

NOTICE

DOVER-SHERBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

February 7, 2023 @ 7:00PM

DSMS Library

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Community Comments

Join Zoom Meeting (community comments only)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86082110896?pwd=YIRROWhXcHlNa3pzdzU5L2ZOZU5tZz09>

Meeting ID: 860 8211 0896

Passcode: 120779

3. Reports:
 - Superintendent Update – Elizabeth McCoy
 - Warrant
4. Financial Reports
 - FY23 Monthly Report
5. FY 24 Proposed Budget Continued Discussion
 - Operating Budget FY2024
 - Capital
6. Consent Agenda **A.R.**
 - Approval of Minutes December 6, 2022
10. Communications (For Members Information)
 - DSHS Principal's Report - John Smith
 - DSMS Principal's Report – David Lawrence
 - Dover School Committee Minutes November 22, 2022
11. Next meeting February 15, 2023 Meeting
12. Adjournment

Note: The listings of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair, which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may, in fact, be discussed and other items not listed may also be raised for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

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The Public Schools of Dover and Sherborn

157 Farm Street
Dover, MA 02030
Phone: 508-785-0036 Fax: 508-785-2239
www.doversherborn.org



Elizabeth M. McCoy, Superintendent
Denton Conklin, Assistant Superintendent

Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator
Kate McCarthy, Director of Student Services

TO: Regional School Committee
FROM: Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator
DATE: February 3, 2023
RE: FY23 Approved Warrants

The following Accounts Payable Warrants were approved by one of the Committee's designated signers:

<u>Voucher #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1131	01/06/2022	\$354,142.22
1140	01/19/2023	\$241,723.21
1141	01/20/2023	\$14,445.62
1142	01/28/2023	\$367,429.18

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Elizabeth M. McCoy, Superintendent
Denton Conklin, Assistant Superintendent

Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator
Kate McCarthy, Director of Student Services

TO: Regional School Committee
FROM: Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator
RE: FY23 Operating Update
DATE: February 3, 2023

Attached please find:

- a. General Fund Revenues as of January 31, 2023
- b. Status of Appropriations as of January 31, 2023

*Note: As in previous years, the financial narrative will be rolling with new/updated information in **bold**.*

Revenues

There are no material variances to report at this time except for interest income. Chapter 70 and 71 revenue projections reflect the final Cherry Sheet amounts. The small variance in Chapter 70 is due to student enrollment in school choice districts and charter schools that were not included in preliminary cherry sheets. Chapter 71 revenues reflect a 73% reimbursement rate based on the transportation costs reported in our FY22 End of Year Report (EOYR). We are projecting no variances in athletics fees. **We are revising the projections for High School Parking and Activity Fees at both schools based on lower than budgeted participation to date.** This fall our Treasurer moved funds into the Massachusetts Municipal Depository Trust which is yielding more favorable interest rates than our previous accounts. We anticipate a positive variance of at least **\$60,000** in bank interest for this fiscal year. We will continue to review all activities and adjust projections accordingly.

Operating Expenditures

Salaries

We have encumbered the majority of salaries for FY23. Most stipends have been recorded with the exception of spring coaching positions; these are encumbered prior to each season. Post-FY23 Budget staffing changes have resulted in both small negative and positive variances in several line items. Leaves occurring during the year will continue to impact some of these variances. **Two additional staffing changes occurred in January resulting in an increase to the positive variance in Teachers, Classroom of approx. \$60,000.** The Districtwide Information Mgmt line now reflects the hiring of our data manager position along with some mentoring costs. We have filled one of the two open custodian positions and continue to contract with an outside facilities company to outsource the remaining position. These costs are being reflected in the Custodial & Grounds Services line item. Custodial overtime and substitute costs are expensed as incurred.

As discussed in October, the Status of Appropriations reflects the costs of an Interim Athletic Trainer in the salaries line item at the same amount as we had in the expenditures line item for contracted services (\$40,000). The market rate for a full-time trainer however exceeded this amount and the remaining salary costs are being covered by the Athletic Revolving Fund for FY23. It is our intention to budget for this position as an added FTE in the FY24 Budget.

Expenditures

At this time we are not projecting any material variances in operating expenses. We have encumbered projected healthcare costs and utilities. As you know, utility costs have been on the rise over the last year.

