

Hanover School Committee Meeting Minutes
January 22, 2014
Hanover High School

Present: William Marriner, Michael Phillips, John Geary & Ruth Lynch

Also Present: Matthew Ferron, Clinton Rowe, Deb St. Ives, Beverly Shea, Tom Raab, Adam Colantuoni, Jane DeGrenier, Risa Mancillas, Matthew Paquette and Matthew Plummer

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

Public Comments: None presented.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Phillips to approve the minutes as written for January 15, 2014. The motion was seconded by Geary. The motion carried unanimously.

Report of Superintendent:

District Events and Updates

- Tyler Pasquale (8th Grader)- Governors Project that recognizes Middle School Leaders
- Tuesday, January 28, 2014 at 7pm at HHS- Wayne Soares is coming to speak in regards to anti-bullying
- Warrant Article for Town Meeting- Tribute to Kurt Giessler- HS would like town to recognize engineering classrooms at high school in his honor
- Governors budget was released today- Chapter 70 funding – increase to Hanover \$64,650.00

Presentation and Update on HHS Athletic Field Improvement Project

- Met with Bob Murray today and will have an update next week to present to School Committee
- Hopefully have a sustainable solution for field issues
- Motion by Geary to table the Presentation on HHS Athletic Field Improvement Project to next week (January 29, 2014). The motion was seconded by Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

MOU Between Hanover Police Department & HPS

- This MOU would formalize information sharing between the 2 entities – when its' mandatory versus when its recommended
- Recommendation by Ms. Lynch to add theft as one of the incidents that would be mandatory to be reported to Police Department
- Mr. Ferron would like a formal vote next week on the matter- if the Public would like to comment, they can do so at next week's meeting

Full Day Kindergarten Update and Pre-School Report Findings

- Beverly Shea- Pre-School Findings and Recommendations- In response to the Coordinated Review
- Sandra Brenman has extensive background in pre school education and helped Ms. Shea with best practices

- One recommendation would be: Consolidate pre-schools and bring them together at the Cedar School
- The programs would benefit from consistent leadership and coordination
- Question by Geary- about a cost pro or con- Response by Ms. Shea that the cost would be the same, maybe some long term savings
- Question by Marriner- Will there be a transitional issue going to kindergarten and splitting into different schools?
- Response by Ms. Brenman that there are tremendous positive benefits having preschool staff and students together –Also, most preschoolers come from a private schools into kindergarten so there would be a transition plan already in place
- On February 6th at Center School – there will be a forum for parents to come and discuss pre-school consolidation

Full Day Kindergarten Update

- About 250 people attended the forum
- 165 students could be enrolling in kindergarten
- 100 families responded to survey- 81 are interested in full day and 13 are interested in half day
- Tuition range is \$3500-4000 depending on enrollment
- Frequently asked questions are on each of the schools homepages
- Question by Phillips- is the curriculum different for full day verse half day?
Response by Ms. St. Ives that the curriculum is the same with additional time in each core subject area for full day for enrichment and intervention
- Question by Geary- why would a family choose half-day kindergarten and CASE program verse full day? Response by Ms. St. Ives that it's a families choice based on their needs and schedules

Report of Finance Department:

FY15 Budget: Report and Discussion on Expenses

- All non-personnel expenses
- Funding: FY15 \$448,000 shortfall in funding based on Circuit Breaker, Town Article & Operating Balance Funds

Salaries:

- Make up 85% of our total budget, with average increase of 5% with cost of living/step changes

Contracted Services:

- Make up 7-8% of our budget- increase of \$90,000 for Regular Ed Transportation and increase of \$140,000 for Special Ed
-Total Budget increase over FY14 is \$136,190.35
- Reduced other contracted services district wide

Equipment/Professional Development/Supplies:

- Tech equipment needs are being reduced
- Professional Development has been overall level funded for FY15
- Materials/Supplies/Textbooks- 10% over FY14 levels

Special Education Tuition:

- Vocational tuitions have been level funded for FY15
- Anticipating 4 additional students attending out of district for FY15
- 1 student moved out of district
- Total cost of new placements for FY15 is approximately \$280,000
- Sped Tuitions were increased at 2% over this current year FY15
- FY15 increase in SPED tuitions is expected to be \$238,333.31

- Each year, Contracted Services, Special Ed Tuition and Salaries increase
- Largest expense increases over time have primarily been salaries, tuitions, contracted services and materials
- Next year's level service funded salary increase is estimated at \$952,000.00
- Regular Ed Transportation- this year we anticipate spending \$772,274.82- this is a four tier bussing systems which is inefficient- overall capacity is 42%
- With consolidating schedules and looking at capacity- 76% capacity for High School & Middle School- this would allow for 4 high school buses with an expected ridership of 160 (78% capacity)- the cost for HS would be approximately \$300 per student
- At Elementary School level it would be 54% capacity
- The total cost of regular education transportation will be roughly \$90,000 higher than what we currently pay, but it will provide 160 HS students a chance to ride bus, consolidate schedules at levels and provide better opportunities for students and staff

Summary of Unified Scheduling Change

Elementary Advantage- Schedule would always be 8:30-2:50 (no rotating early/late school)

- Provides consistency throughout district
- Better alignment for after school programs
- Increase professional development
- More consistent/easier for families
- Provides optimal dismissal time for Cedar in conjunction with High School athletics

Middle School Advantages

- Hours would be 7:45 to 2:05
- Provides a safer school environment
- Improve overall efficiency and alignment of curriculum
- Provides for more unification (operates almost as 2 separate schools)
- Incorporate more effective peer mentoring/tutoring
- Consistency for students, teachers and families
- Challenges: introduction of all grade levels on school buses at same time; Campus operational issues (traffic patterns)
- Public Forums regarding Schedule Changes are as follows: Monday 1/27/14 from 6-7pm at MS and Tuesday 1/28/14 from 6-7pm at MS

Public Comments: None Presented.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8: 45p.m. by Geary. The motion was seconded by Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Andrea Holmes

1/23/14

Documents Used:

Minutes 1-15-14

Draft MOU between Hanover Police Dept & HPS

Pre-School Report Findings/Recommendations

FY15 Budget Expense Summary

Summary of Unified Scheduling Change