

CARVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Committee Meeting
MINUTES – February 13, 2017

School Committee Present:

Gina Marie Hanlon-Cavicchi
James O'Brien
Andrew Cardarelli
Andrew Soliwoda

Absent: Paula Lowe

Also present:

Scott Knief, Superintendent
Brad Brothers, Chief Operations and Finance Officer
Meredith Cargill, Director Curriculum, Instruction and Technology
Jenna Sweeney, Student Council Representative

Gina Hanlon-Cavicchi opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognitions: Robotics Team: High School Students: Sam Gregory, Anne Lapsley, Paul Lapsley, Chris Mallon and Michael Pompei. Middle School Students: Anthony Barkowsky, Jacob Pearlman and Austin Peterson were in attendance and showed their trophy and operated their "robots." Advisors Dan Ryan and Tony Rota explained there were 26 teams competing from 13 schools on January 21st and Carver won the top award- VEX Team Excellence.

Washington DC trip - Inaugural Ceremonies: Students Nate Miller, Victoria Rego and Jenna Sweeney joined their teachers Mr. Rota and Mrs. Kilnapp to share their experiences at the Presidential Inaugural Ceremonies. Photos were also shared with the committee.

I. Comments from General Public: None

II. Comments from EAPC: Tom Pinto, EAPC President addressed the committee and offered any and all of the union's resources for connecting with state representatives to facilitate conversations about budget concerns.

III. Updates from Student Council: Jenna Sweeney updated the committee on the excellence book project for Student Council. A Valentine's Day dance will be held for the Senior Citizens on 2/16/17.

IV. Approval of Minutes:

James O'Brien made a motion to approve regular meeting minutes from January 9, 2017, second by Andrew Soliwoda. Approved with one abstention from Gina Hanlon-Cavicchi. James O'Brien made a motion to approve Joint Session Minutes from January 12, 2017,

Andrew Cardarelli second. Approved with one abstention from Gina Hanlon-Cavicchi. James O'Brien made a motion to approve regular and executive session minutes from January 23, 2017, Andrew Soliwoda second the motion. Approved unanimously.

V. Communications: An e-mail received from Greenbriar, Tennessee was read. The Assistant Principal of Greenbriar High School wrote to commend our students for their excellent behavior at the inaugural ceremonies and how well they represented our school district.

VI. Reports from Superintendent

Instructional Leadership - Standard I

A. Personnel Updates: Resignation of Jen Santagate, MHS Paraprofessional and transfer of Thomas McLean, MHS History Teacher to Department Chair/Teacher for Foreign Language.

B. Report on Entry Findings: Scott Knief explained this report is part of his participation in the New Superintendent Induction Program. The report was broken into purpose, findings and essential questions, and a timeline for ongoing analysis and strategy of developed. He indicated what he had learned about the district in his first year which will assist with establishing a direction for the creation of our new district improvement plan. James O'Brien asked what are the next steps. The ALT team would assist with developing the strategic goals, those goals would be shared with faculty for their feedback. Mr. Knief plans on bringing the strategic goal document to the committee in June for their vote.

C. Reading Report: Michelle Taylor, Director of Literacy presented information on the Reading Workshop Model. Our model evolves from data collected over time. The workshop model and goals were explained as well as how reading is assessed. Details on what the model looks like in the classroom and its importance was discussed. For example, small group reading enable teachers to closely observe and monitor students reading behavior, it allows teachers to model reading skills and strategies explicitly to an appropriate audience and the teacher can provide direct, constructive feedback and support while students practice application or reading strategies in text.

Management and Operation Standard II

A. Monthly School Building Report: The January Elementary School Project report from PMA Construction was shared with the Committee. The project is on time and on budget. The community was reminded this information is available on the school website. The majority of footings for the foundation are in and the beginning of framing the structure. Steel deliveries will begin during February school vacation week and cranes will be on site. Also noted, on March 1, the Building Committee will travel to Woodland Elementary School in Milford MA to evaluate interior color schemes.

B. Budget Presentation: Mr. Knief and Mr. Brothers presented the FY 18 level service budget which included information on cuts and increases to fees. Mr. Brothers presented highlights in each cost center with rationale and backup for how the numbers were calculated. Karen Teichert, Director of Special Education presented budget details for her department including an explanation on circuit breaker funds, out of district placement costs and contracted services. The budget will be presented in its entirety on Feb. 27, 2017 and the school committee will be asked to vote the final figure.

C. FY 17 Budget Transfer: Brad Brothers presented a line item list of accounts for FY 17 and adjustment amounts he is requesting to get to actual amounts. James O'Brien made a motion to approve all line item transfers as requested by the Chief Operations and Finance Officer, Andrew Cardarelli second. All in favor. An update will be provided in April.

D. Facilities Updates: For MHS accelerated repair, the project has gone out to bid and today (2/13) there was a pre-bid conference with ten general contractors in attendance. The bids are due March 1st with work to begin in May. The project has an anticipated completion date of September 1, 2017. Construction crews will be working in boiler room while school is in session.

E. Commonwealth Community Compact Municipal Grant: At the request of James O'Brien and with unanimous approval from the committee, this agenda item will be postponed to February 27, 2017 meeting.

Family and Community Engagement Standard III

A. Upcoming Spring Events: A list of various events throughout the Spring was shared with the committee.

Professional Culture Standard IV

VI. Recommendations from Superintendent

A. School Calendar for 2017-2018: The proposed calendar for the FY18 school year was shared with the Committee. The dates proposed have been reviewed and approved by the Administrative Leadership Team. A few changes to note: 2017 will not be an election year in fall and also Good Friday will be returned to a full holiday. James asked if there was any conversation among districts to eliminate the February and April breaks and move to a March break. The Superintendent said some districts had considered this but most have remained with the same winter and spring breaks. James O'Brien made a motion to approve the FY 18 calendar, Andrew Soliwoda second the motion. Approved unanimously.

VIII. Reports from School Committee

No reports.

James O'Brien made a motion to adjourn regular session at: 10:08 p.m. The motion was seconded by Andrew Soliwoda. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Annmarie Metrano