Our supply costs for electricity and gas are fixed within energy procurement contracts. We are currently paying .1031/kwh for electricity (through November 2023) and as of November 1st, .6820/therms for gas, down from our last contracted amount of .777/therms. Our electricity supply rate as of December 2023 will be .1481/kwh reflecting a 40% increase in supply costs. For FY24, we are initially projecting a \$25,000 increase in supply costs. We will be further analyzing both projected supply and delivery costs for utilities as we develop and refine the FY24 budget.

Healthcare costs at this time are projected to be within our budgeted amounts. The current projection for our contribution to the OPEB fund is \$175,000.

Capital Project Update

We had two sets of capital projects approved for FY23 – the Roof Restoration Project funded through an IMA and several other smaller projects funded with E&D as approved by the Committee. Below is a status summary of each one:

1. *Roof Restoration Project* at a cost of \$1,572,000 – This project started as soon as school ended and is **now completed**. We did encounter one minor structural issue at Lindquist which is currently being evaluated by engineers. We will cover any additional costs of this work within our FY23 operating budget.
2. *High School Floor Replacement* at a cost of \$85,000 – The installation took place in July and included classrooms in the English/Social Studies wing. This completes the floor replacement work in this wing outside of two work room/storage spaces. Those floors are still in good condition and not in need of replacement.
3. *Lindquist Security Access System* at a cost of \$30,000 – **This project is now complete and the system is in full operation.**
4. *High School Boiler Replacements* at a cost of \$350,000 – This project is in the research stage as we continue to investigate the most energy efficient and sustainable options versus a like-model replacement. We are working with the Town Sustainability Groups, keeping open our options for Green Community and other related grant opportunities.

Other FY23 Activity

We are proceeding with the previously discussed Educational Facility Space Needs Assessment to be conducted by Drummey Rosane Anderson, Inc. They come highly recommended from other local school districts who have utilized their services. The process will take approximately 8-10 months. We look forward to sharing any updates with the Committee as the work progresses. The timing of the project will allow us to address any financial related recommendations during the FY25 Budget process or sooner with possible use of ESSER funds.

FY22 Wrap-up

The Region's EOYR has been filed with DESE. We are required to undergo a compliance audit each year to ensure our data reporting is in-line with their directives. This will take place prior to the March 31st filing deadline.

Our auditors have completed their field work for our annual financial audit. New to our District this year is the requirement to undergo a Single Federal Audit for FY22 due to federal funds received exceeding the single audit threshold of \$750,000. This was primarily due to federal funding of school lunch for all students. Revenues from school lunch were approximately \$470,000. We will present the audited financial statements and related reports to the committee upon their completion.

Our E&D was certified on October 25, 2022 at an amount of \$1,181,215. This represents 4.37% of the allowed amount (capped at 5%).

We will be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have at Tuesday's meeting.

The Dover Sherborn Schools share in the mission to inspire, challenge and support all students as they discover and pursue their full potential

Dover-Sherborn Regional School District
General Fund Revenues
as of January 31, 2023

	<u>FY23</u> <u>BUDGET</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>RECEIVED</u>	<u>EST. TO BE</u> <u>RECEIVED</u>	<u>OPERATING</u> <u>VARIANCE</u>	<u>% OF</u> <u>BUDGET</u>
DOVER ASSESSMENTS	\$12,959,396	\$7,302,311	\$5,657,085	\$0	0.00%
SHERBORN ASSESSMENTS	10,493,873	5,914,169	4,579,704	\$0	0.00%
CHAPTER 70, net	2,492,893	2,291,933	195,237	(\$5,723)	-0.23% *
CHAPTER 71 (Transportation)	571,651	0	598,848	\$27,197	4.76% *
H/S ATHLETIC FEES	284,750	175,505	109,245	\$0	0.00%
H/S PARKING FEES	52,500	40,300	4,500	(\$7,700)	-14.67%
H/S ACTIVITY FEE	22,500	8,395	1,875	(\$12,230)	-54.36%
M/S ACTIVITY FEE	11,250	5,175	675	(\$5,400)	-48.00%
MISC REVENUE	5,000	5,458	0	\$458	9.16%
BANK INTEREST	20,000	40,658	40,000	\$60,658	303.29%
NON-CASH ACTIVITY	0	0	0	\$0	na
E&D UTILIZATION	110,000	110,000	0	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL REVENUES	\$27,023,813	\$15,893,904	\$11,187,169	\$57,260	0.21%

