

Hanover School Committee Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2014
Hanover High School

Present: William Marriner, Michael Phillips & Libby Corbo

Also Present: Matthew Ferron, Deb St. Ives

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by 7:00 pm by Chairman Marriner.

Public Comments: None presented.

Comment by Mr. Marriner- He would like to wish Libby Corbo well as it's her last meeting with the School Committee. Libby has worked very hard to better the district for her children and all children. Libby has given her time and dedication to the Town of Hanover for four years. Libby has been critical in negotiation with HTA for new contracts, Chair of the School Committee while we searched for new Superintendent, Business Manager and SPED Director. She also actively championed building project for Center school. Her energy will be sorely missed on the Committee.

Approval of Minutes:

- Motion by Corbo to approve the minutes of April 30, 2014 as written. The motion was seconded by Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Report of Superintendent:

District Events and Updates

- School Security Update- by end of the school year, there will be a plan and all the work will be done over the summer.
- Hanover has some leadership positions to fill- Principal of Cedar School position will be filled by the 1st of June
- Looking at applications for the Business Manager position- hope to reference check in the next few weeks- there are about 12 candidates that are suitable
- Middle School Assistant Principal- interviews in the next few weeks
- Athletic Director position has been posted- will start interviewing in the next few weeks

Student recognition process: Timeline Proposal

-June 11th meeting- Use the auditorium and recognize the top winners for Spelling Bee, Perfect MCAS and Perfect Attendance at the Elementary & Middle School. Also at high school, add SEMSBA, Science Fair, Girls/Boys State, Lions Club Speech, Boston Globe Scholastic, DARE Essay, Project 361 Winner

- On June 25th- Recognize Fall 2013, Winter 2014 and Spring 2014 Sportsmanship Awards

- Going forward 2014-2015- Establish a standing agenda item for the First School Committee Meeting of every month titled "Awards & Recognitions" in real time

- The School Committee supports this idea and will move forward to execute this plan

Superintendent's Mid Cycle Progress Report and Evaluation

- At May 21st meeting- Mr. Ferron will present a set of draft objectives with strategic initiatives

- 3 Goals were approved in December-1. Effective Entry and Direction Setting- This goal has been met with additional work being done in regards to the district's most critical needs
- 2. Maintaining Momentum during transition- Completed educator evaluation plans, maintain leadership meetings, consistent visits to school – This goal is on target
- 3. New Superintendent Induction Program- attends eight daylong sessions and consults with assigned coach monthly- This goal is on target
- Question by Mr. Marriner- teacher evaluation structure – quantitative review of process and how effective it really was in the first year? Response by Mr. Ferron that we are where we should be procedurally
- Accomplishments as a leadership team- collaborative budget development and communication paid off as was shown at the Town meeting; Full day kindergarten; consolidation of schedules at middle school; consolidated pre-school programs;
- Mr. Ferron highlighted many accomplishments of each department this year such as Safety & Security Committee, Wellness Committee, Office of Family & Community Engagement, District Wide Professional Development, Technology Committee etc.
- Ongoing challenges are public communication, developing collaborative & sustainable initiatives, recruit and retain talented individuals, teaching & learning objective for curriculum alignment, logistical challenges at the middle school for new schedule, DESE program review for Special Education, Security Updates, culture & climate of schools is ongoing
- Comment by Mr. Phillips commending the leadership team for some major accomplishments this year
- Comment by Ms. Corbo that she amazed at all the accomplishments from this year- the transition has gone well and it's been a great year for the district
- Comment by Mr. Marriner that this district has accomplished a lot in a short period of time. He appreciates the speed at which things have changed and the way that information has been brought forward in greater clarity is much appreciated

Report of Finance Department:

FY15 Budget Update

- Town Meeting continues next Monday night
- Budget for School has been approved with the additional \$500,000 article for Special Education Tuition- Also \$65,000 additional was approved to be put into the general operating budget
- We are only about \$20,000 below Level Service Budget

Donations

- Foundation for Education Enrichment to High School to fund a Visiting Glass artist program in the amount of \$2,630.00
- Motion by Phillips to approve the donation in the amount of \$2,630.00 as listed. The motion was seconded by Corbo. The motion carried unanimously.

Report on Teaching & Learning:

Vision 2020 Update

- Team is divided into K-5 group and 6-8 group
- Teams have moved through the vetting process and have focused on new components of the common core
- Three programs are going to be evaluated further: envisionMath by Pearson, My Math by McGraw-Hill and GO Math by Mifflin

- The publishers of these programs will be presenting to the teams and allow the teachers to ask specific questions about each program
- Question by Mr. Marriner- would there be any issue if you go with different publishers at each level? Response by Ms. St. Ives that we are being very thoughtful of this issue and we will not pick a program that does not align with the upper grade levels
- Question by Mr. Marriner -how are publishers in regard to updates as curriculum changes? Response by Ms. St. Ives that each publisher is different but can get updates on-line from the publishers

Action Items:

Authorization of Special Subcommittee to evaluate possible school consolidation options

- Ms. Corbo would like to give the committee members more time to review it as well as the leadership team and staff
- Final vote will be at the meeting on May 21
- Comment by Ms. Piccard that she would like the document spread to the community members and give them some notification that the document is available

Public Comments:

- Comment by Ms. Corbo-Thank you for all the nice comments. She is grateful for the opportunity to have served on the School Committee. She is thankful for the opportunity to work with such wonderful administrators, teachers especially under such difficult circumstances and through changes throughout the years.

Motion by Corbo to adjourn at 8:25pm. The motion was seconded by Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Andrea Holmes

5/8/14

Documents Used:

Minutes 4-30-14

Student Awards process outline

Superintendent's Mid Cycle Progress Report & Evaluation

Donations 5-7-14

Special Subcommittee for School Configuration Outline