



School Committee
Community Notes
Tuesday, June 19, 2018 @ 7pm
Avery School

Committee Members in Attendance:

- Mayanne MacDonald Briggs
- Steve Bilafer
- Kevin Coughlin
- Josh Donati
- Melissa Pearrow

Agenda

Student Update- Evan Landry and Abigail Jiminian

Recognitions

- New England Math League High Scoring Recipients from Avery & Riverdale Elementary Schools
- Math Olympiad Participants from the Avery & Riverdale Elementary Schools
- Jerry Lavoie from Dedham Savings
- Dedham Public School Retirees

Superintendent's Update - Michael J. Welch

Reports

- Dedham Education Foundation Grant Update – DEF President Mark Reilly
- DPS Fees Update- Supt. Michael J. Welch
- District Restructure Progress Update- Asst. Supt. Ian Kelly
 - Elementary Report Card Update

Old/New Business*

- Discussion and Vote on Elementary and Secondary School Improvement Plans
- Update to Communications
- Discussion and Vote on Release of Executive Session Minutes
- Discussion on Summer Meetings Calendar

Subcommittee Reports & Updates

- Policy
- Budget
- Equity and Inclusion Task Force
- Negotiations
- SBRC

Review and Approval Vote of Prior Meeting Minutes

Discussion and Approval Vote of Donations - Asst. Supt. for Business and Finance Sam Rippin

Public Comment

Acknowledgements and Announcements

Executive Session if Necessary

Meeting Notes:

Called to order at 7:05pm EST by Steve Bilafer

Student update was given by Evan and Abigail

- Lots of exciting events in all schools from ECE to DHS
- Appreciation for Evan's role as part of school committee student rep. and wish him luck in college

Recognitions

- Honor New England Math League from Riverdale and Avery
- Math Olympiads from Riverdale and Avery
- Jerry Lavoie from Dedham Savings presented by Sup. Welch
- Staff retiring at end of this school year from DPS

Superintendent update by Mr. Welch

- Completed 176 days of school
- DHS baseball team playing in semi-finals
- Welch spent 3 hours yesterday in all the school's hottest classrooms to experience what they do
- Peter Cavanaugh announced VP of DHS
- Annual Junior book awards last Tuesday
- Step up day for 5th graders was last Tuesday where they went to middle school for the day; largest 5th grade class in Dedham
- Annual Washington DC trip for Dedham 8th graders
- ECEC new building is going up quickly—all floors are now complete and working on windows

Reports

- Dedham Education Foundation Update
 - Committed to ensuring that all Dedham students have access to enrichment programs
 - DEF board approved new funding grant this spring—in memory of Nancy Bradley
 - Innovation grant specifically in areas of SEL and STEM
- DPS Fees (PPT was shared)
 - Make sure that public schools really are free to tax payers by lowering extra fees
 - Full-day Kindergarten fee
 - Athletic fee
 - AP Exam fees
 - Yellow Bus fees
 - Lots of reductions from previous years
 - Question from Lisa
 - do you anticipate bus ridership will go down?—not right now
 - Reduction of fees has not meant lower quality
- District restructure update
 - Presentation from reps from Oakdale to discuss their experience
 - After first year can say that it's really being embraced positively
 - Success large part to fact that both coaches were a part of school before so teachers trusted them
 - Collaboration at its finest—really has changed the way they function at the school
 - Questions:
 - Mayanne: What is one thing they need more of or more support?; are you feeling supportive—absolutely
 - Joshua: What is next step up?—like to see writers workshop running next year; would like to see more time in classrooms and not pulled away for PD so much (though really appreciative of all the PD)
 - Elementary Report Card Update

- As new curriculum is on-boarded, becoming more and more clear that it is not aligned with report card
- Need significant overhaul
- Have contacted other districts to understand their systems
- Intent is to slowly adjust report card as curriculum adjusts—staggered implementation
- Need for a lot of guidance—starting to get that guidance developed
- Lisa-one perspective to take into account is what are the teachers actually talking to parents about when they come in at end of each trimester
- Mayanne—suggest utilizing PTO

Old/New Business

- Vote to accept school improvement plans—APPROVED
- Update to communications initiative
 - RFP in process for proposals on study as to how to model communications
- Discussion on summer meetings calendar
 - Suggest one meeting over summer late July/early August and retreat in August
 - Committee members will send blackout dates for summer

Sub-committee Reports

- Nothing new for policy
- Nothing for budget
- Equity and inclusion had last meeting last week
- Negotiations- ongoing with one more meeting this month; reached a tentative agreement with custodians
- SBRC- no new meetings since last meeting; will be collecting proposals for master plan update
 - Vote to accept minutes from previous meetings

Donations—received two donations from Dedham flag day committee each for \$1,000 to support Dedham HS and MS band—vote to accept motion with great appreciation

Public Comment

- Tammy Boecher- parent in Dedham; shared perspective about performing arts; appreciative of support from district
- Carol- a parent of 2nd grader; discussed issue of bullying; a child has been bullied for 2 years
 - If parents have concerns they should be going to principal, then Superintendent, then School Committee
- Paul Sullivan (outgoing ECEC principal) expressed gratitude as this is his last School Committee meeting of his tenure

Acknowledgements and Announcements

- Baseball team did not win tonight but great season

MEETING ADJOURNED at 9:05 p.m. to return to executive session

Notes taken by Elana Alfred

Notes reviewed by Heather Springer

Keywords: district restructuring, fees

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