

**DANVERS SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING**

September 10, 2018

Francis Mills Communication Center, E115, Danvers High School

School Committee Members Present:

Arthur Skarmeas , Chair
David Thomson, Secretary
Mary Beth Verry
Eric Crane
Jeffrey Kay

VOTED: 2018-2019 Danvers Public Schools Strategic Plan and Year One Goals– The Superintendent recommended the approval of the proposed 2018-2019 Danvers Public Schools Strategic Plan and Year One Goals for a second reading. Mr. Crane moved to approve. Mr. Kay seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: 2018-2019 K-12 School Improvement Plans– The Superintendent recommended the approval of the proposed 2018-2019 School Improvement Plans for a second reading. Mr. Thompson moved to approve. Mr. Kay seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Policy – The Superintendent recommended the removal of policy language and changes to Section A as per MASC June 2017 memo. Mr. Crane moved to approve. Mr. Kay seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Home-Schooling Proposals – The Superintendent recommended the approval of the Notice of Intent to Home Education for the 2018-2019 school year. Mr. Thompson moved to approve. Mrs. Verry seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Fundraising Requests –The Superintendent recommended the approval of fundraising events for HRMS Magazine Drive, DHS Golf Team and the Class of 2019. Mr. Thompson moved to approve. Mr. Kay seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Minutes – Ms. Verry moved to accept and release the minutes from the August 20, 2018 regular meeting. Mr. Thomson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Adjournment – Mr. Skarmeas moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:07 p.m. Mrs. Verry seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Skarmeas called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and DPS Mission statement were recited. Mr. Skarmeas inquired whether the meeting was being recorded by audience members and announced that the meeting was being broadcast on DCAT and the Danvers Herald.

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

- A. Dr. Dana introduced Clea Matt and Cynthia Boyd as the new student representatives to the School Committee. Dr. Colombino then gave a brief summary of each of their accomplishments and endeavors in their school careers. He also thanked and acknowledge Daisy Powers for her terms as the student representative. Clea Matt was present and thanked the Committee for this opportunity.
- B. Dr. Dana shared the dates for the upcoming MASC/MASS annual conference. Mr. Skarmear appointed Mrs. Verry as the Committee's delegate. Mrs. Verry accepted and shared her excitement at Danvers presenting on "Leading Together" at the conference this year.
- C. Mr. Hodsdon gave a presentation on his time with the Fulbright Fellowship and traveling to Japan. Mr. Hodsdon shared his experiences with students and schools in Japan. He acknowledged the cultural difference both with in the schools and family. He noted that in the end "kids are kids" and he enjoyed his time with the students as well as the teachers.

III. INFORMATION FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

- A. Opening Day Overview - Dr. Dana said the staff returned early with 2 days of professional development. She also gave an overview of opening day noting the speaker this year was Jason Wheeler. He presented on Safe and Supportive Schools and discussed the changes students are going through today and the importance of acceptance and supporting all students.
- B. New Employee Orientation – Mr. Taverna thanked the DPW for all the work done during the summer to ready the schools. Also thanking employees of the Human Resources Department at Town Hall for attending new employee orientation and explaining health benefits. He spoke on the annual bus tour of Danvers hosted by Bill Clark, stating that he learns something new about Danvers every year.
- C. Overview of Summer Professional Development - Mrs. Wermers gave an overview of the 3 sessions of professional development that were offered during the summer saying she was very happy to see great participation in the optional days. She gave descriptions of workshops all keeping the strategic plan in mind. They included writing workshops, learning communities, investigation core in the present, language based learning and routines for reasoning to name a few. She also referenced a youth mental health and first aid workshop that was added for the aides this year.
- D. Student Services Update- Dr. Tatem reviewed the SEPAC Resource Fair which was held the night of pre-school orientation. She said the fair was very successful again this year and thanked the many participating vendors. She also announced Alicia Coady as the new SEPAC chair. Ms. Kim Silva and Mrs. Kris Smith summarized their experience with the summer school program. Ms. Silva gave highlights of the program such as field trips and theme days. Mrs. Smith shared how she used art to assist in the program. The Committee thanked the staff for offering such a program for students during the summer.
- E. Smith School Building Project - Mr. Taverna updated the Committee on progress made with the Smith School Building Project. He gave a date for design presentation to the public as sometime in the Fall and stated progress has been made with the construction manager bid.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. 2018-2019 Danvers Public Schools Strategic Plan and Year One Goals– The Superintendent

recommended the approval of the proposed 2018-2019 Danvers Public Schools Strategic Plan and Year One Goals for a second reading. As voted

- B. 2018-2019 K-12 School Improvement Plans– The Superintendent recommended the approval of the proposed 2018-2019 School Improvement Plans for a second reading. As voted

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Policy – The Superintendent recommended the removal of policy language and changes to Section A as per MASC June 2017 memo. Dr. Dana recommended the review of sections during the fall. Mr. Crane asked if subject areas are being pulled out or replaced. Dr. Dana answered yes they are being replaced as per MASC recommendations. As voted.
- B. Home-Schooling Proposals – The Superintendent recommended the approval of the Notice of Intent to Home Education for the 2018-2019 school year. As voted.
- C. Fundraising Requests –The Superintendent recommended the approval of fundraising events for HRMS Magazine Drive, DHS Golf Team and the Class of 2019. As voted

VI. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- A. Communications – Dr. Dana shared the NEC website link and Wednesday’s date for the next board meeting.
- B. Legislation – Mr. Crane noted he had no news for legislation this meeting.
- C. Subcommittee/Liaison Update
DEEP – Mrs. Verry shared the next meeting is September 19th at the First Ipswich Bank at 7:45 a.m. She also shared the October 25th date for the Food/Wine Tasting, tickets to go on sale in September and thanked Merchant’s Liquor for their donations.

DanversCARES – Mr. Kay announced the Parent University date as November 3rd and noted the HRMS Youth Risk Behavior Survey would be sent out in Mid October.

SEPAC – An announcement was made that the Resource Fair was held on September 6th at Riverside School and the Parent’s Rights workshop would be held at HRMS on October 11th.

DHIRC - Mr. Kay had no updates for DHIRC. Review of the website for improvements is taking place.

VII. MINUTES – As voted

IX. BUDGET

Mr. Taverna shared there was no budget report for Sept. and acknowledge donations made.

X. PERSONNEL

Announcement of Resignations, Leaves of Absence and Appointments – Mr. Taverna presented his memo dated August 2018 and due to her December retirement date, thanked Julie

Macdonald for her years of service.

The next regular meeting will be held on October 15, 2018 at 7 p.m. in the Francis Mills Communication Center at Danvers High School.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Thomson, Secretary
Danvers School Committee