

Carver Public Schools
School Committee Meeting
MINUTES –October 16, 2017

School Committee Present:

James O'Brien
Andrew Cardarelli
Stephanie Clougherty
Andrew Soliwoda (left meeting at 8:00 p.m.)

Absent:

Gina Marie Hanlon-Cavicchi

Also Present:

Scott Knief, Superintendent
Brad Brothers, Chief Operations and Finance Officer
Meredith Cargill, Director Curriculum, Instruction and Technology

James O'Brien opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with Pledge of Allegiance.

I. Comments from General Public: Mary Willett, MHS teacher, addressed the committee regarding student club fees to express that although she understood the decision to charge club fees was for budgetary shortfalls, she felt the majority of the clubs/activities were community based, teaching the students to give back to the community and it was unfair to charge them a fee to participate.

II. Comments from EAPC: Tom Pinto, EAPC President, and Tammy Johnson, Vice President addressed the committee and highlighted the positive work ethic of our faculty who answer the call to go over and above the call or duty. EAPC requested the School Committee take a stand behind PEC (Public Employees Committee) regarding health insurance they negotiated and agreed upon after many months of meetings. There is much frustration that the Board of Selectmen has now decided to reject the voted plan. EAPC has asked the School Committee for public support of the originally agreed upon plan.

III. Updates from Student Council: Jenna Sweeney shared on September 13th the full council met. On Sept. 15th Crusader Fest was held, great turn out and made \$2000 profit. Apple Pie Social will be on 10/26 at 3:30pm at MHS Café. Officers Workshop was at Holy Cross with Student Councils across the State in attendance. Fall SEMASC will be coming up soon and Jenna is running for President. On October 31, there will be Make a Wish Halloween event.

Updates from Captains Council: Katlin Rudnick and Andrew Bumpus presented information to the committee. The three major events sponsored by Captains Council are: Being 11 for

middle school students, Powder Puff grs. 9 vs 10 and grs. 11 vs 12 to benefit pediatric cancer and Jingle Ball run to collect toys at holiday.

IV. Approval of Minutes: Andrew Soliwoda made a motion to approve regular meeting minutes from September 11, 2017, second by Andrew Cardarelli Approved 4-0.

A motion to approve, but not release, Executive Session minutes of September 11, 2017 was made by Andrew Soliwoda. Motion seconded by Stephanie Clougherty. Approved 4-0.

V. Communications:

- A. Citizenship Day:** Commendations to the three students in grade 11 for participating on September 23, 2017 with Chris Tresca at Project Citizenship. Clare Manning, Hailee Oriola, and Torri Dibble traveled to Boston to volunteer and assist with over 450 immigrants with the process of becoming Naturalized US Citizens. They had the opportunity to meet Mayor Marty Walsh at the event. Mr. Tresca, Student Council Advisor said, "Every student was a model citizen who acted both helpful and mature beyond their years, representing Carver proudly!"
- B. Superintendent's Representatives Breakfast:** This event will take place on October 31st at Taunton High School. Senator Pacheco and Representative Susan Gifford have confirmed their attendance. This event will be an opportunity for South Shore Superintendents and School Committees to discuss the following topics: Unfunded mandates, MCAS 2.0 accountability concerns, decrease in circuit breaker funding, and foundation budget review.

VI. Reports from Superintendent

- A. Personnel Updates:** New Hires: Denise Manning, Kindergarten Paraprofessional; Michael Brogan and Thomas Epstein, CDL bus drivers, pt. and Paula Hammond, Bus Monitor.
- B. Enrollment:** October 1 enrollment numbers for our students PK to Post Graduate were shared. These numbers are official "count" submitted to the Department of Education. The Superintendent noted there are 52 less students this year since October 2016. At the November school committee meeting, the statistics of Carver students attending private, agricultural, school choice, and home schooled will be shared.
- C. Report from Guidance:** Kimberly Duane, Christina Nolan, Trish Winslow and Sean Sullivan gave a detailed presentation of the Middle High School Department and the curriculum and services provided for students to prepare for the future. Google classroom has been implemented for all grades from 6 to 12 and this allows students to create a comprehensive guidance portfolio with the assistance of their counselors.

Details of services, by grade, were presented. Overall services include: academic advising, college and career exploration/application, counseling services, scheduling inquiries and study skills support, peer mediation, problem solving/decision making, and organizational support.

