

DENNIS-YARMOUTH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minutes of a School Committee Meeting
Monday, November 7, 2022

A Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School Committee meeting was held on Monday, November 7, 2022, 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.

Members Not Present: Student Representative Kristen Stagg; Student Representative Rose-Anna Joachim.

Others Present: Carol Woodbury, Superintendent of Schools; Maria Lopes, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services and Instruction; David Flynn, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations; Eileen Whalen, Recording Secretary to the School Committee; Sherry Santini, Director of Humanities and the Arts; Paul Funk, Principal, Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School; Kendra Bennett, Assistant Principal, Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School; Michael Bovino, Principal, Mattacheese Middle School; Timothy Blake, Principal, Nathaniel Wixon School; Peter Crowell, Principal, Station Avenue Elementary School; Carol Mahedy, Principal, Marguerite E. Small Elementary School; Kevin Depin, Principal, Ezra H. Baker Innovation School; Michelle Dunn, DYEA; Vida Morris; Curt Sears; Jim Cullen.

At 6:35 p.m., Joseph Tierney, Chairperson, called the meeting to order.

Reports:

Student Representative Report – Kristen Stagg and Rose-Anna Joachim
The Student Representatives were not present.

Superintendent Report – Carol Woodbury

The superintendent referenced the handouts which were distributed ahead of the meeting; Equal Opportunity Schools; ALL Students College, Career, and Civic Ready; and the 2021-2022 Equal Opportunity Schools Year End Report. She then shared a PowerPoint presentation with the Committee. The district's demographics have changed but the goal remains all means all. She discussed dropout rates, the Graduation Rate Committee, and MASSCORE which was adopted by the school committee in 2013. Adopting MASSCORE raised the bar for our students. The superintendent then discussed Equal Opportunity Schools and read their mission. The district is doing real equity work. Values, Justice, Service, Learning, and Community are integral to the EOS philosophy. The superintendent then discussed My Career and Academic Plan (MYCAP); the students work with their guidance counselor to discover-plan-act. The new high school schedule is designed for students to take more difficult classes. The superintendent told the Committee that the district is in the second phase of Early College High School. All of these initiatives are designed so that all means all. Mrs. Woodbury's presentation was followed by a brief question and answer session.

1. MCAS Results

Peter Crowell, Principal, Station Avenue Elementary School

Mr. Crowell shared a PowerPoint with the Committee. He shared the school's vision, mission; and demographics. He mentioned that free universal breakfast and lunch has met so many needs and helped students with a great start to the day. He shared the MCAS results; there was no big drop for the third graders. The bright spots were that the scores were a little higher than the state across the board. There are many signs of hope; classroom spaces have been reclaimed; field trips; and volunteers. He said that the road to recovery will take place in small steps.

Timothy Blake, Principal, Nathaniel Wixon School

Mr. Blake shared the mission and vision of the Wixon School. The 5th grade class is a bit smaller than the 4th grade class. He reviewed the MCAS results with the Committee; one of the bright spots was how well the EL students did on the ACCESS testing. Bright spots beyond the classroom included the many students taking fine arts classes; field trips; and the excitement about the upcoming move into the new building. The road to recovery includes the longer school day, intervention and enrichment during the final period of the day.

Michael Bovino, Principal, Mattacheese Middle School

Mr. Bovino shared the mission and vision of the Mattacheese Middle School. He said they are a student-centered school and that the Mattacheese students look forward to being role models to the younger students once they all move into the new building. He shared the demographics, select populations, and high needs categories. He noted as one of the bright spots was the 6th Grade ELA scores which were much higher than the state for the specialized populations. The road to recovery includes longer periods for math and ELA classes. Other bright spots include the return of late buses; so many more students are now able to stay for extra help. Other bright spots are the athletic programs; the community relationship with Yarmouth Library including the Summer Reading Program; the 7th Grade Energy Carnival, the 6th Grade Model UN; STEM Week; and Career Day.

