

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

May 23, 2022

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson John Nunes at 6:30 p.m. in the Dartmouth High School Library Media Center. The Chair stated the meeting is streaming live on the Dartmouth High School Media YouTube channel and noted the meeting is being videotaped for future broadcast over DCTV Channels 9 and 18.

On a roll call the following members were present: Mr. Nunes, Mrs. Waite, Mrs. Amaral and Mr. Oliver. Dr. Jenkins was not in attendance.

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

RECOGNITION

Superintendent's Certificate of Excellence Award: Dr. Gifford asked Dartmouth High School Principal Ross Thibault to come forward to make the presentations.

Mr. Thibault informed the Committee that the recipients of the Superintendent's Certificate of Academic Excellence are DHS senior Joshua Moniz who will attend Stonehill College in the fall to study computer engineering and DHS senior Evan Garcia who will attend the College of the Holy Cross in the fall to study Political Science.

Mr. Thibault highlighted Mr. Moniz and Mr. Garcia's many accomplishments while students at DHS.

Mr. Thibault stated Certificates will be presented to the recipients at the Scholarship and Award's Evening on June 1st.

The Committee offered their congratulation to the recipients and wished them much success in their future endeavors.

Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC): Elizabeth Townson, Pupil Support Services Administrator for the Dartmouth Public Schools, provided background information on SEPAC and thanked SEPAC Executive Board Members, Kathleen Amaral and Debra August, for their work.

Mrs. Amaral and Mrs. August presented certificates to students and staff who were recognized in the annual SEPAC survey for going "above and beyond" for students and families.

Staff

Dartmouth High School – Debra August (present), Brian Crowley and Melissa Fitzgerald (present). **Dartmouth Middle School** – Elizabeth Dufault (present), William Garcia (present), Frances Gauthier, Anthony Martin, Susan Pielech (present) and Kim Rioux (present). **Quinn School** – Lisa Arruda (present), Mary Boulton, Elle Canessa, Ashley Couture-Raposo (present), Kaitlyn DeFaria (present), Rebecca Kelly (present), Desiree Metta, Melissa Sullivan (present), Lindsay Vafides (present) and Laura Vieira (present). **DeMello School** – Andrea Minyo (present), Melissa Nunes (present), Jasmine Olean (present) and Danielle Santos (present). **Potter School** – Theresa Baird, Paul Chouinard, Darren Fleurent, Carrie Gregoire, Kaitlyn Kaulback (present), Paula Lassey (present), Melissa Laurence, Paula Mota, Lorrie Murphy (present), Jenna Reis (present), Tricia Weaver (present) and Richard Porter (present). **Cushman School** – Margaret Collins (present), Christine Fistori, Lisa Perry and Julie Meelia (present).

Students

DHS – Evan Garcia (present) and Jacob Kerney. **DMS** – Olivia Araujo. **Potter School** – Julian Amaral (present) and Lucas Aguiar (present). **Quinn School** – Jeffrey Silvia (present), Landon Veloso (present), Eva Simoes, Elsie Smart (present), Jayla Conward Johnson and Teagan Carter (present). **DeMello School** – Keegan Lopes (present), Liliana Pavao (present), Avery Imbeau, Reese Rymaszewicz (present) and Eli Friedman (present). **Cushman School** – Sadie Thomas (present).

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was offered.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Student Representative Nayan Bala, a junior at Dartmouth High School, provided an update of recent activities and events happening at Dartmouth high school.

- AP testing has concluded at DHS (exams were completed in nearly 20 different courses).
- Gr 10 students completed their MCAS mathematics testing last week.
- Gr 9 students are preparing for their Biology MCAS exams to be administered on June 6th and 7th.
- DHS Chapter of the National Honor Society inducted its newest members on May 19th.
- On Friday, Dartmouth hosted the Special Olympics Day Games with nearly 100 DHS students volunteering.
- We wish the senior class well as their last day of classes is Friday; end of year events will “kick off” next week.

PRESENTATION

Spotlight on the Andrew B. Cushman School: Dr. Gifford introduced Dr. Justine Dale, Early Childhood Director and Lori O’Neil, Literacy Coach, at the Cushman School.

Dr. Dale and Mrs. O’Neil presented how special education students come into Cushman school at the age of three noting the school’s relationship with Early Intervention.

