

DENNIS-YARMOUTH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minutes of a School Committee Meeting
Monday, June 15, 2020

A Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School Committee meeting was held on Monday, June 15, 2020, via remote technology in accordance with the Governor of Massachusetts' March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c. 30A, Section 20.

Members Present: Jeni Landers, Chairperson; Joseph Tierney, Vice Chairperson; Andrea St. Germain, Secretary; Brian Carey, Treasurer; James Dykeman, Jr.; Brian Sullivan; and Phillip Morris.

Members Absent: Tainan Nunes, Student Representative

Others Present: Carol Woodbury, Superintendent of Schools; Ken Jenks, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative and Business Services; Eileen Whalen, Recording Secretary to the School Committee; Sherry Santini, Director of Humanities and the Arts; Maria Lopes, Director of Pupil Services; JoAnna Watson, Assistant Director of Digital Learning and Library Services; Paul Funk, Principal, Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School; Patrick Riley, Principal, M.E. Small Elementary School; Pat Plucinski; Eileen Martins; Karen Beauchemin; Joe Glynn; Sonya Fellman; Will Rubinstein; Catie Depuy; Jessica Luna; Lindsay Bryant.

At 5:38 p.m., Jeni Landers, Chairperson, called the meeting to order.

School Committee Liaisons to the Boards of Selectmen – B. Carey, Dennis; J. Tierney, Yarmouth

Brian Carey, Dennis: Mr. Carey announced that the Dennis Annual Town Meeting would take place on Tuesday, June 23rd at 5:30 p.m. at the Wixon School under a tent. He made note of the earlier time and said that the selectmen voted to temporarily lower the town meeting quorum requirement to no less than 10% of the number otherwise required to establish a quorum.

Joe Tierney, Yarmouth: Mr. Tierney announced that the Yarmouth Annual Town Meeting would take place on Monday, June 22nd at 6:00 p.m. at the Mattacheese Middle School. He also said that the Town of Yarmouth has the warrant articles running on the Yarmouth YouTube channel, including Article 6 which pertains to funding the town's share of the school budget.

Update on School Building Project: Joe Tierney

Mr. Tierney said that the focus groups are continuing to meet. Those groups report back to the building committee as a whole. The next building committee meeting will take place on July 9th at 4:30 and will be a Zoom meeting. He would like to schedule a presentation to the school committee sometime after the July 9th meeting. Jeni Landers said a presentation as soon as possible would be very helpful.

Assistant Superintendent Report: Ken Jenks

Reopening Update – Mr. Jenks discussed the school offices reopening; sneeze guards are being installed where needed and 6 foot spacing will be adhered to. There have been many outside inquiries as to when the fields will be open; the school district is following state guidelines in this regard. There is currently no news about September.

Food Services Vehicle – Mr. Jenks informed the Committee that the food services vehicle purchase which was approved at the June 1, 2020 meeting has fallen through; the vendor has since sold the vehicle. Mr. Jenks asked the committee to rescind the original vote and to approve the purchase of the vehicle to the next lowest quote; Chatham Ford.

On a motion by Phil Morris, seconded by Joe Tierney, and carried 7-0 it was

VOTED: Move to rescind the June 1, 2020 purchase approval and move that the School Committee approve the purchase of the Food Services van from Chatham Ford in the amount of \$22,847.

Boiler Burner Bid: Mr. Jenks said that were three bids and that Sandy Cashen is checking the references. Therefore he will not be asking for a vote from the Committee at this time.

Alarm System Monitoring Bid: Mr. Jenks said there was one bid was received. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Phil Morris, seconded by Jim Dykeman and carried 7-0, it was

VOTED: Move that the School Committee award a contract to Cape Cod Alarm Co., Inc. located in South Yarmouth, Mass. to provide alarm monitoring and repair services for the three-year period from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023, as per our specifications and Cape Cod Alarm Co., Inc. bid response of June 12, 2020.

Elevator Inspection and Maintenance Services Bid: Ken referenced the memo which was emailed to the committee prior to the meeting. There were two bids received. After discussion, on a motion by Joe Tierney, seconded by Brian Carey, and carried 7-0, it was

VOTED: Move that the School Committee award a contract to BBE Corporation dba Buckley Elevator, located in Salem, Mass. to provide elevator inspections and maintenance services for the three-year period from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023, as per our specifications and BBE Corporation dba Buckley Elevator bid response of June 10, 2020.

