

DENNIS-YARMOUTH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minutes of a School Committee Meeting
Monday, March 6, 2023

A Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School Committee meeting was held on Monday, March 6, 2023, at the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School Library in South Yarmouth, Massachusetts.

Members Present: Joseph Tierney, Chairperson; Jeni Landers, Vice Chairperson; Jennifer Rose, Secretary; Tomas Tolentino, Treasurer; Phillip Morris; Marilyn Bemis; Joe Glynn; Student Representative Rose-Anna Joachim.

Members Not Present: Student Representative Kristen Stagg.

Others Present: Carol Woodbury, Superintendent of Schools; David Flynn, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations; Maria Lopes, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services and Instruction; Eileen Whalen, Recording Secretary to the School Committee; Paul Funk, Principal, Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School; Michael Bovino, Principal, Dennis-Yarmouth Middle School; Timothy Blake, Principal, Dennis-Yarmouth Intermediate School; Chris Flanagan; Carl Monroe; James Plath.

At 6:33 p.m., Joseph Tierney, Chairperson, called the meeting to order.

Reports:

A. Student Representative Reports – Rose-Anna Joachim

Rose-Anna reported on the high school. March is very busy with junior breakfast, scholarship applications, etc. Seventh grade step up day is coming up as well as a foreign language food festival and the National Honor Society blood drive. Sports continue to do well; Boys Hockey made the Final 8; Girls Basketball made the state tournament; Girls Track is doing very well. The recent school play *Squad Goals* was excellent. Voices Heard recently held a wonderful event. The *Gershwin* event is coming up on the evenings of March 15 and 16.

B. School Building Committee Report – Joseph Tierney

Mr. Tierney reported that school is open and things are going very well; punch list items are being worked on. David Flynn said buses are going well. A ribbon cutting is in the works and information will be forthcoming.

C. School Committee Liaisons to the Boards of Selectmen

Yarmouth: Mr. Glynn reported that the town administrator has been updated by David Flynn regarding the budget.

Dennis: Chris Flanagan told the committee that he is the newly elected State Representative, succeeding Tim Whelan. He said that the house passed the supplemental budget. He also said that the house extended hybrid meetings for municipal meetings.

D. Assistant Superintendent Report – David Flynn

Approval of FY24 Budget

Mr. Flynn referenced the budget presentation information which was distributed at the meeting including the calendar; timeline; budget proposal; foundation enrollment; cherry sheets; net state aid; state aid history; Chapter 70 calculation; minimum contributions from

the two towns; selected populations; and budget priorities. The Cape Cod Municipal Health Group increase was 4% instead of 8% as was previously budgeted. Mr. Flynn also explained per pupil expenditures and the town assessment methodology. The presentation was followed by questions from the committee including the possibility of reducing the amount of buses to the intermediate/middle school by making the runs more efficient. Mr. Flynn said that there may be a way to reduce the runs by one bus. Ms. Landers asked if there are any projections of savings due to retirements and staffing. Mr. Flynn said it is very difficult to find teachers. Teachers at B1 level are not working on Cape Cod. Mrs. Woodbury added that affordable housing is an issue. Mrs. Lopes said that waivers are not given to related service providers so we have had to vendor to outside agencies which is very expensive. Chair Tierney asked how much in dollar amounts are the two towns above 2 ½ percent. Dennis is \$193,315 over and Yarmouth is \$32,490 over.

Phil Morris moved that the School Committee adopt an FY24 budget of \$76,019,508 with a Dennis operating assessment of \$18,645,546 and debt service of \$1,525,074 for a total Dennis assessment of \$20,170,620 and a Yarmouth operating assessment of \$38,848,384 and debt service of \$2,336,804 for a total Yarmouth assessment of \$41,185,188. Jeni Landers seconded the motion and discussion followed.

Mr. James Plath asked to speak; Chair Tierney allowed this. Mr. Plath said that he is speaking as an individual, not as a representative of the Dennis Select Board. He said that the money in the Excess and Deficiency fund belongs to the taxpayers. He said that last year the committee voted to fund a Capital Stabilization fund with Excess and Deficiency funds. He said that all of the town's departments have to adhere to Proposition 2 ½ and he would like the schools to do that. Mr. Glynn said that the Excess and Deficiency funds belong to both towns. Chair Tierney is concerned about diminishing the Excess and Deficiency fund to a critical level in case it is needed for an unforeseen expense. Upon seeing no further discussion, Chair Tierney called for a roll call vote on the motion. The motion carries 6-1.

