

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

**June 7, 2021**

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Shannon Jenkins at 6:30 p.m. and was held in the Dartmouth High School Library Media Center; the public was not allowed to physically access the meeting. The Chair stated the meeting is streaming live on the DHS Media YouTube channel and noted the meeting is being videotaped for future broadcast over DCTV. The Chair informed viewers that public comments can be emailed to the recording secretary at [kathleengenthner@dartmouthschools.org](mailto:kathleengenthner@dartmouthschools.org) to be read during Public Comment.

On a roll call the following members were present: Dr. Jenkins, Mrs. Waite, Mrs. Amaral, Mr. Nunes and Mr. Oliver.

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

**RECOGNITION**

Dr. Gifford asked that the matter be rescheduled to the next meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dr. Jenkins stated public comments can be emailed to the recording secretary at [kathleengenthner@dartmouthschools.org](mailto:kathleengenthner@dartmouthschools.org).

No public comments were received.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

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

- DHS commencement exercises were held yesterday at Dartmouth Memorial Stadium noting 263 students graduated.
- 21 for 21* events continue to take place: *Senior Picnic*; Scholarship and Awards night; *Senior Sunset* at Round Hill.
- AP Testing has concluded and the freshmen class will take Biology MCAS later this week.
- Summer Reading sign up is taking place now; there are over 50 books to choose from.
- Spring Sports are currently competing in tournaments.

Mr. Garcia announced this would be his last meeting and thanked the Committee for their time.

The Committee thanked Mr. Garcia for his reports and wished him well over the summer.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mr. Nunes to approve the Regular Session Minutes of May 17, 2021. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to approve the Executive Session Minutes of May 17, 2021, as written, with the stipulation that they be held until such time as the matter or matters for which the session was held have concluded. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

Dr. Jenkins commented that it may be time to review past executive session minutes for release.

Dr. Gifford stated that executive minutes will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Dr. Gifford recommended the following requests to be approved by Committee members:

**SMEC FY22 Request for Permission to Lease Classroom Space:** Mr. Kiely stated that the Southeastern Massachusetts Educational Collaborative (SMEC) has submitted its annual request to lease classroom space from the Dartmouth Public Schools noting the lease fee has been increased by 3%.

Mr. Kiely added this year SMEC is requesting to lease one classroom at Dartmouth High School and 2 classrooms at the Quinn Elementary School to support our special needs populations which Dr. Gifford previously mentioned to the Committee.

Mr. Oliver asked about the program that will be replaced.

Dr. Gifford reminded the Committee that SMEC will be taking over the PAtHs classroom at the Quinn School noting the enrollment for said program is down to 2 students and that it made sense to make this change since SMEC is, at this time, better equipped to provide the services to these students.

Mr. Oliver asked about the program that is being replaced and the reasoning behind the decision since the program is fairly new.

Mr. Kiely responded that the program is fairly new but “we” found that it was a challenge for the district: SMEC has a certain ability to provide an education to “kids” that we cannot in the public schools; it is part of their “core competency” and they have many resources available to them.

Mr. Kiely added that it was a lot of staffing for the enrollment: 2 students.

Mr. Oliver asked about the current staffing that is in place.

Dr. Gifford responded a teacher and two assistants adding that staff providing related services have also been involved.

Dr. Gifford noted that the reduction in enrollment helped to make the decision.

Mr. Oliver asked if the current staff would work for SMEC.

Dr. Gifford stated that the staff would remain employees of the Dartmouth Schools.

Mr. Oliver asked if non-Dartmouth students would be able to attend this program.

Dr. Gifford stated that that is correct.

Mrs. Amaral confirmed that this is one PAtHs classroom.

Dr. Gifford stated that is correct.

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral, to approve the lease request submitted by SMEC for FY22. The motion carried: 4-0. Mr. Nunes abstained.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**FY21 End of Year Authorization:** Mr. Kiely sought the Committee's approval to authorize transfer powers between accounts within the FY21 operating budget as is customarily done at the end of each fiscal year consistent with School Committee Policy DBJ.

Mr. Kiely explained there is a plan to transfer funds from one budget area to another noting the plan supports schools in the best way: textbooks, technology, etc.

Mr. Oliver asked Mr. Kiely to share with the Committee where the District is "budgetwise."

Mr. Kiely responded that he would provide this information.

Dr. Jenkins provided comments on textbooks and asked for a presentation over the summer regarding what the district's strategy is regarding textbooks.

Mr. Nunes asked for a report on what funds are transferred when available.

Mr. Kiely stated he could not have it for the next meeting but would provide the information.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mrs. Waite, to authorize the Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations to make the necessary budget transfers for school year 2020-2021 according to School Committee Policy DBJ. The motion carried unanimously: 5-0.

**Superintendent's Evaluation Presentation:** Dr. Gifford stated this is the mid-cycle evaluation presentation.

Dr. Gifford stated that the "forms" do not need to be completed at mid-cycle; the Committee can provide comments on the presentation at the next meeting.

