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

July 17, 2023

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 5:00 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: Mrs. Amaral, Mr. Oliver, Dr. Jenkins and Mr. Nunes. Ms. Coughlin joined the meeting at approximately 5:15 p.m.

Also present: Dr. Saba-Maguire and Mrs. Genthner. Mr. Kiely was not in attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was offered.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to approve the Regular Session Minutes of June 5, 2023 as written. The motion passed unanimously: 4-0.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to approve the Executive Session Minutes of June 5, 2023 as written. The motion passed unanimously: 4-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Saba-Maguire recommended the following request for the Committee's consideration and approval:

- Request for approval for the Quinn School PTO to begin planning for its 2023-2024 Fun Run fundraiser to be held in October 2023.

Kyle Grandfield, Principal of Quinn School and Mrs. Levesque, a member of the Quinn School PTO, were in attendance.

Mr. Grandfield explained the Fun Run had been held annually for several years prior to the pandemic.

Dr. Jenkins moved, seconded by Mr. Nunes, to approve the Quinn School request to begin the planning stages of its 2023 Fun Run fundraiser to be held in October. The motion passed unanimously: 4-0.

ORGANIZATION OF COMMITTEE

The Committee thanked James Kiely, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, whose tenure as Interim Superintendent of Schools and Secretary to the School Committee ended on June 30, 2023.

The Chair asked for nominations to appoint Dr. June Saba-Maguire as Secretary to the Dartmouth School Committee.

Mr. Nunes, moved, seconded by Dr. Jenkins to appoint Dr. June Saba-Maguire Secretary to the Dartmouth School Committee. The motion passed unanimously: 4-0.

Dr. Saba-Maguire spoke briefly regarding her introduction to the district and what is going on in the District this summer.

Dr. Saba-Maguire provided a staffing/new hire update noting that there were not many vacancies this year.

Dr. Saba-Maguire invited Katie Pavao and Ross Thibault, the Directors of Teaching and Learning for the Elementary and Secondary levels respectively, to speak about summer programming and reported the district was awarded a \$126,000 grant from the State to run the Acceleration Academy in August.

Ms. Pavao and Mr. Thibault provided an overview of the following summer programs: DHS credit recovery program; the enrichment program involving the DHS robotics team and middle school students; extended school year and academic summer school programs; the Acceleration Academy as well as the curriculum summit held in June 2023 noting 65 instructional staff members participated.

Mr. Thibault stated one of the initiatives “we” planned on in “our” first year is to move away from *Rubicon Atlas* which is a very expensive repository for our curriculum which is not very user friendly adding with *shared Google Drive* we can do much the same that *Rubicon Atlas* promised but in a more cost-effective way.

Dr. Saba-Maguire provided information about a retreat in August for the Dartmouth Leadership Team as well as the mini-retreat held in early July for the Central Office Leadership Team (COLT.)

Dr. Saba-Maguire reported she participated in the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (MASS) Summer Institute at the beginning of the month along with Ms. Pavao.

Dr. Saba-Maguire noted she met her Superintendent coach, Dr. Maureen Lacroix, who was a Superintendent for the Bedford School District, adding Dr. LaCroix will be joining “us” at the next school committee meeting to introduce herself.

Dr. Saba-Maguire provided a brief update of summer maintenance projects: flooring replacement at the Middle and Quinn schools; freezer replacement at DeMello; grease-trap replacement replacement; kitchen and cafeteria improvements; renovations of ATLAS program space at the high school.

Dr. Saba-Maguire reported the District was able to prepay some special education tuition which was a priority for Mr. Kiely.

Dr. Saba-Maguire stated she is “hoping” to add to future meeting agenda items as they concern matters that are going on across the state with M.A.S.S. around legislation and in particular special education costs.

OLD BUSINESS

Review and Approval of Updated Charge of the Town’s Indigenous People, History and Culture Committee: The Chair opened discussion on the matter referring to a memorandum provided by the

Town wherein changes to the Town's Indigenous People, History and Culture Committee charge are highlighted and asked for comments adding the memorandum was included in the meeting packet.

