

CARVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Committee Meeting
Monday, December 12, 2016

School Committee Present:

James O'Brien
Andrew Cardarelli
Paula Lowe
Andrew Soliwoda

Absent:

Gina Marie Hanlon-Cavicchi
Jenna Sweeney, Student Council Representative

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.

Recognitions:

Christine Cabral, MHS Asst. Principal and MHS Guidance Counselor Trish Winslow along with Justin Carpender, Samantha Santos and Matt Kennedy presented information about the *World of Difference Program*. The three juniors represented over 30 members of Peer Leader group who have been trained through the Anti-Defamation League in working with our students to make good decisions regarding bullying, peer pressure and acceptance in our schools. The students have participated in a 3-day training program and then have spent time with grade 7 students through homerooms during advisory periods to share these skills and attitudes – having a world without hate. The students were commended for their excellent work.

Recognition of the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship Recipients – Class of 2017. The students were congratulated for their outstanding achievements. John & Abigail Scholar criteria was explained by Scott Knief. Students earn a tuition waiver at Massachusetts colleges and universities by earning advanced or proficient in Math and ELA MCAS from their 10th grade tests and must also be in the 25% of their class.

Recipients are: William Archer, Jason Baker, Chayse Borgeson, Morgan Brown, Luke Drakakis, Clay Drew, Matthew Foster, Kelly Garrett, Steven Hayward, Keira Hom, Lillian Hurley, Paul Lapsley, Christopher Mallon, Isabella Matterazzo, Angelina Morales, Natalie Mosher, Sabrina Pangione, Sean Rudolph, Kevin Semple, Ryan Semple, Josh Sheinis, Avery Sherwood, Jason Showan, Connor Skinner, Madison Staples, Priya Tait, Caitlyn Weston, and Madelyn Wright.

I. Comments from General Public: Dick Ward, Chair of the CES Building Committee reported the project is off to a good start and the weekly meetings with project managers have kept open communication and quick resolution of any problems and/or changes to be considered.

II. Comments from EAPC: Tom Pinto, President, thanked Scott Knief for presenting information to the negotiation team regarding current budget situation. He wished everyone Happy Holidays.

III. Updates from Student and Captain's Council: None at this time.

IV. Approval of Minutes:

Paula Lowe made a motion to approve minutes of November 14, 2016 meeting. Andrew Soliwoda second the motion. Approved unanimously.

V. Communications:

A. Thank you letters to A.D. Makepeace and Robert Ieronimo for assistance with MHS athletic fields were shared with Committee.

B. Request to Open Negotiations with EAPC. The request letter sent to EAPC and their response was shared. The Carver faculty voted not to re-open any negotiation talks at this time.

VI. Reports from Superintendent

Instructional Leadership - Standard I

A. Personnel Updates:

New Hires: Marisa Elgart, *Title I Math Paraprofessional*

Resignations: Jenn McCann, *Bus Driver*

B. Language Live Presentation: Katie Laliberte from the MHS Special Education Department along with Karen Teichert, Director of Special Education explained the Language Live Program. This program is a comprehensive reading program for struggling readers in grades four through high school. Currently we are using the program in grades 6-8. The program is divided into word training – on line instruction, text training and teacher led instruction. Students Fred Doll and Conor Dahill shared on-line examples of the program and their personal successes with the program. The School Committee commended them for their achievements and also their courage to present the information to the audience.

Management and Operation Standard II

A. Monthly School Building Report: Walter Hartley from PMA was in attendance to provide updates on Elementary School building project covering October and November 2016. Information covered in the report included: project safety, open scope/potential issues, project and budget status, cashflow on project, manpower vs

cost analysis and milestone dates. Monthly reports from PMA will be available the 12th of each month and will be posted on the town and school website. Mr. Cardarelli inquired about the “construction cam” and Mr. Hartley said it should be available shortly.

