

Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee

Meeting of April 7, 2009

Members Present: Ellen Williamson, Chair
Beverly Madden
Richard Robinson
Clare Graham
Nate van Duzer

Also Present: Valerie Spriggs, Superintendent
Richard Mathieu, Business Manager
Page Hamilton, Student Representative

1) Call to Order

Ms. Williamson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Middle School Library.

2) Approval of Minutes

a) Regional School Committee – February 23, March 5 and 10, 2009

Ms. Graham made a motion to approve the minutes of February 23, 2009. Ms. Madden seconded. In the second to last paragraph, first sentence remove “in a” after Region. In the third sentence change “education” to services.

09-24 VOTE (as amended): 5 - 0

Mr. Richardson made a motion to approve the minutes of March 5, 2009. Ms. Madden seconded.

09-25 VOTE: 5 – 0

Ms. Madden made a motion to approve the minutes of March 10, 2009. Mr. van Duzer seconded.

09-26 VOTE: 5 – 0

b) The Sherborn School Committee minutes of February 12, 2009 were noted.

3) Community Comments - None

4) Reports

a) Student Advisory Council – Ms. Hamilton updated the Committee on recent and upcoming Student Council events.

b) Technology Report – Ms. Conkey gave a presentation on the Technology Department.

c) Business Manager's Report

- Finance – The monthly report by function code was provided. The Facility and Maintenance budget is in deficit. Mr. Mathieu will prepare a report on that account for discussion next month.
- FY10 Budget – no changes since last month
- Post-Building Project Fund Use – The Subcommittee recommended two projects to the entire Committee: 1) Middle School HVAC problem solving – hire a consultant to address retention of heat overnight in the building following hot days; and 2) Astronomy Dome repairs.

Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve the proposal to make repairs to the Astronomy Dome for a cost not to exceed \$40,000. Ms. Madden seconded.

09-27 VOTE: 5 – 0

Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve the hiring of a consulting firm to study the Middle School HVAC problem for a cost not to exceed \$12,000. Ms. Graham seconded.

09-28 VOTE: 5 – 0

d) Middle School Report

- Washington DC/Boston Trip Update – Ms. Malloy spoke about the fundraising efforts that have been underway to defray the cost of the trip for students. The Committee

was also provided with an update on the administration details of the trip. Mr. Randall spoke about the curriculum planning that has been done for both trips.

- Pilot Schedule Report – Overall the pilot program was a success. The Administration will be using feedback from the pilot schedule to rework the current middle school schedule to include those aspects of the pilot that worked. The Middle School will also be working with the High School to “sync” schedules. The new version of the schedule will be piloted next year with the goal of implementing full time for the 2010-11 school year.
- e) Superintendent’s Report – Ms. Spriggs reviewed enclosures provided to the Committee including:
- Strategic Plan Update
 - Policy Manual Update
 - High School Program of Studies – Ms. Lonergan explained the scheduling problem posed the PE/Health classes caused by an increased number of students at the high school.

Ms. Graham made a motion to approve the course change to Contemporary Adolescent Issues as outlined in the program studies guide for 2009-10. Ms. Madden seconded.

09-29 VOTE: 5 – 0

- Day on the Hill – May 7, 2009
- Acceptance of Gift – Ms. Madden made a motion to accept an anonymous donation of 4 entertainment centers (one for each school in the district). Ms. Graham seconded.

09-32 VOTE: 5 – 0

5) **Special Items**

- a) Assessment Tool Inventory Brainstorm Session – Ms. Spriggs will forward the information she has about the different assessment tools used by the faculty to further the discussion.
- b) Athletic Department Update
- Gifts from Boosters: 1) \$2,500 for a tennis ball machine, 2) \$2,459.76 to purchase race sails for the sailing team and 3) \$8,990 to purchase a new “golf” cart for the grounds.

Mr. Richardson made a motion to accept the gifts from the Dover-Sherborn Boosters as outlined by Mr. Rollins. Mr. van Duzer seconded.

09-30 VOTE: 5 – 0

- Fee Structure – Ms. Madden moved that the Committee conduct a thorough analysis of all user fees charged at the middle school and high school. Mr. Robinson seconded. Discussion ensued.

09-31 VOTE: 0 – 5

6) **Future Business**

- a) May Agenda Items – Facilities & Maintenance budget overage, Middle School HVAC update, Assessment Tool Inventory: Teaching and Learning Overview, Policy Manual, Cafeteria update, Drama Program update (Mr. Walker), use of Lindquist Commons

7) **New Business** - None

8) **Routine Business** - None

9) **Adjournment to Executive Session not to return to open session for matters pertaining to pending litigation and contract negotiations at 10:03 pm.**

Ms. Williamson – yea, Ms. Madden – yea, Mr. Robinson – yea, Ms. Graham – yea, Mr. van Duzer – yea.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Davis