Dr. Dale highlighted information provided in a PowerPoint presentation which was also shared in the Committee members packets.

Dr. Dale noted the benefits of having related services providers “in-house.”

Mrs. O’Neil explained how reading, writing and phonics is delivered to kindergartners noting they are delivered in a “workshop model.”

Dr. Dale stated Cushman is a “Feinstein” school and provided examples of “kindness activities” adding what has been able to be purchased with Feinstein grant monies including new playground equipment.

The Committee thanked Dr. Dale and Mrs. O’Neil for their presentation.

SEPAC Survey Results: Mrs. August, reviewed the results of the 2022 SEPAC survey.

Mrs. August provided a PowerPoint presentation describing the role of the Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) which was also shared in the Committee members packets.

Mrs. August noted 83 people responded to the survey and briefly explained the survey data.

The Committee thanked Mrs. Amaral and Mrs. August for the recognition of staff and students earlier in the meeting and thanked Mrs. August for her presentation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mrs. Waite to approve the Regular and Joint Session Minutes of May 9, 2022 as written. The motion passed unanimously: 4-0.

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral to approve the Executive Session Minutes of May 9, 2022, as written, with the stipulation that they be held until such time as the matter or matters for which the session was held are completed. The motion passed unanimously: 4-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Request for the DHS Marching Band and Color Guard to operate the food concession at the Dartmouth Living Memorial Stadium for the 2022 Football Season

Mrs. Waite moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral, to approve the request of the DHS Marching Band and Color Guard to operate the food concession at the Dartmouth Living Memorial Stadium for the 2022 Football Season. The motion carried: 3-0. Mr. Nunes abstained.

- Request by DHS Unified Arts Department to Hold its 2022 Summer Arts Camp

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mrs. Waite to approve the 2022 Summer Arts Camp. The motion passed unanimously: 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

SMEC Quarterly Report: Mr. Oliver asked that the matter be tabled until the next meeting.

Superintendent's Update: Dr. Gifford provided information and updates of events and activities happening throughout the district.

- Update on DMS 8th Grade Civics Projects and other DMS Activities.
- Elementary school art shows.
- Quinn had a community event "Block Party" this past Saturday.
- Potter PreK-5 Art Show.
- Cook Center Mental Health Series will start on June 7th; it is being advertised on the District Facebook page and in the electronic backpack that is emailed to parents weekly.
- DeMello Booster-a-thon Fun Run.
- DHS Robotics Team was at DeMello working with Grade 5 on a project.
- Personnel Update: Elizabeth Correia is being appointed the Principal of DeMello School and we will post for the Assistant Principal this week.

Mr. Kiely stated the Finance Committee supported the budget and the Capital Improvement Plan for the Town.

Mr. Kiely provided an update on the Dartmouth Memorial Stadium Renovation Project reporting the bid opening on May 12th for the remainder of the project garnered only 3 bid submissions with the low bid coming in at \$6,390,000; Mr. Kiely added he estimated between \$2 - \$4 million dollars for this part of the project.

Mr. Kiely stated we are going to put the project on hold to re-evaluate particularly as it relates to inflated costs at this time.

Mr. Oliver asked for confirmation that the bid was awarded for the Storage Facility.

Mr. Kiely responded we did and the contractor is honoring the bid; we will be breaking ground on the project tomorrow.

Mr. Oliver asked if the Turf Field Committee could be reconvened; we are going to need more money.

Mr. Kiely stated he would reach out to Mr. MacInnes.

Mrs. Amaral provided comments about town fees to be earmarked for the Disability Commission and would that be something we could look at to help with the stadium project.

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.

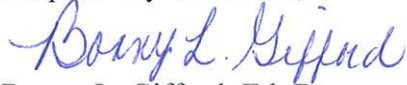
NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: The next regular session of the School Committee will take place in the Library Media Center at Dartmouth High School on Monday, June 6, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Nunes reminded members that summer meetings usually start around 4:30 or 5:00 p.m.; we will talk more about this at the next meeting.

Mrs. Waite moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral to adjourn at 8:04 p.m. into Executive Session for an update on negotiations with union personnel and a discussion on school security. On a roll call the motion passed unanimously: 4-0: Mr. Nunes – Yes; Mrs. Waite – Yes; Mrs. Amaral – Yes; Mr. Oliver – Yes.

Respectfully submitted,



Bonny L. Gifford, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools