

# **BOARD MEETING PACKET**

## **March 8, 2020**

**Virtual Meeting – 7:00pm**

WEBINAR ID 864 6032 0072\*



*Our Vision:  
Champion Learning –  
Develop, Educate, and Inspire!*

\*Link to join will posted at [dexterschools.org/district/calendar](https://dexterschools.org/district/calendar) by 4pm on day of meeting.



*This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in the agenda below. Upon request to the Superintendent the District shall make reasonable accommodation for a person with disabilities to be able to participate in this meeting.*

## BOARD MEETING AGENDA

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>A. CALL TO ORDER</b><br>1. Roll Call   | <b>F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b> (see below)<br>(up to ~30 minutes/max 5 per person)      |
| <b>B. MINUTES (2/22/2021)</b>   | <b>G. CONSENT ITEMS</b><br>1. Personnel - Resignations                                  |
| <b>C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b>  | <b>H. ACTION ITEMS</b><br>1. <a href="#">Reconfirmation of Learning Plan</a>            |
| <b>D. SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS</b><br>1. Presentation on R&D<br>2. DHS Celebration Plans (Honors Night, Commencement, etc)  | <b>I. DISCUSSION ITEMS</b>  |
| <b>E. ADMINISTRATIVE &amp; BOARD UPDATES</b><br>1. Superintendent Update<br>a. Data Update<br>b. Reconfirmation of Learning Recommendation<br>c. Monthly Attendance<br>d. DHS Summer School Credit Recovery Update<br>e. DCS Summer Program Brief Overview<br>2. Board President Update<br>3. Student Representative Update | <b>J. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b><br>(up to ~15 minutes/max 3 per person) <i>See below</i> |
|   | <b>K. COMMITTEE UPDATE</b><br>1. Finance  |
|   | <b>L. BOARD COMMENTS</b>  |
|   | <b>M. INFORMATION ITEMS</b><br>1. Board Bulletin<br>2. Nice Job Notes                   |
|   | <b>N. CLOSED SESSION</b>  |
|   | <b>O. ADJOURNMENT</b>   |

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### CALENDAR

- \*Monday, March 22 – 7:00pm – Board Meeting
  - \*March 29-April 2 – Spring Break
  - \*Monday, April 12 – 7:00pm – Board Meeting
  - \*Monday, April 26 – 7:00pm – Board Meeting
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**Public Participation Policy 0167.3:** *Those interested in making a public comment will be asked to raise their hands [virtually] so the time may be divided equally. Each speaker will be asked to announce his/her name and address and indicate if he/she represents any organization or agency. No person may speak more than once on the same subject during a single meeting.*



**BOARD NOTES**  
**MARCH 8, 2021 – VIRTUAL MEETING**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

1. Roll Call. This meeting is being conducted virtually due to health department restrictions on in-person gatherings. During the roll call, each board member must indicate the city/township and state where they are physically located during this meeting.

**B. MEETING MINUTES**

- \* An appropriate motion might be, "I, \_\_\_\_\_, move that the Board of Education approve the regular meeting minutes from 2/22/2021 as presented/amended."

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

1. Approval of Agenda. Board policy provides that the Superintendent of Schools shall prepare an agenda for all board meetings as directed by the President of the Board of Education.

- \* An appropriate motion might be, "I, \_\_\_\_\_, move that the Board of Education approve the agenda as presented/amended."

**D. SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS**

Materials for these presentations are still being prepared and will be shared at the meeting.

1. Presentation on Research & Development Project
2. Dexter High School Celebration Plans

**E. ADMINISTRATION & BOARD UPDATES**

1. Superintendent Update
  - a. Data Update
  - b. Reconfirmation of Learning Recommendation
  - c. Monthly Attendance
  - d. DHS Summer School Credit Recovery Update
  - e. DCS Summer Program Brief Overview
2. Board President Update
3. Student Representatives Update

**F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (up to ~ 30 minutes/max 5 per person)**

Each speaker is allotted a maximum of 5 minutes for a total of approximately 30 minutes unless otherwise notified. At this point in the meeting, those interested in making a public comment will be asked to raise their hands in the Zoom "Participants" window so the time may be divided equally. Each speaker will be asked to announce his/her name and address and indicate if he/she represents any organization or agency. No person may speak more than once on the same subject during a single meeting.

**BOARD NOTES**  
**MARCH 8, 2021 – VIRTUAL MEETING**

**G. CONSENT ITEMS**

1. Personnel – Resignations. Your packet includes resignations from several staff who have been on leaves of absence.
- \* An appropriate motion might be, “I, \_\_\_\_\_, move that the Board of Education accept the resignations of Stephanie Coy, Leanne Engle, Joanne West, and Colleen Winder.”

**H. ACTION ITEMS**

1. Reconfirmation of Learning Plan. The State Aid Act requires each district to, at least monthly, reconfirm the method of instructional delivery and requires the district to report the student engagement data per month. Your packet includes the February Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan Reconfirmation report for review and action this evening.
- \* An appropriate motion might be, “I, \_\_\_\_\_, move that the Board of Education reconfirm the attached ECOL Instructional Delivery report as presented/amended.”

**I. DISCUSSION ITEMS – none planned**

**J. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (up to ~ 15 minutes/max 3 per person)**

Each speaker is allotted a maximum of 3 minutes for a total of approximately 15 minutes unless otherwise notified. At this point in the meeting, those interested in making a public comment will be asked to raise their hands virtually so the time may be divided equally. Each speaker will be asked to announce his/her name and address and indicate if he/she represents any organization or agency. No person may speak more than once on the same subject during a single meeting.

**K. COMMITTEE UPDATES**

1. Finance Committee

**L. BOARD COMMENTS**

**M. INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Board Bulletin (2/22/21 meeting)
2. Nice Job Notes - February 2021

**N. CLOSED SESSION – none planned**

**O. ADJOURNMENT**

DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 22, 2021 7:00pm

via Zoom due to COVID-19, Webinar ID 848 7562 0390

**A. CALL TO ORDER - 7:00pm**

1. Roll Call

**Members Present:** Brian Arnold (Dexter Township), Elise Bruderly (Dexter), Mara Greatorex (Dexter Township), Jennifer Kangas (Lodi Township), Daryl Kipke (Ann Arbor), Dick Lundy (Dexter), Julie Schumaker (Webster Township)

**Members Absent:** None

**Student Representative:** Aidan Naughton

**Administrative & Supervisory Staff:** Kit Moran, Sharon Raschke, Barb Santo, Mollie Sharrar, Christopher Timmis, Hope Vestergaard

**DCS Staff:** Melanie McIntyre

**DEA Representative:** Jessica Baese

**DESPA Representative:** none

**Guests:** Craig McCalla, Deneen Smith, James McCargar, JB, Jen A, Judy, Karen Walls, Ken Koenig, Kevin Troncalli, Lauren Straub, LouAnn Wing, Matthew Laurin, Melanie Szawara, Tammy Reich, Patel Family, Ryan Bruder, Sheetal Kothari, Samantha Kempf, Sara Mahatzke, Stacey Daugherty, Tanya Tassin, Amy Grant, Healy Ka, Kris Bowman, Laurie Farmer, Emily Logan

**Press:** Lonnie Huhman (Sun Times News)

**B. MEETING MINUTES**

Elise Bruderly made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 2/8/2021 as presented. Mara Greatorex seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried (unanimous).**

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mara Greatorex made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Jennifer Kangas seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried (unanimous).**

**D. SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS – none**

**E. ADMINISTRATION & BOARD UPDATES**

1. Superintendent Update. Dr. Timmis:

- a. Updated the Board on district and county COVID data;
- b. Noted the June retirement of long-time DHS Principal Kit Moran.

2. Board President Update. Dr. Schumaker:

- a. Thanked DHS Principal Kit Moran for his 15 years of service to the district.

**DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 22, 2021 7:00pm**  
**via Zoom due to COVID-19, Webinar ID 848 7562 0390**

3. Student Representatives Update.
  - a. Aidan Naughton asked about a rumor that DHS was running out of bandwidth. Dr. Timmis responded that the rumor was false. DHS has plenty of bandwidth but the district was experiencing a firewall issue that slowed internet speeds; it has been resolved.

**E. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

1. Jim McCargar made comments about COVID vaccinations.
2. Tanya Tassin made comments about the block scheduling proposal and shared a concern.
3. Melanie Szawara thanked the Board and District staff for the return to buildings and noted her appreciation for the Board of Ed Zoom meetings.

**G. CONSENT ITEMS**

Mara Greatorex made a motion that the Board of Education approve the consent items in bulk. Brian Arnold seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried (unanimous).**

1. The Board of Education received the January budget report.
2. The Board of Education acknowledged the retirement of DHS Principal William “Kit” Moran, effective June 2021.

**H. ACTION ITEMS**

1. ORS Resolution. Dick Lundy made a motion that the Board of Education adopt the attached resolution regarding the ORS-IRS Closing Agreement. Jennifer Kangas seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried (unanimous).**
2. MASB Board of Directors Election. Dick Lundy made a motion that the Board of Education cast their vote for Mara Greatorex for the MASB Board of Directors Region 7 seat. Daryl Kipke seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried (unanimous).**
3. DHS Block Scheduling Proposal. Jennifer Kangas made a motion that the Board of Education adopt the attached proposal for Block Scheduling at Dexter High School starting with fall 2021. Mara Greatorex seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried (unanimous).**
4. Schools of Choice for Fall 2021. Dick Lundy made a motion that the Board of Education approve for fall 2021 at least one schools of choice spot in each grade from young 5 through 8, at least one virtual spot, at least one spot in the Dexter Early Middle College, and at least thirty spots in the Dexter High School IB Program - ten each in 9th, 10th, and 11th grades. Daryl Kipke seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried (unanimous).**



**DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 22, 2021 7:00pm**  
**via Zoom due to COVID-19, Webinar ID 848 7562 0390**

**I. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. Parent Survey Results. Dr. Timmis shared with the Board the results of the recent return-to-buildings parent survey. Results indicated some probable movement between home-based and homeroom, but total numbers in each option appear to remain steady.

**J. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – none**

**K. COMMITTEE UPDATES**

1. Education Foundation of Dexter. Board liaison Mara Greatorex reported that EFD will not be holding their spring gala fundraiser due to COVID. Spring grant applications are due to principals by March 15.

**L. BOARD COMMENTS**

1. Jennifer Kangas made a suggestion regarding the Virtual Open House.
2. Mara Greatorex noted that the boys swim team is currently undefeated.
3. Dick Lundy noted, in reference to the Virtual Open House slide preview, that Dexter offers many paths for learning.
4. Julie Schumaker shared that she and Mara Greatorex recently attended an advanced board president workshop offered by MASB and thanked the Board/District for support of trustee training opportunities.

**M. INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Board Bulletin
2. Young 5–Kindergarten Registration Information

**N. CLOSED SESSION – none**

At approximately 9:12pm, President Julie Schumaker adjourned the meeting.

MINUTES/hlv

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Daryl Kipke  
Secretary  
Board of Education





ANCHOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
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**Dexter, MI 48130**  
**(734) 424-4120**  
email: [stephaniecoy82@gmail.com](mailto:stephaniecoy82@gmail.com)

**Stephanie Coy**

February 27, 2021

Dear Dexter Board of Education Members,

I am writing this letter to share my intentions of resigning as a Dexter Community Schools Educator. I want to graciously thank you for allowing me the opportunity to take 4 full years of leave. I have been fortunate enough to be employed by DCS since 2008. During that time I have created many lasting memories and relationships with staff, students and families. I take pride in being a former student and teacher in the community I grew up in.

I have put a lot of thought and consideration into making this difficult professional decision. If given the opportunity for a longterm continued leave I would embrace it. However, the time you have granted me has been beyond generous. I am continuing to enrich my expertise through graduate courses to further benefit the DCS and ensure that I will be a highly effective teacher upon my return.

I intend to reapply for a teaching position through Dexter Community Schools in 2024 when my youngest child will be attending school. I am confident that this time away from the classroom will allow me to grow as both an early childhood educator and parent of four young children. Until then I will look for opportunities to participate in the community as a parent and former employee. I look forward to resuming my career in the future. Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Coy

March 1, 2021

To: Dexter Community Schools DCS Board of Education, Dr. Chris Timmis, Jami Bronson, Barb Santo  
Dexter Community Schools  
Dexter, MI

Dear Dexter Board of Education, Superintendent Dr. Chris Timmis and Principal Jami Bronson,

It is with mixed emotions that I officially request to resign from my teaching position with Dexter Community Schools. I have relocated to northern Michigan and have secured employment with Johannesburg Area Schools for the 2021-2022 school year. I would like to formally request to end my leave of absence at the end of this school year.

I appreciate so much your willingness to allow me this year to explore my options. I am sad to be leaving Mill Creek Middle School. It is an outstanding place for kids to learn, as well as for educators to teach. The sense of community fostered under the leadership of Jami Bronson, Brett Pedersen as well as incredible staff and students is second to none.

Best wishes to all of you who serve Dexter Community Schools and the students who pass through your hallways.

Respectfully,

Leanne Engle

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February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Dear Principal Bruder, Dr. Santo, Dr. Timmis, DEA and Dexter Board of Education,

I am writing to resign from my position with Dexter Community Schools. I have not yet completed my PhD program and unfortunately, COVID has significantly pushed back my anticipated graduation date. I am currently ABD but feel completing a dissertation while teaching full time, having three young children, two of whom are in AAPS and have still not returned to their physical school buildings, and a husband who is a healthcare worker, leave huge barriers in my path. I have come so far in this work that I cannot, in good conscience, leave it now. I hope that you can understand that these are the circumstances under which I am resigning and are no reflection on my time spent in the district.

I have enjoyed my time working in DCS immensely. I believe that the Dexter school system, at all levels, is *truly* exceptional. Building and district leadership constantly prioritize children and pivot quickly to meet their changing needs. Teachers in this district value and honor children they work with as unique individuals and teach them and care for them deeply. It has been a gift to work in this community and a privilege to serve the families who have entrusted their children to me.

Thank you for all each of you are doing to serve children and families.

All my best,

JoAnne West

February 28, 2021

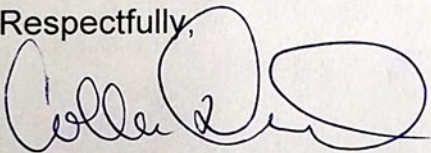
Dear Members of the Dexter Board of Education,

I am truly grateful that you have given me the opportunity to take a leave of absence for the past two school years. This time has truly been a gift for my family and me.

After taking a considerable amount of time to make a very difficult decision, I have come to the conclusion that it is best for me to resign my position as a Speech-Language Pathologist. My family continues to require my assistance, and I am unsure of the length of time that will be needed.

It has truly been an honor to work in the Dexter Community Schools. I appreciate the support of my Dexter family in both my professional and personal life. Thank you for everything you do to support children and staff.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colleen Winder', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Colleen (Davis) Winder



### **SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE**

Superintendent Dr. Chris Timmis began the February 22, 2021 meeting by presenting a condensed version of the upcoming Virtual Open House slideshow. This webinar will share DCS history, campus, vision, learner profile and strategic framework. Attendees will also learn the many pathways to personalized learning available at Dexter Schools (Summit, Pinnacle, Apex, AP, IB, Consortium, Alternative Ed, virtual, etc.) as well as hear examples of project-based learning.

Dr. Timmis also shared plans for a “giant summer program” to be announced in April which will allow students to socialize and engage in fun and safe outside activities. The goal is to “let kids be kids” and enjoy their summer to the fullest in order to return to school this fall refreshed and excited to learn. A planning team of teachers is hard at work on this program, and is coordinating with Camp Dexter for summer childcare needs.

### **COVID DATA & RETURN TO BUILDINGS**

The latest COVID figures show a decrease in cases and infection rates; in Washtenaw County as of 2/18/2021, there were 15.7 cases per 100,000 residents, a 0.82% infection rate and a 2.2% positivity rate. According to the MDHHS scale, we are currently rated low for positivity rate and very high for cases per million. Using CDC guidelines, we are at lower risk based on the most recent data; 2% of the cases are students ages 0-9 years old, and 65% of cases are 18-22 year-olds.

In light of the downward trend in cases and infection rate, and the science showing in-person school can be run safely using certain protocols, the District will begin bringing students back into buildings 5 days/week starting with Y5-2<sup>nd</sup> grade on March 15. Wylie students will return to 5 days/week on March 22, and Creekside students after spring break on April 5. Mill Creek and DHS students will remain on their current hybrid schedules. Y5-6 buildings will have 3 ft. spacing in classrooms and MC & DHS will maintain their current 6 ft. spacing; all building cafeterias will remain at 6 ft. spacing. All information related to the return to buildings can be found at <https://www.dexterschools.org/district/return>. Approximately 50% of DCS staff have received or been scheduled for their first Covid vaccination, with Y5-2 staff being the next prioritized group.

### **THANK YOU, MR. MORAN**

Dr. Timmis shared that Kit Moran, DHS Principal for the past 15 years, will be retiring at the end of the school year. “This is a tough loss,” Timmis said, “and we’ll miss him, but we’re really happy for him. There are going to be some big shoes to fill.”

### **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE UPDATE**

During the student representative update, Aidan Naughton reported a rumor that the DHS bandwidth is at its max. Dr. Timmis responded that last week’s difficulty with internet speed was a firewall issue that has been fixed and there is ample bandwidth available at DCS.

January 13, 2021

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### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Jim McCargar expressed concern that Washtenaw County doesn't have enough vaccines, that vaccinations are not being distributed equitably, and that many teachers haven't yet received vaccinations. Tanya Tassin praised several elements of the block schedule proposal and shared a concern about the reduction in class minutes for AP and IB classes. Melanie Szawara thanked the Board and District for the return to building plans, and for continuing to broadcast Board meetings via Zoom, providing more opportunity for busy parents to attend.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

**MPERS:** The first action item of the evening was a complex MPERS (Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System) issue. Starting in 2014, DCS exempted employee retirement contributions from payroll taxes based on attorney recommendations from ORS (Office of Retirement Services). Deductions for 2012 & 2013 were still outstanding, resulting in \$67,000 of employee money still being held by the IRS. Dexter CFO Sharon Raschke signed and authorized the ORS agent to sign the not-yet-finalized IRS closing agreement on the District's behalf (as is permissible by board policy) so employees might have a chance to reclaim their contributions. After lengthy discussion, the Board unanimously agreed to formally ratify that authorization and resubmit the authorization with the board resolution.

**MASB ELECTION:** Following discussion at the February 8 BOE meeting, the Board unanimously agreed to cast their vote for Trustee Mara Greateorex in the upcoming MASB Board of Directors Region 7 election.

**BLOCK SCHEDULING:** The DHS Block Scheduling Proposal, introduced at the February 8 meeting, was further discussed before receiving unanimous approval. Principal Kit Moran noted that COVID has given DHS an opportunity to practice the block schedule, and teachers have already begun changing their instruction methods and plans. "We are looking at different ways of teaching," Moran explained, "deeper, not broader. We want to focus on what students can do with their knowledge, not just what they know." Student representative Aiden Naughton shared that, in his experience, teachers are not having trouble getting through material in the block schedule and that students will not miss any key aspects of class. The Board voted unanimously to begin a block schedule at DHS in Fall 2021.

