

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

January 13, 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 Kathleen Amaral at 6:30 p.m. in the Dartmouth High School Library Media Center. It was noted that the meeting was being videotaped for future broadcast over DCTV, which is aired on the DHS YouTube channel.

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

Also present: Dr. Gifford, Mr. Kiely, and Mrs. Genthner. Ms. Roy was not present.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments were not offered by the public.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis to approve the Regular Session Minutes of December 9, 2019 and December 16, 2019. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to approve the Executive Session Minutes of December 9, 2019 and December 16, 2019, as written, with the stipulation that they be held until such time as the matter or matters for which the sessions were held have been completed. The motion carried unanimously.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Student Representative Sophia Waite provided an update of recent activities and events happening at the high school.

- Grades are closing on January 28th.
- 62 DHS students competed in the D.E.C.A. competition last Thursday and Friday in Hyannis: 33 students qualified for state competition.
- DHS Debate Team performed well in the state tournament last Saturday at Newton South.
- Principal Advisory Council met with Mr. Thibault and Mr. Gallishaw to discuss technology issues.
- DHS Counseling Department invited a student from Harvard University to meet with interested DHS students during their P.A.S.E. period to discuss the admissions process.

Mr. Nunes noted that Miss Waite competed in last week's D.E.C.A. competition and placed second overall and first in the written test: she has qualified for the state competition to be held in Boston at the end of February.

PRESENTATION

Spotlight on Kids – Dartmouth Middle School

Associate Principal Carl Robidoux introduced the middle school power point presentation: "Student Agency in the Classroom." Mr. Robidoux explained the background for this evening's presentation: Highlander partnership, blended learning, and the inclusion of technology which allows for more student "voice" and "choice."

Faculty participants included the following: Mrs. Mitchell - Instructional Technology Specialist, Mr. Lefebvre - Literacy Coach and Mrs. Brown - Math Coach. Student participants included 8th graders – Robbie Sioch, Haley Cabral, Teal Galligan and 7th graders – Sydney Leary, Sarah Oswald and Elizabeth Santos.

Faculty and students offered comments on the role and benefit of technology in the classroom which increases students' ability to learn at an individual pace and level.

OLD BUSINESS

School Committee Meeting Schedule for Remainder of 2019-2020 School Year: Dr. Gifford proposed the following dates to complete the school committee meeting date schedule for the 2019-2020 school year. All dates were agreed upon by the Committee: April 6th, April 27th, May 18th and June 22nd.

Mr. Oliver asked for school choice data as well as finance information for the January 27th meeting when the public hearing on school choice will be held.

FY21-25 Capital Improvement Plan: Mr. Kiely presented the revised FY21-25 Capital Improvement Plan for approval. Mr. Kiely noted a Facilities Master Plan place holder was included later within the plan as requested.

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mr. Nunes to approve the FY21-25 Capital Improvement Plan as revised. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Nunes asked to know when the plan will be presented to the Town Capital Improvement Plan committee.

NEW BUSINESS

SMEC Amendments: Mrs. Amaral brought forth the SMEC Amendments for the Committee's approval.

Mr. Oliver, the Committee's Representative on the SMEC Board, explained the Amendments indicating that a vote will need to be taken for the Amendments to SMEC's Articles of Agreement as well as a vote on the change proposed to SMEC's Capital Reserve Policy.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis to approve the change in SMEC's Articles of Agreement including the approval of the City of Fall River School Department's request to become a member. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis to approve the change in SMEC's Capital Reserve Policy whereby increasing the Capital Reserve Account from \$250,000 to \$500,000 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Proposed 2020-2021 School Calendar: Dr. Gifford presented the proposed 2020-2021 School Calendar for the Committee's approval.

Mr. Oliver requested the last day of school before the holiday break in December be moved to December 22nd and that the last day of school for the 2020-2021 school year be changed to June 17, 2021.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Dr. Karafotis to approve the 2020-2021 School Calendar as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

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

- Kim Rioux (DMS Teacher) was recommended by one of her students and subsequently named teacher of the month by local radio station FUN107.
- South Coast Educational Collaborative recognized qualifying high school students from member districts with the Superintendent's Award for Academic Excellence/Francis W. Gallishaw Award; DHS senior Erin Cachia was selected and honored with a \$1,000 scholarship at a luncheon held at Stonehill College in December.
- iSTEM Elementary clubs have begun with 260 students enrolling; 2 eight-week sessions will be held.
- Elementary level A.L.I.C.E. training has begun; we are taking it "one step at a time" with our younger students.
- Former student Steve Tetrault has donated \$20,000 to the DHS art program.
- We are encouraging DHS students to take the language test in the language they are studying; students who receive a grade of proficient or advanced on MCAS and the language test will receive the seal of Bi-Literacy. We will obtain a seal to put on qualifying students' diplomas. It is estimated that 20 students will take the exam.
- DPS recently received a \$15,000 grant for financial literacy.
- We are in the process of submitting grant applications for computer science and an engineering program for Project Lead the Way (PLTW).

Report of the Chair: Mrs. Amaral reported the following:

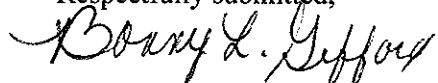
- Mr. Oliver asked if we need to take a vote to accept the donation to the art program. Dr. Gifford stated it was not necessary.
- Mr. Oliver asked that Facilities Master Plan be placed on the agenda in the next month in order to start a discussion and create a sub-committee to take up the issue.

NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: The next regular session of the School Committee will take place on Monday, January 27, 2020 at 6:35 p.m. in the Dartmouth High School Library Media Center. The school choice public hearing will be held at that meeting.

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mr. Nunes to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. in order to provide an update with respect to collective bargaining with union personnel 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