

CARVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Monday, February 11, 2019

7:00 p.m. OPEN MEETING

Town Hall, 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 1

School Committee Present:

James O'Brien

Andrew Soliwoda

Andrew Cardarelli

Stephanie Clougherty

Jenna Sweeney, Student Advisory Council

Absent: Gina Marie Hanlon-Cavicchi,

Also Present:

Scott Knief, Superintendent

Brad Brothers, Chief Operations and Finance Officer

Meredith Cargill, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Technology

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

Recognition: *Project 351: Paul (PJ) Attaya, Grade 8*

Grade 8 Student, Paul (PJ) Attaya was recognized as the 2018-2019 Ambassador for Project 351 from Carver Public Schools. Project 351 an independent nonprofit organization that builds a movement of youth-led service by engaging an unsung hero from each of Massachusetts' 351 cities and towns. United for a year of leadership and service, Ambassadors transform communities, elevate kindness, advance social justice, and gain the courage, compassion, and capabilities to lead change. Students are nominated and chosen by the school administration for their example of leadership, service and commitment to community. Paul shared how honored he was to be chosen and about his experience attending the annual conference in Boston where he had the opportunity to hear several state representatives speak. While in Boston that day he was able to spend some time volunteering at the Pine Street Inn homeless shelter and food pantry/kitchen. To continue his Project 351 service he plans to begin a clothing drive for the Cradles to Crayons organization at the Middle High School.

I. Comments from the General Public:

None

II. Comments from the EAPC: Tom Pinto, EAPC President, Tammy Johnson, EAPC Vice President

Mr. Pinto thanked members of the school committee and administration for their support at the well attended EAPC forum for the Fund the Future campaign held in January. Tammy Johnson has been working with administration and fellow teachers on the evaluation committee at Carver Public Schools. She shared that

CARVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Monday, February 11, 2019

7:00 p.m. OPEN MEETING

Town Hall, 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 1

exciting work is being done and tough items are being worked out and they are looking forward to the roll out this spring. This work is being completed in agreement with the collective bargaining agreement.

III. **Update by Student Advisory Council:** Jenna Sweeney, Student Advisory Council

The student council recently sent seven members to attend the winter S.E.M.A.S.C. (South Eastern Massachusetts Association of Student Councils) conference held at Attleboro High School in January where they attended various workshops and team building events. Jenna lead a workshop at the conference focusing on leadership roles. The annual M.A.S.C. (Massachusetts Association of Student Councils) conference is coming up in the spring and will be held once again in Hyannis with the 2019 theme of: "Launch your Leadership." At M.A.S.C., the Carver Middle High School Student Council will submit their portfolio of activities for the year, hoping to be recognized as a "Gold Council of Excellence" which they have been awarded for the past six years. Carver students Morgan Campbell and Mya LaBrecque are planning to run for state board positions at this conference as publicity coordinator and delegate respectively. The student council is hosting the "Mr. Crusader" male pageant fundraiser in February featuring seven Carver Middle High school students.

IV. **Approval of Minutes**

December 10, 2018 - Executive Session Minutes

This item has been moved and these minutes will be reviewed and approved in executive session this evening.

January 14, 2019 - Regular Session Minutes

Motion: Andrew Soliwoda

Second: Andrew Cardarelli

Vote: Unanimous

January 14, 2019 - Executive Session Minutes

This item has been moved and these minutes will be reviewed and approved in executive session this evening.

V. **Reports from the Superintendent:**

A. Personnel Updates:

The following personnel updates were announced: **Resignation:** Christina Robertson, *Para, Special Ed - MHS*; **New Hires:** Mary Lemon, *Long-Term Substitute, Para, Special Ed, CES* **Transfer:** Jocelyn Kelley, *from Special Ed Paraprofessional to Long Term Sub, March 2019 - Grade 3, CES*

B. Fund Our Future Presentation, EAPC Presentation

EAPC Vice President, Tammy Johnson presented to the committee and community about the MTA's (Massachusetts Teachers Association) campaign called "Fund our Future". The purpose of the campaign is to lobby the legislature to fully fund the recommendations of the Foundation Budget Review Commission report from 2015. The Foundation Budget Review Commission found that the state's increases in funding

CARVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Monday, February 11, 2019

7:00 p.m. OPEN MEETING

Town Hall, 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 1

through the current chapter 70 formula were not keep pace with real cost increases in four key areas: Health Care, Special Education, E.L.L. (English Language Learners), and support for Low Income Students. This funding from the state has seen a decline of 32% since 2001. The M.T.A. is asking for School Committee's throughout Massachusetts to approve the resolution listed below. More information can be found online at www.MassTeacher.org/fundourfuture. Upcoming events will be held at Bridgewater State University, February 26, 2019 at 4 p.m. as well as at Marshfield High School on March 5, 2019 at 4 p.m. and March 16, 2019 at 5 p.m.

