

***Hanover School Committee Meeting Minutes  
March 13, 2019  
Hanover High School***

**Present:** Mrs. Leah Miller, Mrs. Kimberly M. Booker, Mrs. Libby Corbo and Mrs. Ruth Lynch

**Also Present:** Matthew Ferron, Thomas Raab, Deborah St. Ives, Keith Guyette, Jane DeGrenier, Michael Oates, Matthew Paquette and Matthew Plummer

**Absent:** Mr. John Geary

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 7:01pm by Mrs. Miller.

**Public Comment:** None presented

**Approval of Minutes:**

The February 14, 2019 minutes were tabled due to a quorum to vote the minutes was not present.

The February 27, 2019 minutes were tabled due to a quorum to vote the minutes was not present.

**Public Hearing on FY 2020 Budget:**

- **Overview: Dr. Raab** - Discussed: Level Services Budget Proposal, Budget History FY 2014 thru Present and FY 2020 Budget Summary. Full Presentation and Budget may be viewed online.
- **Public Comment** – None presented
- **School Committee Vote on FY 2020 Budget** – Vote approved.

Motion by Booker to approve the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget of \$29,218,627.00 as presented. The motion was seconded by Corbo. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Lynch thanked Dr. Raab for his ongoing efforts in providing a transparent budget presentation. Mrs. Corbo agreed.

**Report of the Superintendent presented by Mr. Ferron:**

- **Events and Updates** – Hanover Middle School hosted their Science Fair on March 12<sup>th</sup> for over one hundred students from all grades. The Traditional Project Winners were: 1st Place Bella Ciccolo, Hope Miller & Tess Madden, 2nd Place Brooklyn Scott & Cameron Bradford and 3rd Place Cassie Lopes. The Rube Goldberg winners were: 1st Place Zachary Lopes, Juneau Mofford, 2nd Place Dante Heffron & Noah Balewicz and 3rd Place Ava Khouri & Dylan Poirier. The Engineering winners were: 1st Place Daniel Nguyen, 2nd Place Jackson Booker and 3rd Place Cameron Dillis & James Solari. Students who are moving on to the Massachusetts Regional qualifier are: Ashley Stracco, Cameron Bradford and Brooklyn Scott, Cassie Lopes, Zachary Lopes and Juneau Mofford, Dante Heffron and Noah Balewicz, Riley McCormick and Marley Gallagher, Daniel Nguyen, Cameron Dillis and James Solari, Jackson Booker, Abby Smith and Paulina Leskow. Mrs. Booker thanked Nicole Smith and Eric Grund for starting and volunteering on the Science Fair Committee. HMS hosted a South Shore Middle School Math Tournament on March 13<sup>th</sup> for over seventy five students from Hanover, Hanson, Norwell, Pembroke, Rockland and Scituate.
- **Vote to Approve the 2019/2020 School Calendar** – Per Committee recommendation, the first day of school, September 4<sup>th</sup>, will remain as a full day.

Motion by Booker to approve the 2019-2020 Hanover Public Schools calendar as presented. The motion was seconded by Corbo. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ferron mentioned that March 14<sup>th</sup> is “Pi Day”. Mr. Plummer along with other staff put together a Pi Day Challenge consisting of mathematical questions for the community.

- **Elementary Transition Team Update** – Presented by Principals Michael Oates and Jane DeGrenier.
  - **Center School - Completed:** Staff room assignments, parent information sheet, grade levels, field trips, placement process/forms, students placements, additional placements on August 15<sup>th</sup>, visiting days and planned PTA events. **Ongoing:** Dates to complete placement for grades 2-4, programming for special education students, Tuesday time for grade level meetings, spring visit for grades 2-4, develop recess/specialist/lunch schedules, summer math/reading expectations for grades 2-4, Sitterley Movers timeline, transition team/HTA timeline & merging of materials for science/social studies/reading for grades 2-4. **Future:** Discuss art shows/concerts/programming/school events, discuss Talent Show/enrichment/school play and before/after care, dates for spring parent evening for grades 2-4 & dates for last week of August for grade 2-4 visits.
  - **Cedar School - Completed:** Staff room assignments, parent information sheet, grade levels, field trips, placement process/forms, presented Town Meeting articles to Advisory Committee & PTA events. **Ongoing:** Programming for special education, Tuesday time for grade level meetings, school calendar events, curriculum for September/October, Center School spring visit, Sitterley Movers timeline, survey/mission statement, merging of materials for science/social studies/reading, cameras installment/configuration & playground purchase/installation. **Future:** Visiting days for entering grade 1, parent meeting with current Center parents, summer math/reading expectations for grade 1, new academic/recess/specialist/lunch schedules, school play opportunities, before/after care, current student placement, review/complete placement for incoming students, placements on August 15<sup>th</sup>, bus company and Town on Kindergarten orientation, K-1 student visits & construction of playground/lobby/office security/kindergarten bathrooms.

Mrs. Miller remarked on the grade size and questioned whether they’ll be community schools within a larger school. Mr. Oates ensured that ongoing teacher input and students partnership are crucial to ensure comfort for all. Mrs. Miller questioned whether students of the same prior school would be placed in partnership. Mr. Oates added that this opportunity would allow new friendships to occur.

Mrs. Booker questioned the idea of increasing recess time. Mr. Oates mentioned that the playground gate being closed is required for pre-school but not for the other grades so a block schedule will be discussed. Mrs. St. Ives added that with the addition of the new school there will be new scheduling formats for the students.

