated the Committee on the ongoing process of the review. During April the sub-committee will be working on getting feedback from coaches, students and parents for a presentation of the report in June.
- c. Extend Connolly Bus Contract – There is a two year extension available to be exercised on the current bus contract.
Ms. Williamson made a motion to extend the Connolly Bus Contract for FY09 and FY10. Ms. Madden seconded.
08-24 VOTE: Unanimous

5. Community Comments

Mr. Caruso thanked the Committee for their work.

6. Future Business

- a. April Regional School Committee Agenda Items –
Senior Privilege, Student Council town meeting reports, parking, Bond allocation issue, Reverse 911, strategic planning

7. New Business

None

8. Routine Business

- d. Enrollments as of April 1, 2008

9. Adjournment

Ms. Pearson made a motion that the Committee adjourn at 9:17 PM. Ms. Williamson seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amy Davis