MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
DARTMOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE

April 4, 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, Mrs. Amaral, Mr. Nunes and Mr. Oliver.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mr. Nunes to approve the Regular Session Minutes of March 21, 2022 as presented. The motion passed: 4-0. Mrs. Amaral abstained.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mrs. Waite to approve the Public Comment Session Minutes of March 22, 2022 as presented. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

RECOGNITION

Dr. Jenkins stated the Committee would like to "take a moment" to recognize the many years of service Richard Ferreira, the recently retired Facilities Director, gave to the school district.

Mr. Kiely mentioned that Mr. Ferreira was involved in over $80 million worth of projects.

Mr. Kiely added that throughout his tenure Mr. Ferreira's was able to extended the life of the school buildings while managing to keep the district running on a daily basis.

Mr. Kiely stated he could not thank Mr. Ferreira enough for his dedication and support which continues to this day.

Mr. Ferreira commented he was able to do what he did over the years because of the support he received from the school committees, central administrators and maintenance and custodial staff.

Mr. Ferreira stated the person he wants to thank the most is his wife Jeannie who was in attendance.

The Committee thanked Mr. Ferreira for his service.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Shelley Zhang made comments regarding the Equality and Diversity sub-committee.

Lynne Turner made comments regarding the Equality and Diversity sub-committee.

Jeannie Tripp made comments regarding the Equality and Diversity sub-committee

Renee Vieira and Jody Parisi, co-presidents of Dartmouth Educators Association (DEA), referred to comments made at the previous meeting concerning the proposed FY23 budget: correspondence sent to committee members by staff member Kerry DeJesus as it concerned a budget decision was acknowledged and read by Ms. Vieira; Ms. Parisi addressed concerns regarding speech language pathologist staffing.

Christian Gwordz-Silveira asked the committee if they received his email and to please consider its contents.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Student Representative Nayan Bala, a junior at Dartmouth High School, provided an update of recent activities and events happening at the high school.
-Music Program: Indoor Color Guard won first place at NESBA finals as well as the Indoor Percussion and Winds each taking first place in their respective competitions this past weekend.
-DHS and the *Best Buddies Program* celebrated their first official day of kindness on Friday.
-Spring Athletics: girls lacrosse opened its season with a win against Bishop Stang on Friday.
-DHS Theater Company continues its rehearsals for the upcoming spring musical: *Shrek*.
-TEDx DHS returns to the high school this Friday.

OLD BUSINESS

FY23 Budget: Before continuing the discussion and taking a vote on the proposed FY23 budget, Dr. Jenkins asked Mr. Kiely to share his responses to questions posed at the March 21st Public Hearing which were shared with the Committee in memo form and sent in the meeting packet.

Mr. Kiely stated he met with the Finance Committee last Thursday.

Mr. Kiely briefly responded to issues which were brought up at the public hearing: student parking fees; stipends related to the work of the newly proposed Director of Teaching and Learning positions; Assistant Superintendent secretary position; ESSER funds and acceleration academies; RBT Teacher Assistant position; Assistant Principal/Cushman; Special Education administration costs; ESSER funds and the proposed FY23 budget; instruction and administration costs.

Mrs. Amaral expressed her concerns regarding the ELE position as well as supporting the elimination of the student parking fee.

Mr. Oliver stated he would like to see the parking fees eliminated and supports the new Director of Teaching and Learning positions but that he is not comfortable with the proposed salaries and that he would like to see a salary range adding he would like to see the Committee have some input as to the parameters for all non-union salaries since they are a budgetary matter which is the responsibility of the Committee.

Mr. Oliver added that if the Committee votes the proposed salaries that "these stipends" be included in those positions.

Mr. Nunes respectfully disagreed with Mr. Oliver regarding the parking fee adding he would like to see the ELE position "stay" but stated he would defer to the administration's recommendations.

Dr. Jenkins asked if the high school transcript fee was eliminated this year.

Mr. Kiely responded there will be no transcript fee charged in the next school year.

Dr. Jenkins agreed with Mr. Nunes to keep the parking fee for now and agreed with Mr. Oliver's comments regarding the salaries for the Director of Teaching and Learning positions and the Committee's fiduciary responsibilities.

Dr. Jenkins stated she would entertain a motion to approve the FY23 budget appropriation for Potter School Classroom Teachers in the amount of $1,842,023.00.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mrs. Waite to approve the FY23 budget appropriation for Potter School Classroom Teachers in the amount of $1,842,023.00. The motion passed: 4-0. Mr. Oliver abstained.

Dr. Jenkins stated she would entertain a motion to approve the FY23 budget appropriation for the total budget, excluding the item voted individually in the previous motion, in the amount of $47,541,382.82.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to approve the FY23 budget appropriation for the total budget, excluding the item voted individually in the previous motion, in the amount of $47,541,382.82. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

Discussion of the Equality and Diversity Sub-committee: Before opening discussion on the matter, Dr. Jenkins made a clarification for the record noting the charge of the sub-committee was publicly voted on by the school committee in a public meeting adding the charge can be found in the minutes of the December 7 2020 meeting which are posted on the district website.

Dr. Jenkins opened discussion by asking Committee members if they wanted to continue the Diversity and Equality Sub-committee.

Mrs. Amaral stated she would like to see the committee continue and asked if the sub-committee could be renamed to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Sub-committee.

Mr. Nunes was non-committal about the continuation of the sub-committee noting he would like to see "where the sub-committee is going to go"; Mr. Nunes was in favor of the name change.

Mr. Oliver agreed with the continuation of the sub-committee.

Mrs. Waite agreed with the continuation of the sub-committee.

Dr. Jenkins agreed with the continuation of the sub-committee.

Dr. Jenkins noted there appears to be a majority of opinion to continue the sub-committee and a possible name change to more accurately reflect the charge.

Dr. Jenkins opened discussion on the composition of the sub-committee which is currently comprised of 11 members: 2 administrators; 2 school committee members; 3 staff members; 2 students and 2 community members.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral to expand the sub-committee to three (3) community members. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

Dr. Jenkins opened discussion on the name of the sub-committee which currently is called the Equality and Diversity Sub-committee.

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral to rename the sub-committee the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Sub-committee. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

Dr. Jenkins opened discussion on the charge of the sub-committee.

The committee agreed to revisit the charge of the sub-committee at the next meeting.

Dr. Jenkins stated once "we have the charge" we can make an official call for individuals wanting to "put their name in" to serve on the sub-committee noting emails recently received by interested individuals will be considered.

The Committee agreed.

Discussion on May Meeting Schedule: Dr. Jenkins opened discussion on the May meeting schedule noting the Select Board and the Finance Committee have asked for a joint meeting on May 9th.

The Committee asked District Administration to make certain requests of the Select Board: placement on the agenda and timely delivery of meeting materials.

Dr. Jenkins reminded Committee members the following Monday (May 16th) is a meeting date and asked if members would like to have our own meeting prior to the joint meeting which we have done in the past and not have a meeting on May 16th or do we want to have a meeting on the 9th and keep the 16th.

The Committee agreed to schedule a meeting prior to the joint meeting on May 9th and to change the May 16th meeting date to May 23rd.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent's Update: Dr. Gifford was not in attendance; an update was not provided.

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.
-Dr. Jenkins noted DEF call for grants opening soon.
-Mrs. Amaral provided a SEPAC Update
-Mr. Nunes provided a DHS Music Program Update
-Mr. Oliver asked that a discussion on the Dartmouth Indian Logo be included on the next meeting agenda.

NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: The next regular session of the School Committee will take place at the Dartmouth High School Media Center on Monday, April 25, 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. Amaral to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonny L. Gifford

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