

APPROVED DECEMBER 16, 2014

Dover School Committee Meeting of October 28, 2014

Members Present: Kristen Dennison, Secretary
Lauren Doherty
Adrian Hill
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. Dennison called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm in the Chickering Library.

2) Community Comments – None

3) State of the District

- a) Chickering School Update - Ms. Dayal updated the Committee on recent and upcoming events at Chickering.
- b) Superintendent
 - Mr. Bliss and Ms. Fattore recently met with the Dover Warrant Committee to discuss FY14 and FY15 budgets as well as capital items for FY16.
 - Chickering was well represented at the recent MassCUE conference.
 - Dr. Matthew Malone, MA Secretary of Education, visited several DS classrooms on October 7th.
 - Mr. Bliss reviewed discussion of the cell tower that is taking place at the Region and encouraged those interested to visit the FAQ's document on the school website and/or attend the Region's meeting on November 4th.
- c) Assistant Superintendent - Dr. LeDuc provided updates on the Wellness Committee, December Professional Development Day planning, and Edvocate Report including an action plan.
- d) Business Manager
 - Status of Appropriations - Ms. Tague provided the report as of October 31, 2014 including encumbered costs for all contracts for administrators, educators, and support personnel. The salary variance is projected to be \$125,000 due to staffing changes after the budget was finalized. The positive variance of \$79,417 in the SPED Teachers function code will be expended for additional contracted BCBA services.
 - Out of District - the OOD Transportation and Tuition budget is currently running an unfavorable balance of \$132,894 stemming from unanticipated placement changes as well as newly identified students. The FY15 budget was built with 32 placements while the current number is 36.

4) Presentation, Discussion and Action

- a) Integrated Preschool - Ms. Green explained the rationale for establishing an Integrated Preschool at Chickering: there are currently five Dover students attending the Pine Hill preschool with moderate to severe needs and five more students who are either currently being evaluated or have been referred by Early Intervention; the Pine Hill program is at capacity so the five new students will have to be served elsewhere at a tuition cost of \$40,000-\$50,000 plus an average of \$9,000 or more for transportation;

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additionally, 16 Dover families have contacted Chickering expressing interest in sending their "typical peer" children to an integrated program.

Ms. Dennison made a motion to approve the establishment of a one classroom Integrated Preschool at Chickering as defined to begin in the 2015-16 school year. Ms. Doherty seconded.

14-24 VOTE: 4 - 0

b) FY15 Capital Items - Mr. Kelley reviewed the progress of the capital items approved at the 2014 Town Meeting. The gym floor refinishing was not able to be completed over the summer so is scheduled for June 2015. The EMS Upgrade is on hold pending further research comparing it with a "J system" platform.

c) FY16 Capital Request - The requested items were reviewed and discussed.

Ms. Doherty made a motion to approve the FY16 Capital Plan as presented. Mr. Spalding seconded.

14-25 VOTE: 4 - 0

d) Technology Request and Plan Supplement - Dr. LeDuc reviewed a few minor changes to the Technology Plan Supplement. The FY16 Technology request totals \$55,000: 25 Chromebooks, laptops for teachers (existing desktops to computer lab), replacement of two Cisco switches with HP switches, replacement of 5 aging/non-functional projectors, and additional network hardware.

Mr. Bliss explained that the FY15 monies that were intending to be used to purchase laptops for teachers has been redirected to replacement of classroom projectors that have failed. Therefore the request for teacher laptops is now in the FY16 technology plan.

Ms. Doherty made a motion to direct the Administration to continue replacing projectors in FY15 instead of purchasing teacher laptops. Mr. Spalding seconded.

14-26 VOTE: 4 - 0

Ms. Doherty made a motion to approve the FY16 Technology request in the amount of \$55,000. Mr. Spalding seconded.

14-27 VOTE: 4 - 0

e) Goal Focus Points - Ms. Dayal provided the school committee with an update on Professional Learning Communities (PLC's). The PLC's are made up of members of the Chickering faculty and are tasked with the work of revising the curriculum. Ms. Dayal answered questions from the committee members and thanked the committee for the time that was allotted to allow the PLC's to do their work.

f) MCAS - the 2013-14 school year MCAS results were provided and discussed.

g) Business Managers Task Force - Mr. Bliss announced that Ms. Tague plans to retire at the end of the fiscal year and he is forming a Business Manager Task Force to begin the process of finding her replacement. Ms. Fattore will be the DSC representative.

5) Consent Agenda

a) Meeting minutes of 9/23/2014

b) Policy (second) Readings

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

14-28 VOTE: 4 - 0

6) For Review

a) Historical Actuals Fiscal Years 2010-2014 and Budget Fiscal Year 2015

b) Enrollment Report as of October 1

c) Dover Sherborn Regional School Committee minutes of 6/23, 7/15, & 9/9/2014

d) Sherborn School Committee minutes of 9/16/14

e) Proposal for Historic Garden (courtesy of the Powisset Garden Club) - there was discussion as to whether the garden required a vote of approval.

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Ms Doherty made a motion to accept the gift of the Historic Garden from the Powisset Garden Club pending approval by the Chickering Administration. Mr. Hill seconded.

14-29 VOTE: 4 - 0

7) Adjournment at 8:48 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Davis