C. **Resolution in Support of Full Funding of Public Schools**

The school committee reviewed and discussed the resolution listed below that the M.T.A. has been asking School Committees to approve and were also provided with a list of school committees that have already passed the resolution acquired from the M.T.A. website.

The Resolution in Support of Full Funding for Our Public Schools:

WHEREAS, free public schools available to all students without exception are foundational to our democracy and are required by the state constitution; and

WHEREAS, all of our students, no matter where they live, deserve high-quality public schools that teach the whole child and provide them with a rich school experience that addresses their academic, social and emotional needs;

WHEREAS, the state's foundation budget formula, which determines state aid to each district, has been woefully out of date for years, thereby underfunding our districts by more than \$1 billion a year for essential educational services; and

WHEREAS, an updated foundation budget formula would bring Carver School District up to \$398,050 in additional state aid each year, allowing this district to move closer to providing all students with the education to which they are entitled as residents of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature failed to pass any foundation budget legislation in the last session, leaving districts, educators and students without the funds necessary to support the schools our students deserve in every district in the state;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Carver School Committee urges the Legislature to approve and fully fund a new foundation budget formula by May 1, 2019.

Motion: Andrew Soliwoda made a motion to support the resolution in support of the full funding of our public schools.

Second: Andrew Cardarelli

The school committee agreed that they fully support this and inquired as to what else they could do to be supportive in this effort. There are lots of different groups petitioning our state for support all coming with similar ideas advocating for funding schools. In addition to the School Committee passing this resolution, Superintendent, Scott Knief shared that through the Massachusetts Superintendents Association he has

CARVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Monday, February 11, 2019

7:00 p.m. OPEN MEETING

Town Hall, 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 1

already petitioned state representatives to fully fund the circuit breaker which helps to with our special education expenses. The school is also hoping to gain funding and assistance from the state through the formation of a new program under Chapter 78.

David Ashley, M.T.A. representative weighed in on the conversation with M.T.A.'s position and shared that the promise and cherish acts are most beneficial to public universities and schools in Massachusetts. If it is implemented in the way it is outlined, it will bring 1.5 billion dollars to schools K-12 statewide. Representatives have said this act would not impact the average taxpayer and are looking at many different avenues to fund it. The Governor's proposal is that he will make this work within his current revenue structure.

Mr. Ashley publicly thanked the Superintendent for his support in gaining funding for schools and the school committee for their support. James O'Brien in return thanked the E.A.P.C. and M.T.A. for all of their efforts stating how important it is that these conversations are happening and by agreeing to this more voices will be heard.

Vote: Unanimous.

D. Career Pathways, Michael Schultz, Vice Principal, A.D., Meredith Cargill, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Technology, Scott Knief, Superintendent of Schools.

In November, the school administration made a presentation about what positions and programs the schools we would need to add to achieve the strategic objectives outlined in our Educational BluePrint. One of the ideas that was discussed then was about developing a Career Pathways for students at the Middle High School.

The presentation about Career Pathways began with a quote from John Dewey: "If we teach today's students as we taught yesterday's, we rob them of tomorrow" and centered around how changes in economy, compel changes in education. Dr. Bill Daggett, founder of the International Center for Leadership in Education, who is recognized worldwide for his ability to lead school reform and help educators effectively prepare students for the future believes that over time we have gone through four major industrial revolutions: Steam & Water Power (lasting about 120 years), Age of Science and Mass Production/Manufacturing (1900-1990), Digital Age (1990's - current), and the Nano-Biotech revolution in electronics and robotics, etc. (beginning now --). These revolutions have transformed both the expectations and models of public education.

