

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

June 8, 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 Mary Beckwith 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 Amalia DaPonte and Ms. Genthner.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was offered.

RECOGNITION OF 2025-2026 RETIREES

Ms. Beckwith announced the names of Dartmouth Public School Administrators, Teachers and Non-Instructional Staff who have or are retiring in the 2025-2026 school year.

Name	School	Years of Service
Darlene Blanchette	Quinn	20
Dale Borges	Central Office	21
Scot Boudria	DHS	33
Joyce Braga	Potter	16
James Brogden (Dec 2025)	DMS	30
Heidi Chase	DeMello	32
Dorann Cohen	DHS	20
Sarah Decas (Aug 2025)	DMS	25
Peggy Gallagher	Potter	33
Polly Guilbeault (Jan 2026)	DHS	33
Donna Lamontagne	DeMello	25
Dana Mello-Doucette	Potter	31
Lori O'Neil	DeMello	15
Peter Rossi	DMS	29
Kathleen Souza-Pontes (Nov 2025)	DMS	28
Marilia Viana	DHS	22

Dr. Saba-Maguire provided brief comments noting the dedication and commitment of tonight's honorees which helped to shape student lives and who will leave a lasting impression on them as well as beyond the schools where they worked.

Dr. Saba-Maguire explained the symbolism of the Gold Apple each honoree will receive this evening.

Mr. Nunes presented retirees with a certificate of appreciation as well as a Gold Apple to symbolize the Committee and District's gratitude for their years of service.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mr. Nunes to approve the Regular Session Minutes of May 18, 2026, as written. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Ms. Coughlin to approve the Executive Session Minutes of May 18, 2026 as written. The motion passed unanimously: 5-0.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

DHS Sophomore Amalia DaPonte provided updates on activities and events happening at Dartmouth High School (DHS).

- Students are preparing for final exams
- Class Officer Elections for next year will take place tomorrow
- DHS welcomed DMS 8th Graders to Step Up Day on June 4th
- Update on music department; more than 20 incoming freshmen are planning to join the orchestra
- Congratulations to students inducted into the National Honor Society on June 3rd
- Congratulations to the class of 2026

PRESENTATION

Food Service: The Chair welcomed Cady Molloy, the District's Director of School Nutrition, to make the presentation on the district's nutrition program.

Ms. Molloy started her presentation providing a food sample to the Committee.

Ms. Molloy commented she is completing her first year as Director of School Nutrition in Dartmouth and proceeded to explain her agenda for this evening's presentation: overview, scratch cooking, farm to school, family and student engagement and financial review.

Ms. Molloy reported, as of May 31, 2026, food service provided over 330,000 lunches and over 102,000 breakfasts for an average participation rate of 20% adding there are 36 kitchen staff in the department.

Ms. Molloy explained scratch cooking and the department's goal to improve food quality, reduce the use of process foods and added sugar and to increase the use of fresh, local whole ingredients as well as to diversify the menu.

Ms. Molloy stated the focus this year was to build a strong foundation specifically around food safety training, culinary training, standardized recipes along with the purchase of "small wares" in order to better implement scratch cooking.

Ms. Molloy reported next year the department will be implementing a pilot program at DeMello and Cushman schools that includes an 80% scratch cooking menu; a 30-50% scratch cooking menu at DHS, DMS, Quinn and Potter.

Ms. Molloy noted the department is working on procuring more ingredients from local providers noting there are over 500 farms in Bristol County (30 in Dartmouth alone).

Ms. Molloy noted the local partnerships the department has established as well as stating the District joined the statewide Northeast Food for Schools Challenge which is run by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, a movement to purchase as much food from New England and New York.

Ms. Molloy noted goals for next year that include purchasing more food locally; 30% of produce sourced in New England and 40% of beef sourced in Dartmouth as well as providing professional development opportunities for our culinary staff.

Ms. Molloy concluded noting the work being done around family and student engagement to improve the reputation of school food which will increase trust and participation, allowing for feedback so that we can improve upon menu options, and to assist students in building lifelong, healthy eating habits.

Ms. Molloy described the “Farm to School Dinner” held at the DeMello school in April noting the event was grant funded and was open to families free of charge; 150 people attended and enjoyed a scratch cooked meal which will be placed on the school menu next year adding she hopes to host more of these events.

Ms. Molloy provided a financial overview including school kitchen upgrades and grants received.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Beckwith stated Dr. Saba-Maguire is recommending the following request.

- DPS Music Department Field Trip Request to New York City (April 2027)

Marielle Chrupcala and Heather Church, Dartmouth Public School music instructors, provided detailed information about the proposed field trip to New York City noting this is the first music “department-wide” trip and we are going to Carnegie Hall adding the school will be working with Harmony Tours.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Ms. Coughlin, to approve Dartmouth Public Schools’ field trip request for New York City Carnegie Hall performance from April 24th through April 28, 2027. The motion passed: 5-0.

- DHS Marching Band and Color Guard’s Request to operate the food concession at the Dartmouth Living Memorial Stadium for the 2026 Football Season.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver, to approve the request. The motion passed: 4-0-1: Mr. Nunes abstained.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion on Town Budget Advisory Group’s Suggestion Regarding School District Audit: Ms. Beckwith asked Mr. Oliver and Ms. Coughlin, the Committee’s representatives to the group, to provide an update.

