

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

June 9, 2025

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Elizabeth Coughlin at 6:00 p.m. in the Dartmouth High School Library Media Center.

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

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

The Chair announced the meeting is being recorded for future broadcast over DCTV.

RECOGNITION OF 2024-2025 RETIREES

Ms. Coughlin announced the names of Dartmouth Public School Administrators, Teachers and Non-Instructional Staff who have or are retiring in the 2024-2025 school year.

Name	School	Years of Service
Lynn Baker	DeMello	19
Alison Caito Galligan (Dec 2024)	DMS	32
Douglas Doane	DMS	24
Paul Donahue	DHS	32
Patricia Fletcher	DHS	36
Jeanne Griffin (fka Sheridan)	District	7
Jeffrey Lemler (Feb 2025)	DHS	28
Celeste McGreavy	Quinn	21
Tammy Piazza	DeMello	20
Susan Pielech	DMS	28
Richard Porter	Potter	35
Randall Pontes (Nov 2024)	DMS	36
Christopher Tullson	DMS	23

Ms. Beckwith presented retirees with a certificate of appreciation as well as a small token of the Committee and District's gratitude for their years of service.

Dr. Saba-Maguire invited Melissa McHenry, incoming Principal of the Potter School, to introduce the school's new Assistant Principal.

Mrs. McHenry, incoming Principal of Potter Elementary School, introduced Benjamin Grande who was recently hired as Assistant Principal for Potter School.

Dr. Saba-Maguire invited Ryan Shea, Principal of Dartmouth High School, to introduce the school's new Associate Principal.

Mr. Shea, Principal of Dartmouth High School (DHS), introduced Stephanie Santos who was recently hired as Associate Principal for DHS.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Heather Noyes-Fredette, a Dartmouth teacher, resident and parent of Dartmouth Public School students, provided comments on the budget and school funding.

Jennie Gates, Dartmouth Public School Nurse and parent of DHS students, provided comments on staffing matters and was informed by the Chair the matters were not under the purview of the Committee or on tonight's agenda.

Filipe Da Silva, a parent of DHS student, provided comments on matters and was informed by the Chair the matters were not under the purview of the Committee.

Robin Dela Fuente, a Dartmouth parent of school age children, provided comments in support of teachers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Ms. Beckwith to approve the Regular Session Minutes of May 19, 2025 as written. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral to approve the Executive Session Minutes of May 19, 2025 as written, with the stipulation that they be held until the matters under consideration are resolved. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Saba-Maguire recommended the following requests to be approved by the Committee.

- Request for the DHS Marching Band and Color Guard to Operate the Food Concession at Dartmouth Living Memorial Stadium for the 2025 Football Season

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral, to the request. The motion passed: 4-0. Mr. Nunes abstained.

PRESENTATION

Overview of DHS Media Program Grants: Dr. Saba-Maguire invited Rob Perrotti, Lead Teacher of the Dartmouth High School Business, Innovation and Technology Department and DHS TV Media Teacher, to make his presentation particularly as it pertains to MassHire and the support it has provided through grants not only to the DHS TV Media program but to the entire high school community.

Mr. Perrotti provided a brief history of the relationship with MassHire and provided examples of the benefits enjoyed by students made possible by grants it has awarded to DHS over the last several years: Credit for Life Fair, Career Fair, DHS TV Media Banquet, field trip transportation, computer software and class materials.

Bonnie Mota, DHS Secretary/Bookkeeper, provided funding information from MassHire grants for 2024-2025 which amounted to \$32,000.

Mr. Perrotti invited students to speak about their field trip experiences: Cybersecurity and GSA events at Bridgewater State University; photography field trip to Newport Mansions; MA Association of Student Councils Annual Conference for student council members; DHS TV Media field trip to New York City.

The following students spoke about their field trip experiences: Morgan Kochan; Giovanna De Camargo; Melanie Khatib; Nina Pittman; Laney Matteson; Phoebe Murray, Aubrey Negron, Ben Smith, Ella Gates, Noah Clark, and Landon Almeida.