* Based on final FY23 Cherry Sheet

Dover-Sherborn Regional School District
Status of Appropriations as of January 31, 2023

	FY23	EXPENDED		TOTAL	OPERATING VARIANCE/	% OF
<u>SALARIES</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>THRU 1/31</u>	<u>ENCUMBRANCES</u>	<u>PROJECTED</u>	<u>BUD. REMAINING</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
SCHOOL COMMITTEE	22,549	12,642	10,736	23,378	(829)	-3.68%
SUPERINTENDENT	206,778	116,865	83,585	200,449	6,329	3.06%
BUSINESS AND FINANCE	207,810	108,468	79,067	187,535	20,275	9.76%
DISTRICTWIDE INFORMATION MGMT	238,142	128,455	108,838	237,293	850	0.36%
SPED/GUIDANCE ADMINISTRATION	555,796	287,835	274,802	562,637	(6,841)	-1.23%
SCHOOL LEADERSHIP - BUILDING	747,501	410,656	321,246	731,903	15,598	2.09%
ACADEMIC LEADERS	147,456	72,542	75,827	148,369	(914)	-0.62%
TEACHERS, CLASSROOM	10,211,074	4,330,926	5,761,768	10,092,694	118,380	1.16%
TEACHERS, SPED	1,851,527	746,809	1,013,921	1,760,730	90,797	4.90%
SUBSTITUTES	121,300	92,628	56,631	149,259	(27,959)	-23.05%
EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS, SPED	524,474	255,647	268,745	524,393	82	0.02%
LIBRARIANS	240,482	106,463	136,266	242,730	(2,248)	-0.93%
BUILDING BASED PD	38,250	31,838	0	31,838	6,413	16.76%
GUIDANCE	1,096,804	496,854	639,450	1,136,303	(39,499)	-3.60%
PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	227,125	96,568	82,475	179,042	48,083	21.17%
MEDICAL / HEALTH SERVICES	226,160	98,437	133,142	231,579	(5,419)	-2.40%
ATHLETICS	465,732	200,892	197,073	397,965	67,767	14.55%
OTHER STUDENT ACTIVITIES	184,559	86,362	92,812	179,175	5,384	2.92%
CUSTODIAL & GROUNDS SERVICES	796,198	408,463	352,730	761,193	35,005	4.40%
TOTAL SALARIES	\$ 18,109,716	\$ 8,089,351	\$ 9,689,113	\$ 17,778,464	\$331,252	1.83%
 <u>EXPENDITURES</u>						
SCHOOL COMMITTEE	40,500	27,076	15,500	42,576	(2,076)	-5.13%
SUPERINTENDENT	55,000	30,893	10,848	41,741	13,259	24.11%
LEGAL SERVICES	38,000	15,000	15,000	30,000	8,000	21.05%
DISTRICTWIDE INFO MGMT	101,225	62,574	12,454	75,027	26,198	25.88%
SCHOOL LEADERSHIP - BUILDING	80,000	33,055	29,335	62,390	17,611	22.01%
CLASSROOM SUPPLIES	28,185	14,017	6,853	20,870	7,315	25.95%
SPED SERVICES/SUPPLIES	120,000	37,013	41,220	78,233	41,767	34.81%
LIBRARIES & MEDIA CENTER	4,775	4,455	215	4,670	105	2.20%
COURSE REIMBURSEMENT/PD	92,900	31,319	6,100	37,419	55,481	59.72%
TEXTBOOKS & RELATED SOFTWARE	86,680	58,921	5,304	64,225	22,455	25.91%
LIBRARY INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL	29,800	15,824	6,015	21,840	7,960	26.71%
INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT	75,100	34,100	15,768	49,867	25,233	33.60%
GENERAL SUPPLIES	160,325	85,352	26,526	111,878	48,447	30.22%
OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES	19,500	6,923	5,880	12,803	6,697	34.34%
CLASSROOM INSTRUCTIONAL TECH.	147,400	168,471	4,231	172,702	(25,302)	-17.17%
GUIDANCE	34,590	14,941	7,376	22,318	12,272	35.48%
MEDICAL / HEALTH SERVICES	8,800	2,935	246	3,181	5,619	63.85%
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	1,030,800	428,806	607,048	1,035,854	(5,054)	-0.49%
ATHLETICS	224,500	98,727	50,459	149,186	75,314	33.55%
CUSTODIAL SERVICES	58,000	31,859	7,367	39,226	18,774	32.37%
MAINTENANCE OF BUILDINGS	567,900	199,209	220,594	419,802	148,098	26.08%
MAINTENANCE OF GROUNDS	60,000	27,271	3,188	30,459	29,541	49.24%
UTILITIES	560,250	262,200	308,884	571,084	(10,834)	-1.93%
ER RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION	805,500	789,211	0	789,211	16,289	2.02%
ER INSURANCE ACTIVE EMPLOYEES	2,762,250	1,566,847	1,188,918	2,755,765	6,485	0.23%
ER INSURANCE RETIRED EMPLOYEES	795,000	368,338	426,662	795,000	0	0.00%
OTHER NON EMPLOYEE INSURANCE	91,917	92,083	2,922	95,005	(3,088)	-3.36%
LONG TERM DEBT RETIREMENT	790,000	0	790,000	790,000	0	0.00%
LONG TERM DEBT SERVICE	45,200	22,600	22,600	45,200	0	0.00%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$8,914,097	\$4,530,019	\$3,837,514	\$8,367,533	\$546,564	6.13%
 TOTAL OPERATING	 \$27,023,813	 \$12,619,370	 \$13,526,627	 \$26,145,997	 \$877,816	 3.25%

