

Hanover School Committee Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2017
Hanover High School

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

Absent: Mrs. Ruth Lynch

Also Present: Matthew Ferron, Joan Woodward, Thomas Raab, Debbie St. Ives, Matthew Paquette, Hugh Galligan

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairperson Geary.

Recognition of the High School Varsity Football Team:

- Mr. Hutchison recognized the seniors and captains of the Hanover High School Varsity Football team for winning the Division 3 State Championship. After a presentation given by Mr. Hutchison, Mr. Ferron and Mr. Paquette presented the team with a Hanover Team Banner.

Public Comment:

- Sue Scanlon commended Mr. Hutchison's community wide communication. He has generated great community spirit and all of the numerous accomplishments in the school district.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Booker to approve the minutes for January 4, 2017 as presented. The motion seconded by Corbo. The vote carried unanimously.

Report of the Superintendent Events and Updates:

- Business Manager Contract Renewal - Mr. Ferron requested a three year contract extension for Dr. Raab. Upon accolades for his work to date, he would like the Committee to recognize him and extend his contract through June 30, 2020.

Motion by Booker to approve and extend Dr. Tom Raab's contract for three years beginning July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020, allowing Mr. Ferron to have the authorization to finalize the details of the contract. Motion second by Corbo. Mrs. Corbo commented and commended Dr. Raab. She stated that what he has accomplished has been nothing short of amazing with the hard work he has put in. He is willing to do anything, and participates whenever he is needed. He has stepped up to plate on Sub Committees on more than one occasion, and is currently on the Color Committee for the Center/Sylvester Project. There is nothing he will not do and she is in full support for another three years and hopefully three years beyond that. The vote carried unanimously.

- For the Committee's review, within their packets was information pertaining to a proposed increase in lunch prices for FY18. There has been no rate increase in three years. Dr. Raab and Lynn Petrowski will be available at the next meeting to answer any questions the Committee may have.
- Kindergarten registration began today and will continue tomorrow between 9:00am -11:00am.
- NASDAC reports (New England School Development Corporation) were released. Based on the information supplied, they have ascertained that the average of 2600-2800 students districtwide will continue based on figures and statistics reviewed.

- Next meeting a draft of 2017-2018 school calendar will be presented. Based on the Labor Day holiday, and the language of the HTA contract, the school start date has not been established. Mr. Ferron met with Mr. Mahoney and Mr. Hopkins regarding their options. Mrs. Booker requested that school inclusion week have a firm date on the district calendar.
- Mr. Ferron has been approached by Mr. Galluzzo regarding a potential event before the end of the year, in hopes to have a celebration at Sylvester School with past graduates, students and families. It sounds like a great opportunity to celebrate Sylvester School. More information to follow.
- Special Education Subcommittee - Meetings will be held the first Wednesday of the month at 10:00am at Salmond School. All meetings will be posted. Mrs. Booker thanked Mr. Ferron for the collaboration and help in coordinating this Subcommittee.
- Upcoming Fundraiser for Friends of Hanover Music - "Get on Your Feet". Please contact Nancy Clinton for more information.
- This Friday, January 20th at 7:00pm is the Hanover Middle School Winter Jam.
- North River Collaborative Annual Report - The Committee has received and reviewed the North River Collaborative and have no questions at this time.
- Center School Building Project Update - Today was the Pre-Qualification Subcommittee meeting where they reviewed guidelines and requirements for bidders. Applications will be due within the next month. The Subcommittee for Colors has met. They are now looking at tiles, carpet, color patterns and schemes.

Report of the Finance Department Presented by Dr. Raab:

- Donations received from the following companies - Hanover PTA to Cedar School and Mrs. Jennifer Curtis earned a \$500.00 mini grant for a total of \$905.00 in donations.

Motion by Booker to approve \$905.00 for today's date of January 18, 2017 as presented this evening. The motion seconded by Corbo. The vote carried unanimously.

- Proposed Preschool Peer Tuition Rate Increase - Last time the tuition was raised was 2011-2012. The proposed increase is to \$1750.00 annually, which is an increase of \$25.00 per month. This includes 4 days per week at 2.5 hours per day. The recommended increase would allow them to keep up with expenses and keep curriculum current and staff. Mr. Barrett presented comparisons with local preschools and associated costs.