Mr. Perrotti invited Deven Robitaille, the Youth Program Manager for MassHire, to say a few words about their program.

Ms. Robitaille spoke briefly about her relationship with DHS and how proactive the administration has been advocating for programs for students, particularly this year, and encouraged the school to continue reaching out to MassHire for support.

Mr. Perrotti presented Ms. Robitaille with a small token of appreciation on behalf of DHS.

Mr. Perrotti stated that MassHire is funding student internships this summer noting the interns will be compensated adding there will be a compensated internship program with MassHire next fall when students who participate in videotaping school committee meetings will be compensated.

Project 351 Playbook Initiative: Dr. Saba-Maguire invited Dr. Ross Thibault, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning/Secondary Level and Lili Chamberlain, World Language Teacher at DHS, advisors to students who lead the *Project 351 Playbook Initiative* at DHS and Dartmouth Middle School (DMS) to provide an update on this year's work regarding the *Initiative*.

Dr. Thibault spoke briefly about how the *Playbook Initiative* aligns with the District's strategic plan specifically as it relates to *Safe and Supportive Schools* and thanked Ms. Chamberlain for her assistance as well as the following individuals: Peter Rossi, Principal of DMS and the DMS administrative team; Diane Massari and James Sullivan, DMS guidance counselors; and Ryan Shea, Principal of DHS.

Tia Raad, a 2025 graduate of DHS and lead trainer for the *Playbook Initiative* this year, thanked the DMS students who participated in the *Playbook Initiative*.

Audrey Kertscher, a 2025 graduate of DHS and deputy trainer for the *Playbook Initiative* this year, expressed the changes she noted in students who participated in the *Playbook Initiative* as well as students' growth.

Anderson DaCruz, a seventh grader at DMS, explained the purpose of the *Playbook Initiative*.

Kaelani Medina, an eighth grader at DMS, described how *Playbook* workshops are conducted.

Selena Blevines, a seventh grader at DMS, spoke about *Playbook Initiative* partnerships specifically noting the relationships with Old Rochester Regional School District.

Gianna Collins, an eighth grader at DMS, described the lessons learned through the *Playbook Initiative*.

Tia Raad and Audrey Kertscher, explained what the *Playbook Unity Plan* is noting the plan is based on ideas students came up with to create one concrete plan to accomplish their goals.

Savannah Bettencourt-Zahn, an eighth grader at DMS, spoke about the *Playbook Unity Plan*.

RESOLUTION

Resolution 25-02 – Awarding A Contract for Contract Services for the DeMello and Potter School Fire Alarm System Replacement Project: Ms. Coughlin invited Mr. Kiely, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, to present the matter.

Mr. Kiely reported that at Town Meeting last week it was voted to move funds from the Long-Term Capital Stabilization Account to an Article to complete the District's Fire Alarm Replacement Project at the DeMello and Potters Schools.

Mr. Kiely read *Resolution 25-02 Awarding A Contract for Contract Services for the DeMello and Potter School Fire Alarm System Replacement Project* and asked the Committee to act on the resolution tonight.

“WHEREAS: Invitation for Bids for the DeMello and Potter School Fire Alarm System Replacement were duly advertised and bid proposals received were opened online at Biddocs.com on May 9, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

WHEREAS: M-V Electrical Contractors, Inc, as presented, was the lowest responsible and eligible bidder; Therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That a contract for the Contractor Services for the DeMello and Potter School Fire Alarm System Replacement be awarded to M-V Electrical Contractors Inc. of Acushnet, MA for a fee of \$318,130.00”

Mr. Nunes asked if the project would be completed this summer.

Mr. Kiely stated, with the committee's approval tonight, the project will start Monday and explained the plan.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to award the contract as presented. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

FY25 End of Year Authorization: Ms. Coughlin, noting this is an annual agenda item, opened the matter.

