

Duxbury Public Schools

School Committee Minutes Regular Meeting – October 5, 2016 Alden School – Room 104

- I. *Welcome – Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance* Mrs. Ward convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Present: Mrs. Ward, Mrs. Connolly, Mrs. Moesaa, Mrs. Adams and Mr. Quigley
Dr. Tantillo, Dr. Hunter and Mr. Proule were present.
Piers Klein, student representative, was present.

- II. *Approval of the Minutes of September 21, 2016*
Motion: Mrs. Connolly
Second: Mrs. Adams
Unanimous

- III. *Reports for the School Committee*
 - A. Superintendent
 - Dr. Tantillo reported that solar panels are being installed on the top of all schools.
 - Today and tomorrow the Consultants from HYA will be conducting focus groups at 7:00 p.m. in the PAC . This is all part of the search for a new Superintendent.
 - Dr. Tantillo was very pleased to announce that the Duxbury Public Schools have been named an Apple Distinguished District. It is very rare that an entire school would be named as such; they usually have just one school in a district.
 - The teachers and administrators created an iBook that will be published in the Apple Store K-12. This was a total team effort, not only in putting the book together but all of our teachers and administrators who have put in the effort in implementing technology the correct way to supplement teaching and learning.

 - B. Curriculum
 - Dr. Hunter reported that we would be sending 17 staff and administrators to MassCUE on October 19-20.
 - The district will attend the Future Ready conference in Boston on November 14 and 15. Future Ready is a federal program to prepare schools for a rich technology environment. Participation is at no cost.
 - We will be submitting a Safe and Supportive School grant application based on potential partnerships with the Caron Treatment Centers.
 - We are talking with Stonehill College about hosting student teachers for training on technology in the classroom.
 - We will submit Time and Tides in partnership with Island Creek Oysters.

 - C. Business Administrator

Instructions on the FY 18 budget were given to the principals and administrators last week. Mr. Proule will be setting up scheduled meetings with the principals & administrators to go over their budget.

 - D. Chair

Mrs. Ward reported that the Committee has been busy putting together and scheduling the focus groups and we had 16. The parent groups, teachers and senior citizens will be tomorrow.

Mrs. Ward reported on the annual conference that South Shore Hospital and the Youth Health Connection put on for the prevention of under aged substance abuse There was quite a contingent from Duxbury with students and staff from the Guidance Dept.

- E. Student Representative
Piers Klein reported on the DHS Musical, *Brigadoon*.
This week is Spirit week and there is lots going on.
This Friday is the Homecoming Dance at the Steele Building
Senior class plays have begun with the most participation ever.

IV. Presentations of Interest to the Committee

- A. Superintendent Search Committee – Dr. Connolly and Dr. Finn
Dr. Connolly met with each School Committee member today and also met with a large number of groups.

The School Committee discussed the composition of the search committee:

7-9 people

2 School Committee members (Mrs. Ward and Mr. Quigley)

1 person from Central Office

1 teacher

1 parent

1 support staff

1 community member-at-large

1 principal

1 student

On October 19, Dr. Connolly will present the Leadership Profile Report.

The next meeting is when Dr. Connolly has five candidates (slatted for November 22). This meeting will include the full School Committee and the Search Committee and they will review the interview process. Dr. Connolly suggested the committee review

Tomorrow night's open forum starts at 7:00 in the PAC. Dr. Connolly forms will be

- B. October 1 Enrollment
The official October 1 enrollment is 3,183.

- C. Chandler School Improvement Report
Principal Wieseahn and Christine Sovik, School Council Co-Chair presented an update from 2015-2016 and the plan for 2016-2017.
Goal 1- Give academics a higher status
Goal 2 – Foster and support a curriculum that is robust, innovative, rigours and relevant
Goal 3 – Provide authentic, collaborative experiences for students to become college and career ready and globally astute
Goal 4 – Strengthen Communication and partnerships with the Community

Alden School Improvement Report

Principal Whitaker and Christine Sovik, School Council Co-Chair presented an update from 2015-2016 and the plan for 2016-2017.

Goal 1- Student Learning

Goal 2 – Facilities Goal

Goal 3 – Climate and culture: Strengthen communication and partnership with the community

Goal 4 – Curriculum Action Plan Goal

D. Budget Review – End of Year

Mr. Proule presented an overview of the end of the FY15-16 fiscal year.

He reported that the Duxbury School District completed the fiscal year in compliance with the approved 2016 budget of \$32,633,460 and ended the year with a -43.02 that was returned to the town.

E. Evaluation of Special Education Programs - Mrs. Teri Babetski, Administrator of Special Education

The purpose of the evaluation was to provide the district with an objective report identifying areas of strength, needs and recommendations.

Mrs. Babetski discussed the issues, methodology, sample questions and commendations.

Findings:

Identify staffing and resources to reflect student needs

Review written documentation

Small group and individual interviews

Observations of programs and classroom (27 classrooms)

To what degree do teachers know what co-teaching is?

Duxbury's percentage of students in full inclusion (84.9%): One of highest in state

Percentage of students on IEPs is below state average (14.2% to 17.2%)

Over identification of students with Health disability (i.e., ADHD): Duxbury 18.3%; State 9.4%

Coverage for co-teaching varies between schools – some issues identified (i.e. substitutes)

District makes technology accessible to all students and classrooms (i.e., laptops, curriculum (enVision), FM systems, smart boards/projectors)

Unique team teaching approaches throughout the district (i.e., Alden School)

Common planning time is inconsistent across the district; use varies greatly

Ratio of students in co-teaching classrooms varies

General Ed teachers benefitted from co-teaching although there is some confusion about which co-teaching model is used, grading, etc.

Students report benefitting from co-taught classrooms and are better able to access the curriculum

Parents feel uninformed about co-teaching at their child's school; unsure of the model

Disseminate and discuss report to DPS staff (administration, staff and school committee) and to the Duxbury SEPAC

Identify a district-wide task force to focus on sustainability of co-teaching in the district and to address the identified issues

Identify Professional Development opportunities for DPS co-teachers (K-12); March 27, 2017 full day

Work with task force to identify clear and concise entrance and exit criteria for eligibility for health impairments.

V. *Comments from the Public*

VI. Matters for School Committee Action

A. Vote to Approve the Alden School Improvement Plan 2016-2017

Motion: Mrs. Connolly

Second: Mrs. Adams

Unanimous

B. Vote to Approve the Chandler School Improvement Plan 2016-2017

Motion: Mrs. Connolly

Second: Mrs. Adams

Unanimous

C. Vote to Approve Trip to Holocaust Museum

Motion: Mrs. Connolly

Second: Mrs. Moesaa

Unanimous

VII. *Correspondence and New Business*

VIII. *Executive Session*

Adjourn:

Motion: Mrs. Connolly

Second: Mrs. Adams

Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Whoriskey

Administrative Asst.

Documents:

Agenda October 5

Minutes of September 21, 2016

Curriculum Report

Chandler Improve Plan

Alden Improvement Plan

Special Education Report