- D. AP and SAT Report:** Janelle Holley, MHS Principal, presented our current SAT and AP scores. These SAT scores were also grafted in a 5 year comparison in critical reading, math, and writing. For AP Scores, Mrs. Holley shared the school year started with an AP Kick-Off to celebrate the participation and results of our students, In 2017 105 students took 217 exams, 132 scored 3 or higher and 61% of students scored 3 or higher. The following AP subjects were grafted by our schools results and globally over the past ten years: US History, European History, English Language & Composition, English Literature, Calculus AB, Statistics, Biology, Environmental Science, Psychology and new this year, Physics.
- E. ELE at CES:** Michelle Taylor, Director of Literacy and ESL Coordinator and District Teacher of ELE Pat Tobin presented information on our English Language Learners program. The district currently has 11 students accessing these services and 3 students being evaluated. The RETELL Initiative was explained and the changes to instruction since its inception. Core academic teachers of ELL and Principals/Asst Principals and Supervisors/Directors who supervise or evaluate such teachers must obtain training and licensure for Sheltered English Immersion Endorsement. Both Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Tobin provided insight to the Committee on the components of instruction to ELL students, the protocols for identification, the assessments used and the challenges and implications. Massachusetts adopted WIDA ELD as part of RETELL in June 2002. The connection to WIDA offers “CAN DO” philosophy which embraces inclusion and equity and many resources. Their personal insights were valuable in portraying a realistic look into our current ELE services and the issues we need to continue to follow.
- F. Update Accelerated Repairs:** Mr. Knief reported the project manager for the accelerated repairs at the Middle High School needs about 14 more work days to complete the project. 11 doors and 19 windows still need to be installed.
- G. Monthly School Building:** The Elementary School project continues to be on time and on budget. Meetings for the procurement of furniture and technology have continued. A sub-committee meeting for the planning of the Grand Opening is planned for 10/30/17 at 6:30 p.m. at Central Office – MLLC.

VII. Recommendations from Superintendent

- A. **Student Activity Fees:** This item was moved to beginning of agenda. The Superintendent recommended to not charge student club fees this year. The discussion included a review of why the fees were being charged initially for FY 18 which was a raise funds to cover the shortage of \$10,000 in the advisor stipend budget line. The following budget line transfers were suggested and explanations of the amounts were explained. \$10,000 transfer from: Superintendent Travel Stipend, \$1000; Custodial Uniform Stipend, \$1,000; Summer Student Painters, \$649, PCC Admin Fee, \$919; Groundskeeper, \$1741; and Workers Comp Yearly Expense, \$4,691. These transfers are from one time money sources. The transfer would allow the elimination of student club/activities fees for FY 18. The topic would be re-addressed for FY 19 budget. Andrew Soliwoda made a motion to approve the transfers for the purpose of eliminating student activity club fees for FY 18, Stephanie Clougherty second the motion. Approved 4-0.
- B. **FY 18 Budget Transfer Requests:** Brad Brothers continued the budget transfer discussion by highlighting several line items in the budget that needed to be revised by journal entry transfers to reflect current amounts. Andrew Soliwoda made a motion to approve all requested transfers, including the previously voted \$10,000 for activity fees. Andrew Cardarelli second the motion. Approved 4-0.
- C. **Field Trips:** Andrew Cardarelli made a motion to approve the following field trips: U/Mass Band Day on 10/28/17; Disney/Universal Studios, Florida for April 2019, Annual Grade 8 New York City on 12/15/2017 and Grade 10 Newport, RI on 12/2/2017. The motion was seconded by Stephanie Clougherty. Approved 3-0.

VIII. Reports from School Committee

Stephanie Clougherty noted the Recreation Committee will be holding a Halloween event at MHS on October 21st from 12-2. She also shared YPAC has expressed their gratitude for the use of the space at our Middle High School campus for their afterschool program and thanked David Siedentopf for all his efforts in getting them set up in their new location. Andrew Cardarelli thanked the community for coming out for the Second Annual Food Drive on 10/14 and thanked the guest collectors. James O'Brien thanked all the contributors at this evenings meeting for their outstanding presentations and appreciated the extra time and efforts.

IX. Executive Session: James O'Brien asked for a motion to adjourn regular session and to enter into executive session not to return to open regular session to conduct strategy in preparation for negotiation/collective bargaining with union personnel. Stephanie Clougherty made the motion, Andrew Cardarelli second the motion. All in favor 3-0, by role call.

Meeting adjourned at 9:53 p.m.
Respectfully submitted by Annmarie Metrano

