

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

October 27, 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. 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 public comment was offered.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

DHS Senior Rose-Ana Meritus provided updates on activities and events happening at Dartmouth High School (DHS).

- Update on Student Events in November including Spirit Week, the Pep Rally and Homecoming.
- Update on student absences/tardies at DHS noting they have declined.
- Comments on Cell Phone "Hotels" in the classroom and their effectiveness.
- Comments on Universal Free Breakfast and Lunch and its positive impact.
- Homework Hangout put on by the Honors Society Club is up and running
- Comments on the success of the Saturday Trunk or Treat event hosted by the Student Council.
- Early Action is November 1st and many seniors are applying.

A portion of the following agenda item was addressed at this time.

Superintendent's Update: Dr. Saba-Maguire invited David Tatelbaum to address the Committee on a community matter.

David Tatelbaum, stated he was here tonight as a citizen and a member of the Board of *Gifts to Give*, and briefly stated the mission of the non-profit charitable organization serving families/individuals throughout the area, noting he met with Dr. Saba-Maguire and Mr. Kiely seeking and receiving their support and is here tonight seeking the Committee's support to place a movable trailer, on a rotating basis, at each of the schools to assist the mission of *Gifts to Give* in gathering gently used/new children's clothing adding "maybe" we could do this once or twice a year.

The Committee thanked Mr. Tatelbaum and stated their support for his request.

It was agreed a vote wasn't necessary; Dr. Saba-Maguire and Mr. Kiely stated they would coordinate the details with Mr. Tatelbaum.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral to approve the Regular Session Minutes of October 6, 2025 as written. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

PRESENTATION

District Crisis Management Team: Dr. Saba-Maguire invited Kim Redlon, Assistant Director of Student Services, to make the presentation.

Ms. Redlon stated the District Crisis Management Team aligns with Focus Area 2 of the District Strategic Plan: Safe and Supportive Schools and noted the members include school principals, the District's lead nurse as well as a school social worker and School Resources Officers (SROs) and members of the police and fire departments.

Ms. Redlon summarized the purpose of "our" team is to provide leadership and support in the development of a district wide preparedness plan to promote a safe environment across the district and to help guide and be a resource for the district stressing the importance of having consistent protocols and procedures throughout all the schools in the District.

Ms. Redlon reported on last year's accomplishments including the restructure of building based crisis/safety teams and noted the goals for the 2025-2026 school year including updating the Crisis Emergency Management Plan as well as safety training for staff.

Mr. Nunes asked about "signage."

Ms. Redlon explained the labeling of signage.

Mrs. Amaral asked if there is a process or oversight to maintain security signage or the supplies in the classrooms and are the costs included in the "budget."

Ms. Redlon deferred to Mr. Kiely about budget but noted the Town Meeting funding of capital improvement and safety requests.

Mr. Kiely stated the District received \$285,000 for safety security improvements at Town Meeting last week and it will be our initial source to address some of the recommendations which were received when we did our building assessments with the Department of Homeland Security in conjunction with the Dartmouth Police Department adding, in terms of maintaining, we have in our new budget the plan to incorporate some recurring monies so that we will be able to replenish things.

OLD BUSINESS

SC Policies Section C – General School Administration, Policy JICFB Bullying Prevention and New Policy JFABZ -Middle School Pathway Exploration – Second Reading and Vote:

Mr. Kiely stated tonight is a second reading of Policy Section C – General School Administration noting the discussion at the last school committee meeting when the first reading of said Section C policies took place and is happy to have more discussion or to consider any recommendations the Committee may have now "outside of that" we look forward to revising the policies in Section C as well as two policies in Section J, the middle school pathway policy and the bullying prevention policy.

The Committee had no further comments or discussion.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Ms. Beckwith to approve school policies Section C – *General School Administration* as presented and school policy *Section J - JICFB Bullying Prevention* and new policy *Section J – JFABZ – Middle School Pathway Exploration* as a second reading. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

MASC Resolutions Further Discussion: Ms. Coughlin opened discussion on the matter noting the Committee had made its determinations at the last meeting on all but one of the MASC resolutions: Personal Financial Literacy Education.

Ms. Beckwith reported on the MASC webinar she attended on the resolutions noting she inquired about the Personal Financial Literacy Education.

Ms. Coughlin stated she is favor of having personal financial literacy in schools and believes Dartmouth already incorporates it and that every child in Massachusetts should have the same “background” and would vote in support of this resolution.

Mr. Oliver stated it should be provided universally across the state.

Mr. Nunes stated this is good.

The Committee agreed to support the resolution and Ms. Beckwith will vote yes at the MASC Delegate Assembly.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent’s Evaluation: Ms. Coughlin noted the evaluation is being compiled and so the matter will be addressed at the next meeting.

Superintendent’s 2025-2026 Goal Setting – Vote: Dr. Saba-Maguire provided her goals in the meeting packet for the Committee’s consideration.

