MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
DARTMOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE

May 13, 2019

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

CALL TO ORDER

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

Present were the following members: Mrs. Amaral, Dr. Karafotis, and Mr. Nunes. Dr. Jenkins and Mr. Oliver were not present.

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was offered.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis to approve the Regular Session Minutes of April 29, 2019. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis to approve the Executive Session Minutes of April 29, 2019, as written, with the stipulation that they be held until such time as the matter or matters for which the session was held have been resolved. The motion carried unanimously.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Miss Alves reported on the following Dartmouth High School activities.

- DHS Theater Company recently performed *Footloose* to sold-out audiences.
- DHS Unified Arts Program held its annual K-12 Art and Innovation Night on May 9th.
- The Junior Class held its Banquet at White's of Westport on May 10th.
- Students continue to take Advanced Placement (AP) exams which will conclude on May 17th when over 400 AP exams will have been administered at DHS.
- Graduating student athletes signed letters of intent today to the colleges of their choice to continue their athletic careers at that level.

INTRODUCTION

Dr. Gifford invited Dartmouth High School Principal, Ross Thibault, to the podium to introduce the newly appointed Dartmouth High School Assistant Principal, Richard Gill whose tenure at Dartmouth will take effect July 1, 2019 filling the vacancy created by Mr. Christopher Boyle's retirement.

Mr. Thibault gave a brief explanation of the hiring process which began in March 2019.

Mr. Thibault informed the Committee that Mr. Gill is currently employed as Assistant Principal at Southbridge High School and highlighted his credentials and experience which were provided to the Committee.

Mr. Gill thanked the Administration and School Committee for the opportunity to speak and to express how much he is looking forward to continuing his career in education in Dartmouth.

PRESENTATION

Dr. Gifford described the origins and criteria of the Certificate of Academic Excellence and presented the same to DHS Senior Charlotte Correiro, who will be attending Georgetown University in the fall and to DHS Senior Shane Rose who will be attending the Honors Program at the University of Massachusetts/Amherst in the fall.

Mr. Thibault highlighted Miss Correiro and Mr. Rose's high school accomplishments.

Detailed descriptions of Miss Correiro's and Mr. Rose's high school accomplishments were provided to the School Committee members.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Gifford recommended the following request to the Committee for its approval:

- Authorization to run the Quinn Color Run Fundraiser in 2019-2020.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis, to approve the above-named request as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Proposed Revisions of School Committee Policies - Second Reading and Vote: Ms. Roy offered the following policies to the Committee for a second reading and vote.

- **School Committee Policy – JFABD – Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights and Services**

Ms. Roy reviewed the minor revision.

- **School Committee Policy – JFABE – Educational Opportunities for Military Children**

Ms. Roy briefly reviewed this new policy and added that the District is required to have this policy as part of its program review.

- **School Committee Policy – JFABF – Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care (PreK-12)**

Ms. Roy briefly reviewed this new policy and added that the District is required to have this policy as part of its program review.

Dr. Karafotis moved, seconded by Mr. Nunes to approve the addition of new school committee polices and revisions to the current school committee policy as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Revisions to Student Handbook:

Ms. Roy asked for a vote on revisions to the Student Handbook which address the appointment of the new Assistant Principal, updated language on the homeless student and non-discrimination policies.

Dr. Karafotis moved, seconded by Mr. Nunes to approve the revisions to the Student Handbook as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

FY20 Budget

After conferring with Town Hall, Mr. Kiely asked the Committee to consider and to vote on a $75,000.00 reduction to the previously approved FY20 School Department Budget which is described in his memorandum that was provided to the Committee.

Mr. Kiely stated the following items would be affected by the budget reduction: instructional technology software, professional development and reduction in salary budget due to a late retirement notification.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis to approve the FY20 budget appropriation for Potter School Classroom Teachers in the amount of $1,676,409.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis to approve the revised FY20 budget appropriation for the total budget, excluding the item voted individually in the one previous motion, in the amount of $42,493,770.00. The motion carried unanimously.

DMS Roof Project

Mr. Kiely reported that the middle school roof project has been completed and paperwork is being finalized with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA).

Mr. Kiely explained that MSBA conducts its own audit of the project and paperwork prior to disbursing the final reimbursement to the Town.

