

**DANVERS SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING**

May 13, 2024

School Committee Members Present:

Gabe Lopes, Chair
Eric Crane, Secretary
Sean Doherty
Joshua Kepnes
Michael Shannon

VOTED: Chairperson - Mr. Crane motioned to elect Mr. Lopes as Chairperson of the School Committee. Mr. Kepnes seconded. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Secretary - Mr. Kepnes motioned to elect Mr. Crane as Secretary of the School Committee. Mr. Doherty seconded. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: School Attorney: Mr. Crane motioned to appoint Long and DiPietro as school attorney. Mr. Kepnes seconded. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: School Choice: Mr. Crane moved to abstain from participating in School Choice for the 2024-2025 school year. Mr. Doherty seconded. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Security Camera Policy: Mr. Crane moved to approve the Security Camera Policy for a first reading. Mr. Kepnes seconded. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan: Mr. Kepnes moved to approve the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan for a first reading. Mr. Shannon seconded. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Consent Agenda: Mr. Crane moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Kepnes seconded. The vote was unanimous.

VOTED: Adjournment – Mr. Crane moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:35 p.m. to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of collective bargaining update with the intention of not returning to the regular meeting. Mrs. Campbell seconded. The vote was unanimous.

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION - Mr. Crane motioned to elect Gabe Lopes as Chairperson to the School Committee. Mr. Kepnes seconded. As voted.

Mr. Kepnes motioned to elect Eric Crane as Secretary to the School Committee. Mr. Doherty seconded. As voted

Mr. Crane motioned to appoint Long and DiPietro as school attorney. Mr. Kepnes seconded. As voted.

Superintendent Bauer has confirmed with Town Hall the School Committee's liability insurance. The meeting dates for next school year have been tabled until the June meeting. Mr. Kepnes has volunteered to be the primary signatory on bill sheets with Mr. Shannon as a back up.

III. ITEMS OF INTEREST

Public: Mr. Pawlak addressed the Committee on behalf of the HIRC the poster project that was drawn by High School art teacher, Jeff Surrette, with students and staff from the district painting it. The HIRC will be developing a schedule to share the banner with multiple committees throughout the town. The HIRC would like to thank everyone for their participation and cooperation with the banner.

Jen Corsino, Danvers SEPAC, was present to welcome the new members of the School Committee and to update them on the new members of SEPAC. Jen welcomed all to attend the monthly virtual meetings and the SEPAC looks forward to the coming year working with the new Student Services Director and School Committee. Mr. Crane thanked SEPAC for all they do on behalf of the children.

Several parents and students spoke on behalf of the Theatre/Public Speaking class being eliminated from the course selection at the Middle School. Mr. Shannon asked if they were speaking on behalf of the class during the school day or the extra curricular theatre program. They addressed the impact the course has had on their self evolution. Mr. Lopes thanked them for their comments and that the future of the afterschool program would be discussed later in the meeting.

IV. INFORMATION FROM THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Julia updated the Committee on the many trips that occurred over April break. Seniors are now on their internships and AP exams are finishing up. DECA went to compete in California.

V. INFORMATION FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

- A. DHS Pride - Superintendent Bauer introduced Principal Adam Federico to highlight the events at the High School. Mr. Federico welcomed the new members to the Committee. He then shared that the high school has three students who have qualified for a trip to France sponsored by the French consulet. They competed at the local level to reach this achievement. Adam then introduced Megan Beaulieu who presented the accomplishments of this year's DECA program.
- B. Bubble Day: Superintendent Bauer introduced Eric Oxford and Rebecca Cann to present their fundraiser Bubble Day. This is an event being coordinated with the Danvers Recreation department to help raise funds for communication boards across the town. Mr. Shannon asked how the event was being publicized. Mr. Oxford explained they were sending out brochures and posters.
- C. Superintendent Evaluation Update: Superintendent Bauer will have his presentation for the June meeting.
- D. Entry Plan Findings: Superintendent will present his findings in June which will go into the Strategic Plan with a June launch. The model has been used in other districts.
- E. Performing Arts Update: Superintendent Bauer congratulated the participants involved in this years performing arts programs. He then introduced Mr. Alex Grover and several students who provided an update on the performing arts program. Students spoke to the success of the after school program at both the high school and middle school. Mr. Grover expressed the importance of growing the afterschool program.
- F. Last Day of School 2023-24: Superintendent Bauer informed the Committee that the district only utilized one snow day for the year, therefore, the last official day of school will be June 17th.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. School Choice: Superintendent Bauer recommends that Danvers does not participate in School Choice for the 2024-2025 school year until more research could be done. Mr. Crane moved to abstain from participating in School Choice for the 2024-2025 school year. Mr. Doherty seconded. As voted.
- B. Security Camera Policy: Superintendent Bauer recommends approval of the Security Camera Policy for a first reading. Mr. Crane moved to approve the Security Camera Policy for a first reading. Mr. Kepnes seconded. As voted
- C. Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan (updated): Superintendent Bauer recommends approval of the Bullying Prevention and Intervention plan for a first reading. Mr. Kepnes moved to approve the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan for a first reading. Mr. Shannon seconded. As voted.

VII. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- B. Consent Agenda: Mr. Crane moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Kepnes seconded the motion. As voted.
- C. Legislation - No update
- D. Subcommittee/Liaison Update -
 - Curriculum & Assessment - No update
 - Policy - Next meeting in June
 - Safety - Next meeting in June.
 - DEEP – Breakfast of Champions to be held on Thursday, May 30th
 - DanversCARES – no update.
 - SEPAC - Previously given.
 - DHRIC - No update

The next meeting will be held on June 10, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.
Multi-Purpose Room Holten Richmond Middle School

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. Eric Crane, Secretary
Danvers School Committee