

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
DARTMOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

November 20, 2017

The warrants for bills payable were reviewed and signed by the School Committee.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dr. Shannon Jenkins, at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room at the James M. Quinn Elementary School. She noted that the meeting was being videotaped for future broadcast over DCTV, which is aired on Wednesday and Friday evenings, and the DHS YouTube channel.

Present were the following members: Dr. Jenkins, Mr. Nunes, Mr. Oliver and Mrs. Amaral. Dr. Karafotis was not present due to a family obligation.

Also present: Dr. Gifford, Ms. Roy, Mr. Kiely, and Mrs. Genthner.

Visitors present: Mr. Gallishaw, Mrs. Townson, Mr. Thibault, Ms. Chavier, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Pavao, Ms. Correia, Mr. Grandfield, Mrs. Yermalovich, Mr. Kingsland and members of the community.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was offered on any agenda item.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral to approve the Regular Session Minutes of October 30, 2017. The motion carried unanimously.

RECOGNITION

Dr. Jenkins asked Mr. Nunes to introduce those members of the Dartmouth High School Band as well as Dartmouth Music Director, William Kingsland, to come forward so that they may be recognized for the Band's first place finish at the USBands Open Class National Championships. Members of the band in attendance were the drum majors: Valrie Paynton, Head Drum Major, as well as Assistant Drum Majors; Luke Higgins and Mitchell Morin. Each spoke briefly on their participation in the competition as well as their experience as a member of the Dartmouth High School Band.

Mr. Kingsland spoke briefly about the preparation for the competition which helped to distinguish the Dartmouth Band this year. He noted not only the band members but the staff and supporters who help to prepare and encourage the band all of which has made it the success it is.

Committee Members offered congratulations and words of appreciation for the hard work expended by Mr. Kingsland and the band.

Mr. Nunes provided the band's statistics: State Champions, Division V USBands New England Champions, USBands New England Regional Division V Champions, USBands Open Class National Champions, Division V New England Scholastic Marching Band Champions.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Madison Correia, the student representative, was not present due to unforeseen circumstances. Consequently, a student report was not given.

PRESENTATIONS

The New District Website – Jonathan Gallishaw, Chief Technology Officer

Chief Technology Officer Jonathan Gallishaw unveiled the District's new website to Committee Members. A brief demonstration of the new website's format and features was provided by Mr. Gallishaw. The new website address is www.dartmouth.school. Mr. Gallishaw noted that the old website will remain active until December 31, 2017 at 11:59 P.M.

Mr. Gallishaw unveiled the District's new APP with a brief demonstration.

Committee members offered the following comments:

Mr. Nunes asked if there will be a link from the old site to the new site.

Mr. Gallishaw explained that the old website is holding a link to the new website and once a person goes to the new website it can be "bookmarked" from there.

Mr. Gallishaw stated he will see if the old web site can be held for a brief period of time but eventually the old web site will be gone so people should "bookmark" the new web address.

Mr. Nunes asked if all the information from the old site will be transferred to the new website.

Mr. Gallishaw stated that the information on the old website is being transferred to the new site. He added that the old website is being preserved on our servers for posterity or reference if necessary.

Ms. Amaral stated that the APP is comprehensive and user friendly and asked how would a parent group go about putting an event on the calendar.

Mr. Gallishaw stated he will make a place on the site to post such information. The actual posting will probably be done by staff who have log-in access.

Mr. Gallishaw recognized the contributions of his staff, Tracy Bourgeois, administrative assistant to the Technology Department, and Hallie Larocque, the District's Database Systems Technician.

Mr. Oliver complimented Mr. Gallishaw and his team for making a site that is easy to navigate as well as the look of the site with the social media feeds and the APP.

Dr. Jenkins thanked Mr. Gallishaw and his team for their efforts in producing the new site and APP which are great ways to showcase the District.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Gifford recommended the approval of the following competition participation request:

- Dartmouth High School requests permission to participate in the DECA competitions for 2018: MA District 8 DECA Competition from January 10-11th in Falmouth MA, State DECA Competition from March 8-10th in Boston MA and the International Competition in Atlanta Georgia from April 20-25, 2018

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to approve the high schools' request to participate in the DECA competitions as submitted to the School Committee for review and consideration.

