

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

October 21, 2024

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Chris Oliver at 6:00 p.m. in the Dartmouth High School Library Media Center. The Chair announced the meeting is being recorded for future broadcast over DCTV.

On a roll call the following members were present: Chris Oliver, Elizabeth Coughlin, Mary Beckwith, Kathleen Amaral and John Nunes.

Also present: Dr. Saba-Maguire, James Kiely and Ms. Genthner.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comment was offered.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral to approve the Regular Session Minutes of October 7, 2024 as written. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

DHS Senior Elizabeth O'Neil provided updates on activities and events happening at Dartmouth High School (DHS) including the Student Council's first *Trunk or Treat* fundraiser to be held on Saturday, October 26th; Class of 2025 5k Road race on Sunday, October 27th; the National Honor Society (NHS) hosts its annual Volleyball Tournament on November 12th; tomorrow night is the "showcase" for the middle school 7th and 8th grade students; DHS is hosting a Blood Drive on October 29th; PSATs will be administered on Thursday for DHS 10th and 11th grade students; there were a record number of applicants for Freshman elections; all fall sports teams are in post season play; NHS has chosen the Lighthouse Animal Shelter as its charity.

OLD BUSINESS

Preliminary FY26 Budget – Update on Budget Discussions: Mr. Kiely reported the District has been working with District Administrators to help create the budget plan for FY26.

Mr. Kiely continued noting a Budget Sub-committee meeting has been scheduled for Monday, October 28th at 5:00 p.m.; the plan is to have some very preliminary numbers for you in order to "move the conversation forward."

Dr. Saba-Maguire stated we have met with every principal as well as continuing the work at the central office level to discuss the needs of the District as it relates to curriculum and instruction adding the process is about getting out and talking with "folks" in the schools to hear what the needs are so that when we present our budget it is a "needs based" budget.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent's Evaluation: Mr. Oliver invited Mr. Nunes to open discussion on the matter.

Mr. Nunes asked that the matter be held and addressed at the November 4th school committee meeting.

The Committee agreed to address the matter on November 4th.

Superintendent's Goal – Vote: Dr. Saba-Maguire presented her Goals for the 2024-2025 school year and asked for the Committee's approval.

Dr. Saba-Maguire explained how goal setting and attainment is a collaborative effort as well as a starting point for the evaluation process.

Dr. Saba-Maguire addressed each of her goals: District Improvement, Student Learning and Professional Practice.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Ms. Beckwith to approve the Superintendent's Goals for school year 2024-2025. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

M.A.S.C. Resolutions Discussion: Mr. Oliver opened discussion on the matter in preparation for the annual Delegate Assembly in November noting Ms. Beckwith has volunteered to attend representing the Dartmouth School Committee.

-M.A.S.C. Resolution #1: The Committee agrees with the resolution if there is an amendment that states we do not want to enact a moratorium (on MCAS) but we are in favor of looking into alternatives; if no amendment Ms. Beckwith can decide how to vote as she is aware of the Committee's position.

-M.A.S.C. Resolution #2: The Committee agrees with the resolution.

-M.A.S.C. Resolution #3: The Committee agrees with the resolution.

-M.A.S.C. Resolution #4: The Committee agrees with the resolution with the amendment to include the word "sole" in relation to the purpose.

-M.A.S.C. Resolution #5: Agreed to resume discussion on this resolution at the next meeting.

-M.A.S.C. Resolution #6: The Committee does not agree with this resolution.

-M.A.S.C. Resolution #7: The Committee agrees with the resolution.

The Committee agreed to continue the discussion on M.A.S.C. resolutions at the next meeting.

(The Student Representative report was given at this time.)

Southeastern Educational MA Collaborative (SMEC) Quarterly Report: Mr. Oliver provided the SMEC quarterly report as this Committee's representative to its Board and noted that he was appointed Chair of SMEC's Board at the September meeting.

SC Policies Section A – Foundations and Basic Commitments – Second Reading and Vote: Mr. Oliver opened the matter for discussion and a vote.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral to approve the SC Policy Section A – *Foundations and Basic Commitments*. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

Superintendent's Update: Dr. Saba-Maguire provided information of work being done in the district that is aligned to the District Strategic Plan as well as current activities and events that are happening.

Teacher and Learning Update: Catherine Pavao and Ross Thibault, Directors of Teaching and

Learning/Secondary and Elementary Level respectively, provided updates on curriculum pilots ongoing throughout the District.

Dr. Saba-Maguire explained a new aspect of the Principal meetings with all Principals and Central Administrators visiting classrooms of the host school in an effort to make connections with staff and students outside of "our" individual work locations.

Also, Dr. Saba-Maguire stated with the District Strategic Plan now in place it will serve as a template for the school improvement plans noting presentations will resume at future school committee meetings.

-Budget and Capital Improvement Update: HR update; Mr. Kiely provided Town Meeting results pertaining to the school department adding preliminary information was sent to district administrators to start preparations for the FY26-FY35 capital improvement plan.

-Safe and Supportive Schools Update: Laurie Dionisio and Kim Redlon, Director and Assistant Director of Student Services respectively, reported the District was named a Unified Champion School District and explained what that means and how a school receives this designation as well as provided upcoming events and stated the District is creating a District Crisis Response Team which will be comprised of representatives from central office, the schools including administrators, nurses, social workers as well as representatives from the Town Police and Fire Departments adding the first meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2024; update on the DeMello and Potter school fire alarm systems.

-Family and Community Engagement Update: Dr. Saba-Maguire provided an update on student, family and community events including the Community Forum on Wednesday, October 23rd at 6:00 p.m. at DHS.

Report of the Chair: The Chair reported the following.

-Band Update

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 and via live stream at www.youtube.com/dhstvmedia on Monday, November 4, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral to adjourn from Open Session at 7:49 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 October 7, 2024

Presentation – PPP of the Superintendent's Goals for SY2024-2025

MASC Resolutions

SMEC Quarterly Report

Memo – SC Policy A *Foundations and Basic Commitments* Review