

Hanover School Committee Meeting Minutes
February 25, 2015
Hanover High School

Present: William Marriner, Michael Phillips, and Kimberly Booker

Also Present: Thomas Raab, Deb St. Ives, Beverly Shea, Michael Oates, Stephanie Murphy, and Brian Cicollo

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 meeting minutes of February 4, 2015 as written. The motion was seconded by Booker. The motion carried unanimously.

- The executive minutes were tabled until Superintendent Ferron is present at the next meeting

Report of Superintendent (Deb St. Ives):

Updates and Events:

- Thank you all departments for all their hard work for snow removal and having schools ready to go after vacation
- All schools are participating in read across America
- FACE Office will be producing the Wizard of Oz March 6 & 7
- Science Fair at Sylvester for Grades 1-4 next week
- Middle School- 5th grade DARE graduation will be postponed and a new date will be provided
- School wide Spelling Bee at the Middle School tomorrow
- Kindergarten Enrollment Numbers for next year- 95 students have registered at Center and 66 students have registered at Cedar
- 56 students have requested full day at Center
- 45 students have requested full day at Cedar
- Comment by Ms. Booker that she would like to discuss having full day kindergarten for all Hanover students
- Comment by Ms. St. Ives that currently we plan to follow the lottery process for the full day kindergarten

Finance Department

Donations

- Total \$1,800.00 for this meeting
- Motion by Phillips to approve the donations as listed in the amount of \$1,800.00. The motion was seconded by Booker. The motion carried unanimously.

Fy16 Budget 3.0 Summary

- On February 4, Town Manager presented the proposed FY16 school budget in the amount of \$24,920,443.00, which presents an 3.4% increase from FY15
- Version 3.0 includes \$21,325,755.94 in salaries and \$4,494,687.06 which totals \$25,820,443.00

- Proposed budget 3.0 aligns with the town managers budget
- The difference between the FY15 budget and the Proposed FY16 budget 3.0 is now \$827,864.00
- Level Service would be maintained even with a \$35,000 decrease in salaries to meet town Managers budget

Report on Teaching & Learning:

PARCC Overview (Deb St. Ives, Beverly Shea, Michael Oates & Stephanie Murphy)

- Each principal will send out a testing schedule specific to their school
- PARCC testing will allow accommodations for students with IEPs
- It may allow for extended time for testing as one accommodation
- It also allows for graphic organizers as an accommodation
- There are some opportunities from PARCC that were not in MCAS- tests can be monitored by adults and directions could be clarified
- PARCC is accessible to all students and there are many accessibility features that we consider to be accommodations on MCAS
- PARCC is still a field test and Mass will determine if PARCC will replace MCAS
- The results will be official and students will receive performance results that indicate strengths and weaknesses
- Comment by Mr. Marriner- how open is the contact at DESE to discussing students with disabilities and the accommodations they receive? Response by Mr. Oates that thus far he has been very responsive and open and has encouraged us to share this information and get feedback from parents
- Comment by Mr. Phillips- So some students will be taking PARCC and MCAS? Response by Ms. St. Ives that they won't be tested for the same subject areas under PARCC and MCAS
- MCAS is still a graduation requirement for current 8th graders
- The state requires an assessment for all students from the 3rd-10th grades- as of now, PARCC is an acceptable assessment as well as MCAS
- We are just trying to support our students in taking the exams but there are a lot of challenges to overcome
- Comment by Mr. Marriner- what if the curriculum/program we chose doesn't align to the assessment? Response by Ms. St. Ives- you never pick a program/curriculum based on an assessment. You look at the standards and skills needed to get there.
- Comment by Mr. Marriner that he is frustrated by the lack of accommodations that are given to the students with IEPs and that he feels their federally mandated rights are being ignored in the testing process
- Comment by Ms. Booker- since the introduction of PARCC, many states have dropped out. Do you know why? Response by Mr. Oates that 12 states are participating and he's not sure why some have dropped out.
- Comment by Ms. Booker- so have all IEPs been amended? Response by Ms. Shea that all students with a scheduled IEP meeting before the tests, their IEP will be amended. All other students will have a letter sent home, requesting that the parents sign the amendment or they can request a meeting to discuss it

Vision 2020 Amended Technology Strategy (Brian Cicollo)

