

DANVERS SCHOOL COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING

October 30, 2023

School Committee Members Present:

Robin Doherty, Chair
Alice Campbell, Secretary
Eric Crane
Joshua Kepnes
Gabe Lopes

VOTED: Wellness Policy - Mrs. Campbell moved to approve the Wellness policy for a second reading Mr. Kepnes seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: DHS Library - Mr. Crane moved to approve the naming of the DHS Library for Colleen Ritzer for a second reading Mrs. Campbell seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Facilities Usage Policy - Mr. Crane moved to approve the Facilities Usage Policy for a second reading Mrs. Campbell seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Camp Cody Stipend: Mrs. Campbell moved to approve the Camp Cody stipends second reading Mr. Kepnes seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Great Rock Church - Mrs. Campbell moved to approve the Great Rock Church proposal for a first reading Mr. Kepnes seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Consent Agenda- Mr. Crane motioned to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Mr. Kepnes seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Adjournment – Mr. Kepnes moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:43 p.m. Mrs. Campbell seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Regular Meeting Call to Order

Dr. Doherty called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Danvers Public Schools Mission statement were recited. Dr. Doherty inquired whether the meeting was being recorded by audience members and announced that the meeting was being broadcast on DCAT.

II. ITEMS OF INTEREST

Mr. Crane complimented Superintendent Bauer and Mary Wermers for their work with the Inclusion Committee over the last several months.

III. INFORMATION FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

School Visits - Superintendent Bauer updated the Committee on how his visits to the schools are going. He has been to several of the schools and it has been a wonderful experience. He is getting to know the staff and students. Dan has done walk throughs and visited with the staff.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Wellness Policy - Mr. Bauer explained that he met with the Committee and the PACs to discuss what he felt were inconsistencies in the language. After discussion everyone has come to an agreement and is onboard with the new policy Mr. Bauer recommends the approval of the Wellness Policy for a second reading. Mrs. Campbell moved to approve the Wellness Policy for adoption Mr. Kepnes seconded. As voted.
- B. DHS Library: Mr. Bauer recommends the request to name the DHS Library for Colleen Ritzer for a second reading. Mr. Crane moved to approve the naming of the Library for Colleen Ritzer Mrs. Campbell seconded. As voted.
- C. Facilities Usage Policy - Mr. Bauer recommends the approval of the Facility Usage Policy for a second reading. Mr. Crane moved to approve the Facility Usage Policy for a second reading Mrs. Campbell seconded. As voted.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Monthly Budget Report & Camp Cody Stipends - Mrs. Crum presented the Committee with the budget for September, there were no questions. She then explained to the Committee that they needed to vote to approve the stipends for faculty who chaperoned the Middle School field trip Camp Cody before they could be paid. Mrs. Campbell moved to approve the Camp Cody stipends to be paid Mr. Kepnes seconded. As voted.
- B. Great Rock Church: Mr. Bauer provided the Committee with a copy of the Church's proposal prior to the meeting. He went on to explain that he and Mary Wermers had been out to visit the Church and had discussions with the administration. Mrs. Campbell asked if by approving the proposal would affect the school's budget. Mary explained they would be entitled to a portion of Title I monies. Mr. Bauer recommends the Great Rock Church proposal for a first reading. Mrs. Campbell moved to approve the Great Rock Church proposal for a first reading Mr. Kepnes seconded. As voted.
- C. Review of MASC Resolutions: Dr. Doherty advised the Committee that she will no longer be able to attend the meeting, therefore, there would be no vote from Danvers. The Committee was previously provided with a copy of the resolutions to review.
- D. Curriculum, Instruction Priorities and Assessment Date: Mary Wermers provided the Committee with an update on the data discussed in the policy meeting and the next steps. There is a heavy focus on the secondary co-teaching and a shift from social emotional to academic learning. Mr. Crane inquired as to how you can measure whether the sense of belonging is working. Mary responded that there is data collected for the evidence.
- E. MCAS:
 - Middle School* - Mary Wermers presented a historical perspective on the data. ELA trends are up, math is following but is still below the state standards. Ellyn Feerick, Middle School Curriculum Director, elaborated on the data and the trends they are seeing. Dr. Doherty is concerned that across all 3 grade levels the partially meeting levels are high. Mrs. Campbell asked if the Iready information was available to guardians to review. It was explained that the information is available during conferences. Ellyn then discussed the measures that are being taken to improve upon the scores.
 - High School* - Mary Wermers began the presentation with the historical data for grade 10. Peter DiMauro, High School Curriculum Director, then elaborated on the trend with math as with the other schools in the district. Peter then took the Committee through the next steps and the in depth process to identify specific students and their needs. Mr. Kepnes commented that there was an interesting growth from grade 8 to grade 10.

VI. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- A. Consent Agenda - Mr. Crane moved to approve the donation requests, fundraising requests,

field trip requests and personnel memo as presented Mr. Kepnes seconded. As voted

B. Communications

NEC - Mr. Bauer attended the last meeting on October 25th.

C. Legislation - Mr. Crane read a statement from Representative Sally Kearns

D. Subcommittee/Liaison Update -

Curriculum & Equity - Previously covered

Policy - Previously covered

DEEP – Mr. Bauer & Mrs. Wermers attended the first meeting

DanversCARES – The next meeting will be held on November 6, 2023

SEPAC - No update at this time.

DHRIC - Mr. Crane reported that there was discussion of making changes to the Martin Luther King event by adding new items.

The next meeting will be held on November 13, 2023 at 6:30 p.m

Multi-Purpose Room - Holten-Richmond Middle School

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Alice Campbell, Secretary
Danvers School Committee