

**DANVERS SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING**

January 8, 2018

Francis Mills Communication Center, E115, Danvers High School

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

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

**VOTED:** Holten Richmond Middle School Program of Studies – The Superintendent recommended the Holten Richmond Middle School Program of Studies for a 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Mr. Skarmas moved to approve. Mr. Thomson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**VOTED:** DHS Program of Studies - First Reading- The Superintendent recommended the DHS Program of Studies for a 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Mr. Skarmas moved to approve. Mr. Crane seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**VOTED:** NEC – The Superintendent recommended the approval for the addition of Ipswich as a new Member District to NEC. Mr. Crane moved to approve. Mr. Thomson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**VOTED:** Superintendent Annual Review - Mr. Thomson motioned to extend the Superintendent’s contract for an additional year bringing her term to 2023. Mr. Skarmas seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Mr. Crane motioned to increase the Superintendent’s salary by 2.84%. Mr. Thomson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**VOTED:** Overnight/Out of State Field Trip Requests – The Superintendent recommended the approval of the overnight/out of state field trip request from DHS Art to Italy April 11- 21, 2018, DHS Ski Club to Cannon Mountain, NH, February 3, 2018, Gunstock Mountain, NH February 10, 2018 and HRMS 8th graders to Washington D.C., June 12-15, 2018. Mr. Thomson moved to approve. Ms. Verry seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**VOTED:** Fundraising Requests – The Superintendent recommended the approval of fundraising events for DHS Wrestling team, DHS class of 2021 and Best Buddies. Mr. Crane moved to approve. Mrs. Verry seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**VOTED:** Minutes – Mrs. Verry moved to accept and release the minutes from the December 11, 2017 regular meeting. Mr. Skarmas seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**VOTED:** Adjournment – Mr. Thomson moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:00 p.m. Mr. Crane seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**1. CALL TO ORDER** – Mr. Kay called the meeting to order at 7:02 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. Dr. Dana thanked the DPW for the great job done to clear the roads after the storm.

B. Sally Kerans, representing the Diversity Committee, announced the annual MLK Jr. celebration would be held on January 15, 2018 from 4-6 in the DHS Atrium. Artwork from the schools and a video produced by SUFA will be presented. She then thanked the many business that made contributions to the event.

**3. INTRODUCTION AND INFORMATION FROM THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

Daisy Powers presented news and events from the seven schools.

#### 4. INFORMATION FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

- A. Electric Light Department Poster Contest Winners - Gail Bernard of the Danvers Electric Department acknowledged the winners of the annual DPW Electric Division poster contest. HMRS art teachers Siobhan McDonald and Jeff Surret assisted in presentation of awards. Winners were Molly Godfrey, Jannaya Lopez, Olivia Ferullo, Bryce Kassiotios, Malan Moy, Charlotte Lee, Luke Giarrantan, Reese Holland, Kailyn Richards, Bobbi Serino, Shannon Driscoll, Rachel Evans and Gina Palm-Noya.
- B. Community Service – Joy LeBlanc, High School guidance counselor and Stephanie Beilin High School social worker spoke about community service the students were participating in. The Book Campaign, run through Mass General Hospital, is a program in which books are collected and donated. The books are brought to children’s wards and NICUs. The program allows parents to have bonding time with their children and helps with brain development. With Will Black coordinating the classroom efforts, students collected 427 books and delivered them in December. Students Patrick Quiqley, Vanessa Ronnan and Emma Vardaro spoke about their experience with the program. The Committee was impressed that students had given their time and effort because they wanted to help the community rather than because it was mandatory. Mrs. LeBlanc then shared her recent experience in China exploring their educational system. She visited 15-20 schools, grades 1-12 and was please to have her presentations of the United States educational system embraced.
- C. New Teacher Mentoring program - Mary Franz, Cindy Grady and David Buckhoff presented an update on the New Teacher Mentoring program. Mrs. Franz shared that the new model that was put in place last year continues to be a great success, noting that 2 mentor “pull out” groups where added. Melinda Sheehy was awarded “Master Mentor” for the 2017-2018 program. Mr. Buchkhoff thanked the many staff and facility members that assist to make this program a success. The Committee views this as an important program that not only assists new teachers but helps to build a feeling of community.
- D. K-12 Logic Models - Mrs. Wermers presented on “Coaching High Impact Teaching” with the focus being on formative assessment. They found that RBT had a model that aligned with work already being done and our skillful teacher course. Mrs. Wermers spoke use of the FAR cycle being important for formative assessment and framework for team meetings. She then went through the work being done at each individual school. Mrs. Wermers fielded questions from the Committee who felt RBT seemed to enhance programs already set in place.
- E. Facilities Update - Mr. Taverna gave an update on the Smith School project stating the first Educational Visioning Session went well and the second would be held the following Wednesday with a submission of the Educational Profile being processed in February. All are excited to see what the new school will look like.

