

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

September 9, 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.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF NEW HIRES

Dr. Saba-Maguire welcomed the new hires and invited Ross Thibault and Catherine Pavao, Directors of Teaching and Learning for the Secondary and Elementary Levels respectively, to provide a brief overview of the teacher induction and mentoring program Project T.I.M.E.

Mrs. Pavao stated school districts in Massachusetts are required to provide a mentoring and induction program and noted Dartmouth provides training for its mentors.

Mr. Thibault commented Project T.I.M.E. supports teacher retention and provided statistics for Dartmouth including the District's current 92.2% teacher retention rate.

Mr. Thibault and Mrs. Pavao introduced the Dartmouth Public Schools' 2024-2025 new instructional hires and their mentors.

NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL	MENTOR
Jeffrey Carreiro	Special Education Teacher	DMS	Lisa Katz-Turgeon
Sarah Dury	Guidance Counselor	DMS	Paul Leconte
Logan Genereux	Speech Language Pathologist	Cushman	Maryann Sorensen
Linda Hamilton	Grade 3 Teacher	Quinn	Jessica Collyer
Thomas Mayall	Computer Science Teacher	DHS	Jamie O'Neil
Kristen Rose	Social Worker	DHS	Cathy Thomas
Erica Thibodeau	Guidance Counselor	DHS	Nicole Heath

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Ms. Coughlin to approve the Regular Session Minutes of August 26, 2024 as written. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

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

Mr. Oliver asked for the Committee's "indulgence" to move "other matters not anticipated" forward so that Dr. Saba-Maguire can introduce the new Student Representatives to the School Committee.

Dr. Saba-Maguire invited Ryan Shea, Principal of Dartmouth High School, and three of the four student representatives and thanked the students for their participation.

Mr. Shea introduced the four students who have been elected to represent the student population and who will share in the responsibility as student representative to the School Committee which will allow for a student representative to be available for all meetings: Audrey Kertscher (not present), Jordan Rosenberg, Elizabeth O'Neill and Haley Zexter.

Mr. Shea indicated that a calendar will be provided so that the Committee will know who will be intending each meeting.

Miss Rosenberg stated she is the secretary and provided brief comments about herself and her reasons for wanting to be a student representative.

Miss O'Neill stated she is the vice president and provided brief comments about herself and her reasons for wanting to be a student representative.

Miss Zexter provided brief comments about herself and her reasons for wanting to be a student representative.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Saba-Maguire recommended the following requests to the Committee for its consideration and approval.

- **Dartmouth School PTO – 2024-2025 Fundraising Requests**

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral to approve the Dartmouth High School PTO fundraising requests for 2024-2025, as submitted. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Preliminary FY26 Budget – Update on Budget Discussions: Mr. Oliver noted this is a standing agenda item to update the Committee on budget discussions and anything that may have transpired since "our" last meeting.

Dr. Saba-Maguire noted Mr. Kiely is doing his “due diligence” to prepare two budgets; to work with the community to insure we have the funding needs of the schools met and that we are all on the “same page” as we go through this process together.

Mr. Kiely reiterated that he will be preparing a draft budget projection for the budget sub-committee and suggested “we” hold off deciding on funding sources as discussed at the last meeting until we have a draft budget.

Mr. Kiely noted the plan is to have a draft budget for September 30th which will “set the stage” for what has to happen after that adding he is encouraged by discussions with the town side of government.

Ms. Beckwith asked what the initial next steps are after September 30th.

Mr. Kiely responded there are multiple steps that have to happen at the same time: budget sub-committee meeting, bring “it” to the school committee for discussion while we try to begin the discussion on the Town side to figure out “what are we looking at” noting our budget has been increased by 3.5% for the last 10 years and last year we were told we had to settle for 3% adding having these discussions with the Town to see what “flexibility” it might have is important.

NEW BUSINESS

Capital Improvement Planning (CIP) Update: Dr. Saba-Maguire invited Mr. Kiely to speak on the matter.

Mr. Kiely reported the District received funding for some projects from the June Town Meeting and addressed information in the CIP update memo provided in the meeting packet highlighting the projects to be voted on at the October Town meeting.

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

- DHS Superintendent Advisory Update
- Climate & Culture Update
- Transportation Update
- Enrollment Update including elementary classroom sizes and District average
- HR Update
- Climate & Culture

Report of the Chair: The Chair reported the following.

- DHS Band Update

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, September 23, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Ms. Beckwith to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. into Executive Session for the purpose of an update on pending Legal Matters and not to return to open session. On a roll call the motion passed unanimously; 5-0: Mr. Oliver – Yes; Ms. Coughlin; Ms. Beckwith – Yes; Kathleen Amaral - Yes and Mr. Nunes – Yes.

Respectfully submitted,



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

Open Session - Documents/Exhibits

Agenda

Brief

Regular Session Minutes for August 26, 2024

Project Time PPP and New Hire BIOS

Memo - CIP Update