

**APPROVED 9/4/2014**

**Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee**

Meeting of June 10, 2014

Members Present: Richard Robinson, Chair  
Dana White, Vice Chair  
Michael Lee  
Lauren Balk  
Clare Graham  
Carolyn Ringel

Also Present: Steve Bliss, Superintendent  
Karen LeDuc, Assistant Superintendent  
Christine Tague, Business Administrator  
John Smith, Headmaster, DS Regional High School  
Scott Kellett, Headmaster, DS Regional Middle School  
Ms. McCabe and Ms. Handler, Student Council Representatives

**1) Call to Order**

Mr. Robinson called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm in the Middle School Library.

**2) Community Comments – None**

**3) School Committee Member Resignation** - Mr. Robinson and Mr. Bliss thanked Ms. Poulsen for her years of dedication to the school committee. Ms. White and Ms. Ringel will appoint someone from Dover to serve in Ms. Poulsen's place until the next town election. Interested parties should let Ms. White or Mr. Bliss by end of day Friday (6/15).

**4) Reports**

**a)** Student Council Report – Emme McCabe updated the Committee on the upcoming events for the high school student council. Rachel Handler updated the Committee on the upcoming events for the middle school student council.

**b)** Reorganization -

Ms. Graham made a motion to nominate Ms. Dana White as chair of the DS Regional School Committee for 2014-15. Mr. Robinson seconded.

14-44 VOTE: 5 - 0

Ms. White made a motion to nominate Mr. Michael Lee as vice-chair of the DS Regional School Committee for 2014-15. Ms. Graham seconded.

14-45 VOTE: 5 - 0

Ms. White made a motion to nominate Ms. Carolyn Ringel as secretary of the DS Regional School Committee for 2014-15. Mr. Robinson seconded.

14-46 VOTE: 5 - 0

**c)** Superintendent - Mr. Bliss

- Recertify FY14 Budget – The Assessment for FY14 needs to reflect the change in the Minimum Local Contribution which increased the Dover assessment by \$44,216 (from \$10,060,627 to \$10,104,843) and decreased the Sherborn Assessment by \$44,216 (from \$8,561,789 to \$8,517,573). This did not change the assessments in total.

Mr. Robinson made a motion to certify the FY 2014 Assessment for Dover of \$10,104,843 and FY2014 Assessment for Sherborn of \$8,517,573.

14-47 VOTE: 5 - 0

- Evolution Energy Pilot Program - Mr. Bliss provided information on the Green Building Pilot Program.
- Donation Acceptance: Dowd Family - The Dowd Family has donated \$16,522 for the construction of baseball dugouts in memory of Matthew Dowd.

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Mr. Robinson made a motion to accept \$16,522 from the Dover Parks and Recreation Gift Fund for the construction of baseball dugouts at the Regional Campus. Ms. Ringel seconded.

14-48 VOTE: 5 - 0

- Donation Acceptance: Metrowest Health Foundation Grant - SPAN-DS authored a grant as a funding mechanism to support the parent component of the social norming campaign which was approved by the Metrowest Health Foundation in the amount of \$12,600.

Ms. Graham made a motion to accept the \$12,600 grant from Metrowest Health Foundation to support the parent component of the social norming campaign. Mr. Robinson seconded.

14-49 VOTE: 5 - 0

- Donation Acceptance: Alex Paganelli Piano - The Paganelli Family has donated an amount not to exceed \$85,000 for the purchase (plus future tunings and repairs) of a baby grand piano for the Mudge Auditorium.

Ms. Graham made a motion to approve the donation of no more that \$85,000 from the Paganelli Family. Mr. Robinson seconded.