#### 5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Policy - The Superintendent recommended the academic eligibility and chemical health policies for a second reading. As voted

#### 6. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Holten Richmond Program of Studies First Reading - The Superintendent recommended the HRMS Program of Studies for a 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Mr Federico gave an overview of the HRMS Program of Studies noting changes and updates to the library, extracurricular activities and the addition of the Builder’s Club As voted
- B. DHS Program of Studies - First Reading- The Superintendent recommended the DHS Program of Studies for a 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Mr. Maguire gave an overview of the DHS Program of Studies noting changes and updates highlighting the additions of American Studies and Biomedical Science as well as a double block English and Social Studies as a co-taught class. As voted

- C. NEC Article of Agreement -The Superintendent recommended the addition of Ipswich as a new Member District to NEC. As voted
- D. Annual Review of the Superintendent's contract - Mr. Thomson motioned to extend the Superintendent's contract for an additional year bringing her term to 2023. As Voted Mr. Crane motioned to increase the Superintendent's salary by 2.84%. As Voted. Mr. Kay shared the Committee's enthusiasm to have Dr. Dana's continued service to the District as their leader.
- E. 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 Art to Italy April 11- 21, 2018, DHS Ski Club to Cannon Mountain, NH, February 3, 2018, Gunstock Mountain, NH February 10, 2018 and HRMS 8th graders to Washington D.C., June 12-15, 2018 As voted.
- F. Fundraising requests – The Superintendent recommended the approval of fundraising events for DHS Best Buddies, Class of 2021 and DHS Wrestling team. As voted

**7. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- A. Communications – Dr. Dana shared the link to NEC and reviewed the annual NEC report.
- B. Legislation – Mr. Crane stated Senator Lovely's office's highlighted educational bills 456 which ensures safe drinking water and 295 which prevents the sexual abuse of children and youth and includes training for school staff.in recognizing the sign and 223, Modernizing Foundation Budget for the 21st Century.
- C. Subcommittee/Liaison Update  
DEEP – Mrs. Verry announced the next DEEP meeting will be on January 17th 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 and winners going to the Regionals in March.  
DanversCARES – Mr. Kay said the work on DanversCARES strategic plans continues with the data collection portion being completed and reviewing the new laws on marijuana.  
SEPAC – In the absence of Mr. Savage, Mr. Skarmeas announced SEPAC's next meeting to be on February 7th at the HRMS Library where SPAN will present "Meet the Advocate".  
Diversity - Mr. Kay shared the a reminder of the MLK Tribute to be held on Monday, January 15, 2018 from 4-6 in the DHS Atruim.

**8. MINUTES** – As voted

**9. BUDGET**

Mr. Taverna reported on the December 2017 budget as well as reporting changes due to grants, teacher and technology changes as well as mid-year transfers. He also acknowledged the donation of the bench to the HRMS made by the class of 1962.

**10. PERSONNEL**

Announcement of Resignations, Leaves of Absence and Appointments – Mr. Taverna presented his memo dated January 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Beth Verry, Secretary  
 Danvers School Committee