- B. Budget Updates:** Brad Brothers presented an updated line item accounting on full FY17 budget as well as highlights as to budget shortfalls by cost center. FY 18 budget continues to be worked on fall winter presentation.
- C. Facilities Updates:** Brad Brothers reported the MHS trainer’s room is now operational, only waiting on a door and the ice machine is being moved out. The gym wall padding and dividers are on order and will be delivered soon. A thank you went out to Capital Outlay for financial assistance with purchase of outside batting cages. A discussion was held about “No Food/Drink” being allowed in gym. Also Andrew Soliwoda asked about a “grand opening” type of event at the MHS gym with maybe a free admission to basketball game. Mr. Knief will check in with Mr. Schultz regarding this possibility. Mr. Cardarelli asked about water situation. Mr. Knief stated a report was submitted to DEP on 11/30 and the next step is a water system design due by February.

Professional Culture Standard IV

- A. ALICE Program:** Mark Souza, MHS Assistant Principal gave a presentation for this emergency system. He gave an overview of our current process of implementing these emergency response protocols at both campuses. ALICE stands for: (A) Alert, (L) Lockdown, (I) Inform, (C) Counter, (E) Evacuate. A timeline for training for staff and students was shared. Carver has four certified ALICE trainers, Mark Souza, Officer Ritz, Detective Kelly and SRO Fred Melo. Andrew Soliwoda asked if parents are informed in advance of any ALICE drills and Mr. Souza said no drill would take place without the parents being informed via Jupiter grades, Connect-Ed, etc. Mr. Knief thanked Mr. Souza for taking the lead on this important training for the district.

VI. Recommendations from Superintendent

- A/B. Field Trip Requests:** Sophomore Class trip to New York City in Spring 2017 and Grades 9-12 Trip to Europe, Spring 2018. Andy Cardarelli made a motion to approve to approve both trips, Andrew Soliwoda second. Approved unanimously.
- C. Appointment of RAO (Records Access Officer):** As of January 1, 2017, a new public record law goes into effect in Massachusetts. A major change required in the law is that all public agencies and municipalities appoint a Records Access Officer to assist persons requesting records to identify the records sought, to assist the custodian of records in properly maintaining the records and to assist person seeking access to public records in making informed requests regarding the availability of such public records electronically and otherwise. The Superintendent recommended the appointment of Annmarie Metrano to this position. Paula Lowe made a motion to approve the appointment, Andrew Soliwoda second. Approved unanimously.

D. Policy JFBB-1 School Choice, First Reading. Discussion regarding the process and whether or not the School Committee wished to include specific grade levels in the school choice policy. Mr. Knief stated each year the committee needs to vote on participation and depending upon enrollment a decision as to which grades would be included could be made at that time. Since the committee voted to accept school choice in FY 12, only kindergarten students have been enrolled. Second reading and vote in January.

E. Policy EEAJ Motor Vehicle Idling, First Reading. The practice of no idling has been in place in the district but the Committee had not voted/adopted a policy of the topic. A second reading and vote will take place in January.

VIII. Reports from School Committee:

The Committee members wished the staff and community Happy Holidays. Mr. Cardarelli mentioned the food pantry has been moved to Rte. 58 and the Shane Gives Thanks group is now operating the pantry and accepting donations. He reminded people to show care and kindness in this season. Mr. O'Brien stated as Acting Chair he is grateful for community supporting the schools. He apologized to all staff for fiscal place we find ourselves in. We have a lot of ground to make up and he hopes EAPC will reconsider getting together for discussions. Paula Lowe thanked Mr. O'Brien for stepping up to the responsibilities of Chair and wished the best to Gina Hanlon-Cavicchi in her absence.

IX. Executive Session

Motion by Paula Lowe to adjourn Regular Session to open Executive Session (not to return to Regular Session) to conduct strategy in preparation for negotiation and collective bargaining with union personnel. Andrew Cardarelli second. Role call by Committee. Yeah: Paula Lowe, Andrew Soliwoda, James O'Brien and Andy Cardarelli. Approved unanimously.

Adjourned regular session at: 9:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Annmarie Metrano