Mrs. Corbo appreciated the forward thinking regarding the new school formation. Mr. Oates added that the administration has received tremendous help from staff and families. Mrs. Miller agreed and shows her gratitude with the ease of transition.

Mrs. Booker questioned the status of the transportation bid. Dr. Raab replied that the bid went out on March 12<sup>th</sup> and will be due back in two weeks. Once completed, the bids will be presented to School Committee.

- **Center School Building Project Update** – Presented by Mrs. Corbo. Many participants at the school’s building dedication. She thanked Mrs. Booker, Dr. Raab, Mr. Ferron, Mrs. St. Ives and Jane DeGrenier for their ongoing commitment. The majority of the project is complete.

**Report of Finance Department: Presented by Dr. Raab:**

- **Donations** - Donations totaling \$1,295.00 were received from the Hanover PTA, Baystate Textiles and Hanover Police Relief Association.

Motion by Booker to accept the donations totaling \$1,295.00 as presented. The motion was seconded by Corbo. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Report on Teaching and Learning:**

- **HHS Program of Studies (this document can be viewed online)** – Presented by Principal Matthew Paquette and STEM Director Matthew Plummer. The key changes are as follows:
  - HHS Connect format updated from a Word document to a Google document
  - *New Courses: Freshman Seminar, A Reader's Journey, An Adventure in Space, Technical Theater, World History through Art, Comparative Government and Politics, Economics – Honors, Leadership, American Sign Language, Computer Science A-AP, Web and Mobile Application Development, Computer Science through Game Design, Guitar & PE/Lifeskills*

Mr. Paquette stated that college credit classes are in effect throughout the school. The cost of the course is \$200.00. Currently, a total of fifty-eight students are receiving Quincy College undergraduate credit.

Mrs. Lynch questioned why a student would take an Advanced Placement class as opposed to a class that is recognized as college credit. Mr. Paquette replied that Advanced Placement classes are recognized nationwide where a college credit class is only recognized by a portion of Massachusetts colleges. Mr. Plummer added that the college course is being covered over a full year as opposed to a half year semester.

Mrs. Lynch questioned the thought behind Quincy College partnering with HHS Connect and what Quincy College gains from this partnership. Mr. Plummer noted that Quincy College hopes that more students will consider attending taking Quincy College. Also, Quincy College provides a list of schools that will accept the credits, so students who are planning to attend one of those colleges may want to get a few credits completed during high school. Dual enrollment classes are beneficial for a high school transcript.

Mr. Paquette noted that the following four Pathways were created to personalize a student's high school education.

- 1) Fine and Performing Arts
- 2) Engineering and Technology
- 3) Health and Human Services
- 4) Business and Entrepreneurship

Pathway requirements will be noted on their official school transcript upon graduation.

Mrs. Lynch questioned the number of courses that a student would be required to complete for each Pathway. Mr. Plummer added that the number of courses will increase as the years progress.

The Extracurricular Activity hours must include a minimum of five different activities to ensure a wide range of activities. Mr. Plummer added that these activities will be included on their official transcript. Mrs. Miller questioned whether community service hours count towards extracurricular activities. Mr. Plummer stated that they do not. Mrs. Lynch questioned whether there is an extracurricular activity list available for students. Mr. Paquette stated that the list is available at the Guidance Department. Mrs. Lynch added that this will enable students to diversify their activities. Mr. Paquette added that the community can enable the students' participation in their activities.

Mr. Plummer discussed the new Freshmen Seminar course which bridges the skills from middle to high school. The course focuses on public speaking, technology, writing and research. This course is a graduation requirement for all ninth grade students. Mrs. Lynch questioned whether a student can test-out or opt-out of this course. Mr. Plummer replied yes based on academics and if a student moved into the school system after ninth grade.

Mrs. Lynch questioned the faculty impact with the additional courses. Mr. Plummer noted that the new courses would replace courses that were previously offered. In addition, she questioned courses that would be under-enrolled. Mr. Paquette stated that some classes would be removed from the curricular.

Mrs. Booker requested an update on last year's switch from Level 2 to co-taught classes. Mr. Paquette stated that all high school classes are college preparatory with two facilitators for each class and are doing wonderfully.

Mrs. Booker questioned if there is a designated "language based" classroom for students with language based disabilities in the high school. Mr. Paquette noted that there's always reserved space outside the library otherwise the students would be in the co-taught class. There is no dedicated language based classroom.

Mrs. Lynch questioned the presence of pressure by NEASC to make changes. Mr. Paquette noted that, for this reason, the documenting of evidence will be ongoing to use with NEASC in a few years, but they are really creating this for the students. Dr. Raab added that HHS Connect and the new *Program of Studies* are what students need at this time. Mr. Plummer stated that additional classes, such as Nursing, are in the works for the future.

**Action Items:**

- No items at this time

The next School Committee Meeting will be on March 27, 2019 at 7:00 at Hanover High School. The expected agenda items are: Student Services Update

Motion by Booker to adjourn at 8:56pm. The motion was seconded by Corbo. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Tara L. Wakefield

*Tara L. Wakefield*

Recording Secretary for the Hanover School Committee

**Documents Used:**

FY'20 Budget Presentation  
2019-2020 School Calendar Draft 2.0  
Donations  
HHS Program of Studies

Appendix A  
Appendix B  
Appendix C  
Appendix D