- The goal is to equip K-9 classrooms with high quality projectors
- In January 2014, the Epson Brightlink interactive projector was proposed
- An alternative solution is the Epson Powerlite 525W wall mounted projector at \$1,500.00 per unit and include an ipad

- The ipad is: Apple ipad Air 2 which is \$616 per unit which includes warranty and case
- Ipads would allow students to work from their seats
- This solution would put us in a better position if we move to a 1-1 mobile device for each student
- Preferred methodology of teachers is to use the ipad as an interactive board
- Question by Mr. Marriner- What is the learning curve to teachers using this?
Response by Ms. Perry that most teachers have mobile devices and a little training is needed to get started. But teachers should be comfortable to use them after a few hours.
- Question by Mr. Marriner- is there a net savings for this alternative? Response by Mr. Cicollo that there is a cost savings of about 15%
- Question by Mr. Marriner- How will the projectors be mounted? Response by Mr. Cicollo that they will be wall mounted projectors similar to what is used at the high school
- Question by Mr. Marriner- will the PD be Internal? Response by Ms. St. Ives that PD will be internal and embedded so teachers will feel comfortable using it
- Question by Mr. Phillips- there would be a cost to upgrade and replace ipads in the future? Response by Mr. Cicollo that there are options to lease with Apple and that may be a more predictable way to budget the expense

Action Items:

HHS Rugby Club (Hugh Galligan)

- Beginning in the Spring 2015
- It will be a self funded club, it can be a budget neutral item for this year
- Budget projections are based on 22 players and total \$7,582 (which included travel, coaching, league membership, uniforms, equipment)
- Standard user fee would be applied for \$270 and \$40 league fee for each student would equal \$6, 820 and a private donation has been secured in the amount of \$800
- HHS would be participating in the MYRO Emerging Schools Conference
- Emphasis is on safety and proper safety training since it is a full contact sport
- Question by Ms. Booker- are there any other sports that have league fees? Response by Dr. Raab that there are other non-funded sports that do pay more than the user fee
- Comment by Mr. Marriner – since it is a new sport, I am hopeful that we can maintain safety and proper technique
- Motion by Phillips to approve the establishment of the Hanover High School Rugby Club Team. The motion was seconded by Booker. The motion carried unanimously.

HHS French Exchange Program (Mr. Paquette & Ms. Dhommee)

- Parus and La Roche Sur Yon, France
- April 11-24, 2016 (includes April vacation)
- 23 American students and their chaperones can attend
- Host French students in October at HHS for 2 weeks
- Price would be \$2,800-\$3,000 per student for the full 4 weeks
- Benefits of an exchange program are cultural and educational (language acquisition through practical emersion)
- There are also personal benefits- self confidence and self esteem enhanced, development of life long friendship, independence developed and great on college application

- Academic Requirements- study units will be due on the return flight home, journal entries and vocabulary notebooks, projects to present after their return and meeting prior to and after the trip
- All HHS rules apply while in France
- Fundraising events will be organized to reduce the costs of the field trips on the American side
- Comment by Ms. Booker- is the year commitment the company's policy? Response by Ms. Dhommee is the year more for the families to be sure and commit to hosting a student
- Comment by Mr. Marriner- if a host family backs out, what happens? Response by Ms. Dhommee that she does not think it will be difficult to find a host family or a back up
- Question by Mr. Phillips- what if you receive more interest than spots? Response by Mr. Paquette that it would be first come first serve, but the most we can have is 23 students
- Motion by Phillips to approve the French exchange program with Le Lycee Saint Francois d' Assise for October 2015 and April 2016. The motion was seconded by Booker. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments:

- Ann Logan- question about PARCC- do we have a list of states that are still participating? Response that we do have a list and it is accessible on the internet.

Motion by Phillips to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 pm. The motion was seconded by Booker. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Andrea Holmes

Documents Used:

Minutes 2-4-15 (open)
 Donations 2-25-15
 FY16 Budget Update 3.0
 Summary of FY16 Proposed Budget 3.0
 Detail of Changes from Budget 1.0 to Budget 3.0
 PARCC FAQ
 PARCC/MCAS Schedule
 Vision 2020 Amended technology strategy
 HHS Rugby Club
 HHS French Exchange Program