

Carver Public Schools
School Committee Meeting
MINUTES –May 8, 2017

School Committee Present:

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

Also present:

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

Superintendent Scott Knief opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognitions and Student Presentations:

Elementary School Council Students – Tanya Duff, CES Associate Principal shared information about the newly formed CES Student Council. 16 representatives in grades 4 and 5 have attended 22 meetings and the students in attendance shared some of the projects they have been involved in this year.

Reorganization:

New member Stephanie Clougherty was in attendance but abstained from voting on any motions at this meeting.

School Committee Re-organization: The Superintendent asked for a motion to re-organize the School Committee for the 2017-2018 school year by nominating a chairperson.

Chair: Andrew Soliwoda made a motion to nominate **James O'Brien** as Chairperson, Andrew Cardarelli second. Approved 3-0.

Vice Chair: Andrew Cardarelli made a motion to nominate **Andrew Soliwoda** as Vice Chair, James O'Brien second. Approved 4-0.

Recording Secretary: Gina Marie Hanlon-Cavicchi nominated **Stephanie Clougherty** as recording secretary for Executive Sessions. Andrew Cardarelli second. Approved 4-0.

Subcommittees: Members volunteered to work on the following committees.

Policies: Andrew Cardarelli and James O'Brien

Superintendent's Evaluation: James O'Brien and Andrew Soliwoda

Building Committee: James O'Brien and Andrew Soliwoda

Capital Outlay: James O'Brien

Negotiations:

Teachers: James O'Brien and Andrew Soliwoda

Paraprofessionals: James O'Brien and Andrew Cardarelli

Custodians: Andrew Soliwoda and Stephanie Clougherty

Food Services: Andrew Cardarelli and Stephanie Clougherty

Secretaries: Gina Marie Hanlon-Cavicchi and Andrew Soliwoda

Bus Drivers: Gina Hanlon-Cavicchi

Old Colony Regional District Appointing Authority: **James O'Brien** serves as Chair. **Andrew Soliwoda** and **Gina Marie Hanlon-Cavicchi**

I Comments from the General Public: None

II Comments from the EAPC: Tammy Johnson thanked Paula Kibbe for her years of service on the School Committee and welcomed Stephanie Clougherty as the new member of the Committee. She said lots of great things are happening in the schools but was concerned there was an undercurrent of under valuation of public servants. James O'Brien stated the committee always has the best of interest of students first and foremost.

III Update by Student Advisory Representative: Jenna McSweeney reported Sam Santos won the SEMASC President position. Elections for E-Board will take place soon and the Student Council is planning an Art Show on May 24th.

IV Approval of Minutes: Andrew Soliwoda made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 10, 2017. Andrew Cardarelli second the motion. Approved 4-0.

V Reports from the Superintendent

Instructional Leadership Standard I

A. Personnel:

Resignation: Andrea Kane, Grade 3 Teacher;

Hires: Stephanie King, CES Special Ed Teacher

- B. Day on the Hill** – The Superintendent attended the annual ***Day on the Hill*** sponsored by the Massachusetts Association of School Committees in Boston on April 25, 2017. The speakers highlighted the key legislative priorities that MASC and MASS are advocating for this year. In particular Rep. Kaufman outlined the key points of the “Fair Share” Amendment being proposed and supported by the state Legislature. The amendment calls for an increase on the state income tax on all income over 1 million dollars. All revenue raised by the tax increase would be dedicated to education and transportation. The amendment needs to be passed by the legislature this spring to be on the ballot in 2018. If approved by the voters it would become law. Mr. Knief stated there were 12 points of advocacy but he highlighted the topics of Funding revisions to Chapter 70 Aid and the Foundation Budget; Full Funding for Circuit Breaker and Charter School Funding Reform

