

**DANVERS SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING**

February 12, 2018

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: Holten Richmond Middle School Program of Studies – The Superintendent recommended the adoption of the Holten Richmond Middle School Program of Studies. Mr. Skarmeas moved to approve. Mr. Crane seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous

VOTED: DHS Program of Studies - The Superintendent recommended the adoption of the Danvers High School Program of Studies. Mr. Skarmeas moved to approve. Mr. Thomson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous

VOTED: Smith School Educational Plan - The Superintendent recommended the adoption of the educational plan dated 2/8/18 and associated space summary for the Smith Elementary School as approved by the School Building Committee on 2/8/18 for submittal to the Massachusetts School Building Authority within the PDP package by the OPM and Designer on 2/16/18. Mr. Crane moved to approve. Mrs. Verry seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous

VOTED: MSBA Vote - The Superintendent recommended the approval of a statement of interest to replace Highland Elementary School's roof.

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on February 12, 2018, prior to the SOI submission closing date, the Danvers School Committee of the Town of Danvers, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated February 16, 2018 for the Highlands Elementary School located at 190 Hobart Street, Danvers, MA which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future Highlands Elementary School Roof; (5) replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs of a school facility and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City/Town/Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority. Mr. Skarmeas moved to approve. Mr. Crane seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous

VOTED: Assistant Superintendent Contracts - The Superintendent recommended the approval of the Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Personnel and Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning contracts. Mr. Skarmeas moved to approve. Mrs. Verry 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. 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 Financial Awareness for Young Moms (DECA), DHS Girls Lacrosse, Best Buddies and Community Service Learning Class. Mr. Skarmear moved to approve. Mr. Thomson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Minutes – Mrs. Verry moved to accept and release the minutes from the January 9, 2018 regular meeting. Mr. Skarmear seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Adjournment – Mr. Thomson moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:35 p.m. Mr. Skarmear seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

1. CALL TO ORDER – Mr. Kay called the meeting to order at 7:01 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.

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

- A. Dr. Dana thanked everyone that participated in the recent survey stating the results would be presented at the March School Committee meeting. She also acknowledged retiring Great Oak Principal Sharon Burrill for her years of service and commitment to Danvers Public Schools and the community. Mr. Thomson also thanked Mrs. Burrill.
- B. Mr. Crane congratulated Daisy Powers for her video shared at the MLK event.
- C. Mrs. Verry spoke about the collaboration between the Danvers Art Association and HRMS. She noted the art show was a great success and looks forward to a continued relationship with the Art Association and the school district.

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 Presentation – Great Oak School presented on using Google in the classroom. Mrs. Burrill, along with teachers Lisa Kapnis and Jen Koulopoulos, shared a presentation showing students and the way technology is being used in the classrooms. With the District and Great Oak PAC funding 2 chromebook carts, the teachers have been able to implement Google into their daily lesson plans. They spoke on used such as Google draw, creating and using templates, adding text and pictures and Plickers, a program used for formative assessment. Students Braden Serino and Luke Hertigan shared their experience with these programs and fielded questions from the Committee.
- B. FY18 Technology Update – Mr. Liberman, along with teachers Sean Dunleavy and John Hodsdon presented on technology in the classroom. The presentation focused on the use of a pilot program at HRMS and the use of virtual reality. Thanks to a DEEP grant, the teachers were able to purchase a program that allows students to venture, virtually, to places they would most likely be unable to visit. Places like Egypt and the pyramids, the Grand Canyon and Hawaii's Volcano Park have all been explored. Teachers are able to lead the students through a lesson while they are viewing 3 dimensional images of the locations. Mr. Liberman stated that plans are in place to pilot augmented reality soon. Mr. Hodsdon and Mr. Dunleavy answered questions from the Committee, shared their enthusiasm and thanked DEEP for the program.

