

Hanover School Committee Meeting Minutes
April 29, 2015
Hanover High School

Present: William Marriner, John Geary, Michael Phillips, Ruth Lynch and Kimberly Booker

Also Present: Matthew Ferron, Thomas Raab, Beverly Shea and Deb St. Ives

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

Public Comments: None presented

Approval of Minutes:

-Motion by Geary to approve the executive meeting minutes of February 4, 2015 as written. The motion was seconded by Phillips. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

-Motion by Geary to approve the executive meeting minutes of March 11, 2015 as written. The motion was seconded by Phillips. The motion carried by unanimous vote with an abstention by Marriner.

Motion by Phillips to approve the meeting minutes of April 8, 2015 as written. The motion was seconded by Lynch. The motion carried by a majority vote with an abstention by Geary.

Report of Superintendent

Updates and Events:

- College Pride day will be Friday, May 1, 2015
- Center/Sylvester Art Show is tonight for first and second graders, and third and fourth graders next week
- Staff Appreciation week is next week
- Senior Bingo with 3rd graders at Center/Sylvester is upcoming
- Cedar Performance of Mulan at High School May 15 & 16
- Senior Humanities gallery night at High School tomorrow night
- Diversity Club talent show on Friday night and a portion of proceeds will go towards charity
- Town Meeting is Monday night, May 4, 2015 and we need support from the community

Introduction of Middle School Principal

-Mr. Daniel Birolini is the new principal of Hanover Middle School

- He comes from Weymouth Middle School

- Deb St. Ives chaired the search committee and would like to thank the committee for their hard work

- The committee members include: Emily Baird, Carrie Bellerby, Joelle Casey, K.C Cowing, Steve Henderson, Shelly Ireland, Stephen Kapulka, Stephanie Murphy, Matthew Paquette, Gene Reiber and Pauline Ward

- K.C Cowing, Gene Rieber and Matthew Paquette spoke about the process and how it was a positive experience.

- Mr. Birolini spoke and he is excited and appreciates the opportunity to be here

- Comment by Ann Logan that as a parent she is happy to see how quickly a decision was made and how seamless the transition is going

Introduction of new HMS Special Education Administrator

- Bernard James MacNamara (B.J.)
- He comes from Randolph and was an assistant principal there
- He is happy to be here and work in a community where they value the whole child experience and fine arts
- Thank you to Stephanie Murphy for filling in and helping for this past year

Youth Health Survey

- Hanover was randomly selected by the State to participate in this survey
- This survey gathers baseline data from students regarding health issues
- This survey will be exclusively for 8th graders
- We see it as an opportunity to have baseline data to address the issues
- Will it be upsetting for students who do not participate in the risky behavior?
Students will not be required to participate if they don't feel comfortable. Parents will also have the survey available to them
- Data will come directly from State by the end of the summer
- Comment by Mr. Marriner that it may open up discussions at home between parents and students
- Comment by Ms. Lynch-What is the process for releasing the information gathered to the community? Response by Ms. Shea that they haven't figured that out but they are open to suggestions.
- Comment by Ms. Lynch that she is surprised that the state didn't reference sexual activity in this document but it is heavy reference to drugs.
- Question by Phillips- Fact data sheet says that the results will not be reported at the district, school, class level, but the State will share the specific data to the district? Response by Ms. Shea that when releasing data it will show state wide results but the specific district information will be sent to Hanover
- Question by Mr. Marriner- how will we follow this data as trends change? Response by Ms. Shea that we could create our own survey but since it's the first survey, we would like the guidance of the State
- Question by Mr. Marriner what will the state gain from this data? Response by Ms. Shea that the state is trying to determine if the health curriculum is effective enough and are the right areas being targeted. Have the funds available been targeted to the right critical areas of need?
- Comment Jade Piccard- do families know that they can opt out of the survey? How far in advance would we get the notice? Response by Ms. Shea that the families will receive a letter in the month of May and the survey will take place in June
- Question by Ms. Booker- Since the survey is anonymous, if any special ed students need help how will that be handled? Response by Mr. Colantouni that they haven't figured that out yet but will make sure it's handled properly.
- Motion by Geary to approve and move forward with the Youth Health Survey for the Hanover Middle School 8th grade students. The motion was seconded by Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Review Superintendent Evaluation Process

- Working on 2 meeting dates for the summer which will include a final evaluation of the superintendent
- The individual evaluation documents from each school committee member will be filled out and compiled and discussed at a summer meeting
- This will help with updated goals for next school year