Dr. Jenkins commented about issues she raised at an earlier meeting regarding the charge adding "that's been changed" but explained why she still has concerns about membership.

Dr. Jenkins stated "she understands" the Town Charter requires voting members to be Town "members"; we are creating a committee about indigenous people and we are saying that "our indigenous neighbors" are going to be non-voting members of that committee.

Mr. Oliver agreed with Dr. Jenkins' comments that we should be looking to extend an opportunity to the tribes in this area adding I am not sure how we would get them to be voting members; looking at the name of the committee "there certainly should be indigenous people."

Ms. Coughlin sought clarification: "we" would look to include the tribal input; so, if an individual joins the committee they would be representing the tribe and not their individual opinion.

Dr. Jenkins responded stating the conflict lies between representation and the Town Charter; the charter requires all members of Dartmouth committees to be Dartmouth residents which is not the same as the tribe selecting an official representative to represent the position of the tribe so whoever is randomly selected or appointed by "us" doesn't necessarily represent the official position of the tribe.

Dr. Jenkins reiterated her position; What would a committee look like in an ideal form? What do we need to do to make that happen; to have our indigenous neighbors and partners be full participatory members of this committee.

Mrs. Amaral agreed with Dr. Jenkins and asked the Committee for its comments on how to "send this back."

Mr. Nunes agreed with the Committee members adding maybe the Select Board needs to take another look at this.

Dr. Jenkins commented on the difficulty with the process of back and forth with the Select Board suggesting "we" have a conversation with them and agreed with Mr. Nunes' comment that the Select Board needs to take another look at "this."

Mr. Nunes stated the terms of committee membership is not stated consistently.

Mr. Oliver agreed we send it back to the Select Board and they could place the matter on a future agenda; and, between the five of "us," two of us could attend to share "our" thoughts discussed this afternoon.

The Committee came to a consensus to return the charge to the Select Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Authorization of the Use of School Choice Funds: The Chair invited Dr. Saba-Maguire to address the matter.

Dr. Saba-Maguire referenced the memorandum prepared by Mr. Kiely, the district's Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations wherein the District is requesting authorization to use \$75,000 of school choice funds in order to purchase technology hardware to support "our" one-to-one computers for the incoming freshman class; the memorandum was included in the meeting packet.

Dr. Saba-Maguire explained the request is necessary due to the Town's decision not to support the District's annual technology replacement article in June.

Dr. Saba-Maguire noted Jonathan Gallishaw, the District's Chief Technology officer, is present to answer any questions regarding this purchase.

Mr. Gallishaw explained the need for the technology.

Dr. Saba-Maguire explained Mr. Kiely's concerns utilizing school choice funds for purchases that will be on-going noting it is not money the district will necessarily be able to rely on in the future.

Mr. Nunes thanked Town Meeting for its support of our budget with the amendment that was made.

Mr. Nunes reminded the Committee of the budget adjustments the Committee made at a previous meeting in the amount of \$50,000 from school choice funds for supplies.

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Ms. Coughlin to approve the use of school choice funds in the amount of \$75,000 to purchase technology hardware to support one-to-one computing. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

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

-School Committee Retreat/Workshop Update

Committee members were asked to forward dates for the Committee's retreat/workshop to Ms. Genthner.

Report of the Chair: The Chair did not have anything further to report.

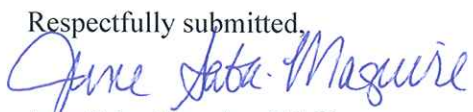
Other Matters that may not have been anticipated at the time of Agenda posting:

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, August 21, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Ms. Coughlin to adjourn at 5:52 p.m. The motion passed unanimously; 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,



June Saba-Maguire, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

Open Session - Documents/Exhibits

Agenda

Brief

Regular Session Minutes for June 5, 2023

Executive Session Minutes for June 5, 2023

Memo re Authorization to Use School Choice Funds

Memo re Committee Charge for the Indigenous People, History and Culture Committee