DRAFT

Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee Meeting of December 6, 2022

Members Present: Maggie Charron
Judi Miller
Kate Potter (via Zoom)
Angie Johnson
Lynn Collins
Mark Healey

1) Call to Order

Maggie Charron called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm in the Middle School Library.

2) Community Comments - Maggie Charron read an email from a parent questioning the lack of LGBTQ policies/protocols in regards to a video shown at school recently and a list of LGBTQ books available at school.

3) Reports

- Superintendent Report - Beth McCoy presented an update from her office including an overview of the Professional Development Day on November 28th as well as a review of the MetroWest Health Survey data.
- DSHS Principal's Report - John Smith highlighted recent and upcoming events at the high school.
- DSMS Principal's Report - David Lawrence highlighted recent and upcoming events at the middle school.
- Warrant Report

4) Proposed Changes to the 2023-24 DSHS Program of Studies - John Smith reviewed the proposed changes to the program of studies. A vote will be taken at the January meeting.

5) Financial Reports: FY23 Monthly Report as of November 30th

- General Revenues - this fall the Treasurer moved funds into the MA Municipal Depository Trust which is yielding a more favorable interest rate. A positive variance of \$25,000 in bank interest is anticipated.
- Salaries - there are no changes to report since last month.
- Expenditures - there are no changes to report since last month.
- FY22 Wrap up - The auditors have completed their field work.

6) ACED Recommendations FY24 - Beth McCoy reviewed the recommendations of the Advisory Committee for Extra-compensatory Duties (ACED) for a total FY24 Budget impact of \$12,468.48 comprised of:

- Band Director - ratio increase to 4.0 from 1.5 (\$3,778.33)
- Gay Straight Alliance, DSMS - new position at 2.25 ratio (\$3,400.49)
- Science Olympiad Club, DSHS - new position at 2.0 ratio (\$3,022.66)
- Swim Coach, DSHS - ratio increase to 5.5 from 4.0 (\$2,267)

Mark Healey made a motion to approve the ACED Recommendations as presented. Lynn Collins seconded.

22-21 VOTE: 6 - 0 (Kate Potter via Zoom)

DRAFT

- 7) FY24 Proposed Operating Budget** - The overall increase to the FY24 Budget over FY23 is \$1,041,258 (3.85%) for a total request of \$28,065,071. Drivers of the increase are: payroll (placeholder estimate for new contract negotiation increase amount) as well as 2 FTE increase for a literary specialist and the athletic trainer and an estimated increase of 8% in health care. The Capital Budget will be presented at the January meeting. Sherborn enrollment is up 1.25% over FY23 which will increase their share of the assessment for FY24.

*Judi Miller made a motion to approve the FY24 Budget as presented. Lynn Collins seconded.
22-22 VOTE: 6 - 0 (Kate Potter via Zoom)*

8) Consent Agenda

- Approval of Minutes: November 8, 2022
- Grants - IDEA-SPED 240 Grant - \$280,754; Title 1 Grant - \$54,809; Title IIA Grant - \$20,781; Title IVA/ESSA Grant - \$10,000; METCO Grant - \$339,882; and Comprehensive School Health Services Grant - \$30,000.
- HS Field Trip - Close Up Washington DC from March 5 - 9, 2023.