Motion by Booker to approve the increase in the Preschool Peer Tuition FY18 to the amount of \$1750.00. The motion was seconded by Corbo. The vote carried unanimously.

- FY 18 Budget 1.0 Presentation - Mr. Ferron introduced the presentation. He hopes by March 8th they will have the budget public presentation. Mr. Ferron reviewed the variables that impact the budget development. They will be going to the Advisory Committee Monday night. He feels this is a solid level service budget being presented. They have the support from Town Manager Clarkson on the Articles they believe will be supported. The budget is based on a tax levy of 2.5%. Dr. Raab continued the presentation by reviewing the FY17 spending breakdown. He continued on with his power point presentation as shown in Appendix C. He will also be applying for extraordinary relief aide on February 1, 2017. The Advisory Board is well informed about where they are and the plans to date. There will be no increase in regular education transportation or athletics transportation for next year. To meet obligations with the

State, a second ELL teacher has been added for next year and eliminated the aide salary previously included.

- Mr. Hartigan began by reviewing the Technology proposed budget. With the \$103,000.00 Article, he will be looking to replace IMacs and MacBooks with Chromebooks for cost savings. There is continued work on increasing Wifi. This year the biggest expense is the server upgrade. There was question and conversation about the school server replacements as well as the Wifi issues at the Middle School. Mr. Hartigan explained that Wifi issue at the Middle School was fixed over Christmas vacation. A three to five year plan was reviewed by Mr. Hartigan. He is looking to consolidate town and school email as well as web hosting. In addition, he is hoping to install town wide fiber optic network, update and upgrade of equipment, update internal network equipment at the High School, as well as eliminate outside consultation from town departments.
- Dr. Raab concluded the 1.0 Budget Summary. The budget includes a 3.49% budget increase. Mr. Geary highlighted the fact that \$1,400,000.00 is in grants and revolving and how important that is to receive these funds. Mrs. Corbo asked if there would be a need for additional buses next year, in which Dr. Raab said that at this point he has not been given any information that additional buses would be needed for next year.

Report on Teaching and Learning:

- High School Later Start Time Update - Mr. Paquette thanked, on behalf of the High School, the Committee for supporting the later start times. He and Mr. Galligan spoke regarding the change in start times. There is zero traffic issues since the later start time. Two of the biggest observations are teachers showing up a bit earlier to prepare and get ready for the day as well as students taking the time to talk to teachers, catch up and develop relationships. Mr. Galligan continued with a review of charts provided in Appendix D. There was discussion among the School Committee members as to whether or not the change and comparisons are relative to the later start time, and whether or not another change may take place in the future to an even later time. Mr. Ferron inputted that they have not received any complaints and they are happy the way things have gone to date.

Action Items:

- Disposal of Obsolete Equipment presented and shown in Appendix E - Dr. Raab explained that Mr. Hartigan has done a great job of maintaining electrical equipment; however, there is equipment that is no longer functioning or able to be utilized and would like approval to dispose this equipment. They may be able to responsibly recycle the equipment at a minimal amount of 5.00 per unit. Further inquiry will continue regarding this option.

Motion by Booker to approve the Obsolete Equipment as presented this evening. The motion was seconded by Corbo. The vote carried unanimously.

Public Comment: None presented.

The next School Committee meeting is set for February 1, 2017 at the High School. Expected Agenda items include Q2 Revolving Account Update, Food Services Equipment Update, Lunch Price Increase Proposal 2017-2018, 2017-2018 District Calendar 1.0, FY 2018 Budget 2.0 Preview. Mr. Geary also reminded everyone that Dr. Raab will present at the Advisory Board on Monday.

Motion by Booker to adjourn at 8:38pm. The motion was seconded by Corbo. The vote carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Lisa V. Keefe

Documents Used:

Donations :

Preschool Tuition Rate:

FY2018 Budget 1.0 Presentation:

High School Later Start Time Update:

Disposal of Obsolete Equipment:

Appendix A

Appendix B

Appendix C

Appendix D

Appendix E