- C. Mid Year Accomplishments - Dr. Dana provided the review of the mid year accomplishments going over the format and thanked the district for all the accomplishments shown in the report. She shared Great Oak's focus as technology, Highland's as school culture, Riverside's as community, Smith's as expectations, Thorpe's as use of the Maker Space, HRMS's as reflections and the High School's as Project Lead the Way. Mrs. Wermers gave a summary on Theme I noting the use of the FARR cycle which concentrates on understanding where students are in their learning. She noted that teachers have been trained on this system through the use of professional development days.
- D. FY19 Budget Preview - Dr. Dana gave an overview of the Strategic Plan while Mr. Taverna reviewed the FY18 budget and gave a presentation on the proposed FY19 School Budget and timeline. They both explained any changes and reasons for increase in the budget. The Committee all felt that the presentation showed to be fiscally responsible and congratulated the administration on a job well done.
- E. Grants Update - Mr. Taverna gave the committee an update on the school grants noting funding is largely unchanged from last year. The Title IV funding will be used to offset costs of AP and STEM with that grants funding up from FY17. Mr. Thomson asked if there were any projections for next year. Mr. Taverna answered it was too early to tell.
- F. Facilities Update - Mr. Taverna gave an update on the Smith School project stating PDP shared preliminary designs and will be conducting traffic studies. A preferred schematic design will be chosen over the summer and analyzing the details of the project will begin in the Fall.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Holten Richmond Program of Studies First Reading - The Superintendent recommended the HRMS Program of Studies for a 2nd reading. As voted
- B. DHS Program of Studies - First Reading- The Superintendent recommended the DHS Program of Studies for a 2nd reading. As voted

6. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Smith School Educational Plan - The Superintendent recommended the adoption of the educational plan dated 2/8/18 and associated space summary for the Smith Elementary School as approved by the School Building Committee on 2/8/18 for submittal to the Massachusetts School Building Authority within the PDP package by the OPM and Designer on 2/16/18. Mrs. Mara and Mrs. Posternack discussed the 2 visioning sessions that were recently held. 36 participants took part ranging from teachers, administration, community members and students. They shared planning diagrams, what teaching and learning would look like and the thought of clustered classrooms. Mr. Taverna presented and explained the 6 proposed designs given by the architects, sharing detail on each. Questions were asked by both the Committee and community members. As voted
- B. MSBA Vote - Roof - Mr. Taverna presented this statement of interest to replace Highland Elementary School's roof.

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on February 12, 2018, prior to the SOI submission closing date, the Danvers School Committee of the Town of Danvers, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated February 16, 2018 for the Highlands Elementary School located at 190 Hobart Street, Danvers, MA which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future Highlands Elementary School Roof; (5) replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs of a school facility and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City/Town/Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority. As voted

- C. Assistant Superintendent Contracts - Mr. Thomson motioned to accept the changes on the Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Personnel and Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning contracts. As voted
- D. Fundraising requests – The Superintendent recommended the approval of fundraising events for Financial Awareness for Young Moms (DECA), DHS Girls Lacrosse, Best Buddies and Community Service Learning Class. As voted
- 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 chorus and band to Boston, March 1-3, 2018, DHS DECA to Boston, March 8-10, 2018, DHS Ski Club to Bretton Woods, March 10, 2018 and DHS students to England, April 12-19, 2019 As voted.

7. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- A. Communications – Dr. Dana shared the link to NEC and noted NEC is working on their budget for April’s meeting.
- B. Legislation – Mr. Crane stated after speaking with Mr. Spiliotis’ office he has learned that there will be a 1.04% increase in Ch. 70 funding, a 10 million dollar increase in Circuit Breaker reimbursement and that revenue in the Commonwealth is up.
- C. Subcommittee/Liaison Update
 - DEEP – Mrs. Verry announced the next DEEP meeting will be on March 14th at 7:45 a.m. at the First Ipswich Bank. The HRMS Spelling Bee was held on February 8th and winner Emma Hatch going to the Regionals in March and DEEP grant applications are online and can be submitted through March 16th.
 - DanversCARES– Mr. Kay said the work on DanversCARES is focusing on their strategic plan.
 - SEPAC– In the absence of Mr. Savage, Mr. Skarmear announced he had no SEPAC update.
 - Policy - Mr. Thomson had no current policy update.
 - Diversity - Mr. Kay shared the MLK event was well attended and the artwork much appreciated. The evening was a great success.

8. MINUTES – As voted

9. BUDGET

Mr. Taverna reported on the January 2018 budget . He also acknowledged the donations of choir chimes to Smith School, Danvers Rotary to DHS Athletics, Exxon Mobile to DHS and Smith School and Merchants Liquors to DanversCARES.

10. PERSONNEL

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Beth Verry, Secretary
Danvers School Committee