Mr. Jenks brought to the attention of the committee that there are going to be small adjustments to the assessments that have already been submitted to the towns. He would like the towns to have the most accurate figures. He suggested scheduling a school committee meeting on Thursday, June 18th to vote on the Revised FY21 Budget and Assessments; all were in agreement.

Superintendent Report – Carol Woodbury

Mrs. Woodbury said that in prior years the district retirees would be honored at a school committee meeting. Due to the pandemic this celebration will have to be delayed; perhaps taking place during the summer or fall. She wished to give thanks and gratitude to the retirees:

Nancy Dunn, MMS; Tammy Neter, NHW; Margaret O'Connor, DYH; Susan Anarino, MES; Kathy Downing, NHW; Priscilla Bellerose, NHW; Christine Cousins, MMS; Sharon Howard, EHB; Pat MacArthur, SAE; Kim Reeves, MMS; Ann Knell, MMS.

Mrs. Woodbury felt it is a very difficult time to search for a new principal. She has asked Mike Bovino to step in as interim principal at Mattacheese and he has graciously agreed.

June 19th is the last day of school. A survey on remote learning will be distributed soon and feedback is appreciated.

She discussed the Extended School Year and summer services. Not all decisions have been made; high needs students are the top priority.

Mrs. Woodbury spoke of school being closed since mid-March due to the pandemic. News reports about the sick and dying, those experiencing the loss of a loved one, and the health care workers have all been so worrisome. And the shocking news about George Floyd, a black man who died after a police officer kept his knee on Mr. Floyd's neck for over 8 minutes. This terrible event has outraged and infuriated all of us.

Mrs. Woodbury spoke of a partnership that the district has had since 2018 called Equal Opportunity Schools (EOS). The mission of EOS as listed on their website is to ensure that students of color and low-income students have equitable access to America's most academically intense high school programs and succeed at the highest levels. Mrs. Woodbury also shared that the district's leadership team believes that opportunity precedes achievement and that all means all. Schools should teach students how to think; not what to think. She quoted from the Black Lives Matter website: "We work vigorously for freedom and justice for Black people and, by extension, all people." "We are unapologetically Black in our positioning. In affirming that Black Lives Matter, we need not qualify our position. To love and desire freedom and justice for ourselves is a prerequisite for wanting the same for others." Mrs. Woodbury ended with a quote from Frederick Douglass: "It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."

Jeni Landers thanked the superintendent for her words and said that the school district strives to be safe, diverse, and inclusive.

School Committee Business

Consent Agenda

On a motion by Brian Carey, seconded by Andrea St. Germain, and carried 7-0, it was

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

Donations:

Move to accept with gratitude a donation of pencils, pens, glue sticks, markers, tape, crayons, construction paper, scissors, paper towels, and tissues from the D-Y Women's Club to the Ezra H. Baker Innovation School.

Move to accept with gratitude a check in the amount of \$3,046.65 from the Stop and Shop A+ Rewards Program for the Ezra H. Baker Innovation School which will be used to support the "fruit bowl."

Move to accept with gratitude a \$6,500 grant from the Jean Hamilton Memorial Fund of the Cape Cod Foundation for scholarships for eight members of the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School Class of 2020.

Move to accept with gratitude a donation of 31 Dell Desktop Computers from the Cooperative Bank of Cape Cod.

Minutes:

June 1, 2020

Calendars

The next school committee meeting will be Thursday, June 18 at 5:30 p.m.

Items Distributed at Meeting

Memo – Request for Quotations for Alarm Monitoring and Repair Services

Memo - Request for Quotations for Elevator Inspection and Maintenance Services

Public Comment Period

Joe Glynn spoke of the upcoming town elections. Sonya Fellman thanked the school committee and administration for their service. She suggested forming a task force to address concerns about systemic racism.

Adjourn

At 6:35 p.m., on a motion by Brian Carey, seconded by Andrea St. Germain, and carried 7-0 it was

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

Minutes recorded and prepared by,



Eileen M. Whalen, Assistant Secretary