

**Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee**  
Meeting of June 11, 2013

Members Present: Shelley Poulsen  
Richard Robinson  
Clare Graham  
Michael Lee  
Lauren Balk

Also Present: Valerie Spriggs, Superintendent  
Steve Bliss, Assistant Superintendent  
Christine Tague, Business Administrator

**1) Call to Order**

Ms. Spriggs called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm in the Middle School Library.

**Reorganization:** Ms. Spriggs asked for nominations for Chair.

Ms. Poulsen nominated Richard Robinson to serve as Chair of the Dover Sherborn Regional School Committee for 2013-14. Mr. Lee seconded.

13-29 VOTE: 5 - 0

Ms. Spriggs turned the meeting over to Mr. Robinson who took nominations for Vice Chair and Secretary.

Mr. Robinson nominated Dana White to serve as Vice Chair of the Dover Sherborn Regional School Committee for 2013-14. Ms. Poulsen seconded.

13-30 VOTE: 5 - 0

Mr. Robinson nominated Clare Graham to serve as Secretary of the Dover Sherborn Regional School Committee for 2013-14. Ms. Poulsen seconded.

13-31 VOTE: 5 - 0

Mr. Robinson asked Mr. Kellet to give the Middle School report next due to the 8th grade trip to Washington DC that will require him to be back on campus by 3 am.

**2) Introduction** - Dr. Karen LeDuc has been named Assistant Superintendent and will attend next week's Joint School Committee meeting to meet members of all three Committees.

**Recognition** - Mr. Robinson welcomed Clare Graham back to the Committee.

**3) Community Comments** – Ms. Mitchell spoke in favor of the request to field a Freshman Boys Soccer Team in the fall that will be discussed during the High School report.

**4) Reports**

a) Student Council Report –Ms. Borghi was not present at the meeting.

b) Sherborn Long Range Financial Position - Mr. Brandon and Mr. Williams gave a presentation of the Auditors/Ratings Agencies recent feedback to the Town of Sherborn.

**5) Goal 1 – Academic Excellence**

a) High School Report – Ms. Lonergan was thanked for her year's of service as Headmaster before she updated the Committee on recent and upcoming events at the High School.

- Graduation - The 158 members of the Class of 2013 received their diplomas on June 6th.
- High School Handbook - Ms. Lonergan presented the proposed changes to the handbook.

Ms. Graham made a motion to accept the 2013-14 High School Handbook pending approval from Regional Counsel. Ms. Poulsen seconded.

13-34 VOTE: 5 - 0

- High School Improvement Plan - Ms. Lonergan presented the Plan.

Ms. Poulsen made a motion to accept the 2013-14 High School Improvement Plan. Ms. Balk seconded.

13-35 VOTE: 5 - 0

- Athletic Handbook - Mr. Rollins presented the proposed changes to the handbook.

Ms. Balk made a motion to accept the 2013-14 Athletic Handbook. Ms. Graham seconded.

13-37 VOTE: 5 - 0

- Freshman Boys Soccer Team - Mr. Rollins spoke of the interest in running a Freshman Boys soccer team in the fall and the work of the athletic department to make sure the numbers warrant a third team. Preliminary plans have been made for coaching and scheduling and he estimates it will cost \$6,500 to run the team, which will need to be privately fundraised.

Ms. Poulsen made a motion to approve the offering of Freshman soccer team for the Fall of 2013 under the following conditions: 1) sufficient subscription for 3 rosters, 2) private fundraising to pay for costs of the freshman team and 3) students will still be subject to the athletic fee. Mr. Lee seconded.

13-38 VOTE: 5 - 0

- Acceptance of Granite Bench - There is a proposal to place a bench to the left of the Concession Stand in honor of Barbara Beausang who cared for all the student athletes for 30 years as an EMT covering countless games and practices. The bench will be paid for with private donations.

Ms. Graham made a motion to accept the donation of a granite bench. Ms. Poulsen seconded.

13-36 VOTE: 5 - 0

- b) Middle School Report – Mr. Kellett updated the Committee on recent and upcoming events at the Middle School.
  - Middle School Improvement Plan - Mr. Kellet discussed the Plan and answered questions.

Ms. Poulsen made a motion to accept the 2013-14 Middle School Improvement Plan. Ms. Graham seconded.