Dr. Saba-Maguire provided her goals for 2025-2026 noting they are aligned, as all the work being done in the District is, with the District Strategic Plan.

Dr. Saba-Maguire explained the Superintendent’s goals are really the district’s goals and provided a goal setting overview: collaborative process with the School Committee; aligned with core values, vision, and mission; foundation for evaluation; requires district-wide collaboration.

Dr. Saba-Maguire described her goals and provided examples that support the work to reach these goals: Goal 1 – District Improvement Goal *Strategic Plan Implementation*; Goal 2 – Student Learning Goal *Access to High-Quality Instructional Materials*; Goal 3 – Professional Practice Goal *New Superintendent Induction Program (NSIP) Year 3 Participation*.

Dr. Saba-Maguire included performance rating standards alluding to the work the Committee is currently doing pertaining to her evaluation: Standard I *Instruction Leadership*; Standard 2 *Management & Operations*; Standard III *Family and Community Engagement*.

Dr. Saba-Maguire concluded reiterating all work connects back to the District Strategic Plan; our mission and vision, our core values and our strategic focus areas are all intertwined in a way that you will hear about at “these” meetings and what you are hearing is happening in the work taking place at the schools.

Ms. Beckwith asked about NSIP; how long is the program; will Dr. Saba-Maguire have an opportunity to continue with the consultancy teams.

Dr. Saba-Maguire responded she is in year 3 which is the last year of the program and that the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (MASS) has put together a number of new groups outside of NSIP noting the need for professional development for superintendents and assistant superintendents and “job-alike” support networks.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to approve the Superintendent’s Goal Setting and Evaluation for School Year 2025-2026 as presented. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

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

- Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) Update – noting the importance of professional development and support to teachers implementing a new curriculum
- MCAS Improvement to Pre-Pandemic Levels Recognition from the Commissioner (certificate received)
- DESE Conducting a District Monitoring Visit with Special Education Department on November 12th; families were notified via ParentSquare
- Dartmouth hosted a regional professional development day for high school biology teachers on October 18th
- Mr. Perrotti’s Film Production Class field trip, funded by MassHire, to MVY to view *Jaws* film site
- Mr. Perrotti’s Media Students placed in MA DOT *Safe Streets* contest
- DHS Showcase Night Update
- DMS Author Event Update
- Mr. Kiely reported MSBA will recommend the high school roof project to the Board and Dr. Saba-Maguire and I will attend the Board meeting on Wednesday noting the feasibility funds for the project were approved at Town Meeting; Mr. Kiely explained next steps.
- Dr. Saba-Maguire noted the budget timeline will be on the next meeting agenda
- Social Emotional Learning Curriculum (Wayfinder) to be rolled out at Dartmouth High School.
- Opioid Settlement Funds provided by the Town are being used strategically to support some key behavioral, safety and health priorities and we plan to provide a full overview of how we are targeting those specific funds at an upcoming meeting.
- Trunk or Treat Events
- DHS “Spooky” 5K held yesterday to support the school’s cross county and track and field teams
- Looking to continue our partnership with Council on Aging and Cheer Team
- ParentSquare Update and MassCue Conference participation update

Report of the Chair: The Chair reported the following.

The Chair opened discussion on the matter of appointing 2 members from the School Committee to the Town’s Budget Advisory Group: The Chair solicited volunteers to represent the School Committee.

Ms. Coughlin read the general purpose of the Group as well as specific charges adding it might make sense to have those on our budget sub-committee to be on “it.”

Mr. Oliver asked about the time commitment.

Mr. Kiely stated “they” indicated meetings would be monthly from December through April.

Mr. Oliver and Ms. Coughlin volunteered to represent the Committee on the Town’s Budget Advisory Group.

-Band Update

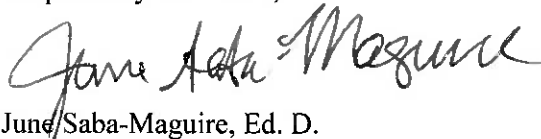
Other Matters that may not have been anticipated at the time of Agenda posting:

NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: The Chair stated the Superintendent has requested the previously scheduled next meeting of the Committee be changed from November 17th to November 10th. The Committee agreed; 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 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Ms. Beckwith to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. into Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(4), to discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices, or strategies and pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(2), to discuss strategy with respect to non-union personnel where an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the School Committee's bargaining position (Superintendent of Schools; Executive Director of Student Services) and not to return to open session. On a roll call vote, 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 6, 2025
- Presentation – District Crisis Management Team Overview (PPP)
- SC Policy Section C – General School Administration; Policy JICFB – *Bullying Prevention* and new Policy JFABZ - *Middle School Pathway Exploration*
- MASC Resolutions
- Superintendent's 2025-2026 Goal Setting (PPP)
- Town Advisory Budget Group