

Hanover School Committee Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2018
Hanover High School

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

Also Present: Matthew Ferron, Thomas Raab, Debbie St. Ives, Joan Woodward and Robert Murray.

Called to order: Mr. Geary called to order at 6:30pm in order to enter Executive Session. The item to discuss will be the Hanover Teachers Association Collective Bargaining discussion. Roll Call: Kim Booker- Aye, Libby Corbo- Aye, Leah Miller- Aye, and John Geary- Aye.

Return from Executive Session

Return Call to Order: General Session was called to order at 7:04 pm by Chairperson Geary.

Public Comment: Marjorie Morrison addressed the Committee to state her concern of the fact that she had not received a response from an email sent to Mr. Ferron, the School Committee as well as Chief Sweeney regarding the recent social media threats. Mr. Geary addressed Ms. Morrison and stated that the incident is a criminal investigation and nothing further can be spoken regarding the situation.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Booker to approve the meeting minutes for January 24, 2018 as presented. The motion was seconded by Corbo. The vote carried unanimously.

Report of the Superintendent: Presented by Matthew Ferron

- **Events and Updates-** Mr. Ferron addressed the Committee and public in response to Ms. Morrison's statement. He was sorry that she left immediately following Mr. Geary's discussion with her. He would have liked to address the fact that she had not received a response to her email. He further stated that Mr. Paquette, or his office will reach out to her to address the fact she had not received a response to her email. Mr. Ferron continued on to speak about social media possible "threats", or troubling and disturbing posts. Mr. Paquette and Mr. Ferron have been working on a communication that will be sent to the school community regarding threat assessment and the procedure(s) that are taken. The district is still grieving about what happened in Parkland FL, and "A true motivation by students to take action has resulted". Multiple movements are being planned. There is a national Walk Out movement March 14th. The district is supporting the students, and will continue to ensure the safety and security of the schools. They will be careful to balance their support, but assured everyone they are not promoting political positions, however, will support the student voice. Mr. Ferron assured the Committee that they continue to work on the security and safety of all the children, which could result in the possibility for additional security options.
- Next Wednesday night, Mr. Ferron is excited and pleased to announce that Dr. Michael Rich, *the Mediatriton* will be at Hanover High School at 7:00pm. He is a doctor at Mass General Hospital. He will be discussing media use in children of all ages. He is considered a national leader in the impact of media on children. This event is financially sponsored in part with the HPTA.

- The *Be Better Club* has taken off amongst all the schools and everyone is very excited about this program. The group will be participating in the Bruins Pajama Drive. People are asked to drop pajamas off at any of the schools now through March 15th.
- This Saturday the High School will host the Massachusetts Educational Theater Guild Festival. The festival will be held all day, with eight different high schools being represented. This is the first level of the competition. Festival opens at 9:00 am and tickets are \$10.00 per person. Dress rehearsal is tomorrow night at 7:00pm.
- The High School has had some exceptional winter sports achievements this year. The Boys Basketball team is playing tonight. Hockey coach and Hanover Police Officer John Abban recorded his 100th win on January 27th against Coyle & Cassidy. Connor Morris scored his 100th point on January 13th and Zach Taylor scored his 100th career point on January 27th. The hockey team is the #1 seed and will be playing Friday night in Bourne at the Gallo Arena. Matt Delahunt also scored his 1000th point in basketball.
- Mr. Ferron handed out a timeline for the Superintendent evaluation. They are trying to get all the various steps completed prior to the Town Meeting. Mr. Geary has work obligations and must travel outside of the county, which will affect two meetings, therefore had asked Mr. Ferron to work on this schedule. This may result in a meeting on an off night to maintain the timeline, which is May 2nd. Discussion will continue over the next few weeks to establish concrete dates.

Facilities Update- Presented by Robert Murray, Facilities Manager for the Town. Mr. Ferron thanked Mr. Murray for being here and updating the Committee on his department and the projects the department is working on. Mr. Murray began with a preliminary overview of the Facilities Department as shown in Appendix A. The presentation continued to review the staff and the level and quality of experience within the staff. This experience allows a lot of work and projects to be accomplished in house as opposed to hiring outside contractors. Projects were highlighted, such as sound panels at Sylvester School, as well as the Middle School Baseball Infield. High School Improvements were reviewed which included lighting at the concession building, planting of Dogwoods and landscaping areas. The new press box and turf field maintenance, as well as some additional improvements, which included LED lighting at the Middle School. Capital Improvements included Cedar School Kitchen walk in freezer renovation, the kitchen serving line at the Middle School as well as auditorium storage room at the high school. A review of future plans was also outlined. At the conclusion of the presentation, Mr. Geary thanked Mr. Murray. He inquired as to whether or not a Town Article would be needed regarding the tennis courts and turf field, when it is time for replacement. Mr. Murray confirmed that these projects will, in fact, require a Capital Proposal. Mr. Geary suggested Mr. Murray speak with Dr. Raab to begin conversation surrounding these upcoming projects. He also commended the custodial staff that work in the schools. There was further discussion surrounding the work ticket system and the priority system associated with it. Mr. Geary continued to speak about first impressions of the properties, and the facilities department. He feels that calendar events should be shared with the facilities departments, which would allow the department to know what items need to be done prior to events. Libby Corbo confirmed that in order to ensure air quality at the Center School building project, there are air filters and pressurized airflows that have been installed throughout the project. This is currently the contractors' responsibility until completion. Kim Booker questioned how the Clorox total 360 worked and how long it takes to dry. Mr. Murray was unsure, but agreed to find the answer and will get the correct information to the Committee. There was also some question surrounding a previous fire alarm occurrence at Center School. Jane DeGrenier confirmed this was due to electrical work being done by a contractor and fire watch was on site as precaution. All members thanked Mr.

