

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

March 21, 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 Shannon Jenkins at 6:30 p.m. in the Dartmouth High School Library Media Center. The Chair stated the meeting is streaming live on the Dartmouth Community 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: Dr. Jenkins, Mrs. Waite, Mr. Nunes and Mr. Oliver. Mrs. Amaral was not in attendance.

Also present: Dr. Gifford and Mrs. Genthner. Mr. Kiely was not in attendance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mrs. Waite to approve the Regular Session Minutes of March 7, 2022 as presented. The motion passed unanimously: 4-0.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to approve the Joint Session Minutes of March 8, 2022 as presented. The motion passed unanimously: 4-0.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Dr. Jenkins welcomed DHS Junior Nayan Bala, the new student representative to the school committee who provided an update of recent activities and events happening at the high school.

- Spring Athletics started today.
- Dartmouth's Finest* was awarded this past weekend for the first time to a female contestant: Mia Carter.
- DHS theater company performed this past weekend at the MA Educational Theater Guild Festival.
- DHS debate team competed at state competition this past weekend at Needham; Colin Zhu came in 2nd place overall.
- DHS music program hosted a home show this past Saturday.
- DHS math team recently competed in a regional playoff meet and are currently ranked 2nd in the southeast conference; the team will be competing in state competition in two weeks.
- Gr 10 students will be taking the first of their MCAS exams tomorrow.

The Committee welcomed Miss Bala and thanked her for her report.

**PUBLIC HEARING
Proposed FY 23 Budget**

Dr. Jenkins opened the Public Hearing on the proposed FY23 Budget at 6:37 p.m. Dr. Jenkins invited those wishing to speak on the matter to come to the podium and state their name prior to making their comments.

Christian Gwordz-Silveira commented on the student parking fee.

Renee Vieira and Jody Parisi, Co-Presidents of the Dartmouth Educators Association (DEA), commented on several items including but not limited to the following: personnel positions; stipend positions; use of ESSER funds; special education supplies funding; inequity among school staffing; unfunded teacher assistant positions; administrator salary increases; competitive wages including substitutes; health insurance costs.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to close the Public Hearing on the proposed FY23 Budget at 6:50 p.m. and to return to Open Session. The motion carried unanimously: 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was offered.

PRESENTATION

Spotlight on Dartmouth High School: Dr. Gifford introduced Ross Thibault, Principal, of Dartmouth High School and noted Associate Principal Rachel Chavier was in attendance.

Mr. Thibault thanked the Committee for the opportunity to put the spotlight on the Esports club at the high school.

Mr. Thibault introduced DHS faculty Brian Guillotte and Eric Bosworth who volunteer their time as advisors to the club as well as student club members participating in the presentation: Grade 11 - Kyle Silva and Giada Cabral; Grade 10 – Orlando Riley and Lucas Waite; Grade 9 – Adrianna Neria.

Mr. Thibault provided a PowerPoint presentation highlighting Esports and its benefits.

Miss Cabral provided comments on her experiences and how Esports club creates a safe space and an opportunity to make friends.

Mr. Silva gave a brief history of the formation DHS's Esports club.

Mr. Waite spoke about team experiences.

Mr. Riley spoke about the camaraderie of the club.

Mr. Guillotte noted "their" team made it to the State semi-finals.

Miss Neria spoke about the room the club has been given the use of at the school and the plans the club has for it.

Mr. Bosworth noted members do not have to compete to be part of the club; there are other opportunities.

The Committee thanked the staff and students for their presentation.

OLD BUSINESS

FY23 Budget: Dr. Jenkins noted Mr. Kiely is not present and will be prepared to answer questions at the next meeting.

Mr. Oliver asked if the new curriculum positions will absorb some of the responsibilities of the stipend positions as asked by the DEA during the Public Hearing.

Dr. Gifford responded the plan is to keep the ELL and Project TIME coordinator stipend positions.

Dr. Gifford stated she and Mr. Kiely will have answers to questions posed at the next meeting.

Mr. Oliver asked for more ESSER funding clarification.

Dr. Gifford added the question regarding the RBT salary is not entirely salary but includes in-house staff training.

Discussion of the Equality and Diversity Sub-committee: Dr. Jenkins opened the discussion with an explanation and clarification as to the posting of tomorrow night's meeting as a School Committee meeting and not a joint session with the Equality and Diversity Sub-committee.

Dr. Jenkins asked if the Committee wanted to continue a discussion on the matter noting Mrs. Amaral is absent as well as the discussion being somewhat moot at this juncture since tomorrow's meeting is not a joint session.

Mr. Oliver he is fine waiting to have a general discussion but would like to solicit new members.

Dr. Jenkins responded does the Committee want to keep the structure of the sub-committee the same which should be determined before soliciting new members.

Dr. Jenkins confirmed discussion on the sub-committee will continue at the next meeting including its charge, its structure (11 members comprised of 2 administrators; 3 staff; 2 school committee members; 2 DPS students and 2 community members) and do we reappoint the current members or solicit new members.

The Committee agreed.

NEW BUSINESS

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

- DMS has started a Unified Athletics program
- Team ready to start interviews for Director of Curriculum next week.
- DHS Junior Hannah Lima - Miss New Bedford's Outstanding Teen 2022 – sent us a letter asking that we participate in her project an Official Day of Kindness; her letter was sent to the schools to observe April 1st Official Day of Kindness.

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.

- DHS – DECA International Career Development Conference and Competition

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to approve the request as presented. The motion passed unanimously: 4-0.

Mr. Oliver asked for permission to read into the record a letter submitted by the Chappiquiddic Tribe which was received after the March 8 2022 forum; Mr. Oliver read said letter into the record.

The Chair confirmed the format and protocols for tomorrow night's public comment meeting.

It was agreed that individuals who wish to make public comment must state their name and place of residence.

The Committee agreed to a “hard” stop for tomorrow night’s meeting: 8:30 p.m.

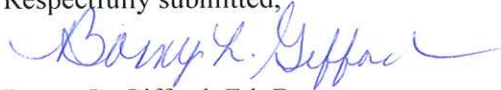
NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: The next session of the School Committee will take place on Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Dartmouth High School Auditorium in order to hear public comment on the Indian Logo matter; the general public will be allowed to physically access this meeting as well as being provided access via live stream at the DHS Media YouTube channel <https://youtube.com/dhstvmedia>.

The next regular session of the School Committee will take place at the Dartmouth High School Media Center on Monday, April 4, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.; the public will 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>.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mrs. Waite to adjourn at 7:49 p.m. The motion passed unanimously: 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,



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