*Angie Johnson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Lynn Collins seconded.
22-23 VOTE: 6 - 0 (Kate Potter via Zoom)*

9) Communication

- Dover School Committee minutes of October 25, 2022
- Sherborn School Committee minutes of October 18, 2022

10) Items for January 10, 2023 meeting - Town Report, FY24 Capital Budget, FY24 Operating Budget

11) Adjournment at 7:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Amy Davis



Dover-Sherborn High School

9 Junction Street
Dover, MA 02030
Phone: 508-785-1730 Fax: 508-785-8141

John G. Smith, *Principal*
Ann Dever-Keegan, *Assistant Principal*
Ellen Chagnon, *Director of Guidance*
Emily Sullivan, *Athletic Director*

TO: Elizabeth McCoy, Superintendent
FROM: John G. Smith, Principal, DSHS
RE: Principal's Monthly Report
DATE: February 7th, 2023

Principal's Reflections:

On January 25, 26 and 30th, 11 Dover Sherborn students in grades 9-11 participated in a 20 hour training for peer mediation through the Metrowest Mediation Services (www.metrowestmediation.org) from Natick MA. Through role play, direct instruction and presentation, these DS students learned the key principals in helping to resolve disputes between students in both the middle school and the high school. We are excited for these leadership opportunities for our students as well as the opportunity to empower our students to resolve disputes respectfully and without disciplinary consequences from the school. Representatives from Metrowest Mediation will be present for all peer disputes.

Congrats to the following students who were accepted to perform in the MA Music Educators Association All State Festival in March! They get to perform in Symphony Hall in Boston!

Eric Liang - Violin
Sam Ma - Clarinet
Annabelle Schmidt – Clarinet

HS Events:

Wednesday February 1st- Senior Breakfast in Lindquist Commons 9:00 AM
Wednesday February 8th- Early Release- Teacher Professional Development
Monday February 20th- Friday February 24th- Winter Break /No School

Curriculum:

The Harvard Model United Nations Group participated in an authentic simulation of the United Nations at Harvard in order to learn about how the UN functions through cooperation, compromise, and negotiation. This year, the Dover-Sherborn group, made up of juniors and seniors, represented Iceland at the conference. Advised by Mr. Kaplan and led by co-head delegates Whitney Smith and Marty Phillips, the group prepared for the conference in January and participated in an intense four-day simulation with thousands of students from across the world. The group splits into delegate committees who work on different issues such as public health, nuclear proliferation, sanctions and more. Two delegates also participated in special

committees this year, working in the Anti-Saloon league of the 1920s and the Golden Age of Piracy of the 1700s.



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Guidance:

GUIDANCE FEBRUARY NEWS

EIGHTH GRADE PARENT/GUARDIAN EVENING -

Eighth Grade Transition to High School Night had a great turn out, over 60 parents/guardians attended the evening held in the high school library. The evening began with a group of eleventh grade students sharing stories and advice about their transition to high school. Parents/guardians were able to ask the students questions and hear from the real experts. The administrative team was also available to answer any remaining questions. A Google slide presentation was emailed home ahead of the night for parents/guardians to review.

COURSE SELECTION –

Course Selection for the 2023-2024 school year will take place from January 23rd through March 20th. During this time frame, students will be able to choose their elective courses and teachers will be recommending course levels. All students will meet with a counselor individually through: Math classes (grades 9 & 11) and Sophomore Seminars between March 21st and April 5th for a course registration appointment.

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All 8th grade students will participate in course selection lessons lead by Ms. Sobin and a high school counselor. Students will learn how to access the course selection area of their Aspen accounts and be able to choose electives with the counselors standing by to help. They will also learn about graduation requirements and information about the high school in general.

SOPHOMORE SEMINARS –

Sophomore seminars are happening this quarter. During the first half of semester two, sophomores will be reintroduced to Naviance and will update their resumes. Students will also participate in the 10th grade SOS lesson, SBIRT screening and course selection appointments during their seminar time.

SBIRT SCREENINGS-

From the [MA SBIRT in Schools](#) website:

Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) focuses on prevention, early detection, risk assessment, brief counseling and referral for assessment that can be utilized in the school setting. Use of a validated screening tool will enable school health teams to detect risk for substance use related problems and brief intervention strategies will help to address these concerns at an early stage in adolescents.

