

- D. Public Comments/Questions - Ellen Donovan - discussed concerns about the School Calendar and eliminating the religious holidays. She also questioned the February and April vacations. Reuki Schutt replied with concern that we need to conform to what the state is doing.
- E. Student Member Report: Janet Johnson reported on school events and activities happening around the district. The Rodman Center gathered in the CHS library along with their parents to have a reading of the book "A Color of His Own." The Hansen Holiday Shop event kicked off this week. The 4th and 5th grade Hansen students also held their first Student Council Meeting. The JFK teachers were recently recognized by a mother who was exceptionally happy with her son's progress. On Wednesday November 25, the GMS students and teachers had free reading time during home room (DEAR – Drop Everything and Read). Students enjoyed this time. CHS spirit week was the best in years according to students. The students also made a donation to the Canton Food Pantry and hosted an 8th Grade Open House.
- F. Superintendent's Report: Ms. Henderson provided an update on the following: The Superintendent will be moving forward our recommendations for the Spring 2016 PARCC versus MCAS decision at the December 17th meeting. At this point, I am continuing to survey districts who administered PARCC last year and then all those who administered MCAS. Our senior administrative team has been discussing the options and we are also meeting with April Goran and Mike Wentland re: technology capacity. I am also polling the teachers on Monday after providing them with all of the details today. The final recommendation, which must be approved by the School Committee, will be made on Dec. 17th with the written decision due to the DESE on the 18th.

In response to concerns that have been raised by students, teachers, administration and the School Committee re: appropriate balance of free time versus scheduled academic time in our students' lives, I requested that all faculty provide their input about scheduling out the winter break from December 23rd to January 4th as a "balance our lives" type vacation. The entire faculty and administration jumped on board. The following wording will be sent to the students and parents next week.

As we look forward to the holiday season and winter break that is fast approaching, we are reminded of the importance of "balance" in our children's lives and our own lives. While we continue to strive for high expectations and academic excellence for all, we must also try to maintain necessary time for appropriate nutrition, sleep, exercise, relaxing and socializing with friends and family and simply having fun....balance! With that in mind, we will be moving into the winter vacation (December 23rd – January 4th) with an agreement by all in our district that no long term projects, lengthy reports or lengthy reading assignments will be assigned.

Instead, we would like to encourage all of our students and families to read just for pleasure's sake, spend time with friends and family, get some rest and have fun!

A reminder that Bus new morning pick up times go into effect on Monday, December 7th.

We had another incredibly successful math night for our elementary parents last week. The superintendent thanked our three elementary math specialists Maryanna Biedermann, Kerri Falzone and Susan Brass who provided the program.

Today, the Rodman Early Childhood Center had their culminating celebration of their Rodman Reads book called *A Color of his Own* by Leo Lionni. All our Rodman families

and children turned out with a packed high school library. Following the reading of the book which is about a chameleon that is not happy that he cannot remain one color, the audience was visited and entertained by THE REPTILE GUY.

On our Early Release Day before Thanksgiving Break – celebrations including Rodman preschoolers enjoying gross motor activities in the beautiful weather, Spirit Week at CHS, Canton Spirit Day at Hansen, Student v. Teacher Volleyball at the GMS, Bring your Dad or Special Person to Breakfast at JFK and Testing Bridge Building Solutions at Luce.

G. Old Business: None

H. New Business

1. Out of State Field Trip Request: Ed McDonough presented a request to take students to the 2016 Annual Student Television Network Convention in Atlanta, Georgia on March 9- 14, 2016. This trip has been offered in previous years and has had wonderful outcomes. Mike Loughran motioned to approve the out of state trip to Atlanta. Kristen Mirliani seconded the motion. It was voted 5-0.

5 yeas 0 nays

2. Request for Approval of Earthwatch Institute Scientific Study Trip to Mankwe Wildlife Reserve in South Africa: Rebecca Stang returned to answer more questions on her proposed study trip to South Africa. Ms. Stang stated that the increase of cost for taking another parent chaperone would only add \$10-20 to the student expense. She also clarified the question of costs. The trip would be mostly tax deductible because it is a trip where the children will be volunteers. The cost of the trip, supplies and airfare would be tax deductible for most families. More than four students have already expressed interest in signing up for this trip. Ms. Schutt expressed concern about the trip being too elaborate and cost prohibitive for a public school. Mr. Loughran expressed concern and hope that work could be done on the trip or made up. Rebecca said that she will be encouraging students to do work during their travel and down times. Students will need to be in good academic standing to participate in this trip. Mr. Bonnanzio motioned to approve the trip. The motion was seconded by Kristin Mirliani. It was voted 4-1.

