

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

June 8, 2020

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Chris Oliver at 6:30 p.m. and was held remotely via Zoom Technology. The Chair stated the meeting is streaming live on the DHS Media YouTube channel and noted the meeting was being videotaped for future broadcast over DCTV. The Chair advised viewers that comments can be emailed to the recording secretary at kathleengenthner@dartmouthschools.org to be read during Public Comment.

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was offered.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Karafotis moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral to approve the Regular Session Minutes of May 18, 2020, as written. On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis to approve the Executive Session Minutes of May 18, 2020, 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 completed. On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

SMEC: FY21 Request for Permission to Lease Classroom Space at DHS

Mr. Kiely reported that the Southeastern Massachusetts Educational Collaborative (“SMEC”) voted to increase the room rental rate at Dartmouth High School by 3% which the proposed lease reflects and asked the Committee for its support to continue the program and to approve leasing one classroom at Dartmouth High School to SMEC for the 2020-2021 school year.

Mr. Oliver asked Dr. Gifford if there were any concerns at the high school regarding SMEC leasing space at the high school.

Dr. Gifford responded that she has not heard anything.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis, to approve the lease between the Dartmouth School Committee and Southeastern Massachusetts Educational Collaborative for the rental of one classroom at Dartmouth High School for school year 2020-2021. On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

FY21 Budget Update: Mr. Kiely informed the Committee that the FY21 budget is expected to be voted on at the June 20th “remote” Zoom Town Meeting.

Mr. Kiely confirmed that the Town is still supporting the school department’s proposed FY21 budget; he is not recommending any adjustments and this will be the budget voted on at Town Meeting.

Mr. Kiely added that there is still much uncertainty at all levels of government regarding funding.

Mr. Kiely reminded the Committee that essential positions will be filled but non-essential positions will remain vacant at this time.

Mr. Nunes asked about Town Meeting format.

Mr. Kiely responded it is a “work in progress.”

Mr. Oliver asked if staff would be laid off.

Mr. Kiely responded no staff will be laid off but not all vacant positions will be filled.

NEW BUSINESS

SMEC Quarterly Report: Mr. Oliver provided an update on happenings at SMEC including the following: Fall River Public Schools was voted in as a member; due to the current situation some employees in the adult services program have been laid off; new locations are being looked at to house the growing behavior program.

FY20 End of Year Authorization: Mr. Kiely sought the Committee’s approval to authorize transfer powers between accounts within the FY20 operating budget as is customarily done at the end of each fiscal year consistent with School Committee Policy DBJ.

Mr. Kiely stated this year, due to the current situation, there will be some savings which is not historically the case and with the Committee’s approval tonight the District will have the ability to make adjustments within the budget pointing out that some savings will be returned to the Town.

Mr. Nunes asked if the Town responded to the Committee's request to "earmark" returned transportation funds.

Mr. Kiely responded that he expressed the Committee's concerns adding that there is no ability to create a "reserve" in the law specifically for this matter and any returned funds will most likely go to "free cash" adding the Town does understand the District's concerns as it relates to future transportation costs.

Mr. Oliver asked what was paid on the bus contracts.

Mr. Kiely reported "nothing" but that a payment of 50% of the contract was discussed adding there is no agreement in place at this time.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral, to allow the Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations under School Committee Policy DBJ to make the necessary budget transfers at year end to balance out the budget as needed and to provide the Committee with the list of adjustments when it is available. On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Vacation Buyback Matters: Mr. Kiely provided an explanation for the District's request that the Committee authorize a buyback of vacation time for some full year staff and referenced the memorandum pertaining to the matter which was provided to the Committee in the meeting packet.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis to approve the buyback of vacation time as explained. On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Summer Maintenance Projects: Mr. Kiely provided a brief explanation of summer maintenance projects that will move forward and others that will be put on hold.

Mr. Kiely noted some capital improvement items that will be addressed at the June 20th Town Meeting including the middle school boiler retrofit and replacement project adding the Town has applied for "Green Community" funding.