Phil Morris	yes
Marilyn Bemis	yes
Tomas Tolentino	yes
Joe Glynn	no
Joseph Tierney	yes
Jeni Landers	yes
Jennifer Rose	yes

- E. Superintendent Report – Carol Woodbury
Lease Agreements with the Town of Dennis and the Town of Yarmouth
Regional School Committee Motion to Amend Lease with Town of Dennis for Baker and Wixon Schools.
On a motion by Jeni Landers, seconded by Marilyn Bemis, and carried unanimously 7-0 it was
VOTED: That the Committee, having considered the Lease of Dennis Schools to DYRSD dated 8 September, 2015, hereby approve to amend the Lease by terminating the Lease with regards to the Nathaniel H. Wixon Middle School; and

to authorize Carol Woodbury, Superintendent; to negotiate and execute any and all amendments or modifications to said Lease in accordance with this vote.

Regional School Committee Motion to Amend Lease with Town of Yarmouth for Mattacheese Middle School and Marguerite E. Small Elementary School.

On a motion by Jeni Landers, seconded by Marilyn Bemis, and carried unanimously 7-0 it was

VOTED: That the Committee, having considered the Lease of Yarmouth Schools to DYRSD dated 5 August 1975 and extended through 30 June 2025, hereby approve to amend the Lease by terminating the Lease with regards to the Mattacheese Middle School; and to authorize Carol Woodbury, Superintendent; to negotiate and execute any and all amendments or modifications to said Lease in accordance with this vote.

At this time Assistant Superintendent Lopes referenced the timeline for the high school principal search which was distributed at the meeting. The proposed timeline was reviewed; March 20 is the closing date for applications. All interviews will take place between 2:00 and 6:00 p.m. A short question and answer session followed.

High School Principal Paul Funk was invited to say a few words. He thanked the school committee, administration, and students for their great support. He told the committee that the high school will be recognized at the State House for their commitment to expanding access to AP courses, an award of which he is very proud.

District Data Review

Superintendent Woodbury presented a review of the past two decades at Dennis-Yarmouth including demographics; selected populations; actions taken that impact outcomes for a diverse population; a comparison of 10th Grade MCAS scores; graduation rate data; drop out data; Mass Core; advanced coursework; and the high school AP Access Award. She then gave a brief summary of the work that has been done in the district since 2005. At the conclusion of the report, the superintendent announced her retirement effective June 30, 2023.

School Committee Business

On a motion by Phillip Morris, seconded by Tomas Tolentino, and carried 7-0, it was

VOTED: To approve the following items as presented in the Consent Agenda:

Donations:

Move to accept a donation of \$350 from Wendy's of South Yarmouth to Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School. The donation is in the form of seventy \$5.00 gift certificates to be used for any student who received perfect attendance for the first semester.

Surplus:

Move to declare as surplus the old clinic cot/bed at the Station Avenue Elementary School as per Mr. Crowell's February 8, 2023 memo.

Move to declare as surplus broken equipment, outdated materials, and outdated print books from the library at Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School as per Dr. Funk's February 7, 2023 memo and accompanying pictures and library weeding list.

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Bills, Requisitions, and Payroll

Bills, requisitions, and payroll were signed by the School Committee.

Calendars

The upcoming calendars were included in the packet.

Items Distributed at Meeting

FY2024 Budget Presentation

High School Principal Search Timeline

Superintendent District Data Review

Public Comment

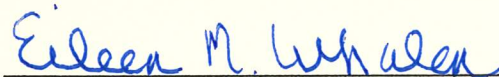
Carl Monroe of the Dennis Finance Committee congratulated Mrs. Woodbury on her retirement. He expressed his appreciation to Dave Flynn for his help with the budget process.

Adjournment

At 8:45 p.m., on a motion by Jeni Landers, seconded by Phillip Morris, and carried unanimously 7-0; it was

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

Minutes recorded and prepared by,



Eileen M. Whalen, Assistant Secretary