Management and Operations Standard II

- A. Monthly School Building Report:** The project continues to be ahead of schedule and moving forward on or under budget. As an example, we have only used 2% of our contingency fund for change orders but have completed 28% of the project as of the end of March. At this time, steel work has been completed, and framing the exterior, roofing and pouring the slab floors has begun. At the May 1st faculty meeting, teachers had a walkthrough of the building.
- B. Update Accelerated Repair Project-MHS:** Meetings have begun on a regular basis with the architect, general contractor and project managers in preparation for the beginning of the formal work on the project. Work is going to begin in the Boiler Room on Tuesday May 16th and on roof over the High School gym on Tuesday May 30th. With construction beginning prior to the end of the school, it will give us the opportunity to have the project completed by September 1. As a result of this project, all of our summer programs are being moved over to the Elementary School. We are still going to allow camps access to the fields over the summer.
- C. Budget Updates FY 18:** Brad Brothers updated the Committee on some line item changes that needed to be made for upcoming FY 18 budget. Andrew Soliwoda made a motion to approve the proposed line item changes to the FY

18 budget which includes the addition of a MHS Special Education teacher, a .4 adjustment counselor and a paraprofessional. Gina Hanlon-Cavicchi second the motion. All in favor 4-0.

Family and Community Engagement Standard III

A. Recreation Program: Michael Schultz, Director of Athletics and Michael Santos, MHS Phys Ed Teacher had been asked by the Town Administrator to develop an expanded recreation program for the town. Their efforts led to the allocation of \$15,000 at town meeting to expand the program. They presented information on organizational structure, communication and public relations, budget, facilities and programs, and connections with youth sports programs. They surveyed many surrounding communities to check out how their programs operate. Of highlight was the use of a software program called myrec.com where signups and rosters could be generated. Jen Bogart from the Carver Recreation Committee said their group had not had enough time to review this information and would appreciate all stakeholders to meet and go through proposals. James O'Brien asked for Town Administrator, Michael Schultz and Michael Santos to meet as soon as possible with Recreation Committee and give update to School Committee on proposal.

Professional Culture Standard IV

A. Handbook Review – Elementary School: Tanya Duff presented changes to the committee for the Elementary 2017-2018 handbook including revision of all staff changes, dates and MCAS test dates. The inclusion of ALICE under emergency procedures, information on school store (which will be run by PTO) and updates to homework policy to make homework planned be purposeful and evolved for current day students. The committee asked for more specific language for the homework policy changes. A vote to approve was tabled until the June meeting.

VII Recommendations from Superintendent

A. School Choice: The Superintendent reported we currently have 107 students registered for next year's kindergarten classes. With 6 sections of kindergarten planned with an average class size of 21, the Superintendent recommended 5 slots for Kindergarten 2017-18. Andrew Soliwoda made a motion to approve the Carver Public Schools open five (5) School Choice slots for Kindergarten 2017-2018. Gina Hanlon-Cavicchi second the motion. All in favor 4-0. The decision for school choice will be advertised on our school website and in local newspapers with a lottery in June.

B. School Calendar: Revisions-FY18: Mr. Knief explained the following changes have been requested by the Administrative Leadership Team for next year's school calendar. Move March 7 early release day to March 8th for Parent Teacher Conferences; Move May 11 to May 4 for MHS early release for Prom; and Add

half day on March 30th for Good Friday due to current EAPC contract language. Andrew Soliwoda made a motion to approve the requested changes. Andrew Cardarelli second. All in favor 4-0.

C. Request to Recycle: The elementary school has requested permission to recycle 48 Everyday Math manuals for 2011 CCS and EM3 versions. Stephanie Clougherty asked if any other districts could use them. E-mails have been sent to other schools but there were no takers. Andrew Soliwoda made a motion to approve the requested changes. Andrew Cardarelli second. All in favor 4-0.

D. Field Trip Request: Martha's Vineyard 6/10/17-gr. 9 field trip for team building activities. Andrew Soliwoda made a motion to approve the field trip. Gina Marie Hanlon-Cavicchi second. All in favor 4-0.

VIII Reports from the School Committee: Andrew Soliwoda welcomed Stephanie Clougherty to the Committee and all members shared the same sentiment. Public was reminded of the upcoming school activities including school annual spring concerts.

VIII Executive Session: Andrew Soliwoda made 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. Andrew Cardarelli second the motion. All in favor 4-0, by role call.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Annmarie Metrano