Murray for the presentation. Leah Miller commended the Appendix C document that was included in the presentation. She felt as though it is extremely helpful information.

2018-2019 District Calendar Draft 1.0- Mr. Ferron presented the 1.0 calendar with a review of the start dates as well as the Professional Development days planned. The Town Clerk has requested that due to voting, November 6th be a Professional Development day, therefore it was changed from this year's January's P.D. day. Mr. Ferron would like to vote on this calendar by next meeting if possible.

Center School Building Project Update presented Mrs. Corbo- The color is on the walls. The flooring will be going in soon. The pace has exceeded her expectations. In a few weeks there will be a video walk through so the public can see the progress. They had the furniture expo where the teachers were able to test out and rate all types of equipment and furniture. Mrs. Corbo thanked the Sunshine Committee for making cards and supplying coffee and donuts to the construction company. Everything is going well and on schedule. Mr. Geary commended Mrs. Corbo and Mr. Palotta on the work being done and the communication surrounding the project.

Special Education Subcommittee Update- The last meeting was February 7th. It was a very productive meeting. They looked at goals of committee. And will try to execute and prepare action plans for the goals. The goals included survey planning, animal therapy and how they would like this to be offered on a consistent basis, multi-sensory reading, flexible furniture and American Sign Language to be offered as a class as a Foreign Language requirement. The next meeting is March 7th at 11:00am at Salmond School. Libby Corbo thanked Mrs. Booker for all of the work she has put into this Subcommittee. Mrs. Booker also thanked Rachael for taking the minutes of the last meeting. Discussion continued surrounding animal therapy, the benefits and possible disadvantages, if any. Joan Woodward also spoke about the concern that surrounded around and identify all aspects.

Report of Finance Department Presented by Dr. Raab:

- **Donations** - Donations received from the Hanover PTA and Alliance Energy totaling \$4,300.00.

Motion by Booker to accept \$4,300.00 as presented this evening. The motion was seconded by Corbo. The motion carried unanimously.

- **FY'19 Budget 2.0 Update-** Dr. Raab reviewed the presentation as outlined in Appendix D. The overview of changes were reviewed. There have been some changes in enrollment at Cedar School. Due to these changes there is a need for a .5 kindergarten teacher as well as a .5 paraprofessional. The revenue will offset the cost. Dr. Raab also reviewed the Special Education changes to the Committee. Based on these changes, there will be a need for an additional .5 Pre-K staffing. All changes stayed consistent with the \$825,000 increase previous outlined in Budget 1.0. Dr. Raab also reviewed the VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) telephone system budget request. After reviewing all obligations, additional funds would be required. Dr. Raab spoke with Mr. Marino regarding the consolidated Technology Department's needs, and the Town included an additional \$92,731.00 to this line.

Mr. Ferron updated the School Committee regarding the Circuit Breaker funds. At this time there will be no increased funding for Circuit Breaker. They do not expect a significant increase in funds as previously anticipated. He will continue to advocate for these additional funds.

- **Q2 Revolving Account Update-** Dr. Raab reviewed the Revolving Account update as shown in Appendix E. The Face program continues to be operating strong. The program looks like it will end the year with the typical \$50,000 - \$70,000 to work towards funding the beginning of next school year. Face Hanover Cultural Council is a reimbursement grant, which is the reason it is showing negative. Funds are available in a non-existent program which will be transferred to potentially help families that cannot afford the programs. Mrs. Corbo asked if the funds could go towards helping students that cannot afford to take the Washington DC trip. Dr. Raab will speak with Mr. Birolini regarding this option.
- **Transportation Bid Update-** Bids were received at bid opening. Dr. Raab has reviewed these bids closely. At this point he has set aside both bids received. He could not use the bids for different reasons, which were explained to the Committee. Dr. Raab has reached out to other districts to see their bid specs to see how the specifications were written. He did not receive bids on the options specified surrounding school time changes. A decision on start times would help in the specifications for bids. The Committee has two options; re-bid immediately with new specs or accept the FY'19 4th year option already budgeted and allow ample time to prepare new bid specs and resubmit the bid. Mr. Geary stated at the next meeting the Committee will need to vote to decide whether or not to accept the FY'19 bid option. This would allow ample time to make decision on school time changes. There was question as to why there was a multi-year bid. Dr. Raab stated industry standard is five years.

Report on Teaching and Learning: No report at this time

Action Items: Vote on Elementary District-wide Configuration Date - Mr. Ferron reviewed the need for a vote for the configuration of the elementary schools. The initial vote was approved to be implemented by 2018-2019 school year. Now that there is project completion date of September 2019, it requires a new vote with an implementation date of the 2019-2020 school year.

Motion by Booker to support the educational vision of an Elementary District Wide Option anticipated to be implemented for the 2019-2020 school year. Motion seconded by Corbo. The vote carried unanimously.

Public Comment: None presented

The next School Committee Meeting will be March 14, 2018 at Hanover High School: Items currently on the Agenda are: Vote to Approve the 2018-2019 District Calendar, Public Hearing on the FY'19 Budget, Vote to Approve the FY '19 Budget, Superintendent Evaluation Timeline Review.

Motion by Booker to adjourn at 8:50pm. The motion was seconded by Corbo. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Lisa V. Keefe

Documents Used:

Facilities Update

Appendix A

2018-2019 District Calendar Draft 1.0
Donations
FY'19 Budget 2.0 Update
Q2 Revolving Account Update

Appendix B
Appendix C
Appendix D
Appendix E