Mr. Kiely informed the Committee that approximately $200,000 needs to be paid out and that the whole project came in under budget by approximately $1.5 million dollars.

NEW BUSINESS

Revisions to DHS Course Schedule

Mr. Thibault asked the following members of the "schedule" committee to the podium: Associate Principal Rachel Chavier, Director of High School Counseling and Support Services Bridget DaSilva, and Dartmouth High School Business Teacher Jeffrey Lemler.

Mr. Thibault provided a PowerPoint presentation explaining the *7 Plus Personalization Scheduling Program* to be implemented at DHS in the fall and described the collaborative effort of the process and faculty support for the change which was described as more of a "tweaking" of the current schedule.

Mr. Thibault stated the "master schedule" determines instructional time and learning and explained that the schedule reflects a seven day cycle; it was noted that the number of courses students will select will remain at seven but students will only have five classes per day and class time will lengthen to sixty-two minutes.

Mr. Thibault introduced the new PASE (personalization, advisory, support and enrichment) period and explained how students would be able to schedule this time for their specific needs; all teachers will be available to students during this time period which is scheduled during the same time frame daily and will be forty minutes long.

Mr. Thibault described how the new schedule would be shared with students and parents.

The Committee thanked Mr. Thibault and the Schedule Committee for its work.

Mrs. Amaral asked about the change in the lunch period.

Mr. Thibault stated the time to eat will not be longer adding students have enough time to eat in the 22 minutes provided.

Mrs. Amaral stated that there might be students who will not thrive with this new schedule and, perhaps, this could be taken in to account in their "plans."

Proposed Revisions of School Committee Policies (First Reading): Ms. Roy presented the following for the Committee's consideration.

- **School Committee Policy – IJ – Instructional Materials (First Reading)**

- **School Committee Policy – IJJ – Textbook Selection and Adoption (Print an Digital) (First Reading)**

Ms. Roy reported a minor change to the aforementioned policies as it concerns updated non-discrimination language.

- **School Committee Policy – LBC – Relations With Non-Public Schools (First Reading)**

Ms. Roy explained the policy and reported that it is not a new requirement from the State or the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education but that the District, which has been following the guidelines, does not have an official policy.

Mr. Nunes asked if the policy concerns Friends Academy and Bishop Stang High School.

Mrs. Roy stated that Friends Academy would have had to have met the criteria when it opened; the Montessori School of Angels will be moving from Westport to Dartmouth and "we" will be reviewing that school under the criteria set forth in this policy.

Ms. Roy concluded that these polices are presented this evening for a first reading and that she would be seeking a second reading and vote of the Committee at its next meeting.

SMEC Quarterly Report: Due to Mr. Oliver's absence, the matter was held for the next meeting.

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

-A Number of Administrators and Instructors took part in a webinar on Substance Abuse recently which was presented in collaboration with the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents.
-78 DMS students were inducted in to the National Junior Honor Society.
-14 DMS students entered Sea Perch Competition in New Bedford and several teams finished in the Top 10.
-Administrators will meet with Dr. Lara Stone from the Dartmouth Education Fund tomorrow to review

grant proposals that were submitted by teachers.
-We are working with the Highlander Institute to extend its support to the elementary level next year.
-Massachusetts Maritime Academy will offer three scholarships for its 3 Week Advanced Studies Leadership Program to 7th and 8th grade students; this is the first time the Academy is offering these scholarships to students in this area.

Report of the Chair: Mrs. Amaral provided a report on the following:

-After Prom registration deadline is May 17th.
-Wednesday, May 15th is an early release day.
-Mrs. Amaral asked that the next scheduled school committee meeting be changed to Monday, June 10, 2019: the Committee members agreed.
-Mr. Nunes asked if warrants would be ready before the June 10th meeting since Town Meeting is scheduled for June 4th.
Mr. Kiely stated warrants would be available for signature prior to June 10th and that he would let the Committee know via email.

NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: The next regular session of the School Committee will take place on Monday, June 10, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Quinn School Community Room.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:32 p.m. in order to discuss union negotiation matters and not to return in to Open Session. On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonny L. Gifford, Ed. D.
Superintendent