

## APPROVED JANUARY 20, 2015

### Dover School Committee Meeting of December 16, 2014

Members Present: Dawn Fattore, Chair  
Kristen Dennison, Secretary  
Lauren Doherty  
Henry Spalding

Also Present: Steve Bliss, Superintendent  
Karen LeDuc, Assistant Superintendent  
Christine Tague, Business Administrator  
Laura Dayal, Principal  
Therese Green, Director of Special Education

#### 1) Call to Order

Ms. Fattore called the meeting to order at 8:17 am in the Chickering Conference Room.

#### 2) Community Comments – None

#### 3) State of the District

##### a) Superintendent

- School Start Times Initiative - The surveys to parents, faculty and students have been made available and the results are now being compiled. The Administration has been meeting with parent groups at each of the schools.

##### b) Business Manager

- Status of Appropriations - Ms. Tague provided the report as of November 30, 2014.
- Out of District (OOD) - The elementary OOD budget is currently over-expended by \$176,241 due primarily to 6 additional students (2 elementary, 4 pre-school) requiring services beyond what was known when the budget was developed.

#### 4) Presentation, Discussion and Action

- a) FY16 Operating Budget - reflects a reduced enrollment of 25% over the past 7 years; reflects a fully ratified Educator's Contract which shows an average \$3,898 salary increase for educators; reflects an estimated 16.4% increase in general education student transportation due to expiration of existing contract; maintains the Assistant Principal at the current year-round, 12-month status although the position will be reviewed in the next few weeks in light of declining enrollment; the total proposed FY16 in-district operating budget, excluding all out-of-district special education costs, is \$6,610,494 or a decrease of \$76,595 (1.15%) over FY15; the total proposed FY16 operating budget, inclusive of in- and out-of-district special education costs for Dover students, is \$9,817,828 or an increase of \$307,566 (3.23%) over FY15; includes the creation of an integrated pre-k program of 1 classroom with approximately 15 students; is built on an anticipated enrollment of 436 students and a reduction in classroom sections from 25 to 23; includes expansion of the Foreign Language in the Elementary School (FLES) Program to include 10 sections, K-2nd grade; reflects the decrease of .2 FTE for technology integration and the reduction of PE to one time per week; includes a total of 22 educational assistants, 13 assigned to general education and 9 assigned to special education services; include 5 longevity payments of \$5,000 each per the Educator's Contract; provides \$64,597 for major building maintenance; reflects a \$4,058 increase for heating oil costs; reflects a 17% increase in electricity costs due to an expiring fixed rate contract; assumes a 3% tuition increase and a 2.5% transportation increase for OOD placed students.

There was discussion about the proposed budget with several members expressing concern regarding the reduction of PE to one per week.

## APPROVED JANUARY 20, 2015

Mr. Spalding made a motion to approve the FY16 operating budget in the amount of \$9,817,828. Ms. Dennison seconded.

14-32 VOTE: 4 - 0

- b) FY16 Capital Budget - The proposed facilities capital projects for FY16 totals \$77,006 and technology capital requests total \$19,075. The technology requests are for 8 teacher laptops and a laptop cart. Based on discussions with Dover Warrant, technology replacement costs will be including in the operating budget starting in FY17.

Ms. Dennison made a motion to approve the FY16 capital requests. Mr. Spalding seconded.

14-31 VOTE: 4 - 0

- c) Integrated Preschool: Update - Ms. Green provided updated financial information for the program and answered questions from committee members. Ms. Fattore asked Dover Warrant members for their guidance on establishing a revolving fund for revenue received from tuitioned students.
- d) Advisory Committee on Extra Duties (ACED) Update: Instructional Leadership Reconfiguration - Mr Bliss made a recommendation to reconfigure the Living, Fine, and Technical Arts positions at the region, ultimately resulting in a Fine Arts Department Chair position (grades K-12) and a Technology-Engineering Regional Coordinator position (grades 6-12). For FY16, the Chickering share of the Fine Arts Department Chair would be \$5,981.44 (25% of the total cost). During discussions with the other School Committee, concerns about the cost split for the position were raised. The Administration will report back on cost breakdown options.
- e) ACCEPT Special Education Transportation Formula Change - ACCEPT has comprehensively reviewed the formula used to charge member districts for use of transportation services in an attempt to: provide districts with a predictable budget for transportation services and to create an equitable and simplified means of billing. In the proposed revised model, each district's assessment is based on its' share of ridership at a point in time and remains constant for the ensuing school year regardless of an increase or decrease to ridership. The Administration has determined that the new formula will result in a cost savings for FY16 but cautioned that future years may not work out as favorably.

### 5) Consent Agenda

- a) Meeting minutes of 10/28 and 11/6/14
- b) School Committee Selection of Arbitrator

Ms. Doherty made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items as stated. Mr. Spalding seconded.

14-33 VOTE: 4 - 0

### 6) For Review

- a) Enrollment Report as of October 1
- b) Dover Sherborn Regional School Committee minutes of 10/7 and 11/18/2014
- c) Sherborn School Committee minutes of 10/14 and 11/18/14

### 7) Adjournment at 10:20 AM

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy Davis