MENDON-UPTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Committee Meeting
Superintendent’s Conference Room/Miscoe Hill School
Monday, March 27, 2017

Committee Present:
Leigh Martin, Diane Duncan, Tanna Jango, Dorothy Scally

Administration Present:
Joseph Maruszczak, Superintendent
Jay Byer, Business/Finance
Maureen Cohen, Director of Curriculum
Dennis Todd, Director Student Support Services
David Quinn, Director of Technology Integration

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Diane Duncan
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

Approval of Agenda
MOTION: On a motion of Leigh Martin, seconded by Tanna Jango to approve the agenda
VOTED: Unanimously approved

Approval of Open Session Minutes of March 13, 2017
MOTION: On a motion of Tanna Jango, seconded by Leigh Martin, to approve the Open Session minutes March 13, 2017.
VOTED: Unanimously approved

III. STUDENTS COMMENTS

• 3/28 Musical Concert at Nipmuc
• 3/29 21st Century Conference – this conference was student designed to learn life friendly topics such as taxes, financing colleges, change a tire. NBC News Weather will be present. 160 session as well as some fun items such as raffle items and cookie bar.
• 4/1 German Student exchange students arrive
• 4/1 Sophomore ring ceremony

IV. COMMUNITY COMMENTS - NA

V. SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS

Community Forum on K-12 Education/Commissioner Chester
A reminder all are invited to attend the Community Forum on K-12 Education. Commissioner Mitchell Chester will be at Nipmuc on Wednesday, March 29 from 6 – 8 pm. Commissioner Chester will give a brief presentation and then a Town Hall style question and answer period.

Community iFair – March 30
The third annual iFair will be held on Thursday, March 30th from 6 – 8 pm at Nipmuc. Students have developed a website to showcase the presentations on how technology is improving teaching and learning across the district.

*MURSD Visual Budget*
The District’s visual budget has been updated with FY2017 budget data (expenditures, revenue and enrollment). This free, open-source software is a great visual to make the budget more understandable and transparent to the public.

*FY2017 Budget Update*
Jay Byer is comfortable with where expenses are for FY2017. Snow and Ice is at a good amount for this time of year.

VI. **SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES**

*Negotiations Subcommittee*
The Subcommittee has met and discussed bargaining strategy.

VII. **ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS**

*Fy18 Health Insurance Update – Jay Byer*
Jay Byer informed the School Committee the health insurance rate increase is 9.9%. There is discussion of increasing the deductibles on the insurance plans (the district pays the deductibles) in order to lower the increase. This change would result in a one-time savings but could be implemented over 2 years. Jay will keep the School Committee updated.

*Update on Mendon- Upton SEPAC Activities*
Dennis Todd updated the School Committee on SEPAC activities. There have been meetings with parents and surveys distributed. The results show there is an interest in workshops for transition to schools, friendship development, social thinking and understanding EAP.

Dennis has scheduled speakers for future SEPAC meetings:
- Leslie Leslie on how to create a strong and cohesive Parent Advisory Committee on April 4;
- On May 1, a panel of staff members to discuss transition processes and answer questions regarding special education in the four district buildings.
- On May 20 Dr. Lauren Barry will presenting adolescent anxiety.

Information regarding all workshops will be publicized.

VIII. **OLD BUSINESS – NA**

IX. **NEW BUSINESS**

*MCAS 2.0 Testing-What to Expect – David Quinn*
The MCAS 2.0 online testing will begin in the district in the next 2 weeks for all students in grades 4-8. Each school’s technology infrastructure is being tested as well as mock testing sessions with students and staff. David Quinn demonstrated to the School Committee how it will look for the students when the test is administrated. David noted the staff has been great with the transition and it is like second nature for the students. It is a novelty for students to take the test online and it has been a positive response. David also has been working with the students and staff to understand the tools available (highlighting text, expanding text box) when they are taking the test.

X. **CORRESPONDENCE**
XI. Other matters not anticipated by the Committee within 48 hours of the posted meeting - NA

XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Inclusion Practices & Student Performance Data – April 10
- K12 Insight Survey Feedback Action – April 10
- Elementary Recess – April 24

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** On motion of, Tanna Jango seconded by Dorothy Scally to adjourn.

**VOTED:** Unanimously approved

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.
Minutes by Kelly McElreath