

Hanover School Committee Meeting Minutes  
June 11, 2014  
Hanover High School

**Present:** William Marriner, Michael Phillips, Ruth Lynch, Kimberly Booker

**Also Present:** Matthew Ferron, Deb St. Ives, Beverly Shea, Tom Raab

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by 6:30 pm by Chairman Marriner.

2014 Student Awards Ceremony was held.

Recess from 7:00 to 7:20

**Public Comments:** None presented.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Phillips to approve the minutes of May 21, 2014 as written. The motion was seconded by Lynch. The motion carried unanimously.

**Report of Superintendent:**

District Events and Updates

- PAC awards (nominated by parents) were presented to teachers, secretaries, cafeteria staff, bus drivers etc.
- There were about 120 PAC awards given out district wide
- Center School on Friday at 1:30- Massachusetts Secretary of Education will be visiting
- Event on Thursday at Cedar to meet Mr. Oates the new Cedar principal

Upcoming School Committee Meetings

- August 27<sup>th</sup> would be a good date for a meeting and it will be posted
- August 13<sup>th</sup> is definitely not a good date
- August 6<sup>th</sup> may be a possibility- Mr. Ferron will get back to us

Wellness Committee Update

- Ms. Shea introduced the members of the committee as follows: Kelly Lawrence-Director of Family and Community Engagement, Lynn Petrowski-Food Services Director, Maura Dowling-School Nurse-Cedar, Sue Egan-High School Guidance Director/School Psychologist, Shelly Ireland-Middle School Wellness Teacher, Carol Krall-School Nurse -Center/Sylvester, Patricia Smith-Coordinator of Health Services

- Stress management and mental health issues were the theme for this year
- Education initiative at MGH to help manage stress and anxiety
- BMI- no longer required to send BMI to family- now towns can elect to make their own policy regarding this
- Nurse can use discretion to send a letter to family regarding her finding of BMI and should follow up with physician
- Also there are privacy issues regarding this- would like the policy to state that the BMI information would only be shared with family unless family stated it could be shared to other parties
- School Nutrition – Food is really good and nutritious – we would like to continue to feed students and interact with parents

- Student Interns coming in the fall to do nutrition education and help out with different programs
- Menu analysis is provided to show that we are meeting the guideline for .06 cents reimbursement for healthy lunches
- Mental health issues and addiction are on the forefront of Hanover and other towns on the south shore
- At the high school- the issues that are most relevant for this year are: suicide prevention and depression, stress reduction, cyber bullying, self esteem, driving safety and diversity
- Wellness for Staff- Stress reduction class was provided for Staff, CPR certification, Walking group and fitness center are available for teachers and staff
- Center wellness initiatives- Kindergarten social thinking curriculum, Fire Safety, Jump rope for Heart Association, Dentist visit/Good oral hygiene, Children's Melanoma Prevention, Running Group at Sylvester, Blackout Bullying, Homerun Derby, Counseling with school psychologist
- Hanover Middle School – wellness curriculum includes health and physical education- all of the students do the same fitness testing and learn the same sports- the students learn health issues such as sun safety, anti smoking, body systems, relationships with others and self esteem
- Cedar School- dentist visits, fire safety, collect money for lymphoma society, blackout bullying, fitness ready tests, turnoff media challenge, grade level meetings regarding germs/food allergies
- FACE office- after school programs are offered that support health and wellness- physical activity program such as sports club or running clubs are available. Also classes such as cooking are available which show students how to make healthy choices in eating and food preparation. FACE staff has training such as CPR and continuing education programs are offered such as allergy awareness.
- Question by Ms. Lynch- do parents have the option to opt out of the BMI screening? Response by Ms. Smith that parents are notified in writing that BMI will be performed and the parent can opt out by notifying the school nurse
- How do you allow for individual privacy? Response by Ms. Smith that screening is done privately and no one can see child. A letter is sent home with the results and none are done aloud.

### **Report of Finance Department:**

#### **Donations**

Motion by Phillips to approve the Donations totaling \$4,617.22 as listed. The motion was seconded by Lynch. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Report on Teaching & Learning:**

#### **MCAS vs. PARCC District Plan**

- Team decision to move to PARCC for next year
- Given the move by the Commonwealth to Next generation assessment- the PARCC assessment aligns with common core
- MCAS is still required for grades 5, 8 and high school for MCAS Science and Technology/Engineering
- Question by Ms. Booker- how did you determine that the PARCC assessment is more rigorous? Response by Ms. St. Ives that the PARCC assessment is more aligned to common core and thinking critically

- Comment by Ms. Lynch that it makes sense to use the PARCC assessment since it aligns to the common core and this is the direction that the Commonwealth and Hanover is headed towards
- Question by Mr. Phillips- Do we have any concerns with executing the tests?  
Response by Ms. St. Ives that we can decide to do the tests by computer or paper based test. We will elect to use both since we have a choice for next year. We will likely use the computer based at the elementary and used paper based at the middle school
- Question by Mr. Marriner- is the goal to move towards all computer based testing?  
Response by Ms. St. Ives that we are moving towards computer based testing
- Question by Ms. Booker- do we have a timeline when all tests must be on computers? Response by Ms. St. Ives that there is no timeline set by the State yet
- Question by Ms. Booker- are we voting to approve the PARCC method for one year?  
Response by Ms. St. Ives that we are approving for one year since it will be the second year of a two year pilot
- Motion by Phillips to approve the decision to move PARC as the primary assessment method for 2014-2015. The motion was seconded by Lynch. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

##### Approval of student handbooks

- HS handbook change regarding graduation requirement
- Language is refined to include any behavior or conduct that occurs after May 1<sup>st</sup> of any school year may be subject to further consequences
- Motion by Phillips to approve the handbooks changes as presented by the administrators. The motion was seconded by Lynch. The motion carried unanimously.

##### Approval of Business Manager

- Search started in the spring with 30 candidates
- The criteria included having the education and certifications needed as to become certified within a reasonable amount of time
- 8-9 candidates were considered for the position, including Dr. Raab- after all the interviews it became clear that he was the best candidate
- Mr. Phillips would like to recommend Dr. Raab as the candidate for Business Manager
- Mr. Ferron would also like to recommend Dr. Raab as the candidate for Business Manager
- Motion by Phillips to accept the nomination of Dr. Raab as Business Manager effective July 1, 2014. The motion was seconded by Lynch. The motion carried unanimously.
- Dr. Raab thanked the Committee for their approval and is excited to begin his work as Business Manager.

#### **Public Comments:** None.

Motion by Phillips to adjourn at 8:35 pm. The motion was seconded by Lynch. The motion carried unanimously.

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Respectfully Submitted

Andrea Holmes

6/12/14

Documents Used:

Minutes 5-21-14

Awards Ceremony Program

Wellness Committee Documents

Donations 6-11-14

MCAS vs. PARCC overview