**SCHOOLS OF CHOICE:** Dr. Timmis noted that the main focus of schools of choice in Dexter is to create stability for students experiencing life changes such as divorce, moving, etc., by allowing them to remain in their current school. The administration is careful to add only the number of students needed to balance class sizes, and not more students such that additional teachers or classrooms are needed. The Board unanimously approved the following schools of choice spots for Fall 2021: at least one spot in each grade from young 5 through grade 8, at least one virtual spot, at least one spot in Dexter Early Middle College, and at least thirty spots in the Dexter High School IB Program - ten each in 9th, 10th, and 11th grades.

### **DISCUSSION – SURVEY RESULTS**

Dr. Timmis shared the results of a recent survey asking parents their thoughts about return-to-building plans. The District was interested in how much movement there would be between homeroom and homebased when students return to in-person learning 5 days/week. While the results showed some movement of students, on the whole, the percentage of students in the homeroom and home-based options remained steady. Survey data can be viewed on the [Return to Buildings page](https://www.dexterschools.org/district/board-of-education) of the DCS website.



January 13, 2021

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**COMMITTEE UPDATES & BOARD COMMENTS**

No one raised their virtual hand to speak during the second opportunity for public participation, so the Board moved on to committee updates. Trustee Greateorex, the BOE representative to the Educational Foundation of Dexter (EFD), reported that they will not be holding their spring fundraising gala, but are moving forward with spring teacher grants. The EFD offers teacher grants to all K-12 teachers; applications are due to building principals on March 15.

During board comments, Trustee Kangas made a suggestion about sharing information to help parents choose between Pinnacle and Summit. Trustee Greateorex gave a shout-out to the currently undefeated Men's Swim & Dive team, as well as excitement for the overall return to sports. Dr. Schumaker shared that she and Vice President Greateorex recently attended an MASB board president workshop, and thanked the District for their support of trustee professional development.

The full meeting video can be viewed at <https://www.dexterschools.org/district/board-of-education/meetings/videos>.

Next meeting: March 8, 7pm via Zoom. Agenda and materials are posted Thursday evening on the [website](#); link to join will be posted on the [calendar](#) by 4pm Monday.



# Dexter Community Schools

## Nice Job Notes

### JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2021

Vicki Allie  
Joel Anderson  
Tara Basso  
Barb Bishop  
Betsy Bluhm  
Jen Boyce  
Matt Brown  
Ryan Bruder  
Isabel Cude  
Jeff Dagg  
Julie Darling  
Melanie Dever  
Ashley Dorr  
Jennifer Driscoll  
Lisa Dunn  
Krista Early  
Deb Eber (2)  
Jessica Elkin  
Val Eninsche  
Building & Grounds  
Murphy Hansen  
Leslie Hite (2)  
Vicki Juback  
Amara Karapas  
Susan Kemble  
Mollie Kemp  
Ashley Kerns  
Beau Kimmey  
Emily Kissick  
DeAnna Kjos

Anthony Koch  
Anna Kokmeyer  
Cassandra Korinek  
Dave Kozakiewicz  
Pam Krebs  
Mary Leach (2)  
Fred Ligrow  
Yolanda Lou  
Ryan Maki  
Aric Manly  
Anna Marron  
Jennifer Mattison  
Craig McCalla  
Jane Montero  
Rick Munir  
Meredith Nickerson  
Kim Pardo  
Alison Pomerantz  
Megan Porterfield  
Amy Sadler  
Barb Santo  
Maggie Scheurer  
Kathryn Schmid  
Betsy Schmidt (2)  
Angela Scott  
Katie See (2)  
Andrea Sellman  
Mollie Sharrar  
Janine Shoner  
Pam St. Charles

Kim Steptoe  
David Teddy (2)  
Chris Timmis  
Annabel Van Noord (2)  
Hope Vestergaard (2)  
Donna Wahr  
Anouk Weiss  
Jenny Whipple  
Stacey Wing  
Dave Yon  
Sherry Zuver

JAN-FEB 2021 = 79  
RUNNING TOTAL = 38604