13-32 VOTE: 5 - 0

- Middle School Handbook - Mr. Kellet discussed the changes to the handbook for the 2013-14 school year.

Ms. Balk made a motion to accept the 2013-14 Middle School Handbook as amended. Ms. Poulsen seconded.

13-33 VOTE: 5 - 0

## 5) **Goal 2 – Outstanding Teachers**

### 6) **Superintendent's Update**

- a) Guidance Department Positions update - The posting for the Director of Guidance position yielded only 17 applicants. The search committee conducted 2 interviews then decided to pursue an internal candidate for an Interim Director of Guidance position. Ms. Ellen Chagnon has been appointed to that position. There will additional postings for guidance counselor positions at the Middle School.
- b) DSEF Grants - DSEF has awarded grants totaling \$28,891 to the High School, \$33,248 to the Middle School and \$7,000 to METCO for transportation costs.

Ms. Graham made a motion to accept the total of \$69,139 in grant funding from DSEF. Ms. Poulsen seconded.

13-39 VOTE: 5 - 0

- c) TEC Agreement - Ms. Spriggs explained the recent changes made to the TEC Agreement that require School Committee approval.

Ms. Poulsen made a motion to accept the 2013-14 TEC Agreement as presented. Ms. Balk seconded.

13-40 VOTE: 5 - 0

Ms. Poulsen made a motion to appoint the Superintendent of Schools as the voting member of TEC on behalf of the Regional School Committee. Ms. Graham seconded.

13-41 VOTE: 5 - 0

#### 7) **Goal 3 – K-12 Effective and Efficient Districts**

- a) FY13 Budget Update – Ms. Tague is projecting an operating surplus of \$600,000 for FY13. Based on this projection, E&D is anticipated to be 3.6%. Ms. Tague provided a list of capital projects that are currently being managed. The largest is the Middle School AC installation which must be substantially completed by August 23, 2013. The WWTF did not meet permit last month. Martinage Engineering, Aqua Point, and Weston & Sampson representatives were consulted and it was concluded that the system may require a more experienced operator. The Administration will keep the School Committee updated going forward.

- b) Authorize Closing of FY13 Accounts and Opening of FY14 Accounts -

Ms. Graham made a motion to authorize the closing of FY13 accounts and the opening of FY14 accounts. Mr. Lee seconded.

13-44 VOTE: 5 - 0

- a) Appointment of DS Regional Treasurer - The appointment of a Treasurer is required annually.

Mr. Robinson made a motion to appoint Mr. Eggert as DS Regional Treasurer. Ms. Graham seconded.

13-43 VOTE: 5 - 0

- a) Closing of Child Development Center Fund Deficit - The Child Development Center (CDC) was closed three years ago due to declining enrollments and increasing fixed costs. At the time of closing, there were many liabilities including retirement contributions and unemployment claims outstanding. Ms. Tague does not expect any further liabilities and recommends closing the fund deficit.

Ms. Graham made a motion to approve the closing of the CDC deficit fund balance of \$367,869 to the Regional School Department General Fund. Mr. Lee seconded.

13-42 VOTE: 5 - 0

#### 8) **Special Items and New Business**

- a) Appointment of Subcommittees
- b) September Agenda items – Boosters donation, Line item transfers, schedule for contract negotiations, update on capital projects
- c) Regional School Committee Workshop - to be held on July 17th from 8 am to noon.

#### 9) **Approval of Minutes**

- a) February 27 and May 7, 2013

Ms. Poulsen made a motion to approve the minutes of February 27, 2013. Ms. Balk seconded.

13-46 VOTE: 5 - 0

Ms. Balk made a motion to approve the minutes of May 7, 2013. Ms. Poulsen seconded.

In Section 5a), 1st bullet strike the sentence “In the event another team suffers...”.

13-45 VOTE (as amended): 5 - 0

#### 10) **Routine Business**

a) Enrollments as of June 1, 2013

11) **Adjournment to Executive Session at 9:15 pm for matters pertaining to Contract Negotiations not to return to Open Session.**

Mr. Robinson - yea, Mr. Lee - yea, Ms. Poulsen - yea, Ms. Balk - yea and Ms. Graham - yea.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy Davis