

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

January 14, 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 Mr. John Nunes, at 6:30 p.m. in the Quinn School Community Room. He noted 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, Mrs. Amaral, Dr. Jenkins, Dr. Karafotis and Mr. Oliver.

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Nunes invited those in attendance to the podium to offer comments regarding any matter on the evening's agenda.

No comments were offered on any of the agenda items.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Jenkins moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to approve the Regular Session Minutes of December 10, 2018. The motion carried unanimously.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Shane Rose reported on the following Dartmouth High School activities.

- 66 Members of the Dartmouth High School DECA chapter competed at the district competition last week at which 40 members qualified for the state competition; Mr. Rose noted the efforts of the chapter's advisors Ms. Kane and Mr. Charest.
- Six DHS students had art work selected to be included in the EYA (Emerging Young Artists) 2019 Juried Exhibition: Abigail Amaral, Malia Cafasso, Oona Clarke, Lily Johnson, Katherine Jones and Christina Zatir.
- January is poverty awareness month and the DHS Gives Back Club will conduct a poverty awareness campaign the goal being to raise awareness about the disadvantages students living in poverty face.

Mr. Nunes asked Mr. Rose to describe the recent DECA competition.

Mr. Rose responded noting the camaraderie among participants and the experience of showcasing skills; he also thanked the Committee for approving DECA's request to participate in this competition.

Mr. Nunes noted Mr. Rose was one of the qualifying students to advance to state competition.

Dr. Gifford asked Mr. Rose what he attributes to DECA's success and growing membership.

Mr. Rose responded he attributes much of the success to the chapter's advisors who have worked with the DECA student leaders to promote the chapter and to broaden its already diverse membership; business is so broad that there is something to interest all students.

Mr. Rose added that students are not only looking to business as a career choice but realize it is important to have a general understanding of business; faculty and DECA advisors are promoting financial literacy within the school.

Mr. Rose stated current DECA members are getting the word out about how much fun they have which is helping to create the "buzz" or interest in the club.

Mr. Rose concluded his report stating that this is his last report to the School Committee as a new student representative will be appointed for the second semester. The Committee thanked Mr. Rose for his participation and wished him well.

RECOGNITION

Dr. Gifford invited Ross Thibault, Principal of Dartmouth High School, to speak about and recognize the high school's G.R.I.T. program.

Mr. Thibault informed the Committee that the G.R.I.T. club (growing/running/inspiring/together) started out as a running club to train members for marathons but has evolved in to a club that promotes building positive relationships with students and getting them connected with activities; faculty advisors are Sarah Labossiere (present), Morgan Bozarth and Bridget Taylor.

Mr. Thibault announced the names of the "core members" of G.R.I.T. who were present: James George, Grace George and Vickie DaSilva.

Mr. Thibault explained why he asked to have the G.R.I.T. Club recognized and read a letter he received this year, as well as last year, from the "Fairhaven Turkey Trot Committee" - which hosts an annual running race and canned goods collection in Fairhaven on Thanksgiving Day - wherein the significant canned good contributions and the high level of student comportment was praised.

Mr. Thibault added that Ms. Labossiere informed him of the contributions of the high school's Key Club and stated he would like to recognize this club for its community service which was instrumental in the success of the canned good drive; the faculty advisor of the Key Club is Christine McFee. The following is a list of the Key Club student members who were present: Abigail Keith, Suzanne Arruda-Pratt and Alexis Catabia.

Dr. Gifford asked students to explain why they joined G.R.I.T or the Key Club.

DHS Junior James George responded he always wanted to run a marathon and Ms. Labossiere helped "me to challenge myself" but after joining the club felt what made it great was the relationships you formed.

Senior Abigail Keith stated she joined Key Club last year and that it is a very welcoming club and added that last year the club cooked for the Ronald McDonald House Charity once a month and this year the club helps at "Gifts to Give" once a month which has been an amazing opportunity to "give back."

Dr. Gifford asked Ms. Labossiere why she started the program.