With trends and revolutions rapidly evolving, school must respond, which then poses the question to our schools of whether or not we preparing students to be active and productive citizens in this society and in the revolution that is starting to develop now. As always, the goal is for all students to be career and college ready. Students headed to the military, two or four year continuing education, or those who are planning to head immediately into other careers, all need to be equally equipped for success.

CARVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Monday, February 11, 2019

7:00 p.m. OPEN MEETING

Town Hall, 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 1

The career pathways team has looked to Mashpee High School, which is a comparative school to Carver High School, as an example for this pathway program. Mashpee is looking at similar goals and found a trend of losing a large percentage of students to different schools or vocational programs. They wanted to provide students career opportunities beyond the classroom. They began implementing their plan five years ago and has made strides in their career pathways program. Their high school now houses a robotics lab, a printing press and printing program that prints items for Mashpee and surrounding towns, their yearbook, etc., and a restaurant. The school worked within their curriculum and added these electives and specialized classes. The students are using industry level technologies and curricula based on industry standards and some programs also offer certifications and licenses in the field.

Working with our own curriculum and using our current resources, the team believes these pathways can exist by making changes to our existing structure. For instance, the Math Department has already picked up technology aspects in coding with the Bootstrap Algebra course. Science courses and the department can add in to assist our wellness, agricultural and environmental science pathways, etc.

There are three possibilities for pathways each of which will have seed money that pays for these programs under a grant: Vocational Pathways (under Chapter 74), Innovations Pathways, and Early College Pathways. The Innovation Pathways programs look to marry skills from traditional schooling with workforce skills. In this pathway, students would start as Freshmen and agree throughout their four years in high school to take two college level classes, two technical courses, and a 100-hour internship or capstone project which would be displayed on their transcript.

The Early College Pathways goal is to blend high school and college. This program would offer 12 college credits in high school by entering into a partnership with a local community college. These classes would either be offered by the college in house or allow students access to the college campus. All students would have access to this program/pathway. Carver counselors and administrators have already been in communication with Massasoit State College and have had early discussions about offering these opportunities. This pathway would add monies into the school budget to fund dual enrollment for ten students.

Under Chapter 74, an organization called Masshire is creating vocational clusters that help support the needs of the industry. For instance, TechEtch in Plymouth partnered with Masshire to work with schools in the manufacturing arena. Under this pathway, students would have vocational opportunities that offer certifications, internships, job shadowing and job placement by making connections with local business and industry. The goal of all of these programs is experience and exposure so students have options and get some applicable knowledge and experience in a career pathway.

CARVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Monday, February 11, 2019

7:00 p.m. OPEN MEETING

Town Hall, 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 1

In January, Scott Knief, Meredith Cargill and Michael Schultz met with representatives from the Office of Career and Technical Education at DESE, Keith Westrich, Osoi Flores, and Marnie Jaim to share Carver's vision of this direction to see how it aligns with the states vision for Career and Technical Education. They found definite parallels to Carver's plan with the state, which lead the team to go back and see where we align and see how we can partner with the state to provide these opportunities to our students. The representatives at DESE ensured the team that Carver was headed in the right direction. Based on the meeting with DESE and other research, they have begun the development of the following career pathways:

- Visual and Performing Arts
- Business and Entrepreneurship
- Hospitality Services
- Wellness and Municipal Services
- Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
- Manufacturing/Engineering and Technology and Computer Sciences

These clusters and pathways were identified by the school based upon regional data. Students would work with guidance to establish their pathway. A look from the outside would show that the coursework would be similar and these pathways would be a bit more fluid with programs as compared to a vocational school.

In order to start forward movement, the team feels as though adding a Technology teacher at the Middle High School is an important next step to help build out the pathways in the tech based arena. They plan to apply for the Innovations Pathway and Chapter 74 (for the culinary department) program funding next year. They will also continue to work on building based teams that create these pathways and investigate "Project Lead the Way" funding which helps support health sciences and allied arts via modules and courses as college level curriculum. This will ultimately develop out into a 5 year plan for timelines in design, implementation and funding.

Members of the committee shared their support of this program and agreed that as a whole we are far behind on technology, programming, and coding and that they believe this is a great step to give students what they need. Superintendent, Scott Knief thanked Michael Schultz, Vice Principal/A.D. and Meredith Cargill, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Technology for the work they have already put in to these plans.