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral, to authorize the Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations to make the necessary budget line item transfers. The motion carried unanimously: 5-0.

South Coast Educational Collaborative Dartmouth Representative: Ms. Coughlin opened the matter to a vote reappointing the Superintendent as Dartmouth's representative to the South Coast Educational Collaborative's Board of Directors.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Ms. Beckwith pursuant to Chapter 40 Section 4E, as amended by Chapter 43 of the Acts of 2012, members of the Board of Directors at South Coast Educational Collaborative are appointed annually: June Saba-Maguire, Superintendent of Schools is appointed to serve as the Dartmouth Public Schools Representative on the Board of Directors of the South Coast Educational Collaborative, in accordance with the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 4E as amended by Chapter 43 of the Acts of 2012 for the 2025-2026 school year. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

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

Dr. Saba-Maguire began with an update pertaining to the ongoing negotiations expressing the District's continued commitment to the process of engaging in productive dialogue noting "we" are optimistic about our ability to reach an agreement that serves everyone's interest.

Dr. Saba-Maguire commented on the thoughtful dialogue at the recent Town Meeting, where the District's FY26 budget was approved, noting "I think it was clear" there was a recognition that there is a need to better support the schools' financial interests.

-Teacher and Learning Update: MCAS testing is done and we received good news in terms of our MCAS Portfolio Assessment and the Office of Student Services has been sharing the results with educators in the schools adding once we have more data will present the comprehensive data to the Committee; update on DHS/DMS student civics projects; updated on DMS and Elementary school submissions to Bridgewater State University's Invention Convention noting DPS 5th Graders took first place honors and we will invite the students to a future school committee meeting to present their invention; faculty members from each school level as well as our new Associate Principal at DHS will be attending a math conference in July.

-Budget and Capital Improvement Update: Mr. Kiely provided an update on today's Long Range Capital Planning meeting and encouraged people to watch the June Town Meeting video for additional information noting the District is planning to forward the Planning Committee's presentation to the District Community this week requesting feedback.

Mr. Oliver reiterated his request to have a member of the School Committee being on the Long Range Capital Planning Committee.

Mr. Kiely stated he brought the matter up again at this morning's meeting noting he believes the Select Board will be asked to change the makeup of the Committee noting he does not think the matter has been presented to the Board yet adding the Board would like a member of the School Committee to make the presentation at the September 17th (Public Forum).

HR: Update on position openings and recent administrative appointments introduced this evening noting newly hired teachers will be introduced to the Committee at a fall meeting.

-Family and Community Engagement Update: Recent DHS graduation update and DMS graduation happening this week; field days and fun runs; lots of opportunity for students and families to engage. Comments about how communication with families is a priority for the District.

-Safe and Supportive Schools Update: Comments on DHS Prom which was a beautiful event that allowed students to safely celebrate.

Report of the Chair: Ms. Coughlin provided comments about DHS graduation and Town Meeting noting the FY26 budget was passed.

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

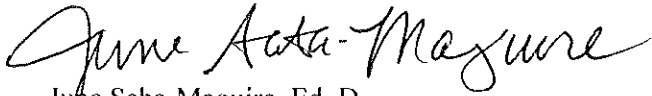
NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: The Committee agreed to cancel its June 23, 2025 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, July 21, 2025 starting at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Ms. Beckwith to adjourn at 7:33 p.m. into Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(3), to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining where an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the School Committee's bargaining position (DAA, DEA,

AFSCME) and not to reconvene in open session. On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "June Saba-Maguire".

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

Open Session - Documents/Exhibits

Agenda

Brief

Regular and Executive Session Minutes for May 19, 2025

Consent Agenda – DHS Music Department Request to Run Concession for Fall 2025 Season

Presentation – DHS TV Media Program/MassHire

Presentation – Project 351/Playbook Initiative

Resolution 25-2

SC Policy DBJ – Budget Transfer Authority

Annual SCEC Representative Vote