

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

January 8, 2018

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairperson John Nunes, at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the James M. Quinn Elementary School. He 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: Mr. Nunes, Mr. Oliver, and Mrs. Amaral. Mr. Nunes noted that Dr. Jenkins would not be present. Dr. Karafotis arrived after the meeting commenced.

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

Visitors present: Mr. Gallishaw, Mrs. Townson, Ms. Chavier, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Brooks, Mr. Porter, Mr. Grandfield, Mrs. Yermalovich, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Vasconcelos, Mrs. Pavao, Mrs. Correia, Mrs. McHenry, Judy Cronin and members of the community.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was offered on any agenda item.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral to approve the Regular Session Minutes of December 11, 2017. The motion carried unanimously. Dr. Karafotis was not present at the time of the vote.

PRESENTATION

SPOTLIGHT ON KIDS – Quinn Elementary School

Dr. Gifford invited the Quinn Administration to present its “Spotlight on Kids” segment.

Principal Kyle Grandfield thanked the Committee for allowing the Quinn School to make its presentation highlighting the Fifth Grade Peer Leaders. Mr. Grandfield added that approximately 22 of the 37 peer leaders are in attendance this evening including the following students: Adrian Acosta, Norah Burke, Emma Carvalho, Ava Rose Cassara, Katherine Cheesebro, Aubrey DeSouza, Colby Edgcomb, Avery Halstead, Mohamed Hijazi, Ella Houlihan, Sydney Leary, Kyla Martin, Desiree McKay, Benjamin Medeiros, Angelina Moreno, Adriana Neria, Makena

Perreira, Mikaela Pitty, Elizabeth Santos, Kathryn Sullivan, Heather Vasconcelos, and Steven Wei.

Mr. Grandfield noted that the peer leaders were asked to present on “what it means to be a PBIS role model.” It was explained that the peer leaders were divided into three groups and each group was provided with a sentence stem for which they had to provide a response.

Group 1 – “At Quinn we know that we are following expectations because....”

Group 2 – “At Quinn School to be a PBIS role model I....”

Group 3 – “Vertical teams are....”

Mr. Grandfield invited each group to the present its response to the sentence stem.

Group 1 presented its response by explaining they are meeting expectations when they earn coins which can be given by teachers, bus drivers, staff and even students on fun Fridays. Coins were distributed to the Committee.

Group 2 presented its response by providing character traits of a role model. They also explained the monthly assemblies where students who display role model character traits are honored. A video of the first PBIS rally was played.

Group 3 presented its response by providing an explanation of vertical teams. Vertical teams consist of members from every grade level and are given team colors. A video that showcases the first round of “vertical teams” was played.

The students concluded their presentation by performing an abbreviated “go noodle” for the Committee.

The Committee congratulated the students on their wonderful presentation as well as noting their good works in school.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Student Representative Madison Correia reported on the activities taking place at Dartmouth High School.

- Chorus and Orchestra recently performed the “Messiah.”
- Band Director, William Kingsland, was recognized by Representative William Keating.
- Students are currently registering for AP exams which will be administered in the spring.
- DHS Students will be competing in the DECA competition this week in Hyannis.
- DHS is hosting a “showcase” evening for 8th graders.
- Thursday, January 11th is final scene night for our Theater Art Class which will start at 6:00 PM in the auditorium.
- Thank you to the DHS custodial staff for keeping the sidewalks and parking lots clear of all the recent snow and ice.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Overview of the DPS Art Program**

Judy Cronin provided an overview of the District's Pre K-12 Visual Arts Program noting the evening's presentation is a collaboration of input from art instructors throughout the district.

Mrs. Cronin gave a power point presentation defining the Visual Arts Program: its embracement of the district's vision, its standards based instruction, its cultivation of all styles of learning; academic, social and emotional. Mrs. Cronin emphasized the instructors' role in promoting results through skill building.

Mrs. Cronin provided a brief history of the program's annual Art Exhibit which was moved to the Carlin Lynch Activity Center in 2009. In 2011, the program began working as a Pre K-12 team allowing greater instructional collaboration among grade levels.

Mrs. Cronin continued her presentation by highlighting the work taking place at the individual schools adding there is 148 years of teaching experience among the art instructors.

Mrs. Amaral, Mr. Oliver and Mr. Nunes noted how much they enjoy the art show and offered comments of encouragement and appreciation.

Dr. Karafotis commended Mrs. Cronin on her program and presentation and commented that she is pleased to see the different age levels working together.

Mr. Nunes asked if the college credits earned during high school are accepted by colleges/universities.

Mrs. Cronin stated that it depends on the institution.

- **FY19-23 Capital Improvement Plan (Draft)**

Mr. Kiely provided an overview of the District's draft five year capital improvement plan for the Committee's review and discussion.