NEW BUSINESS

- **School Committee Meeting Schedule for the Remainder of 2017-2018 School Year**

Dr. Gifford proposed the following meeting dates through March 2018 for the Committee's consideration: January 8, 2018, February 12, 2018, March 5th and March 19, 2018.

Dr. Gifford added that the District is waiting to schedule meeting dates in April so as to coincide with the Select Board and Finance Committee as it relates to the budget timeline.

Dr. Jenkins stated that these dates can be scheduled as presented. Dr. Jenkins added she would check with Dr. Karafotis and her availability.

- **FY19 Budget Timeline**

Mr. Kiely presented a proposed Budget Timeline noting it is consistent with previous years' timelines. Mr. Kiely noted the timeline allows for collaboration with the school Committee's budget sub-committee as well as to the full committee.

Mr. Kiely noted that not much information will be known regarding the State's budget process during the early stages of our budget process however, fortunately in the past couple of years, the Governor's budget has only improved over time.

Mr. Kiely noted that starting our budget process early allows more time for discussion between the budget sub-committee and Town Boards as necessary.

Committee members offered the following comments:

Mr. Oliver asked that committee members be given time on the December school committee agenda to share their thoughts on building the budget.

- **Superintendent's Evaluation Process and Timeline**

Dr. Gifford reviewed her draft evaluation process and timeline with the Committee.

Dr. Gifford pointed out that the first item in the process is her smart goals. Dr. Gifford asked to meet with the sub-committee, Dr. Jenkins and Mr. Nunes, before December 11, 2018 to review her smart goals so that they will be ready to bring to the next school committee meeting for approval.

Dr. Gifford noted the rest of her timeline was similar to last year's leaving May open so the Chair can decide on the date of the summative evaluation.

The committee agreed that the timeline looked "good."

- **Superintendent's Update**

Dr. Gifford reported on the following:

Dr. Gifford recognized middle school librarian Laura Gardner who has been chosen to serve as Advocacy Committee Co-chair for the 2017-2018 Executive Order of the Massachusetts School Library Association.

Dr. Gifford noted that individual meetings have been held with Principals to analyze the recently released MCAS data in order to pinpoint areas that need improvement particularly in writing.

Dr. Jenkins interjected noting that it would be beneficial to put on a meeting agenda a discussion regarding where the District is concerning the integration of technology in to the curriculum and with respect to the use of computers and MCAS.

Mr. Oliver asked if the MCAS data released by the State was the aggregate of the on-line test and the paper based test?

Ms. Roy stated the State made an adjustment for the platform.

Mr. Oliver confirmed that the data was not released separately.

Dr. Gifford continued her update stating that she attended a Title IX Conference noting the changes that are taking place and what the District needs to do to remain compliant.

Dr. Gifford stated she and Ms. Townson attended the MA Down Syndrome Conference whereat best practices and inclusive education were a focus.

Dr. Gifford reported that the Quinn School had its Museum of Kindness and Caring last week.

Dr. Gifford attended the Unified Athletic Program last week noting its inclusiveness.

Mr. Kiely reported that last Thursday Matthew Beaton, State Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, and Judith Judson, Commissioner of the Department of Energy, visited Dartmouth High School to observe our boiler project which was partially funded through a State Green Communities Grant. Secretary Beaton put a twitter posting out which is now linked to our new website. Mr. Kiely thanked the following people for their participation: Mr. Nunes, Town Energy Manager Shawn Luz, Town Building Inspector Paul Murphy, Maintenance Personnel Joe Medeiros and School Facilities Director Rick Ferreira who explained the intricacies of the new boiler system to Mr. Beaton and Ms. Judson.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

- Dr. Jenkins reminded people that Wednesday will be a Holiday early release.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Mr. Nunes congratulated the fall sports teams for a wonderful season noting the girls' volleyball game at New Bedford High School.

Mr. Nunes reminded people of the annual Thanksgiving Day football game against Fairhaven is this Thursday.

Mr. Nunes noted that the honor society is putting on a volleyball tournament fundraiser at the high school hosting 36 teams.

NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: The next regular session of the School Committee will take place on Monday, December 11, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the James M. Quinn Elementary School Community Room.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver, to close the Regular Session at 7:20 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Bonny L. Gifford, Ed. D.
Superintendent