- E. Budget Presentation** Brad Brothers, Chief Operations and Finance Officer; Scott Knief, Superintendent
Brad Brothers and Scott Knief presented an updated budget presentation to the school committee. The presentation gave an updated overview of costs of a level service budget plus the addition of positions that they believe are key to achieve the educational blueprint of the district. The positions included in the presentation as additions are a technology teacher at the MHS to begin to support the development of career pathways, an addition of five (5) part time paraprofessionals for the Kindergarten classrooms to provide support throughout the school day, and the addition of a .4 technology support position. The addition of these positions will have a budget number that is \$901,686 3.9% greater than the current Town budget number for the school district.

CARVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Monday, February 11, 2019

7:00 p.m. OPEN MEETING

Town Hall, 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 1

The number presented dropped by 1% from the level service overview in January from two main things: Kwh usage has come down at the Elementary school due to a confirmed service agreement, and \$32,000 was saved from the Plymouth County Retirement system, however this number could change year to year.

Items that are still up in the air that could change the level service number for next year are: health insurance rates (\$30,000 Savings with each percentage), agricultural school tuitions (\$20,000 to \$22,000 per student), the expansion of the school choice program (\$5,000 per student), and retirements (\$10,000 to 30,000 per).

At the additional school committee meeting scheduled on February 25, 2019 to discuss the budget, there will be a presentation of what positions would need to be reduced in order to meet the Town's budget number. The formal public hearing of the budget at the March meeting.

III. Recommendations from the Superintendent

A. Budget Transfers, Brad Brothers, Chief Operations and Finance Officer

Brad Brothers presented the following transfers for approval:

- Line 6:** \$103,000 out of line to cover salary changes and 1 salary was charged off to Title I
- Line 16:** A savings note from retirements
- Line 24-25:** \$15,000 moved out of short term substitutes to long term substitutes. Mr. Brothers noted overall the substitutes lines are good shape.
- Line 47:** Bus driver salary K-12 is a change from bus driver who left and the route was dissolved and then added to Special Education route services line and homeless transportation.
- Line 56:** This money was moved at the beginning of the year due to a misunderstanding in regards to who was funding the groundskeeper position, the school or the town) Everyone is on the same page for next year and this is all set moving forward.

Motion to approve the proposed budget transfers: Andrew Soliwoda

Second: Andrew Cardarelli

Before the vote Mr. Brothers shared that the current budget was in good shape in the custodial and equipment, and supplies and materials accounts and if they continue to show favorably, he would like to move additional funds into the special education account in order to roll back into the revolving account for the town.

Vote: Unanimous

CARVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Monday, February 11, 2019

7:00 p.m. OPEN MEETING

Town Hall, 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 1

B. Policy KG: Community Use of School Facilities original policy proposed revisions

This agenda item was moved to the February 25, 2019 meeting in order to continue the discussion with the Board of Selectmen at the upcoming joint meeting of the school committee and board of selectmen in regards to the policy for town use of the facilities.

C. Field Trips:

HS Student Council to MASC Conference, Hyannis, MA, March 6-8, 2019

Motion: Andrew Soliwoda

Second: Stephanie Clougherty

Vote: Unanimous

IV. Reports from the School Committee _____

Andrew Cardarelli: Offered condolences to the family of Allison Donovan and the Watertown School District in the recent passing of the school teacher.

James O'Brien and Andrew Soliwoda: Wished students, staff and families a safe and happy February break.

Stephanie Clougherty: Echoed the sentiments of a safe and happy vacation and encouraged the community to attend the next meetings and get involved.

V. Executive Session:

Motion made to go to executive session and not return to regular session for purpose of considering complaint against individual and review of related executive session minutes (pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) and Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 22(f),(g).): Andrew Soliwoda.

Second: Andrew Cardarelli

Roll Call Vote:

James O'Brien, Chairperson: **Yes**

Andrew Soliwoda, Vice Chairperson: **Yes**

Andrew Cardarelli: **Yes**

Stephanie Clougherty: **Yes**

Motion Approved: 4 to 0

Meeting Moved to Executive Session at 9:05p

Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by: Gina Marie Rush

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Monday, February 25, 2019 7:00 p.m. OPEN MEETING