

**MINUTES OF JOINT SESSION
BETWEEN THE
DARTMOUTH SELECT BOARD AND
THE DARTMOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

September 21, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

The Joint Meeting of the Select Board and School Committee was called to order by Select Board Chair Frank Gracie at 6:30 p.m. via zoom technology. Public Access to this meeting was provided via YouTube at <https://youtu.be/ojOnrt8Ou0Y>.

Present were the following Select Board members: Mr. Gracie, Mr. McDonald, Mr. Haran, Mr. Mickelson and Mr. Tatelbaum.

Also present: Shawn MacInnes, Town Administrator.

Present were the following School Committee members: Mr. Oliver, Dr. Jenkins, Mrs. Amaral, Mrs. Waite and Mr. Nunes.

Also present: Superintendent Dr. Gifford, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Mr. Kiely and Mrs. Genthner, recording secretary.

Mr. MacInnes stated the purpose of this evening's joint meeting was to allow the School Committee and Administration the opportunity to update Select Board members of the District's return to school plan.

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Bonny Gifford, provided a detailed explanation of the District's preparations and decisions for the return to school including the scheduling of remote and hybrid models as well as virtual learning options.

Mr. Gracie asked if most students will be returning to school.

Dr. Gifford responded yes.

Mr. Gracie asked if there have been complaints from parents regarding the District's return to school plan.

Dr. Gifford responded that the District surveyed parents and based its return to school plan on decisions that were pedagogically sound while taking in to account parental concerns.

Mr. Kiely, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, provided information to the Select Board as it concerned preparations of school facilities for the District's return to school.

Mr. Tatelbaum asked if the District expects resistance to the mask requirement.

Mr. Kiely responded that the District does not expect resistance noting the School Committee's recent passage of a school policy addressing face coverings which provides for medical exemptions.

Mr. Mickelson asked about air quality in the schools.

Mr. Kiely provided an explanation of what was done to assure the best possible air quality in the facilities noting that the equipment in the buildings is old.

Mr. Gracie asked if there will be air quality testing.

Mr. Kiely responded “we” do not have air quality testing in place; the district is working on the quality of air flow which will be monitored.

Mr. Oliver commented that the facility matters being discussed highlight the need for the resumption of the conversation concerning the School District’s Facilities Master Plan.

Mr. Tatelbaum asked what the Select Board could do to help out.

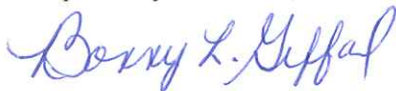
Mr. Oliver responded to continue to support the District.

Mr. Nunes added; put pressure on local and state legislators to provide funding for additional costs due to the pandemic.

School Committee Chair Chris Oliver called to order an Open Meeting of the School Committee at 7:05 p.m. via zoom technology. Public Access to this meeting was provided via YouTube at <https://youtu.be/ojOnrt8Ou0Y>.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Jenkins to adjourn to Executive Session in order to provide an update with respect to collective bargaining with union personnel not to return to Joint or Open Session at 7:06 p.m. via Zoom technology. On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Bonny L. Gifford, Ed. D.
Superintendent