4 yeas 1 nays

3. Overview of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey Results: Katey Swanson, Wellness Coordinator, and Deb Bromfield, Director for Students Services, reviewed a summary of the findings from the Youth Risk Behavior Survey that was administered to middle and high school students. Results were anonymous and the students were not obligated to answer every question. There were some areas of concern that were brought up and the School Committee would like to see follow up and some recommendations brought forth.
4. Free Full Day Kindergarten: Superintendent Henderson and Mr. Nectow presented the financial implications of moving to a free full day Kindergarten program with several options outlined. Ms. Henderson and Mr. Nectow stated that if the Free Full Day Kindergarten program is implemented that there will no longer be an option for Half Day Kindergarten. Also, there is currently a space issue and some

of the Kennedy School District full day kindergartners would be transported to the Hansen. In addition, the Hansen addition may not be ready to open on September 1st next year, which would lead to a space issue. Ms. Henderson stated that they would find room for the students temporarily until the classrooms were ready. The options were presented as follows:

- **Option 1** eliminates kindergarten tuition in FY17. This option also includes adding 1 additional bus to transport students from Luce and/or JFK to Hansen because of space restrictions.
- **Option 2** also eliminates kindergarten tuition in FY17. This option includes installation of modulars at JFK, eliminating the need for transporting students to Hansen.
- **Both option 1 and 2** assume enrollment will increase by 20 students, classroom teachers will increase by 2.0 FTE, and education assistants will increase by 2.0 FTE. The difference between the 2 options is how space restrictions at JFK are resolved: Option 1 adds a bus to transport students to Hansen and option 2 adds 2 modular classrooms at JFK.

Based on the assumptions highlighted above and on the attached spreadsheet, the increased cost to implement free full day kindergarten is \$743,035 for option 1 and \$1,183,035 for option 2.

Implementation of both option 1 and 2 also increase Chapter 70 state aid in FY18. The increase is based on the elimination of tuition which increases the enrollment calculation in the Chapter 70 formula. Increasing Chapter 70 state aid would help offset the implementation cost, 1 year after implementation.

- **Option 3** on page 4 phases in free full day kindergarten over 3 years. Tuition would scale down from the current \$3,500 to \$2,000 in year 1, \$1,000 in year 2 and \$0.00 in year 3.

Year 1 of the 3 year phase in assumes there will be 11 full day and 1, 1/2 day classroom across the district. There is no increase in enrollment for FY17. Staffing increases by a 0.5 FTE classroom teacher and a 0.5 FTE educational assistant.

Year 2 of the 3 year phase in assumes enrollment increases by 20 students. The increase assumes 1 additional full day classroom, and an increase of 1.0 FTE classroom teachers and a 1.0 FTE educational assistant.

Year 3 of the 3 year phase in assumes no enrollment increase from. However, eliminating the 1/2 day classroom creates the need for 1 additional full day classroom, and an increase of 0.5 FTE classroom teachers and a 0.5 FTE educational assistant.

1. TEC- Robert Golledge – Met on November 20th. TEC will also be providing free online PDPs for the new requirement of 15 PDPs in ELL and 15 PDPS in work with students with disabilities.
2. CPC – Mike Loughran – Will meet Monday December 7th
3. BRC- John Bonnanzio – Nothing to report.
4. Wellness- Kristin Mirliani – Will overlap with the BPIP subcommittee.
5. Finance – Reuki Schutt – Operating Budget Binders to come out soon.
6. Building Use – John Bonnanzio – Meeting coming up for Revere site visit
7. Policy – Kristin Mirliani – Updates to the Residency Policy will be on the agenda soon.
8. Superintendent Search – John Bonnanzio – Focus Groups for administrators, faculty and parents are coming up on December 8th..

K. Future Business – Next Meeting Thursday, December 17, 2015

L. Other Business – None at this time.

M. Adjournment – Reuki Schutt motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Michael Loughran. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM. It was voted 5-0.

5 yeas

0 nays