Ms. Labossiere responded she saw a notice in the *Standard Times* about the program starting at Old Rochester and contacted that school district to see if she "could get in on it." The initial name of the program begun at DHS was Dream Far, a Boston based organization, which is a collaboration of different schools; Ms. Labossiere added that Dartmouth continues to collaborate with Old Rochester.

Junior Alexis Catabia stated she joined the Key Club in her freshman year and saw being part of the club as a way to continue her community service which she had been involved with at her church.

The Committee thanked the club members and faculty for their praiseworthy service to their school and community.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Athletic Department requests permission to sell surplus team jerseys and shorts which funds will be deposited in to the teams' student activity account.

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral to approve the Athletic Department's fundraising activity request as presented. The motion carried with Mr. Nunes abstaining.

OLD BUSINESS

- **School Committee Meeting Schedule for the Remainder of the 2018-2019 School Year:**

Dr. Gifford proposed the following meeting dates through June 2019 for the Committee's consideration: April 8th and April 29th, May 13th, and June 17, 2019.

The Committee agreed to the meeting dates as proposed.

- **Chapter 70 Discussion:**

The Committee conducted a brief discussion on whether to endorse the resolution being put forth, collectively, by Massachusetts public school districts to urge legislators to increase funding for education.

Dr. Jenkins moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis to adopt the resolution calling for full funding of the Foundation Budget Review Commission's recommendations, with the only modification being to insert the name of the governing body where appropriate, and to ask that our support of the resolution be sent to our State Representative, Senator and the Governor. The motion carried unanimously

Dr. Jenkins will contact the Coalition to let them know that the Dartmouth School Committee has adopted the resolution.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Proposed 2019-2020 School Calendar:**

Dr. Gifford submitted the 2019-2020 school calendar for the committee's review and approval.

Dr. Jenkins moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral to approve the 2019-2020 school year calendar as proposed. The motion carried unanimously.

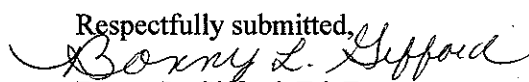
- **Superintendent's Update:** Dr. Gifford reported on the following:
 - DHS will be moving towards project based assessment at the end of this semester; more information on this change will be provided at the next school committee meeting; and, an amendment to the handbook will need to be approved.
 - Mass insight: Education and Research will be presenting at the next school committee meeting. We are retaining their services to help expand our AP course enrollment to students who are not currently exposed to or inclined to look at taking AP courses.
 - AASA Innovation Network – Last week our “core team” and our “ambassadors,” those teachers who help to support innovation, met with Ray McNulty, the District's consultant, to tour schools and to hold discussions about implementing innovative practices.
 - DHS media and entrepreneurial classes have collaborated to promote a “shark tank” like project called “Big Green Product Pitch” which will premiere on January 30th at 6:30 p.m. in the high school library media center. Dr. Gifford noted the efforts and participation of Mr. Lemler and Ms. Chavier respectfully.
 - DHS will begin its TED talks again: they will broadcast live on the DHS YouTube channel starting on February 8th at 7:45 a.m.
 - The High School Innovation Lab opening will take place on Tuesday, January 22nd at 3:30 p.m.
- **Report of the Chair:**
 - Mr. Nunes asked Committee members to forward topics of discussion for the next meeting as it concerns the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical High School.
 - Mr. Oliver and Mr. Kiely stated a public meeting of the Stadium Renovation Committee will take place on Wednesday, January 16th at 4:30 p.m. at Bush Street to discuss the status of the stadium project.
 - Mrs. Amaral added that SEPAC is hosting a seminar on “Future Planning” on Thursday, January 17th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Quinn School.
 - Mr. Nunes noted the public hearing on School Choice will take place at the next meeting.
 - Mr. Oliver asked for information regarding school choice be provided prior to the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular session of the School Committee will take place on Monday, January 28, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the James M. Quinn Elementary School Community Room.

Dr. Jenkins 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