14-50 VOTE: 5 - 0

- 2014-15 School System Goals - The Administration provided a draft of the goals for next year. They will be approved at the Joint meeting on June 16th.
- d)** Assistant Superintendent - Dr. LeDuc provided the updated DS Public Schools Professional Development Handbook. DSHS has been approved by Student Exchange and Visitor Program (SEVP) to accept international students. Next steps will be discussed over the summer and an update will be provided at the September meeting.
- e)** Business Manager
- Status of Appropriations - Ms. Tague is continuing to closely monitor and revise the year end projections as the final bills are received.
  - Facilities - The WWTF met permit for April and May after the work on the recycling line however the insurance company will not cover the recycling line break. The boiler section replacement bid was opened and awarded to Industrial Burner Systems in the amount of \$28,600. The middle school burners have been completed and work at the high school has begun. Ms. Tague provided a summary of FY15 capital projects. The lighting project approved for the HS gymnasium (\$23,175) has been researched and with NStar incentives the HS gym, HS exercise room and the MS gym can be completed for \$21,696. The payback time is expected to be 2.3-3.3 years.
- f)** High School - Mr. Smith spoke of recent and upcoming events at the high school.
- Athletic Advisory: Non cut team coaching levels - Due to increased participation in non cut sports, Mr. Rollins requested funding for six 1.5 ratio point (\$2,127.53 each) assistant coaching positions for the 2014-15 school year. These positions are necessary to maintain a 25:1 student-athlete to coach ratio for the Cross Country, Nordic Ski and Outdoor Track teams. The total funding cost of \$12,765.18 will be secured through the Athletic Revolving Account. Mr. Bliss explained that this solution is a "stop gap" for FY15 and assistant coaching staffing levels will need to be discussed during FY16 budget building.

Ms. Graham made a motion to approve the side letter to the current contract for six 1.5 ratio point assistant coaching positions for the 2015-15 school year with funding to come from the Athletic Revolving Account. Mr. Lee seconded.

14-51 VOTE: 5 - 0

- School Improvement Plan

Mr. Robinson made a motion to accept the DSHS School Improvement Program for 2014-15. Ms. Graham seconded.

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14-52 VOTE: 5 - 0

- Athletic Handbook - At the request of the School Committee the following language has been added to the Athletic Handbook: "Student athletes are urged to use opportunity periods. In general, official practices will begin at 3:00. Attending extra help, detention, or other academic activities takes priority over attending practices or contests."

Ms. Graham made a motion to accept the Athletic Handbook for 2014-15. Mr. Robinson seconded.

14-53 VOTE: 5 - 0

- Town Meetings 2013-14 - Student Council Town Meeting ideas were summarized and provided to the school committee.
- Senior Privilege - Mr. Smith proposed extending Senior Privilege for the entire 2014-15 school year and to allow students in good standing who have two successive Directed Research periods during periods one and two of a given school day to use both consecutive periods without having to count the second period as one of the fifteen allowed passes per semester. There was discussion about raising the minimum GPA requirement from a C- to a C.

Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve the changes to Senior Privilege for the 2014-15 school year. Ms. Ringel seconded.

Mr. Robinson made a motion to amend the previous motion to read: "motion to approve the changes to Senior Privilege for the 2014-15 school year with the GPA requirement changed to a C everywhere a C- occurs". Ms. Ringel seconded.

14-54 VOTE (to amend motion): 5 - 0

14-55 VOTE (on amended motion): 4 - 1 (Ms. Graham)

- Donation Acceptance: Boys' Baseball Assistant Coach Stipend - The DS Baseball team has donated \$2,500 of fundraised money to compensate an assistant coach.

Ms. Graham made a motion to accept \$2,500 from the DS Baseball Team to compensate the Assistant Coach. Ms. Ringel seconded.

14-56 VOTE: 5 - 0

- Donation Acceptance: Boys' Soccer Uniforms - Mr. Heaslewood, an employee of Adidas USA, has donated new boys soccer uniforms via his employer. The uniforms will be printed by a second company selected and paid for by the DS Athletic Department. The boys soccer team is the next team on the Athletic Department's uniform replacement schedule.

Mr. Lee made a motion to accept the donation of boys soccer uniforms from the Heaslewood family. Mr. Robinson seconded.