At the middle school SBIRT screenings were scheduled the week of January 16th. Eighth grade students reported to guidance in small groups to meet with a counselor/nurse individually to complete the screening.

At the high school, SBIRT screenings are part of Sophomore Seminar and will take place between 2/2-2/13. Grade 10 students will be sent to the guidance office where they will meet individually with a counselor/nurse to complete the screening.

STANDARDIZED TESTING PARENT/GUARDIAN& STUDENT EVENING-

We are inviting all families/grades to the Standardized Testing Virtual Evening on February 1st. In the past it was part of Sophomore Parent/Guardian evening and we have now made it a separate event. For the past 5 years, Drew Heilpern from Summit Educational Group has presented on the standardized testing options for our students including: test optional schools, SAT vs ACT, creating a balanced testing plan and now be adding digital testing to his presentation.

Music and Drama Update:

This past month, the DS Songfest was well received - showing the spectrum of the vocal program from Elementary through High School. The final piece involved all choirs at DS in a performance that surrounded the audience with sound. Our A Cappella groups performed locally at the Medfield A Cappella concert the week of midyears, sharing their music beyond the borders of our community. And, Acting Workshop completed its first semester of running with small performances of selected scenes. This course supplements the strong after school drama program

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by giving all students an in school experience to learn the basics of acting and do smaller scene studies. And lastly, this past Sunday February 5th was the Chocolate Cafe, featuring performances by a wide range of drama, instrumental, and vocal ensembles, giving a whirlwind tour of the performing arts.

Coming in March, the DSHS production of the Music Man will have its performances. Rehearsals are well underway, and a preview was just performed at the Chocolate Cafe. During the performances in March, our annual K-12 Visual art gallery will be on display in the cafeteria showcasing the spectrum of visual art from elementary - high school.

Lastly, our parent support group FoPA has published their first FoPA newsletter for the performing arts, a quarterly update on the exciting things happening in the Dover Sherborn music and drama programs. You can read the newsletter at the link below.

[Inaugural DS FoPA Newsletter](#)

Athletics:

Athletics Feb 7th School Committee Report

The winter season is heading towards the end of the regular season! Our winter sports teams are doing great! Congratulations to Luke Rinaldi on becoming the 10th student in school history and the first since 2006 to score 1,000 points in basketball. Luke accomplished this goal on Tuesday, January 31st in the game at Millis, which they won 76-60 and improved to 12-3 on the season! A picture below of Luke post game with a celebratory candy bar created with his image and points on it from some of the basketball parents.



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Our boys basketball team is tied for first in the TVL Small and ranked #9 in the MIAA D3 tournament with an overall record of 12-3. The girls basketball team is in first place in the TVL small and ranked #2 in the MIAA D3 tournament with an overall record of 10-4. Congratulations to senior captain, Hana Skeary on being named the Hometown Weekly Student Athlete of the Month for January:

Hometown Sports

Dover-Sherborn Athlete of the Month
January 2023

Sponsored by

DOVER COUNTRY PROPERTIES
Distinctive Properties & Country Estates

Sponsored by Jay Hughes of the Dover-Sherborn class of 1969. Jay is a longtime resident of Dover with deep roots in our community, having grown up, raised his family, and situated his business here. While attending Dover-Sherborn, Jay played three varsity sports: Football, Basketball, and Track & Field. Following his graduation from Harvard College, he returned to Dover to begin careers in both real estate and in municipal fire and rescue. In 2016, Jay retired from the Dover Fire Department after 50 years of service, with 23 years as Fire Chief. He remains a local fixture as he continues to oversee the bustling operation of Dover Country Properties, his real estate firm, located in the heart of Dover. A Dover-Sherborn Athletics Hall of Fame inductee, Jay is an avid supporter of our town's student athletes.

4 Walpole Street, Dover, MA 02030
Cell: 508-269-3322 • dovercountryproperties.com

The boys swim and dive team finished 3-3-1 on the regular season, and placed 4th at the TVL Showcase Meet. The girls swim and dive team finished 4-3 on the regular season, and also placed 4th at the TVL Showcase Meet. The swim team will compete in a last chance meet on Saturday, February 4th before the MIAA Sectionals and States.