- Comment by Ms. Lynch that since the school committee election is soon and some members may not return- how do we get their input into the evaluation? She would like the 2 members who are up for reelection to submit their evaluations by the election date and have the most senior member of the committee (Mr. Phillips) hold the documents until the superintendent finishes his evaluation and include them
- She would like 2 votes- one vote to change the timetable so that the evaluations in the future would be done prior to the school committee election. The other vote should be to address the immediate concern for this year and to allow evaluations to be submitted from the 2 possible leaving members
- Comment by Ms. Booker that she is concerned that the new members voices wouldn't be heard and they are elected by the public, so they should be voicing their opinions and given equal weight as well
- Comment by Mr. Ferron that he is fine doing the work to push the evaluation process forward
- Comment by Mr. Geary that he serves on the board for NRC and first year members are given the chance to opt out of the evaluation of executive director for that reason- just as a reference point
- Motion by Geary to realign the summary evaluation dates to be no later than the last date in April. The motion was seconded by Phillips. The motion failed with neigh votes.
- Motion by Geary to realign superintendent summary evaluation to be presented 2 meetings prior to annual town elections. The motion was seconded by Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Geary for during school year FY15, to allow the potentially departing members of the school committee to write summative reviews of superintendent to be held by senior school committee member with the intent that the documents will be given equal weight as the current members in superintendent final evaluation for this fiscal year only. The motion was not seconded.
- Motion by Geary for the Superintendent Evaluation for FY15 that the departing members and members seeking reelection shall submit evaluations to most senior member of the school committee to be included in the end of year evaluation with equal weight to be included in the final evaluation document. The motion was seconded by Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Finance Department

Donations

-Total amount of donations for this week is \$2,350.00. Motion by Geary to accept the donations totaling \$2,350.00 as listed. The motion was seconded by Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

-Total amount raised for Middle School Washington DC field trip is \$7,500.00 and will help to reduce the amount for each student attending

HMS Brick Fundraiser

- PTA fundraiser that focuses on school beautification and the revenue would be used for technology initiatives

- PTA would sponsor a fundraiser called the Commerative Brick Program providing functionality and curbside appeal at the front entrance way and provide revenue for technology

- This would be a five-year initiative and align with Vision 2020

- Comment by Mr. Marriner that he thinks the projected revenue figure is off and to just look at it and reconfigure it
 - Comment by Ms. Lynch that she thinks it's a great idea but she doesn't understand how this ties to technology. We didn't hear that the middle school was lacking in technology funds at the budget meeting.
 - Comment by Mr. Marriner that this is a PTA fundraiser and they can earmark the funds to be used to enhance the school as they determine. We would just need to accept the donation.
- Motion by Geary to approve the HMS Brick program as detailed in the document provided this evening. The motion was seconded by Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Report on Teaching and Learning

Vision 2020 Update

- Started aggressively putting together bids for technology that we need so if the funding is approved, we are ready to go
- Started working with Pearson on potential materials needed
- Held parent forums at each elementary school and middle school- approximately 100 parents came and teachers volunteered their time
- Next step is town meeting on Monday
- Question by Ms. Booker- were any concerns voiced by the parents? Response by Ms. St. Ives that parent feedback was extremely positive and supporting

Action Items:

VOX Ireland Field Trip (Mr. Schnelle)

- This will be the May 12-May 18, 2016 (this is so no AP exams will be missed)
- There will be 12-14 singers in HHS VOX chorus and 8 chaperones; 20 people total
- Concern by Ms. Lynch that there may be too many parental chaperones and to consider how that would change the dynamic of the group
- Comment by Mr. Marriner that he echoes Ms. Lynch concern about too many chaperones
- This is a 5 day concert tour of the west of Ireland that includes performances at area historic sites
- This is a valuable learning experience outside of the classroom and it will help to bond the group together
- The tour is organized through Music Contact International and will have a tour manager throughout the whole trip
- To help students afford this trip, there are fundraising initiatives
- \$3000 is the cost of the trip which includes airfare and everything while the students are there
- Concern by Ms. Lynch about having children miss days of school at that time of year and would be more comfortable if they could go during a vacation week
- Question by Mr. Geary- is there a VOX event everyday? Response by Mr. Schnelle that they either sing or participate in a workshop each day
- Motion by Geary to tentatively approve the VOX field trip to Ireland pending a follow up report on the chaperones. The motion was seconded by Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

2014-2015 Last Day of School Vote

- Motion by Geary to vote that Friday June 26, 2015 is the last day of school for Hanover School District and it will be a half-day. The Motion was seconded by Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments: None presented.

Motion by Geary to exit general session at 9:30 and enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations of non-union personnel with the intent to not return to general session. The motion was seconded by Phillips.

Roll Call Vote: William Marriner- yes, John Geary- yes, Mike Phillips-yes, Ruth Lynch- yes, Kimberly Booker- yes

Respectfully Submitted

Andrea Holmes

Documents Used:

Minutes 2/4/15 (executive)

Minutes 3/11/15 (executive)

Minutes 4/8/15 (open)

Youth Health Survey Documents

Donations 4/29/15

HMS Brick Fundraiser Summary

VOX Ireland Field Trip Request