14-57 VOTE: 5 - 0

**g)** Middle School - Mr. Kellett spoke of recent and upcoming events at the middle school.

- School Improvement Plan 2014-15 - the plan was provided.

Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve the School Improvement Plan for 2014-15. Mr. Lee seconded.

14-40 VOTE: 5 - 0

- Student Handbook - There were additional changes to the Student Conduct/Discipline Code based on changes to State Law. Throughout the Discipline Code, suspension as a consequence is used. In some cases, it is couched as a "possible suspension" or "up to suspension" and in some cases it just says that the student will be suspended. Given the new laws, "possible suspension" should be the only language used.

Ms. Graham made a motion to approve the additional changes to Student Conduct/Discipline Code for 2014-15 Student/Family Handbooks. Ms. White seconded.

14-41 VOTE: 5 - 0

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- Donation Acceptance: POSITIVE grants - POSITIVE has donated \$19,998 in various grants to enhance curriculum offerings. Ms. Graham requested a list of the grants. Mr. Robinson made a motion to accept the \$19,998 in various grants from POSITIVE. Ms. White seconded.

14-42 VOTE: 5 - 0

- Donation Acceptance: Chairs - Music department supporters have donated \$4,030 to purchase new seats for the music/band room.

Ms. White made a motion to accept \$4,030 in donations from music department supporters to purchase new seats. Mr. Robinson seconded.

14-43 VOTE: 5 - 0

### 5) Special Items and New Business

- a) Cell Tower (RFP) - Mr. Robinson presented an overview of how the RFP for a cell tower came about. He also addressed potential safety issues and his findings of the lack of evidence to support the concern (reference: American Cancer Society, FCC). Other considerations for siting a tower on campus include: access, wetlands, visibility and setbacks. Attorney William Solomon provided his input on the RFP process including minimum proposed dollar price (\$24,000 per year with an inflation adjustment of 3%) for the primary carrier, 50% of gross rent paid by co-locators with an inflation adjustment and an RFP application fee of \$750 to partially defray costs to the DS Schools. Comments from the audience were taken and concerns expressed about minimizing the effects of the RF waves on campus as well as safety problems due to the lack of cell coverage.

Mr. Robinson made a motion to continue to development of an RFP for citing the cell tower on campus and direct the Administration to work on the priorities outlined during discussion. Ms. White seconded.

14-44 VOTE: 5 - 0

- b) PARCC/MCAS - There was discussion about whether to adopt PARCC for the DS Schools. The Committee decided to discuss the question further in September.
- c) Regional School Committee Meeting Schedule 2014-15 - to be discussed at the Joint meeting on June 16th
- d) Regional School Committee Subcommittee Assignments 2014-15 - Ms. White requested that everyone email her with their subcommittee preferences.
- e) Donation Acceptance: DSEF Grants for 2014-15 - DSEF has granted \$9,698 for the Middle School, \$21,391 for the High School and \$49,110 for Region/system-wide initiatives.

Ms. Graham made a motion to accept \$80,199 in grants from DSEF for the 2014-15 school year. Mr. Lee seconded.

14-58 VOTE: 5 - 0

- f) September Meeting topics - Extracompensatory Council, PARCC-MCAS, Bring Your Own Device - Middle School, TELL MASS Survey Results, Bullying Prevention-Intervention Plan update, Cell Tower update and International Students Program update.

### 6) Approval of Minutes

- a) May 6 and 21, 2014

Ms. Graham made a motion to approve the minutes of May 6 and 21, 2014. Mr. Robinson seconded.

14-59 VOTE: 5 - 0

- b) The Sherborn School Committee minutes of March 11, April 1 and April 28, 2014 and the Dover School Committee minutes of March 6 and March 25, 2014 were noted.

### 7) Routine Business

- a) Enrollments as of June 1, 2014

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**8) Adjournment at 10:09 PM into Executive Session for matters pertaining to contract negotiations with nonunion personnel not to return to Open Session.**

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy Davis