The boys indoor track and field team finished 4-1 in the regular season, and placed second in the TVL Small. The girls indoor track and field team finished 3-2 on the regular season, and placed third in the TVL Small. Indoor track and field will compete in the TVL Showcase on Saturday, February 4th before the MIAA sectionals and states.

The gymnastics team is 4-2 on the season and competes in the TVL Showcase on Friday, February 10th before the MIAA sectionals and states.

The boys ice hockey team is ranked #26 in the MIAA D4 State Tournament. They are 3-9 on the season, and currently in second place in the TVL Small. The girls ice hockey team is ranked #30 in the MIAA D1 State Tournament, and are 4-7-1 on the season.

The boys alpine ski team is in first place in the MBSLE with 1145 points after four races. They lead by 259 points to the second place team Wellesley. The girls alpine ski team is in second place in the MBSLE with 707 points after four races. The girls only trail Marblehead in first place by 127 points!

The boys Nordic team is in seventh place in the West MBE with 146 points scored on the season. The girls Nordic team is in fourth place with 407 points scored on the season. The alpine and Nordic teams both will continue with races until February break. The MIAA State races are after February break.

Spring sports sign ups are now open on Family ID. We currently have 123 student athletes signed up for nine sports in the Spring. The athletic department is searching for a JV girls lacrosse coach, and Sailing coaches in the Spring if the community knows of anyone interested.

Dover-Sherborn Middle School

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David Lawrence, Principal
Tracy Sockalosky, Assistant Principal

Jill Arkin, Special Education Team Chair
Mimi Feerick, Interim Special Education Coordinator

TO: Elizabeth McCoy, Superintendent
FROM: David Lawrence, Principal, DSMS
RE: Administrator's Monthly Report
DATE: February 3, 2023

Upcoming Dates

- Feb 4 - DSMS competes in Regional MathCounts competition
- Feb 5 - Chocolate Cafe
- Feb 7 - Site visit by Kristin Osborne, Tiered Literacy Academy
- Feb 8 - Early Release Day (Students dismissed at 12:15 PM)
- Feb 20-24 - February Break

Principal's Reflections

This month, we are launching a Middle School Schedule Redesign project. The process of refining the MS schedule began last year, but for a variety of reasons, the decision was made to stick with our existing schedule for one more year, and use the 22-23 school year to complete the design process.

There are a number of factors that are motivating our desire to refine our schedule. Perhaps the biggest impetus is to create a "WIN" block ("What I Need") to provide a more efficient and equitable way of providing supports and enrichments for our students. This is part of our current School Improvement Plan and is a critical component of our efforts to refine our MTSS processes. While we currently have an "H Block", it is less than ideal as a WIN block because it competes with band and chorus, and because all three grades have H Block at the same time, making it difficult for teachers and service providers who work with multiple grades.

There are additional "logistical" challenges that we will be trying to resolve, but in addition, we will be taking this opportunity to look at research-based best practices for middle school schedules, and endeavor to make a schedule that better meets the needs of our young adolescents and is more closely aligned with our values and priorities as a district.

We launched the project at our faculty meeting last Wednesday, and the room was filled with imaginative ideas and passionate suggestions. Next up is a two-hour design session during our next early-release day facilitated by Elana Feinberg, an educational consultant we are working with to ensure that the process allows all stakeholders to have a voice - this will include strong outreach to parents and students as well as our faculty.

Our hope is to have a revised schedule proposed in the spring, and, with a little luck, possibly even "beta testing" it for a week in May or June. This way, we can work out any remaining kinks and have greater confidence that it will better meet our needs for the 23-24 school year.

*The Dover Sherborn Schools share in the mission to
inspire, challenge and support all students as they discover and pursue their full potential.*

Teaching & Learning

Science: The science department helped to celebrate the Lunar New Year by integrating it into their science curriculum. 6th grade students participated in a design challenge to construct a “Year of the Rabbit” catapult - students cheered as their devices successfully launched their Peeps into space! 7th graders spent class time learning about the traditions of Lunar New Year and collaborated to make posters to hang in the hallways. 8th grade introduced students to the Lunar New Year through a variety of videos and personal connections. They then learned about the science of fireworks through a lab activity in which students lit candles embedded with particular substances to observe the different colors produced in their flames.

