

APPROVED APRIL 7, 2015

Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee
Meeting of March 3, 2015

Members Present: Dana White, Chair
Michael Lee, Vice Chair
Carolyn Ringel, Secretary
Richard Robinson
Clare Graham
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 Kellet, Headmaster, DS Regional Middle School
Ms. Boland 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. Boland and Mr. Smith spoke of recent and upcoming events at the high school.
- c) Superintendent
 - Business Manager Search Committee is in the process of reviewing the 25 applications for the position. The Business Office Associate position was also posted and 34 resumes were received. Mr. Bliss and Ms. Tague are reviewing those applications.
 - The METCO Grant has been reduced by an additional \$11,372 for a total FY15 reduction of \$13,190.
- d) Assistant Superintendent
 - Educator Evaluation System - During this month the Administration will solicit educators to participate in the pilot DESE survey to gather student and staff feedback on teaching and learning.
 - Professional Development - At least once a month, Dr. LeDuc conducts "Walk-throughs" with each building administrator to observe student engagement, curriculum and instructional strategies, and application of professional development opportunities.
- e) Director of Special Education - The Special Education Parent Survey is complete and will be distributed to parents the week of March 1st. The results of the survey are intended to determine parents' impressions of the new special education structure as well as help define goals for next year.
- f) Business Manager - the Status of Appropriation as of January 31, 2015 was provided. The significant issue impacting the operating budget is the cost of snow and ice removal as well as problems with the HVAC System and Energy Management System (EMS).

4) Presentation, Discussion and Action

- a) FY16 Operating Budget - Mr. Bliss reviewed the revised talking points: Chapter 71 State Aid (Regional Transportation) has been reduced by an additional \$128,373 for FY15; there is an additional retirement at the HS which will result in a \$30,000 reduction to the

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budget; the net salary increase (including retirements) of all raises for administrators, administrative assistants, support staff, and custodians is approximately \$1,300; and the budget includes a placeholder of \$10,000 for Business Office transition costs. The revised FY16 budget of \$23,036,986 reflects an overall 4.03% or \$892,112 increase over FY15.

Ms. White reviewed the FY16 budget presentation. The Administration provided a Salary Analysis for FY14-16, FY16 Estimated Revenue Sources (as of March 3rd), a Budget Summary and Assessment Breakdown for discussion.

Ms. Graham made a motion to adopt the 2015-2016 budget in the amount of \$23,036,986 which is reduced by estimated receipts and available funds in the amount of \$2,871,442 for a net amount to be assessed to the member town of \$20,165,544. This assessment is comprised of \$18,779,633 in operating expenses and \$1,385,911 in debt expenses, and that the Treasurer be authorized to certify this budget in the apportioned share of each town based on the statutory method. Ms. Ringel seconded.

15-10 VOTE: 6 - 0

b) Use of Excess and Deficiency (E&D) for FY16 - The Department of Revenue requires a vote of the Regional School Committee authorizing the amount of Excess and Deficiency (E&D) for the FY16 budget.

Mr. Lee made a motion to include \$500,000 of the June 30, 2015 Certified Excess and Deficiency in the FY16 budget to reduce assessments. Ms. Ringel seconded.

15-11 VOTE: 6 - 0

c) Approval of Revolving Funds

Ms. Graham made a motion to make use of \$30,000 from the Athletic Revolving Fund and \$17,000 from the School Lunch Revolving Fund in the FY16 budget.

15-12 VOTE: 6 - 0

d) FY16 Capital Budget - The total of capital projects scheduled for completion next year is \$358,000. That figure includes 27 projects and a 15% contingency fee.

Ms. White made a motion to approve the FY16 Capital Budget in the amount of \$358,000.

Ms. Graham seconded.

15-13 VOTE: 6 - 0

e) Donation - The Administration has received an anonymous donation of \$500 to be used to support the Student Norming campaign of SPAN-DS.

Mr. Lee made a motion to accept the donation of \$500 for SPAN-DS. Mr. Robinson seconded.

15-14 VOTE: 4 - 0 - 2 (Ms. Graham, Ms. Ringel)

f) School Choice - MA General Law requires local school committees to vote annually as to whether or not the district will participate in School Choice.

Mr. Robinson made a motion to not have the Dover Sherborn Regional Schools participate in the School Choice program for the 2015-2016 school year. Ms. Graham seconded.

15-15 VOTE: 6 - 0

g) RSC Communication - the Committee discussed the idea of an "opt-in" email summary of the meeting with links to the packet information to be provided to interested parties.

5) Consent Agenda

a) RSC Meeting Minutes of 2/5/2015

b) Overnight Field Trip: Global Leadership Inquiry Program (April 3, 2015)

c) Overnight Field Trip: Costa Rica (February 2016)

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

15-15 VOTE: 6 - 0

6) For Review

a) March Enrollment Report

b) Sherborn School Committee minutes of 1/13/2015

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- c) Dover School Committee minutes - none
 - d) Items for the April Regional School Committee Meeting
- 7) Adjournment at 8:03 pm**

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Davis