

**DANVERS SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING**

January 13, 2020

Francis Mills Communication Center, E115, Danvers High School

School Committee Members Present:

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

VOTED: Holten Richmond Program of Studies - First Reading - The Superintendent recommends the HRMS Program of Studies for a 1st reading. Mr. Thomas moved to approve. Mr. Skarmeas seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous

VOTED: DHS Program of Studies - First Reading- The Superintendent recommends the DHS Program of Studies for a 1st reading. Mr. Kay moved to approve. Mr. Crane seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Superintendent Annual Contract Review - Mr. Crane motioned to increase the Superintendent's salary by 2% with an equity adjustment. Mr. Skarmeas seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Mr. Crane motioned to extend the Superintendent's contract for an additional year. Mr. Thomson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Fundraising Requests – The Superintendent recommended the approval of fundraising request for the DHS Girls Basketball team and DHS Girls Basketball Cheerleaders. Mr. Thomson moved to approve. Mr. Skarmeas seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Minutes – Mr. Crane moved to approve and release the minutes from the December 9, 2019 regular meeting and to approve but not release the minutes from the December 9, 2019 executive session. Mr. Skarmeas seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Adjournment – Mr. Thomson moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:28 p.m. Mr. Skarmeas seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Verry called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and DPS Mission Statement were recited. Mrs. Verry inquired whether the meeting was being recorded by audience members and announced that the meeting was being broadcast on DCAT.

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

- A.** Mr. Crane shared a summary of the upcoming Martin Luther King Jr. event to be held in the DHS atrium on Monday, January 20, 2020.

III. INFORMATION FROM STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

- A.** Cynthia Boyd and Max Lette presented news and events of the seven district schools.

IV. INFORMATION FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

- A. Electric Light Department Poster Contest Winners - Mrs. Gail Bernard of the Danvers Electric Department thanked Anna Bond and Jeff Surrette and acknowledged the winners of the annual DPW Electric Division poster contest noting this year's topic was renewable energy. Winners were Ashley Taylor, Addie Lamar, Kira Vo, Sienna Perry, Isabella Velasquez, Alex Roy, Claudia Drakos, Skylar Demsey, Anthony Gaudino, Mia Walsh, Gyovanna Barrows, Benjamin Wilhelm and Joselyn Vogel. The Committee shared their appreciation for the student's artwork.
- B. Mentor/New Teacher Induction Update - Mrs. Wermers introduced Cindy Grady, Anna Corbett and Alex Grover as this year's Mentor Coordinators. Mrs. Grady explained the addition of SEL to the monthly mentor/mentee meetings with the mentees bringing their lessons back to their classroom work. Mr. Grover shared the use of technology in the program with the hopes to become as paperless as possible. He also said with technology surveys taken can be viewed in real time. Mrs. Corbett introduced a video showing mentees sharing their experiences with the program. Dr. Dana said the program falls in line with the ECLC grant and is grateful for the teacher leaders and faculty. The Committee thanked mentors for their hard work and Mrs. Verry acknowledged past coordinators Dave Buckhoff and Mary Franz.
- C. Strategic Plan Update - Mrs. Wermers gave a brief summary of the teacher leaders presentation that will be shared during the February School Committee meeting. She noted a Showcase of Learning will be held in Salem in February with 6 districts presenting on the work accomplished over the past 2 years.
- D. Facilities Update - Mr. Taverna said the Smith School foundation is going in and construction with the steel beams will begin in February. He showed a compressed video of the progress and stated the building is on schedule.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. There was no unfinished business to address.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Holten Richmond Program of Studies - First Reading - The Superintendent recommends the HRMS Program of Studies for a 1st reading. Mr. Federico said changes will assist in aligning the POS to the strategic plan summarizing removal of language in references making representation of approach more accurate. Changes in descriptions, focusing on technology courses for Framework alignment with CAD being integrated through engineer classes, PLW will move to grade 8 and the RISE block will take the place of SSR. Questions were asked by the Committee. As voted.
- B. DHS Program of Studies - First Reading- The Superintendent recommends the DHS Program of Studies for a 1st reading. Dr. Gerade gave descriptions of adjustment to Social Studies to align with the Frameworks, Science course sequence adjustments, PLW with additional PE and Health courses to align with National Standards. She then showed a presentation noting all courses to be changed or added. Dr. Gerade fielded questions from the Committee. As voted
- C. Annual Review of the Superintendent's Contract – Mr. Crane motioned to extend the Dr. Dana's

contract for an additional year bringing her term to 2025 as well as to increase the Superintendent's salary by 2% with an equity adjustment of \$2,800.00 bringing her annual compensation to \$192,958.60. The Committee expressed their confidence in the work that Dr. Dana continues to do for the school's progression. Dr. Dana thanked the Committee. As voted.

- D. Fundraising Requests –The Superintendent recommended the approval of fundraising request for the DHS Girls Basketball team and DHS Girls Basketball Cheerleaders. As voted

VIII. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- A. Communications – Dr. Dana shared the NEC annual report and financial statement.

- B. Legislation – Mr. Crane there was no news from legislation this month.

- C. Subcommittee/Liaison Update

DEEP – Mrs. Verry announced the next meeting to be Wednesday, January 15th at 7:45 a.m. at DHS noting the DEEP Committee would be touring classrooms to see the benefits of the DEEP grant at work. She also announced the date of January 22, 2020 for the HRMS Spelling Bee.

DanversCARES – Mr. Kay gave an overview of work done through DanversCARES such as TIPS training, Youth at Risk Survey which will happen in February and the expected Narcan distribution to the Community.

SEPAC - Dr. Dana shared the January 9th SEPAC meeting had representatives from DESE speaking on the Tiered Focus Review and Commonwealth Learning presenting on Executive Function and Homework Strategies. The meeting was well attended. Mrs. Verry shared the link to facebook and said they continue to update and share great information and resources for the Community.

Policy - Dr. Dana noted the next meeting to be held on January 24th.

DHRIC - Mr. Crane said the lighting of the Menorah was well attended and gave a reminder for the MLK event. He said the Committee continues to try to make a divided world less divided.

IX. MINUTES – As voted

X. BUDGET and DONATIONS

Mr. Taverna provided the Committee with the December budget report stating the budget for tuition out due to new enrollments and placement shifts remains the same as the previous month. He is confident of the funding to cover expenses throughout the year. He summarized a mid-year budget transfer showing movement without increases in line items. He also thanked Cranney Cares for the donation of \$1,000.00 to Riverside School.

XI. PERSONNEL

Announcement of Resignations, Leaves of Absence and Appointments – Mr. Taverna presented his memo dated December 2019.

The next regular meeting will be held on February 24, 2020 at 7 p.m. in the

Francis Mills Communication Center at Danvers High School.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Crane, Secretary
Danvers School Committee