Mr. Oliver stated at the conclusion of the last meeting of the group which was held a couple of weeks ago he felt no closer to getting an answer as to what the Finance Committee, Select Board – “everyone, jointly” - was looking for adding if “we are going to do this” it shouldn’t be just a focus on the School but on the individual departments across the town.

Mr. Oliver stated at this time he cannot support an evaluation audit or study.

Ms. Coughlin stated she mostly concurs with what Mr. Oliver said adding she finds the group has not coalesced on the path forward stating she hopes “we” can find common footing at the next meeting.

Mr. Kiely concurred adding the group has lacked a little direction in terms of where we are headed next but without a real understanding of the goals of the group; the next meeting will be held on Monday.

Ms. Beckwith stated the school department is prepared to provide audit and assessment information to this Committee but we should put that on hold until after this next meeting to see if it is even necessary.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for an Extension of Current Special Education Transportation Contract: Ms. Beckwith opened discussion on the matter.

Mr. Kiely reported he received word from Tremblay's that it is being sold to Student Transportation of America a national corporation which will purchase the ownership interest and will operate Tremblay's Bus Company LLC adding most of Tremblay's staff will remain including Luke Tetreault, the current Vice President, in a consultant capacity.

Mr. Kiely stated the District is requesting an extension of its current special education transportation contract with Tremblay Bus Company LLC for one year (2026-2027 school year) noting the cost of the contract for 2026-2027 which will remain the same as 2025-2026.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mrs. Amaral, to approve the Special Education Transportation contract with Tremblay Bus Company LLC for school year 2026-2027, as presented. The motion carried unanimously: 5-0.

FY26 End of Year Authorization – Vote: Ms. Beckwith, opened the matter, noting this is an annual agenda item pursuant to School Committee Policy BDJ – *Budget Transfer Authority*.

Mr. Kiely stated any funds that remain and consistent with past practice we be allocated towards strategic plan initiatives principally high-quality curriculum materials and technology.

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Ms. Coughlin, to approve the transfer authorization. The motion carried unanimously: 5-0.

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

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Ms. Coughlin to reappoint June Saba-Maguire, Superintendent of Schools, to serve as the Dartmouth Public Schools Representative on the Board of Directors of the South Coast Educational Collaborative, for the 2026-2027 school year. The motion passed 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 the following opportunities for students Light Foundation Leadership Academy at Bridgewater State University; DESE Regional Civics Showcase at UMASS/Dartmouth; Invention Convention at Bridgewater State University;

-Safe and Supportive Schools: Katie Pavao, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning/Elementary Level, and Rachel Dzialo, Substance Use Program Coordinator for the Town of Dartmouth, provided information on the recently implemented Elementary Level After School Program which is the result of a collaboration between the schools and the Dartmouth Advocates for Addiction, Recovery and Treatment (DAART) which provided funding for the program through the use of opioid settlement funds obtained through the Attorney General's office adding the elementary program was created as a means of prevention, education and connection. It was noted 201 students participated in the program which ran for 6 weeks; a survey was offered to students and families/caregivers and the results will be used to make improvements to the program and results were shared which indicated a successful first year and the

program's continuation.

- Family and Community Engagement Update particularly the aforementioned partnership with the Town; field days and concerts as part of end of school year activities including the high school sailing team's achievement at national competition this past May; applications for Dartmouth Education Foundation (DEF) grant opportunities due June 15th.
- Budget and Capital Improvement: Town Meeting approved the District's budget at the recent Town Meeting; Mr. Kiely commented on the positive collaboration between the District and Town Administration and looks forward to continuing the partnership; MSBA has assigned an owner's project manager for the DHS roof project, Colliers Project Leaders out of Agawam MA, as well as a designer, EDM Studio out of Unionville CT; a kick off meeting was held last week which was very positive and they will be down to DHS for the first site meeting on Thursday noting the Committee will be kept abreast of the progress of the project.
- Kindergarten Enrollment Status: not much change since last update.

Report of the Chair: The Committee agreed to schedule a workshop for either August 18th or August 25th at 5:30 p.m. pending the availability of the Massachusetts Association of School Committee's representative who will be invited to participate.

Other Matters that may not have been anticipated at the time of Agenda posting: Ms. Beckwith had nothing further but asked for Committee's feeling about cancelling the June 22nd meeting as well as asking members for topics for the August workshop and to email her or Mr. Nunes with suggestions.

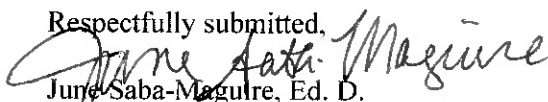
-Mr. Oliver asked if the SMEC Quarterly update could be included on the agenda for an upcoming meeting and an update on how the preschool program is doing.

NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: The next meeting 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 20, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. The Committee agreed to cancel the June 22, 2026 meeting with the caveat a meeting may be scheduled if necessary.

Mr. Nunes moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to adjourn at 7:34 p.m. into Executive Session 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 (Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations) 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,



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

Open Session - Documents/Exhibits

- Agenda
- Brief
- Retiree *In Recognition* Certificates/Golden Apples
- Regular and Executive Session Minutes for May 18, 2026
- Food Service Presentation
- Consent Agenda – DPS Music Department NYC Field Trip Request
- Consent Agenda – DHS Marching Band Request to Operate Concession Stand at Memorial Stadium Fall 2026
- Memo – Request for One Year Extension of Special Education Transportation Contract
- South Coast Educational Collaborative Vote (Reappoint Member to Board of Directors)
- Elementary After School Program PPP