

**DANVERS SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING**

May 14, 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

Dr. Dana, acting as temporary Chairman of the Committee, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and Danvers Public Schools Mission statement was recited. Dr. Dana announced that the meeting was being broadcast on Danvers Community Access Television and asked the members of the audience if anyone was recording the proceedings and was there were no others recording the meeting.

**VOTED:** Election of Chairperson – Mr. Crane nominated Mr. Skarmeas as Chairman of the committee. Mr. Kay seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**VOTED:** Election of Secretary – Mr. Crane nominated Mr. Thomson as Secretary. Mr. Kay seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**VOTED:** Appointment of School Attorney – Mr. Crane moved to retain the legal services of Michael Long, Esq. of Long & DiPietro. Mr. Thomson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**VOTED:** Overnight/Out of State Field Trip Requests – The Superintendent recommended the approval of an overnight/out of state field trip request from DHS Best Buddies to Canobie Lake Park, NH., May 25, 2018. Mr. Thomson moved to approve. Mrs. Verry seconded the motion.  
The vote was unanimous.

**VOTED:** Fundraising Requests – The Superintendent recommended the approval of fundraising events for DHS Volleyball, DHS Girls' Tennis and DHS Girl's Softball. Mr. Thomson moved to approve. Mr. Crane seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

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

**VOTED:** Adjournment – Mr. Thomson moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:17 p.m. Mr. Crane seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

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

- A. Dr. Dana announced the District Survey is open for parental feedback. A meeting with Frank Locker on District Visioning for the strategic plan will be taking place on May 22nd.

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

Daisy Powers presented news and events from the seven schools. The School Committee and Dr. Dana thanked Daisy for her years as student representative to the School Committee and she was presented with a gift.

**4. INFORMATION FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT**

- A. Danvers Pride Presentation - Highlands School principal Paula Jones and art teacher Kris Smith

presented on art/ELA connections. Second grade students, Ella Stephanek, Oliver Roy, Amelia Vaz, Hailey O'Connor and Colin Wihelm presented their artwork based on "the Scream". They shared their joy for art and how it improved their learning experience. Fourth grade students, Ben Wihelm, Alex Roy and Jonathan Cheyne presented creations on onomatopoeia. They explained how they enjoyed making art from words that make you "hear" the sound they are. The Committee was impressed with the students art work and thanked them for presenting.

- B. DHS DECA –Mrs. Beaulieu, DHS DECA coordinator said that she has 175 students in the DECA program of which 141 moved to State finals and 45 moved on to the International finals in Georgia. She stated there were 19,000 students globally. Danvers wa considered to be "Diamond level". This year's theme was Customer Experience. 3 teams from Danvers made the finals, with 2 teams placing in the top 10. The team of Jack O'Neil, Regin O'Shay and Colby Thomson wrote a book on Entrepreneurship along with a developed curriculum. They presented at local elementary schools and were excited to see the results the book had on the younger students. This team took home a "piece of glass" for third place. The Committee told the students they are huge fans and complemented Mrs. Beaulieu on doing an amazing job once again this year. They were also very impressed that the students placed third in the world at this competition.
- C. Administrative Transition Plan - Dr. Dana introduced and welcomed Martha Jancatis as the new principal at Great Oak Elementary School.
- D. Grants Update - Mrs. Wermers gave an update on grants that have been received noting the ECLC Grant was gifted thanks to the work of the Danvers Team. She noted that grant planning to support the strategic plan is underway with a focus on Social Emotional Learning.
- E. Last Day of School Announcement - Dr. Dana announced the last day of school for the 2017-2018 school year will be June 27, 2017.
- F. Facilities Update - Mr. Tavern updated the Committee on the statement of interested for the roof at Highlands Elementary School submitted to the MSBA noting a team came out and walked the roof. Mr. Taverna hopes to hear back regarding the project sometime in June. The work for the Smith School project continues and a presentation of the expected floor plan was given. Internal planning meetings were held in April and May. A School Building Committee meeting was to be held on May 25th to look at options for preferred schematic design. A overview presentation will be present to the Board of Selectman on June 7, 2018.

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - NONE**

6.

- A. 18-19 School Calendar/Early Release Days –The Superintendent recommended the approval of the 18-19 school calendar/early release days for a final reading. As Voted

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Overnight/Out of State Field Trip Requests – The Superintendent recommended the approval of an overnight/out of state field trip request from DHS Best Buddies to Canobie Lake Park, NH., May 25, 2018. As voted
- B. Fundraising Requests – The Superintendent recommended the approval of fundraising events for DHS Volleyball, DHS Girls' Tennis and DHS Girl's Softball. As voted

**7. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- A. Communications – Dr. Dana shared the link to NEC
- B. Legislation – Mr. Crane stated budgets are in the reconciliation stage and all have education as a priority.
- C. Subcommittee/Liaison Update

DEEP – Mrs. Verry announced the next DEEP meeting will be on May 16th at 7:45 a.m. at the First Ipswich Bank and DEEP grants will be awarded to teachers at the June School Committee meeting.

DanversCARES – Mr. Kay said the Light the Night Purple was a success with more than 200 participants. He thanked the community for their support.

SEPAC – In the absence of Mr. Savage, Mr. Skarmeas announced the next desert night will be held on June 6th.

Policy - Mr. Thomson had no current policy update.

DHRIC- Mr. Kay said they are preparing for the July 4th reading of the Declaration of Independence and review of scholarship applicants.

**8. MINUTES** – As voted

**9. BUDGET**

Mr. Taverna reported on the April 2018 budget stating the District is on budget and the school will be turning back funds to the Town to assist with Police/Fire overtime costs. He then acknowledged many generous donations.

**10. PERSONNEL**

Mr. Taverna presented his memo with Announcement of Resignations, Leaves of Absences and Appointments dated May 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Beth Verry, Secretary  
Danvers School Committee