

Hanover School Committee Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2019
Hanover High School

Present: Mrs. Leah Miller, Mr. John Geary, Mrs. Kimberly M. Booker and Mrs. Libby Corbo

Also Present: Matthew Ferron, Thomas Raab, Deborah St. Ives, Keith Guyette and Matthew Paquette

Absent: Mrs. Ruth Lynch

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

Public Comment: Leah Miller mentioned that she misspoke at Candidates Night by stating there will only be six tennis courts funded by the CPC account. She clarified there will still be eight courts.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Booker to approve the March 27, 2019 School Committee minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Geary. The vote was carried unanimously.

Motion by Booker to approve the April 5, 2019 School Committee minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Corbo. The vote was carried unanimously.

Report of the Superintendent presented by Mr. Ferron:

- **Events and Updates** – Earlier today, HHS senior Steven Simon hit his 100th and 101st career hits in baseball. We congratulate him on this remarkable accomplishment. On May 2nd at 6:30 p.m., HHS will be showing the movie “*Angst, Raising Awareness Around Anxiety*.” Students in grades 5-12 will be viewing the movie during the day as well. “Angst” is a film that explores anxiety, its causes, effects and what we can do about it. Following the film there will be a discussion with a panel of mental health staff from HHS, HMS and Dr. Julie Love, psychiatric nurse practitioner from McLean Hospital. Admission is free thanks to a generous grant from the Hanover Foundation for Educational Enrichment (HFEE). Next Thursday, May 9th at 7:00PM is the HHS Pops Concert. Friday May 10th is Senior Prom at Venezia in Dorchester. Under the direction of our Coordinator of Health Services, Patricia Smith, the district has been awarded a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Health in the amount of \$75,000 per year for the next three years. These funds will be used to supplement our existing programs and staff development. Revised fundraising policies and guidelines will be shared with the Committee in the coming weeks and will be brought to an upcoming meeting for discussion by the Committee. Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Lynch have been providing feedback throughout the revision process.

U.S. News and World Report issued its 2019 List of Best High Schools in the nation and in the state of Massachusetts. The Administration feels that it is an unfair representation of the school. The data will be used to make improvements. Debbie St. Ives requested HHS’s prior year data for a comparison, but was denied. The publication noted that the criteria for the current year is new and will not issue historical data. HHS Principal, Matthew Paquette, provided the data points that went into the criteria: 2/6 data points come from AP scores of the Class of 2017, and looked at students who scored 3 or higher on an AP exam and the number of students that took AP; 3/6 data points come from MCAS scores of the current senior class of 2019. The scores and data were weighted based on 1) MCAS taken in the 2016/2017 school year for the entire class of 2019, 2) a select cohort of this class for which numbers can vary widely from school to school and 3) the weight between students who scored proficient and advanced. Finally, 1/6 data point is graduation rate, which ours is excellent. The AP and MCAS data allows for reflection and analysis to determine what our strategic focus should be and what we can do improve these scores and how we perform against these data points.

- **Superintendent's Summative Evaluation** – All documents can be found online. The following were assessed, Progress Toward HPS Goals and Performance on DESE Standards. Each School Committee member evaluated Mr. Ferron as Superintendent of Schools and at the April 5, 2019 meeting, they shared and discussed their individual evaluations. Mrs. Miller compiled individual rankings and comments into the Summative Evaluation 1.0. Overall rankings were tallied to provide Mr. Ferron with an overall score. Edits were made based on the discussion on April 5th for the final 2.0 Summative Evaluation. Mr. Ferron received an Exemplary overall rating with a High rating on Student Impact. Mr. Ferron thanked the Committee. He also thanked and commended his administration team saying this is a team effort.

Mrs. Corbo thanked Mr. Ferron for his continual leadership in the district and with the success of the Center School project.

Motion by Booker to approve the Superintendent's Summative Evaluation for 2018/2019 as presented. The motion was seconded by Geary. The vote was carried unanimously.

Report of Finance Department: Presented by Dr. Raab:

- **Donations** – Donations totaling \$2,002.00 were received from the Hanover PTA and Hanover School Families.

Motion by Booker to approve the donations totaling \$2,002.00 as presented. The motion was seconded by Geary. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Cedar Obsolete Furniture** – Some furniture at Cedar Elementary was declared obsolete; therefore, it will be donated to other towns or discarded if the furniture is no longer useful. The components of the final move in June included transferring existing Kindergarten and First Grade furniture from Center to Cedar. As a result, many student desks and chairs are no longer needed at Cedar. It was requested that the (216) desks/chairs be declared obsolete at Cedar School. One north shore town has expressed interest in a classroom set and word is being spread in the event anyone else is interested.

Motion by Booker to declare 216 student desks and chairs obsolete at Cedar School as presented. The motion was seconded by Geary. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Vote to Add HHS Student Activity Account** – Request for the "Tech Team", supervised by Mr. Brian Ciccolo, to be added to the Student Activity Accounts. The Tech Team is a high school computer club that creates applications and designs websites providing technical support for the wider Hanover community as a measure of community service. Recognizing them as an official club provides an opportunity to manage their account as part of the Hanover High School Student Activity Accounts.

Motion by Booker to approve the "Tech Team" as a student organization as presented. The motion was seconded by Corbo. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Vote to Approve Transportation Contract** – On April 9th at 12:00 pm, Hanover Schools received bids for Regular Education Transportation, including Field Trips and Athletic Events, for FY20 thru FY22 with options for FY23 and FY24. The bid was constructed so that our transportation needs were bundled in order to maximize efficiency and pricing for a three-year contract. The Ingle Bus Company provided the best overall price with reduced savings of \$10,000 to \$15,000 for FY20.

Mrs. Booker questioned whether the contract includes a swing gate located on the front of the bus. Dr. Raab replied that it does. In addition, Mrs. Miller questioned the age of the busses. Mr. Raab noted that the oldest bus was manufactured in 2014.

Motion by Booker to award the transportation contract to Ingle Bus Company as presented. The motion was seconded by Geary. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Town Meeting Warrant Article Update** – A complete list of Warrant Articles can be found online at the Town of Hanover website: www.hanover-ma.gov. The school department articles, that have been discussed at a previous meeting, will be voted. These include transferring funds to a special education reserve fund, funding for Cedar School security upgrades, renovation of Cedar School bathrooms, and the disposal, lease or sale of the Sylvester School property.

Report on Teaching and Learning:

- No report at this time.

Action Items:

- **Vote to Approve the 2018-2019 Last Day of School (June 19th)** - Mr. Ferron noted that this will be a half day of school.

Motion by Booker to approve the 2018-2019 Last Day of School as June 19th as presented. The motion was seconded by Geary. Motion carried unanimously.

The next School Committee Meeting will be held on May 15, 2019 at 7:00 at Hanover High School. The expected agenda items are: Student Handbooks, April Break Field Trip Student Reports, HHS France/Switzerland Field Trip Request, HHS Quebec Field Trip Request and Instructional Rounds Update.

Motion by Booker to adjourn at 7:50pm. The motion was seconded by Geary. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Tara L. Wakefield



Recording Secretary for the Hanover School Committee

Documents Used:

Superintendent's Summative Evaluation
Donations
Cedar Obsolete Furniture
Vote to Add HHS Student Activity Account
Vote to Approve Transportation Contract
Town Meeting Warrant Article Update

Appendix A
Appendix B
Appendix C
Appendix D
Appendix E
Appendix F