

To: Dover City Council

From: Dorothea Hooper, Ward 4

Re: School Board Report

The Dover School Board met January 13, 2014

Citizens Forum: No one spoke

Minutes from prior meetings were approved.

Consent Agenda: The agenda was passed after a discussion on adding wording to the field trip policy indicating that if any destination was an area of concern the trip would be cancelled. In addition, Mrs. Grady represented the board in bidding farewell for leaving/retiring staff wishing them well in their future endeavors.

Superintendent's Report: Interim Superintendent Anthony Fernandes gave a brief budget timeline to the board. The budget will reflect district educational priorities. The Board should have a copy of the budget to be presented next week. He announced that the tuition contract with Barrington will need to be approved by the City Council. This issue will be placed on the Joint Fiscal Committee meeting. The last part of the superintendent's report was a presentation by elementary school principals on a new evaluation technique called "walk through" which will result in short frequent visits to classrooms rather than an entire period formal evaluation. The advantages are that the teacher gets a chance to discuss what he/she wants to improve and the teacher gets a quick e-mail within a few minutes of the visit. The report was accepted.

Student Report: Preston Massingham reported on activities at the high school which included the Mr. DHS fund raiser for the junior class and the Granite State program which will be on television later in the year.

Committee Reports: None. School Board Chair Amanda Russell appointed board members to two committees, 1) Technology, Kathy Morrison and 2) Safety, Amanda Russell.

Superintendent Search Committee: There was a request by a city group to allow an additional member to join this committee. Since the committee is halfway through its task and is a large group already, the request was turned down. The board approved the superintendent job posting developed by the committee after a discussion as to whether a specific salary/salary range should be included. The decision was to leave it at a "competitive salary."

New Business: A report on the annual risk survey of students was given. The questions are on behavior displayed by students (alcohol, drugs, sex, bullying) and the data helps develop ways for the community to deal with these risks.

DHS Principal Peter Driscoll explained some of the changes in the high school Program of Studies which would ease the scheduling process as well as offer a few more opportunities for students.

---

The Great Bay Learning Center requested funding as a charter school. The board felt they needed more specific information and noted that they had turned down such a request from CATA another year so they turned down the request.

The district Business Administrator gave an overview of federal and state funding and the present condition of accounts.

The meeting was adjourned.