

***Hanover School Committee Meeting Minutes***  
***August 28, 2019***  
***Hanover High School***

**Present:** Mrs. Leah Miller, Mr. John Geary, Mrs. Kimberly Booker, Mrs. Libby Corbo and Mrs. Ruth Lynch

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

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

**Public Comment:** Mrs. Miller welcomed all back to school.

**Approval Minutes:**

Motion by Corbo to approve the May 15, 2019 School Committee Executive Session minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Lynch. The motion carried unanimously.

The June 18, 2019 School Committee General Session minutes were tabled to the next meeting.

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

- **School Committee Reorganization** – Mrs. Miller turned the meeting over to Mr. Ferron in order to facilitate the annual reorganization portion of the meeting.

- *School Committee Chairperson* – Motion by Geary to nominate Leah Miller as the Chairperson of the Committee. The motion was seconded by Booker.

Roll Call Vote: John Geary – Aye, Kimberly Booker – Aye, Libby Corbo – Aye and Ruth Lynch - Aye. The vote carried unanimously.

- *School Committee Vice-Chairperson* – Motion by Geary to nominate Ruth Lynch as the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee. The motion was seconded by Booker.

Roll Call Vote: John Geary – Aye, Kimberly Booker – Aye, Libby Corbo – Aye and Leah Miller - Aye. The vote carried unanimously.

- **Committee Appointments** – Mr. Ferron facilitated the following Committee assignments and advised the Chairperson on required votes and procedure:

- *Budget Subcommittee* – Motion by Lynch to nominate Leah Miller and John Geary as members of Budget Subcommittee. The motion was seconded by Corbo. The vote carried unanimously.
    - *North River Collaborative Representative* – Motion by Lynch to nominate Mr. Ferron as School Committee Representative of the North River Collaborative Board. The motion was seconded by Geary. The vote carried unanimously.
    - *Sick Leave Bank Representative* – Motion by Corbo to reauthorize Ruth Lynch as Representative of the Sick Leave Bank. The motion was seconded by Geary. The vote carried unanimously.
    - *Community Access and Media Board* – Motion by Lynch to reauthorize Steve Ryerson as Representative of the Community Access and Media Board. The motion was seconded by Geary. The vote carried unanimously.
    - *Town Traffic Study Committee* - Motion by Lynch to appoint Kimberly Booker to the Town Traffic Study Committee. The motion was seconded by Geary. The vote carried unanimously.
    - *Town Master Plan Implementation Committee* - Motion by Lynch to appoint John Geary to the Town Master Plan Implementation Committee. The motion was seconded by Corbo. The vote carried unanimously.

- *Center/Sylvester Building Committee* – Motion by Lynch to appoint Kimberly Booker to the Center/Sylvester Building Committee. The motion was seconded by Geary. The vote carried unanimously.

Building Committee Chairperson, Libby Corbo noted that the Committee will need one more year for the project to be completed.

Mr. Ferron mentioned that a School Committee liaison to the SEPAC Committee will be discussed at a future meeting. Mrs. Miller agreed that it makes sense for the Committee to discuss at a future meeting as the SEPAC will be voting on new chairpersons.

Mrs. Corbo updated that the Center School playground was repaired over the summer and the functionality is not jeopardized.

- **Events and Updates** – Students will return to school on September 4<sup>th</sup>. Teachers will be arriving on Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> for Convocation. Mr. Ferron commented that it was very interesting to watch LDI Entertainment and Netflix film a movie at the high school and there were several Hanover students who were involved as extras. The Town will receive \$40,000 from the company and the School Department will work with the Town Manager on distribution of the money. The School Department would like to invest it in the school theatre and arts programs. Bus routes have been posted. Most of our hiring is complete and the district is in good shape for the start of school. Fall sports are in full swing and games will begin in the next week or two.
- **District Strategic Objective Update** – During meetings on August 7<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, the Administrative Team met to review and revise the District Strategic Objectives and refocus the extensive goals. There is a lot that has been accomplished and things that the district needs to continue to work on. The revised Strategic Objectives will be presented to the Committee at one of the early meetings. The Superintendent's Goals and School Improvement Plans will both align to these revised Objectives.

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

- **Reauthorization of Student Activity Accounts** – Each year, the Committee is required to reauthorize all student activity accounts. A list of current accounts was presented and can be found online, as Appendix A. The High School Principal has requested that the Band and Chorus accounts be combined into one account called Music. The accounts were reported separately. Once the change is approved, the accounts will be transferred to the new Music account. Band balance is high as of June 30<sup>th</sup> but payment for Band Camp brought it down. The 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp balance is high and will pay for 7<sup>th</sup> grade Tree Top Adventures trip.

Motion by Lynch to approve the Reauthorization of Student Activity Accounts for school year 2019-2020 as written. The motion was seconded by Geary. The vote carried unanimously.

- **FY'20 Budget Update** – Dr. Raab informed the Committee that \$55,000 was rolled from FY'19 the Circuit Beaker account to help with unanticipated Special Education expenses. The \$29.2 million budget has been maintained with hiring new staff. An additional .6 Pre-Kindergarten teacher and .6 Paraprofessional were added due to increased enrollment. There have also been some additional special education expenses. There is an incentive in the Teacher Contract for teachers to obtain their Masters Degree. Teachers have already spent approximately \$90,000, which is above the \$65,000 budgeted. Dr. Raab plans to utilize \$100,000 of the \$210,000 reserve account that was approved at Town Meeting to cover these unexpected costs.
- **Transportation Update** – Dr. Raab informed the Committee that an email was sent to all Pre-K thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade families informing them of transportation guidance and requesting patience on drop-off and pick-up times during the first couple of weeks of school. He noted that bus stops, as opposed to addresses, are posted in the bus routes for privacy reasons and that half-day kindergarten drop-offs are not published due to address privacy. These routes are shared with

families directly from Cedar School. On August 29<sup>th</sup> there will be a bus orientation for new Kindergarten students at Cedar School. A follow up on the first week of transportation will be given at the next School Committee meeting.

**Report on Teaching and Learning:**

- No report at this time

**Action Items:**

- **Approval of Home School Requests for 2019-2020** – Mrs. St. Ives has received eight requests for home schooling. Seven out of the eight are renewals, which are necessary annually. There is one new request this year. Mrs. St. Ives recommends a total of 17 students, from 8 families, be approved for Home School.

Motion by Lynch to approve the Home School Requests for 2019-2020 as written. The motion was seconded by Geary. The vote carried unanimously.

**Public Comment:** None presented

The next School Committee meeting is scheduled for September 11, 2019 at Hanover High School. Expected agenda items will be: Opening of School Report 2019-2020, Superintendent's Goals Draft 1.0, Strategic Objective Update, Q4 FY'19 Revolving Account Update, FY'20 Budget Transfers

Motion by Lynch to adjourn at 7:29pm. The motion was seconded by Geary. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by:

*Tara L. Wakefield*

Tara L. Wakefield

Recording Secretary for the Hanover School Committee

Documents Used:

Reauthorization of Student Activity Accounts  
Approval of Home School Requests for 2019/2020

Appendix A  
Appendix B