Mr. Kiely added he would provide a list of projects to the Committee per his usual practice at the Committee's next meeting.

Mr. Kiely commented we need to remain flexible in prioritizing our maintenance projects because we do not know what school district's will be required to do per the State come the start of the new school year.

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

- DHS 2020 graduation and parade were fantastic; it was a wonderful community event.
- “Drive-by” Recognitions are being held for our Grade 5 students.
- DMS will be holding the Grade 8 ceremony on June 11th which will be broadcasted on DCTV at 6:00 p.m.
- DMS posted a virtual tour for incoming 6th graders.
- Summer School will be held virtually.
- Guidance from DESE continues to be provided most recently relative to summer school - which Dartmouth will hold virtually - and opening school in the fall: on Friday we received proposed safety precautions.

- DESE is set to issue teaching and learning guidelines, of which 80% will be mandatory, in mid-June.
- A Superintendent's Update pertaining to the District's mission in response to recent protests held locally and nationally was posted on our FaceBook page as well as having been emailed to parents.

Dr. Gifford invited Mr. Thibault to the meeting to recognize Rob Perrotti, Dartmouth High School technology and media teacher.

Mr. Thibault joined the meeting to recognize Mr. Perrotti's efforts and considerable time dedicated not only to Dartmouth High School but the District during this time of remote teaching and learning.

Mr. Thibault highlighted what Mr. Perrotti has done to help facilitate senior graduation events: videotaping, posting and editing videos all while providing instruction to his students.

Mr. Thibault commented Mr. Perrotti exemplifies the mindset we all should embody and embrace.

Mr. Thibault took the opportunity to thank the high school administrative team for their efforts in creating memorable graduation events: Rachel Chavier, Michael Martin, Richard Gill, Andrew Crisafulli and Bridget DaSilva.

Mr. Thibault thanked all of the Dartmouth Public School staff who came out to watch the graduation parade.

The Committee thanked Mr. Thibault and the high school administrative team including Mr. Perrotti for all the hard work that was expended during this time to make the graduation such a memorable event for the senior class as well as for the community.

2019-2020 Retirements

Name	School	Position	Years of Service
Lynn Vicente	DHS	Social Studies Teacher	33
Susan Calvin	Potter	Cafeteria Manager	34
Steven Charest	DHS	Business Education Teacher	27
William Kingsland	District	Music Director	22
Agnese Franzese	Quinn	School Cook	23
Valerie Gelinas	DHS	Teacher Assistant	21
Lucy Medeiros	Quinn	Food Service Worker	15
Carl Robidoux	DMS	Associate Principal	30
Juan Rodriguez	DHS	Music Teacher	23
Heidi Brooks	Potter	Principal	36
Cheryl Allen	DeMello	Grade 5 Teacher	12
Robyn Eusebio	DHS	Math Teacher	22
Kathleen DeCampos	Cushman	Occupational Therapist	20
Sandra Nicholas	Quinn	Grade 3 Teacher	29
Maureen Mantzavinos	Potter	Grade 5 Teacher	25

The Committee offered comments thanking the retiring staff for their commitment and dedication to the Dartmouth Public Schools.

Report of the Chair: Mr. Oliver reported on the following:

- Thank you to Dartmouth High School for the wonderful graduation event.
- Friday, June 12th DMS will hold a drive-through for 8th graders to collect diplomas.
- Parents please look out for emails that will be forthcoming from Central Office and schools with information about what school will look like in the fall.

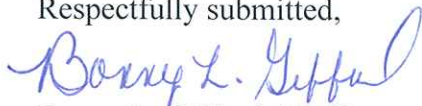
Other Matters that May Not have been anticipated at the time of the Agenda posting.

NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: The next regular session of the School Committee will take place on Monday, June 22, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. in order to provide an update with respect to collective bargaining with union personnel and not to return to Open Session. On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Bonny L. Gifford, Ed. D.
Superintendent