

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

May 4, 2026

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: Elizabeth Coughlin, Chris Oliver, Kathleen Amaral, John Nunes and Mary Beckwith.

Also present: Dr. June Saba-Maguire, James Kiely, Student Representative Charlotte Alphonse and Ms. Genthner.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was offered.

RECOGNITION

Chair Mary Beckwith presented Green Apple Award certificates, issued by the School Committee in conjunction with the Superintendent's Office, to staff members nominated by their colleagues who exemplify one or more of Dartmouth's core values P.R.I.D.E.: Personal excellence and responsibility; Respect for self and others; Inclusivity, equity and belonging; Diverse opportunities and student agency (voice and choice); and Ethical commitments. The following individuals were honored: Paul Leconte, Elizabeth Voci, Pam King and Lili Chamberlain.

Dr. Saba-Maguire noted a reception was held just prior to tonight's meeting where at the recipients were presented with their Green Apple award and the comments provided by their colleagues in the nominations were shared.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to approve the Regular Session Minutes of April 13, 2026, as written. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral to approve the Executive Session Minutes of April 13, 2026 as written, with the stipulation that they be held until the matters under consideration are resolved. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

DHS Freshman Charlotte Alphonse provided updates on activities and events happening at Dartmouth High School (DHS).

- Teacher Appreciation Week
- AP Exams are underway for the next 2 weeks
- Mean Girls* performance Update

- April 29th Students participated in the Special Olympics at Tabor Academy
- April 30th Best Buddies Program hosted a Karaoke event
- On May 1st DHS welcomed Cara Filler a nationally recognized motivational speaker who presented to 10th and 11th grade students
- Upcoming PreK-12 Art Show to be held at DHS on May 6th and 7th
- Community Event Update: Theresa Street Harbor Run on May 16th

SPOTLIGHT ON KIDS – Dartmouth Middle School: DMS Principal Peter Rossi gave brief comments about the focus of tonight's *Spotlight* and invited Michael Daniels and Heather Church, Strings Instructors at DMS, to introduce tonight's *Spotlight on Kids* segment.

Mr. Daniels provided brief comments about the recent student concert entitled *I Got Your Back* which was held at the Zeiterion Theater and introduced students to share their experiences participating in that event: Brenda Dos Santos, Kylianna Imbeau, Claire Kelly and Taylor Hill.

Students performed *How to Train Your Dragon* which was also performed at the Zeiterion Theater concert: on violin - Gabriel Archambault and Myles Jordan; on violin 2 - Brenda Dos Santos and Kylianna Imbeau; on viola - Devin Lam and Isaac Parsons; on cello - Claire Kelly and Taylor Hill and on bass - Hannah Zexter.

NEW BUSINESS

Last Day of School for 2025-2026: Ms. Beckwith reported the last day of school for the 2025-2026 school year will be June 23, 2026 noting this date accounts for seven school cancellations.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to make Tuesday, June 23, 2026 the last day of school for 2025-2026. The motion carried unanimously: 5-0.

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

Teaching and Learning Update including:

- Update on the after-school programs at the three elementary schools which runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays adding there are 16 different sessions with over 200 students participating
- Update on on-going CLKLA Training for Elementary Staff
- Update on Professional Development strands
- Update on DMS Civics Showcase
- Update on DHS Career Fair held on April 15th
- Update on DHS TV Media students earning top honors

Safe and Supportive Schools Update including:

- Update on preparations for additional security cameras

Family and Community Engagement

- Town Sponsored Citizens Academy on May 20th in the DHS LMC noting it is something recently implemented by the Town
- DPS will host the Special Olympics on May 15th welcoming 10 other communities

Budget and Capital Improvement

-Mr. Kiely stated the Capital Improvement Planning Committee finalized its recommendations for Town Meeting which included items from the District's 10 Year Capital Improvement Plan including: flooring replacement; technology hardware replacement; bathroom renovations; HVAC upgrades and School Bus replacement noting "we" spoke about the school bus being included by Senator Montigny as an "earmark" in the senate budget process.

-Human Resource Update including a list of the current position postings for 2026-2027 noting Peter Rossi has officially submitted his retirement notification.

Report of the Chair: The Chair had nothing further to share. The Chair stated she would like to set the date for the August workshop at the next meeting. The high school graduation is scheduled for Sunday, May 31st at 10:00 a.m. and the middle school graduation is scheduled for Thursday, June 18th at 6:00 p.m.

Other Matters that may not have been anticipated at the time of Agenda posting: Mr. Oliver noted he, Ms. Coughlin and Mr. Kiely attended the Town Budget Advisory Group meeting last week adding the purpose of the group is to look at the financial needs of town departments and “where we need to be” adding at some point and likely FY28 the Town is going to really need to consider an override if not before then.

Mr. Oliver noted a member of the Finance Committee representing that committee in the Town Budget Advisory Group suggested the school department look at an operational study adding although he was initially opposed now thinks it would be worthwhile to have a third party “come in” to study the school department operationally and to put the matter on the agenda for discussion for the next meeting.

Ms. Coughlin agreed she had a “hard time” because we do have the data but if that is not accepted by everyone in the Town Advisory Group it may not be accepted by the greater Dartmouth community noting her concerns related to the cost and time for a third-party study.

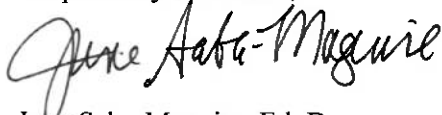
The Committee agreed to place the matter on the next meeting’s agenda.

NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: The Chair stated 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, May 18, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. into Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(2), to conduct grievance hearings pursuant to the collective bargaining agreement between the Dartmouth School Committee and the Dartmouth Educators Association and 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 (AFSCME) and not to return to open session. On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously: 5-0. Ms. Coughlin– Yes; Mr. Oliver – Yes; Mrs. Amaral – Yes; Mr. Nunes - Yes and Ms. Beckwith – Yes.

Respectfully submitted,



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

Open Session - Documents/Exhibits

- Agenda
- Brief
- Regular and Executive Session Minutes for April 13, 2026
- Green Apple Certificates