

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
DARTMOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE

May 8, 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 and is aired on Wednesday and Friday evenings and, also, the DHS YouTube channel. We also now have the capability of providing hearing impaired community members with a headset that will help to make the Committee members' discussion clear and concise.

Present were the following members: Dr. Karafotis, Mr. Nunes, Mrs. Amaral, Mr. Oliver, and Dr. Jenkins. Student Representative Stacie Hartman was also present.

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

Visitors present: Mr. Gallishaw, Mrs. Oliveira, Mrs. Cabral-Townson, Mr. Doane, Mrs. Brooks, Mr. Porter, Ms. Maccini, Mrs. Pavao, Mrs. McHenry, Mr. Grandfield, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Yermalovich, and also members of the community including a large contingency of members of the Dartmouth Educators Association.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dartmouth Educators President Renee Vieira addressed the Committee. She stated that the DEA has ratified new contracts with the teacher assistants, full year and school year secretaries, and near completing negotiations with the nurses. "We are hoping that we can move forward with the Teacher's contract."

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2017 Regular Session School Committee meeting as presented. The motion carried with Mrs. Amaral abstaining due to her not being a School Committee member at that time.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver, to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2017 Executive Session School Committee meeting as presented and that they be held until the matter/s for which the session was held have been settled. The motion carried with Mrs. Amaral abstaining due to her not being a School Committee member at that time.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2017 Regular Session School Committee meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2017 Executive Session School Committee meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTION: Catherine Pavao, Principal of the Joseph DeMello School

Dr. Gifford was pleased to introduce Catherine Pavao as the new Principal of the Joseph DeMello Elementary School effective July 1, 2017. Mrs. Pavao began her career in education in 2002 as a Grade 3 Teacher at the Andrew B. Cushman School. She continued teaching at the elementary level at both the Cushman and Quinn Schools until her appointment to the position of Assistant Principal of the Joseph DeMello School in August 2011.

Mrs. Pavao thanked Dr. Gifford and Ms. Roy for their support in her appointment to the position of Principal. "I am very grateful for this opportunity and look forward to giving back to this community."

All Committee members extended their best wishes to Mrs. Pavao.

SPOTLIGHT ON KIDS: Andrew B. Cushman School

Early Childhood Director Melissa McHenry was pleased to share the great early learning programs taking place at the Cushman School. These include reading and writing workshops and STEM activities with emphasis on social/emotional health. Mrs. Kathleen DeCampos shared her experience introducing canine assisted therapy to the Cushman School students.

Mrs. Amaral stated, "the social-emotional piece speaks to my heart".

Dr. Jenkins stated she "would like to see pre-kindergarten education offered to every child. It is a great investment."

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Student Representative Stacie Hartman updated Committee members on activities taking place at Dartmouth High School:

- May 12 – Junior Banquet
- May 19 – Special Olympics
- May 20 – National Honor Society Induction Ceremony
- May 22 – DHS Strings Concert
- May 23 – DHS Band Concert
- June 1 – Senior Prom at Gillette Stadium
- June 4 – DHS Graduation

RESOLUTION

17-8 Resolution Awarding the Contract for Design Services for The Facilities Master Plan

WHEREAS: Request for Proposals for Architectural and Design Services were duly advertised and proposals received were opened at 3:00 p.m. Friday, March 31, 2017; and

WHEREAS: Symmes Maini & McKee Associates of 1000 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts, as presented, was selected by the Design Selection Committee as the most responsive, responsible and advantageous proposal; Therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That a contract for the Design Services for the Facilities Master Plan for the Dartmouth Public School District be awarded to Symmes Maini & McKee Associates of 1000 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA at a negotiated fee of \$75,000.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis to approve Resolution 17-8, Resolution Awarding the Contract for Design Services for the Facilities Master Plan. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Nunes inquired, "what is the time frame"? Mr. Kiely responded that this project will begin immediately. "It is hoped the plan would be completed at the beginning of the school year and a draft available in August."

Mr. Oliver inquired, "what will the committee be made up of"? Mr. Kiely stated a steering committee will be assembled which will include two (2) School Committee members, a representative from the town side of government, Dr. Gifford, and himself.

Dr. Jenkins stated she would like design services contractor to prepare an executive summary to be available for the Fall Town Meeting in October.

NEW BUSINESS

Elementary Student Handbook – 2017-2018: Committee members were sent the proposed elementary student handbook for their review in advance of the meeting. Mrs. Pavao stated that the bulk of the proposed changes are simply housekeeping items.

Dr. Jenkins stated, in the future, she would like to see what changes have been made when the document is sent to the School Committee members.

Dr. Karafotis moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver, to approve the 2017-2018 Elementary Student Handbook as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dartmouth Middle School Student Handbook 2017-2018: Committee members were sent the proposed DMS Student Handbook for their review in advance of the meeting. Mr. Doane was present to answer any concerns.

Dr. Jenkins requested that the Dress Code Guidelines contained on page 16 be revised to remove the word "girls".

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis to approve the DMS Student Handbook for 2017-2018 with the minor amendments as noted. The motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Evaluation Process and Timeline: Dr. Gifford reviewed the Superintendent's evaluation report. At the June 5th School Committee meeting, Dr. Gifford will present highlights from this year relative to the summative evaluation of the Superintendent. On June 26th, the School Committee will conduct the Superintendent's formal evaluation in public session.

Superintendent's Update: Dr. Gifford reported on the following:

- Mr. Thibault visited Dartmouth High School last week and met with students and staff. He will be on site again on May 15th.
- The Potter School 5K was held on May 7th and very successful.
- Several Lemonade Day stands were held on Saturday, May 6th. The DeMello School Lemonade Day stand profits benefitted Gifts to Give.
- DHS student, Anthony Root, placed in the top 20 internationally at the recent DECA competition.
- The Medical Careers Club conducted a very successful blood drive.
- Many excellent summer programs are available.
- The DHS Guidance Department will be conducting summer workshops for students applying to college.

Dr. Gifford reported that the district completed the Coordinated Program Review evaluating the district in three areas. She stated that the evaluators were pleased with what they observed in all schools. Their comments included:

- Students are included in the life of the schools;
- Staff stated they are pleased with the professional development opportunities available.
- Co-taught classrooms were impressive.

The final report is expected to be received in August. Dr. Gifford thanked Ms. Roy, Mrs. Townson, and Mrs. Jodoin for their efforts.

Dr. Gifford reported that 43 applications were received for the 2017 School Choice Program. Thirty (30) students have been chosen to participate in Grades 9-11.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Mr. Kiely distributed an informational sheet regarding the FY18 Budget to be included in the document package distributed to town meeting members.

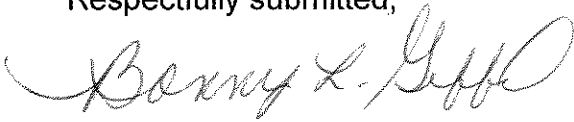
Dr. Jenkins stated that the application deadline for Dartmouth Education Foundation grants has been extended

NEXT MEETING

The next regular session of the School Committee will take place on Monday, June 5, 2017.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:38 p.m. in order to discuss strategies with respect to collective bargaining with union personnel. On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Bonny L. Gifford".

Bonny L. Gifford, Ed.D.
Superintendent