

**DANVERS SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING**

December 11, 2017

Francis Mills Communication Center, E115, Danvers High School

School Committee Members Present: Jeffrey Kay, Chair
Mary Beth Verry, Secretary
Eric Crane
Arthur Skarmeas
David Thomson

VOTED: Policy – The Superintendent recommended a first reading of academic eligibility and chemical health policies. Mr. Crane moved to approve. Mr. Thomson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Overnight/Out of State Field Trip Requests – The Superintendent recommended the approval of Out of State/Overnight Field Trip requests from DHS to Rome & Athens, February 14 - 23, 2019, DHS Ski Club to Loon Mountain January 20, 2018 and Bretton Woods January 6, 2018. Mr. Skarmeas moved to approve. Mr. Thomson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Fundraising Requests – The Superintendent recommended the approval of fundraising events for DHS Best Buddies, DHS Boys Basketball and DHS Basketball Cheering. Mr. Thomson moved to approve. Mr. Skarmeas seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Minutes – Mrs. Verry moved to accept and release the minutes from the November 13, 2017 regular meeting. Mr. Skarmeas seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Adjournment – Mr. Thomson moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:31 p.m. Mr. Crane seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

1. CALL TO ORDER – Mr. Kay called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and DPS Mission statement were recited. Mr. Kay inquired whether the meeting was being recorded by audience members and announced that the meeting was being broadcast on DCAT and recorded by Danvers Herald.

2. ITEMS OF INTEREST TO SUPERINTENDENT, SCHOOL COMMITTEE, COMMUNITY

A. Mr. St.Pierre and Coach Hinchion recognized the girls soccer team for winning the State Championship. This is the first in DHS history. Mr. Kay represented the Committee in congratulating and awarding the team with an award.

B. Mr. Crane praised the DHS theater group on an excellent production of “Urinetown”.

3. INTRODUCTION AND INFORMATION FROM THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Daisy Powers presented news and events from the seven schools.

4. INFORMATION FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. Danvers Pride – Danvers High School – Dr. Colombino introduced Mr. Vecchione and students Daisy Powers, Kevin Rooney, Ava Daly and Christian Hess who spoke on 21st Century Learning, “Lead the Way - Principles of Engineering”, sponsored by Vexx. The students presented their work with robotics, showing some of their class work and shared their perspective of collaborating as a team and the real world application that this course brings. Mr. Vecchione noted that the curriculum was created in collaboration with industry professionals and educators. The Committee felt the program to be beneficial to all students as students with any level of engineering education could participate on equal footing. Mr. Vecchione and the students

answered question on the types of engineering taught and gave more detail on the programs. Dr. Colombino said the hope is to add Bio-Engineering as well as Principles to Computer Engineering in the future.

- B. Wellness Committee - Co-chair Mr St.Pierre gave a summary of the Wellness Committee annual report. Some of the highlights this year have been condensing the timeline for Atlas & Athena, review of the Wellness and Opioid Policies, working in collaboration with DanversCARES with events such as Parent University and Food Services to name a few. The Committee thanked Mr. St. Pierre and appreciated the great work the Wellness Committee has done.
- C. Facilities Update - Mr. Taverna gave an update on the Smith School project looking forward to the 2 day visioning session with 35 administrators, employees, community members and students attending as well as working with Frank Locker who is renowned for this type of work.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

6. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Policy - The Superintendent recommended a first reading of academic eligibility and chemical health policies. Dr. Colombino gave a summary of updated noting no major shift, just language clarification and fielded a few questions from the Committee. As voted
- B. Superintendent's Evaluation Annual Review - The Committee went in turn giving Dr. Dana feedback and reviewing their findings of the Superintendent's Evaluation. As a whole the Committee expressed their feelings of confidence in Dr. Dana and the accomplishments she has made both with in the schools and the community. They shared their feelings of Dr. Dana exceeding expectations in the fields of communication and culture. Dr. Dana thanked the Committee and said she is looking forward to the beginning of the next Strategic Plan.
- C. Out of State/Overnight Field Trip Requests - Overnight/Out of State Field Trip Requests – The Superintendent recommended the approval of Out of State/Overnight Field Trip requests from DHS to Rome & Athens, February 14 - 23, 2019, DHS Ski Club to Loon Mountain January 20, 2018 and Bretton Woods January 6, 2018.. As voted.
- D. Fundraising requests – The Superintendent recommended the approval of fundraising events for DHS Best Buddies, DHS Boys Basketball and DHS Basketball Cheering. As voted

7. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- A. Communications – Dr. Dana shared the link to NEC and noted that Ipswich has requested to become a part of the NEC.
- B. Legislation – Mr. Crane stated after a conversation with Representative Spiliotis' office there is nothing to report on the legislative front this month.
- C. Subcommittee/Liaison Update
DEEP – Mrs. Verry announced the next DEEP meeting will be on December 13th at 7:45 a.m. at the First Ipswich Bank with the annual HRMS Spelling Bee being held on February 8th with a snow date of February 15th.

DanversCARES – Mr. Kay said the work on DanversCARES strategic plans continues with the data collection portion being completed. Focusing on underage drinking prevention and screen time for teenagers is a priority.

SEPAC – In the absence of Mr. Savage, Mr. Skarmas stated there was no update from SEPAC this month.

Policy - Dr. Dana said there were policy updates made by MASC and would be reviewed. Also work on reviewing and updating Policy Manuals will begin soon.

Diversity - Mr. Kay shared the lighting of the Menorah to be held on December 14th at 6:00 p.m. at the Peabody Institute Library and sent out a reminder of the MLK Tribute on Monday, January 15, 2018.

8. MINUTES – As voted

9. BUDGET

Mr. Taverna reported on the November 2017 budget report as well as reporting on the FY19 Budget Policy

Draft being largely unchanged.

10. PERSONNEL

Announcement of Resignations, Leaves of Absence and Appointments – Mr. Taverna presented his memo dated December 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Beth Verry, Secretary
Danvers School Committee