Social Studies: Our 8th grade ELA and SS teams collaborated with librarian Wendy Lutz to help each student to research an issue they feel strongly about and then write a persuasive letter to a business or government official. This involves developing research skills, teaching how to choose and cite quality sources, drafting a thesis statement, building a well-constructed argument, and writing a clear and effective persuasive letter that will be mailed to the leader of their choice.

Guidance

Eighth Grade Transition to High School Night had a great turn out, over 60 parents/guardians attended the evening held in the high school library. The evening began with a group of eleventh grade students sharing stories and advice about their transition to high school. Parents/guardians were able to ask the students questions and hear from the real experts. The administrative team was also available to answer any remaining questions. A google slide presentation was emailed home ahead of the night for parents/guardians to review.

Course Selection for the 2023-2024 school year will take place from January 23 rd through March 20th. All 8th grade students will participate in course selection lessons lead by Ms. Sobin and a high school counselor. Students will learn how to access the course selection area of their Aspen accounts and be able to choose electives with the counselors standing by to help. They will also learn about graduation requirements and information about the high school in general.

From the [MA SBIRT in Schools](#) website: **Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)** focuses on prevention, early detection, risk assessment, brief counseling and referral for assessment that can be utilized in the school setting. Use of a validated screening tool will enable school health teams to detect risk for substance use related problems and brief intervention strategies will help to address these concerns at an early stage in adolescents.

At the middle school SBIRT screenings were scheduled the week of January 16th. Eighth grade students reported to guidance in small groups to meet with a counselor/nurse individually to complete the screening.

Visual & Performing Arts

DS's annual Chocolate Cafe is coming up on Sunday, February 5th! Chocolate Cafe is a musical celebration featuring performances by the middle and high school vocal ensembles, jazz bands, string ensemble, Pine Hill and Chickering jazz bands, and performances by the casts of SpongeBob and The Music Man. Sadly, I am writing about it before it has occurred, and you are reading about it after it has occurred, but I think I can safely say that it was wonderful!

DRAFT

Dover School Committee Meeting of November 22, 2022

Members Present: Sara Gutierrez-Dunn
Colleen Burt
Jeff Cassidy
Liz Grossman
Goli Sepehr
Also Present: Beth McCoy, Superintendent
Dawn Fattore, Business Manager
Deb Reinemann, Principal

1) Call to Order

Sara Gutierrez-Dunn called the meeting to order in the Chickering School Library at 6:32 pm.

2) Community Comments - none

3) Reports

- Superintendent Report - Beth McCoy gave a brief update the recent "Day at Chickering". She gave an more in-depth update at the November Joint School Committee meeting.
- Principal's Report - Dr. Reinemann reviewed her report and answered questions.
- Warrant Report

4) FY23 Monthly Financial Report as of November 16th

- Salaries - there are no significant changes since the last meeting.
- Expenditures - costs have increased further since the last report for support services for the current cohort of students on IEPs. The transportation cost encumbrance has increased to adjust for fuel price increases.
- Out-of-District - with all placements encumbered, OOD tuition costs are approximately \$100,000 over budget. Transportation costs reflect approximately \$30,000 of additional costs.

5) Proposed FY24 Budget

- *Operating* - The overall increase to the FY24 Budget over FY23 is \$503,125 (4.85%) for a total request of \$10,872,916. Drivers of the increase are: payroll (placeholder estimate for new contract negotiation increase amount) as well as 3 FTE increase for educational assistants (2 general education, 1 SPED); technology - replacement of K-1 iPads and classroom projectors per replacement cycle; SPED therapists services; utilities; and OOD tuition (14% increase for non-public tuition, 5% for public/collaborative tuition).

Colleen Burt made a motion to approve the FY24 Operating Budget as presented. Jeff Cassidy seconded.

22-17 VOTE: 5 - 0

6) Homework Policy

Goli Sepehr made a motion to approve the Homework Policy with additional revisions as discussed. Jeff Cassidy seconded.

22-18 VOTE: 5 - 0

7) Consent Agenda

DRAFT

- Approval of Minutes: October 25, 2022 - remove reference to Assistant Superintendent report.
- Grants

Liz Grossman made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Goli Sepehr seconded.

22-19 VOTE: 5 - 0

8) Communications

- Dover Sherborn Regional School Committee Minutes of October 11, 2022
- Sherborn School Committee Minutes of October 18, 2022

9) Items for January 17, 2023 meeting - FY24 Budget

10) Adjournment at 8:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Davis