

DOVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
January 23, 2013

Members Present: Dawn Fattore, Chair
Tim Caffrey
Kristen Dennison
Lauren Doherty
Karl Johnson

Also Present: Valerie Spriggs, Superintendent
Christine Tague, School Business Manager
Dr. Theresa Nugent, Principal
Dr. Deb Reinemann, Assistant Principal
James Stuart, Warrant Committee
Cheryl Chase, Librarian
Ralph Kelly, Plant & Facilities Director

1. Call to order

Ms. Fattore called the meeting to order at 6:33pm in the Chickering School Library. Ms. Fattore congratulated Ms. Spriggs on her upcoming retirement and Mr. Bliss on his new role.

2. Approval of Minutes

a) Dover School Committee:

- Ms. Fattore requested a motion to accept the November 5, 2012 minutes. Ms. Dennison motioned, Ms. Doherty seconded. *Vote 13-01: Unanimous*
- Ms. Fattore requested a motion to accept the December 10, 2012 minutes. Ms. Fattore request that it item 2. a) the third sentence be edited to read "The Committee asked the report to be revised to include more detail on curricular connections." Ms. Dennison motioned, Mr. Caffrey seconded. *Vote 13-02: Unanimous*
- Ms. Fattore requested a motion to accept the December 11, 2012 minutes. Ms. Dennison motioned, Mr. Caffrey seconded. *Vote 13-03: Unanimous*

b) Ms. Fattore noted the minutes of the Dover Sherborn Regional School Committee of October 2, November 6 and December 4, 2012.

c) Ms. Fattore noted the minutes of the Sherborn School Committee of December 17, 2012.

3. FY14 Plant and Facilities Capital Budget Request—

- A total of \$16,948 has been moved to the operating budget. The revised Plant and Facilities capital request is \$69,964.
- The Committee discussed the ongoing siding project and gave Ms. Tague direction to move this out of the capital plan to the operating budget.
- There may be a future request for security enhancements to the building.
- Ms. Fattore requested a motion to approve the amended FY 14-18 Capital Budget for Plant and Facilities, excluding Cedar Siding items 2 and 13. Ms. Doherty motioned, Mr. Caffrey seconded. *Vote 13-04: Unanimous*

4. Reports

a) PTO Report— Ms. Tourtellotte, Ms. Martinovich

- Updates provided on the PTO Open Meeting, Curriculum Enrichment, Teacher Grant process, Bus Driver Breakfast and Books from the Heart.

b) Special Education Update—Ms. Colarusso

- Ms. Colarusso reviewed her quarterly report with the Committee, including Department Activities and Enrollment.
- The Committee discussed including historical information in the report.

c) World Language—Dr. Nugent reported that a curriculum writer has been identified to launch the Kindergarten curriculum.

5. Strategic Direction Goals:

- a) Goal 3 -- K-12 Effective and Efficient Districts

- FY' 14 Budget—The budget and changes will be reviewed at meeting on Monday. The Committee discussed obtaining an advance copy of the changes to review prior to the meeting and how/when to incorporate the governor's budget proposal. A second meeting may need to be added if further review of the budget is required. The Committee needs to discuss what their data needs are to support decision making.
- FY '13 Status of Appropriations: Currently projecting an unfavorable variance of \$70,000 in the salary accounts.
- FY '13 Capital Budget for Casper Software—Recommendation to use the Apple software while we are in pilot mode. Mr. Bliss reported that the K-1 initiative kicking is off now; devices are in and getting ready for deployment. The Committee discussed the desire to see objectives and the connection to the curriculum before we fully deploy the plan.

b) Goal 1 – Academic Excellence

Kindergarten Update—Dr. Nugent, Ms. Delaney, Ms. Disch

- The Committee viewed a video from Ms. Disch, “The Power of iPads in Kindergarten.”
- The Committee viewed a video interview of Ms. Cohn's classroom.
- Ms. Disch and Ms. Delaney provided the Committee with an update on the transition to full day Kindergarten.
- Ms. Disch and Ms. Delaney provided feedback on the World Language program for Kindergarten.
- Ms. Doherty asked for a quantitative description of how the full day program went to see how the learning gap changes, for example to see how the DRA levels changed compared to last year's end of the school year results.

6. Reports (Continued)

d) FY '14 Capital Technology Budget

- The Committee discussed the FY '14 request for item #1 Technology Hardware. Mr. Bliss will discuss further with Ms. Conkey to see what is essential vs. what can be deferred. An update will be provided at Monday's Budget Meeting and a vote will follow.

7. Acceptance of Gift

- Ms. Spriggs requested a vote to accept an anonymous gift for \$2,000 and a matching \$2,000 gift by another party for the Special Education Department. Ms. Dennison motioned, Ms. Fattore seconded. *Vote 13-05: Unanimous*

8. Strategic Direction Goals: (Continued)

c) Goal 2 – Outstanding Teachers

Teacher Evaluation System Update – Mr. Bliss

- Mr. Bliss reviewed highlights from the Teacher Evaluation Presentation.
- A vote will take place on February 26th.

9. Superintendent's Report:

- Administration Building Cost Sharing will be discussed at Monday's Budget meeting.
- Ms. Doherty raised the issue of the images of children being taken on iPads and asked if we are thinking about what is being posted for viewing. Mr. Johnson asked if there are permission and/or rights associated with these images that may cause liability issues.

10. Special Items/New Business

- a) Dover Town Report – Ms. Fattore requested a motion to accept the 2012 Dover Town Report. Ms. Dennison motioned, Mr. Johnson seconded. *Vote 13-06: Unanimous*
- b) Proposed 2013-14 School Calendar – Ms. Fattore shared notes from the January 24, 2012 meeting where it was agreed that school would start the Wednesday before Labor Day and be in session for 3 days. Further discussion to take place at the next Regional Meeting. Mr. Bliss spoke about the goal to have more PD at the beginning of the school year so they can take a deeper dive.

11. Future Business

- a) March 20, 2013 Dover School Committee Meeting Agenda Items to be identified at Monday's budget meeting.

12. Routine Business

- a) Enrollments as of January 1, 2013--reports included in packet.

13. **Adjournment**—Ms. Fattore polled the Committee to adjourn to Executive Session for Superintendent’s Contract Negotiation – not to return to open session. Ms. Fattore—yea, Mr. Caffrey—yea, Ms. Dennison—yea, Ms. Doherty---yea, Mr. Johnson—yea. The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 9:57pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Deb Savastano