Dr. Gifford gave a PowerPoint presentation as well as provided other documents to the members for their review.

Dr. Gifford provided an overview of her presentation highlighting specific points: Focus Areas including health and safety, shifting educational models; Actions Taken including alternative models of education and shifting assessments, professional development to support the change in pedagogy, securing competitive grants, management of COVID, collaboration with Town Health Department, continuation and extension of the food service program, continued negotiations with the teachers union, maintain engagement with students and families.

Dr. Gifford directed the Committee to the documents that were shared for more detailed information.

The Committee thanked Dr. Gifford for her presentation and her leadership.

Dr. Jenkins stated that the Committee will come back to this matter at the next meeting.

Dr. Jenkins asked the members if they agree to a M.A.S.C. evaluation training session.

The Committee agreed to scheduling a training session in the early fall.

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

- DMS promotion is scheduled for June 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> at Memorial Stadium.
- DMS Junior National Honor Society ceremony is scheduled for June 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- Cushman School has received another Feinstein grant in the amount of \$2,000.
- The district sent out a request for teacher mentors to support our new teachers.
- Administrators have been conducting interviews to fill vacancies.
- Dr. Gifford provided the list of 2020-2021 Retirees to the Committee members.

#### 2020-2021 Retirees

| Name               | School  | Position             | Years of Service |
|--------------------|---------|----------------------|------------------|
| Deborah Corrigan   | Quinn   | Teacher Assistant    | 28               |
| Diane Doe          | Quinn   | Grade 5 Teacher      | 32               |
| David Finn-Clarke  | DeMello | Grade 5 Teacher      | 33               |
| Joseph Zammit      | DMS     | Cafeteria Manager    | 4                |
| Margaret Zammit    | DMS     | English Teacher      | 24               |
| Patricia Wilbur    | DHS     | Teacher Assistant    | 6-1/2            |
| Anna Cabral        | Potter  | Teacher Assistant    | 22               |
| Jennifer Rouillard | Potter  | Teacher Assistant    | 20               |
| Linda DeCouto      | Cushman | Pre-school Teacher   | 8                |
| Nancy Harrington   | Quinn   | Grade 3 Teacher      | 26               |
| Donna Piva         | Quinn   | Teacher Assistant    | 21               |
| Maureen Dorsey     | DeMello | Math Coach           | 8                |
| Karen McDaid       | DMS     | Grade 7 Teacher      | 13               |
| Jo-Ann Sylvia      | Central | Finance Manager      | 20               |
| Jane Quinn         | DMS     | Grade 6 Teacher      | 33               |
| Sandra Hiller      | Potter  | Kindergarten Teacher | 11               |

**Report of the Chair:** The Chair had nothing further to report.

**Other Matters that may not have been anticipated at the time of Agenda posting:** Mr. Kiely presented Andrew Crisafulli's, Dartmouth Public School Athletic Director, volleyball camp

proposal directing the Committee to the department's plan which was provided to them in their meeting packets.

Mr. Kiely stated the camp would be held indoors at the Dartmouth High School gym and health precautions will be put in place; the camp would run from August 16<sup>th</sup> through August 20<sup>th</sup> and the cost would be \$175/player; the camp would be open to students in grades 9 thru 12 adding there would be limited capacity.

Mr. Nunes asked if the registration form should include a "space" as to whether or not the student has been vaccinated.

Mr. Kiely stated he would make a note and that there was "talk" about a screening process each day.

Mr. Oliver asked if there has been guidance from the State pertaining to student vaccination status.

Dr. Gifford stated there has been no guidance.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver, to approve the request for **Dig Green Volleyball** at Dartmouth High School from August 16<sup>th</sup> to August 20<sup>th</sup>. The motion carried unanimously: 5-0.

Mr. Kiely presented Mr. Crisafulli's proposal to run a summer long strength and conditioning program at the Dartmouth High School noting Infinite Fitness will be contracted to run the program.

Mr. Kiely stated the program would be open to Dartmouth high students and would take place at Dartmouth High School from June 28<sup>th</sup> through August 19<sup>th</sup>; the fee would be \$120 per student.

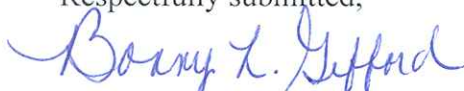
Mrs. Waite moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral, to approve the summer strength and conditioning program. The motion carried unanimously: 5-0.

### NEXT MEETING

**Next Meeting:** The next regular session of the School Committee will take place at the Dartmouth High School Media Center on Monday, June 28, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.; at this time the public will not be granted physical access to this meeting and will continue to have access to meetings via live stream at the DHS Media YouTube channel <https://youtube.com/dhstvmedia> and comments can be emailed to [kathleengenthner@dartmouthschools.org](mailto:kathleengenthner@dartmouthschools.org).

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mrs. Waite to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. in order to conduct a Level III Grievance Hearing filed by the Dartmouth Educators Association and to hear updates about pending litigation and not to return in to Open Session. On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Bonny L. Gifford, Ed. D.  
Superintendent