

APPROVED OCTOBER 7, 2014

Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee
Meeting of September 9, 2014

Members Present: Dana White, Chair
Michael Lee, Vice Chair
Carolyn Ringel, Secretary
Richard Robinson
Lori Krusell

Also Present: Steve Bliss, Superintendent
Karen LeDuc, Assistant Superintendent
Christine Tague, Business Administrator
Therese Green, Director of Special Education
John Smith, Headmaster, DS Regional High School
Scott Kellett, Headmaster, DS Regional Middle School
Ms. Borghi and Mr. Shue, Student Council Representatives

1) Call to Order

Ms. White called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm in the Middle School Library.

2) Community Comments – None

3) State of the District

- a) Middle School Updates - Mr. Shue and Mr. Kellett spoke of recent and upcoming events at the middle school.
- b) High School Updates - Ms. Borghi and Mr. Smith spoke of recent and upcoming events at the high school.
- c) Superintendent
 - Mr. Bliss welcomed Ms. Green as Special Education Director and Ms. Dever-Keegan as Assistant Headmaster at the High School as well as recognizing the “Unsung Heroes for 2014”.
 - Enrollment Report - A new report format has been developed that will track enrollment by graduating class, district and school as well as synchronizing data with the Student Information Management System (SIMS) data transmissions to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The new enrollment report will be updated for the October, March, and June meetings.
- d) Assistant Superintendent - Dr. LeDuc updated the Committee on the Professional Development work done over the summer.
- e) Director of Special Education - Ms. Green thanked everyone that assisted with the smooth implementation of the special education reorganization.
- f) Business Manager
 - Status of Appropriations - Ms. Tague provided the preliminary report as of June 30, 2014 which shows a balance remaining of \$504,802 attributable to positive variances in salaries of \$107,734 and expenditures of \$359,334. The salary variance is attributable to multiple staff changes that occurred post budget development/approval. The expenditures variance consists of the following major components: \$37,953 legal services, \$16,919 regular/athletic transportation, \$75,730 utilities, \$145,663 employer insurances, and \$54,504 reserve fund balance.
 - Circuit Breaker - Reimbursement for FY14 was 75% of claims over the threshold of \$39,951 per student which amounted to \$26,733 for the Region, \$536,501 for the Town of Dover, and \$474,802 for the Town of Sherborn.
 - Facilities - Ms. Tague provided an update of the progress of capital projects approved at the spring Annual Town Meetings. Also, the WWTF met permit over the summer

months. The Administration hopes that if permit is met over the next 6 months the WWTF should be able to get released by the DEP.

4) Presentation, Discussion and Action

- a) Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Planning - a calendar of important dates was provided for planning purposes.
- b) Regional Transportation Reserve Fund - This summer the Senate and House adopted an Act regarding the establishment of a Regional School Transportation Reimbursement Fund. One the fund is established reimbursements made by the Commonwealth may be deposited into the fund and may carry forward for one fiscal year. The DESE is expected to publish an advisory on use of said funds in the next few months. Mr. Bliss will keep the Committee informed going forward.
- c) Goal Focus Points - The Administration provided the Committee with updates on Educator Evaluation ratings, the International Student Program, Special Education reorganization, Directed Research efficiency-rebranding at the High School, and the Middle School reading assessment.
- d) PARCC-MCAS - The Administration does not recommend moving to PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) testing this year for the following reasons: the Commonwealth has not made a full commitment to PARCC, DS students already show readiness for college and careers, moving to PARCC would impact the District Goals for 2014-15, and the faculty wishes to remain with MCAS to "level the playing field" for the second year of the new Educator Evaluation System.

Ms. Krusell made a motion to remain with MCAS for the 2014-15 school year. Ms. Ringel seconded.

14-67 VOTE: 5 - 0

- e) Cell Tower RFP - there is one applicant that made a bid on the cell tower RFP. The following changes have been made to the tower: mono-pole instead of a mono-pine, 120 feet high with the top 8 feet reserved for emergency services, and a 30 year max lease length.

Ms. Ringel made a motion to release the lease for the cell tower. Mr. Robinson seconded.

14-68 VOTE: 5 - 0

Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve additional spending of \$1,000 to complete the cell tower process at the Superintendent's discretion. Ms. Krusell seconded.

14-69 VOTE: 5 - 0

- f) Extracompensatory Council - agenda item moved to October
- g) Middle School Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) - Mr. Kellett gave a presentation on the proposed MS BYOD initiative including the pros and cons of a BYOD policy and the plans to get input from all stakeholders over the next few months.
- h) Use of Consent Agenda

5) Consent Agenda

- a) Donation Acceptance: Dover Sherborn Soccer Club - \$1,000 unrestricted donation
- b) Donation Acceptance: Freshman Boys' Soccer - \$5,000 to cover direct costs
- c) Close-Up Washington, D.C. Trip - October 18 - 21, 2014
- d) Washington, D.C. Trip: Middle School - June 10-12, 2015
- e) Appointment of School Nurse - Ms. Alicia (Lee) Patterson
- f) Meeting minutes of 6/10, 6/16, 8/19/2014

Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Ringel seconded.

14-70 VOTE: 5 - 0

6) For Review

- a) Sherborn School Committee minutes of 5/13/14
- b) Dover School Committee minutes of 5/19/14
- c) Proposed Facility Use Fee Increase

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d) Technology Plan Supplements

e) Items for the October Regional School Committee Meeting: enrollment report as of October 1, 2014, Middle School and High School Technology Plan Supplements (AR), Fiscal Year 2016 Capital Requests, Fall Interscholastic Athletics - Participation Statistics, MCAS results, Transportation contract, Extracompensatory Council, and Facility Use Fee Increase.

7) Adjournment at 9:20 PM into Executive Session for matters pertaining to approval of meeting minutes and discussion of school security not to return to Open Session.

Mr. Robinson - aye, Ms. White - aye, Mr. Lee - aye, Ms. Ringel - aye, and Ms. Krusell

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Davis