

Dover School Committee
Meeting of March 11, 2013

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

Also Present: Valerie Spriggs, Superintendent of Schools
Steven Bliss, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Christine Tague, Business Manager
Dr. Theresa Nugent, Principal
Marla Colarusso, SPED Director

1) Call to Order

Ms. Fattore called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm in the Chickering School Library.

2) FY14 Dover Public School Budget Hearing (taken out of order, Items 3 – 5 discussed first)

There was a discussion about the school psychologist position and the need to have it as a 1.0 FTE for FY14 due to increased case load despite declining enrollment and the important work being done with Executive Functioning with the students and faculty. The Committee requested that the job description of the school psychologist be well defined going forward. There was also discussion about how to improve the process of evaluating faculty positions and equivalent FTE's going forward given the declining enrollment that will continue in coming years.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the FY14 budget in the amount of \$9,102,492. Ms. Doherty seconded.

13-12 VOTE: 5 - 0

3) Approval of Minutes

Mr. Caffrey made a motion to approve the minutes of January 23, 2013. Ms. Doherty seconded.

13-09 VOTE: 5 – 0

Ms. Dennison made a motion to approve the minutes of January 28, 2013. Mr. Caffrey seconded.

13-10 VOTE: 5 – 0

Ms. Dennison made a motion to approve the minutes of February 26, 2013. Mr. Caffrey seconded.

13-11 VOTE: 5 – 0

The Dover Sherborn Regional School Committee minutes of January 8th and February 5, 2013 and the Sherborn School Committee minutes of January 15, 2013 were noted.

4) Community Comments – none

5) Reports

a) PTO – Ms. Martinovich updated the Committee on recent and upcoming events with PTO.

- There was a coffee held with Janelle Madden about the cafeteria offerings and federal guidelines.
- BSO trip on March 9th was a big success
- The “No Bake, Bake Sale” has raised \$45,000 to date.
- Dr. Elizabeth Englander, Anti-bullying expert will speak at the Dover Town Hall tomorrow evening.

b) Special Education Update – Ms. Colarusso and Ms. Moran explained the out-of-district process in further detail including how a placement is determined and monitored as well as how out-of-district tuitions are set. There was also discussion about the cost benefit of hosting a TEC sponsored SPED program in an available classroom of the building and out-of-district transportation rates.

- c) World Language – Dr. Nugent gave an update of the work down to prepare for implementation of the World Language program in September. She is interviewing 3 candidates for the language teaching position. There was discussion about what to do if Sherborn does not move forward with a World Language program.
- d) Subcommittee Reports – none this month

6) Strategic Direction Goals

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

- Finance

- i. Status of Appropriations – The primary contributors to the positive variance are utilities, regular education transportation and contracted services. All other line items are currently on target.
- ii. FY14 Capital – The paving project has been co-mingled with other jobs in the town at a cost savings. There was also a refinement made to the Technology line item, removing the cost of 8 laptops for the library. There were questions raised about replacing an entire computer lab with new desktops. The Administration asked the Committee to adjust the funding amount as presented and to allow them to refine a technology plan that is already being discussed before replacing the computers.

Mr. Caffrey made a motion to approve the paving project in the amount of \$27,500. Ms. Dennison seconded.

13-13 VOTE: 5 – 0

Ms. Dennison made a motion to adjust the technology capital line item to \$38,800. Mr. Caffrey seconded.

13-14 VOTE: 5 - 0

- b) Goal 1 – Academic Excellence

- Principal’s Report – Dr. Nugent reviewed recent and upcoming events at Chickering.

7) Special Items

- a) School Choice – The district is required to withdraw from School Choice annually. Mr. Johnson made a motion to have the Dover Public Schools withdraw from the School Choice program for the 2013-14 school year because of space limitations. Ms. Doherty seconded.
- 13-15 VOTE: 5 - 0

8) Future Business

- a) May Agenda Items – Process of setting objective and establishing measurements for new initiatives, Status of incorporating States’ Common Core Curriculum Standards, full day Kindergarten update, 4th grade MCAS writing update, FY ‘13 budget

9) Routine Business

- a) Enrollments as of March 1, 2013

10) Adjournment to Executive Session at 8:38 pm not to return to Open Session for matters pertaining to school security and approval of minutes.

Ms. Fattore – yea, Mr. Caffrey – yea, Mr. Johnson – yea, Ms. Doherty – yea and Ms. Dennison - yea

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Davis