Technology Hardware	\$ 200,000
Dartmouth Memorial Stadium Synthetic Turf Field and Lighting	\$1,400,000
Boiler Retrofit and Replacement – DMS	\$ 275,000
Media Center/Innovation Lab Renovations	\$ 250,000
Kitchen Equipment Replacement	\$ 90,000
TOTAL	\$2,215,000

Mr. Kiely explained that for the past eight years the District has been funding \$200,000 for technology hardware in order to modernize the District's equipment: we have reached a point where the Town has built those funds in to the budget. Mr. Kiely noted that the District has reached an acceptable level of modernization but stressed the need for maintenance.

Mr. Kiely noted that the stadium turf and lighting project has been on the CIP list for several years and added that the District is currently seeking an architect for the project. Mr. Kiely explained that, although the project is a Town matter, the School Committee and the School Department will be responsible for the procurement of an architect and the awarding of a contract. Mr. Kiely stated he is hoping to provide a project designer recommendation for the Committee's approval at the February 12th school committee meeting.

Mr. Kiely explained that it is his understanding the middle school boiler project is being considered for grant funding similar to the funding received for the high school boiler project which worked out very well.

Mr. Kiely described the District's plan to create an innovation lab at the high school as well as renovating the media center at the middle school: funding would be in conjunction with the Work Force Grant to "outfit" the lab. Mr. Kiely added that part of this proposal is a request to utilize school choice funds as a source of revenue for these projects.

Mr. Kiely noted there is some kitchen equipment that needs replacing.

Mr. Kiely concluded his presentation noting that the stadium project and kitchen equipment replacement would be the only items requested at Town Meeting as separate capital improvements being funded.

Mr. Oliver asked Mr. Kiely the balance of the school choice account.

Mr. Kiely stated that by the end of this year there will be \$450,000.00 in the school choice account. Mr. Kiely noted that the District has committed a few small expenses to come from school choice funds but nothing significant.

Dr. Gifford added that the middle school librarian, Laura Gardner, has indicated she would like to renovate the middle school library, mostly with furniture.

Mr. Oliver agreed that the middle school library could use some renovating.

Mr. Oliver stated his support for the stadium project.

Dr. Karafotis asked if the figures presented today are in line with past requests and would they likely be approved by the Town.

Mr. Kiely stated he believes the funds being requested this year are in line with past requests. He added that last year the Town approved \$2.7 million: although a large portion was bonded for the middle school roof, more than a million dollars was approved outside of the roof project.

Mrs. Amaral noted her support for the stadium project and the innovation lab.

Mr. Nunes stated the use of school choice funds for the innovation lab is a perfect use of those funds.

Mr. Nunes asked Mr. Kiely if he had heard of a March Town meeting.

Mr. Kiely stated he had heard about it as an idea but had not heard of one being organized and at this point in time it seems unlikely.

Mr. Nunes advised Mr. Kiely that the Committee will review his FY19-23 Capital Improvement Plan draft and will revisit the matter at the next school committee meeting.

- **Superintendent's Update**

Dr. Gifford reported on the following:

Dr. Gifford recognized the Technology Department for all its efforts in the successful transition to the new District website.

Dr. Gifford added that the new District APP is available for downloading.

Dr. Gifford commended and thanked the maintenance and custodial staff for all their effort keeping the schools and the administration building clear of snow and ice after the recent storm.

Dr. Gifford asked that parents who did not receive an "all call" regarding no school or delayed start notices to please contact central administration or your child's school so any "glitches" that may exist can be noted and fixed.

Michelle Roy explained the new pre-school registration process stating letters are being sent to eligible families, which were derived from the Town census, in January and February. Applications will be accepted through mid-March. Letters of acceptance will go out around the middle of or late April.

Mr. Nunes asked if this will be on the website.

Ms. Roy responded yes.

Dr. Karafotis asked when parents would be notified if they are accepted.

Ms. Roy responded most likely after April vacation.

- **Report of the Chair:**

Mr. Nunes stated he had nothing more to report and asked committee members if they had any additional comments to express.

- **Additional Comments:**

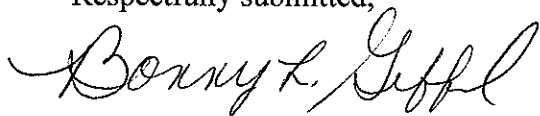
Mr. Nunes congratulated the music department on its recent performance at the Zeiterion Theatre.

NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: The next regular session of the School Committee will take place on Monday, February 12, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the James M. Quinn Elementary School Community Room.

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis, to close the Regular Session at 8:00 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Bonny L. Gifford, Ed. D.
Superintendent