Paul Funk, Principal, Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School

Assistant Principal Kendra Bennett accompanied Dr. Funk for his presentation. Dr. Funk shared the mission, vision, and demographics for the high school. He shared an overview of the MCAS results; improvement is needed in all areas but he said progress is being made. Ms. Bennett shared that the EL subgroup did much better than the state average. Dr. Funk then shared many achievements such as the Unified Basketball Team; Unified Track; Robotics; and the Sensory Lagoon. Advanced Placement scores are high. The road to recovery includes the new 7 drop 2 schedule; Dolphin Time; EOS; MCAS tutoring, National Honor Society tutoring; Tully the new therapy dog; computer science for all 8th graders; Voices Heard (formerly the DEI Club); the Senior Capstone Project; and the Early College Designation.

2. FY 23 Calendar

The superintendent referenced the FY23 calendar and proposed draft FY23 calendar which were distributed ahead of the meeting. She shared that the 2 days following the December vacation (January 3rd and January 4th) were designated professional days to allow teachers move-in time to the new school. Mrs. Woodbury has recently learned that because of supply chain issues concerning electrical panels the building will not be ready for occupancy at that time. She is asking the Committee to approve rescheduling those 2 professional days to the 2 days immediately following the February break (February 27th and February 28th). Mrs. Woodbury told the Committee that the professional development planned for the staff in the other schools will be able to be rescheduled to the new dates. Mr. Tolentino moved that the 2 professional days scheduled for January 3rd and January 4th be rescheduled to February 27th and February 28th. Mr. Morris seconded and discussion followed concerning supply chain issues; safety; and adequate time for teachers to set up their rooms. Upon there being no further discussion, Chair Tierney asked for a vote, the motion passes unanimously.

School Building Committee Report – Joseph Tierney

No additional report.

School Committee Liaisons to the Boards of Selectmen

Dennis: Vice Chair Landers reported that the Finance Committee wishes to meet with Mr. Flynn.

Yarmouth: Mr. Glynn reported that elections are tomorrow and encouraged everyone to get out and vote.

Assistant Superintendent Report – David Flynn

1. Enrollment Update

Mr. Flynn referenced the enrollment update which was included in the packet. Foundation enrollment, school choice, and charter were all included. It showed an eleven year history; there has been a consistent pattern with no huge swings in either direction.

2. DYRSD Bid Results

Mr. Flynn referenced the information included in the packet regarding the bid results for the borrowing for the new school. Ms. Landers moved:

Voted: that we hereby determine, in accordance with G.L. c. 70B, that the amount of the cost of the construction of the middle school project authorized by a vote of the District adopted on October 18, 2018 and approved at a district-wide election held on December 4, 2018 not being paid by the school facilities grant is \$71,660,087 and we hereby approve of the issuance of notes and bonds in such amount under said G.L. c. 70B.

Voted: to approve the sale of \$28,000,000 4.50 percent General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes (the “Notes”) of the District dated November 14, 2022, and payable November 14, 2023, to BofA Securities at par and accrued interest, if any, plus a premium of \$327,880.00.

Further Voted: that in connection with the marketing and sale of the Notes, the preparation and distribution of a Notice of Sale and Preliminary Official Statement dated October 24, 2022, and a final Official Statement dated October 31, 2022, each in such form as may be approved by the District Treasurer, be and hereby are ratified, confirmed, approved and adopted.

Further Voted: that the District Treasurer and the Chair of the Committee be, and hereby are, authorized to execute and deliver a significant events disclosure undertaking in compliance with SEC Rule 15c2-12 in such form as may be approved by bond counsel to the District, which undertaking shall be incorporated by reference in the Notes for the benefit of the holders of the Notes from time to time.

Further Voted: that we authorize and direct the District Treasurer to establish post issuance federal tax compliance procedures and significant events disclosure procedures in such forms as the District Treasurer and bond counsel deem sufficient, or if such procedures are currently in place, to review and update said procedures, in order to monitor and maintain the tax-exempt status of the Notes and to comply with relevant securities laws.

Further Voted: that any certificates or documents relating to the Notes (collectively, the "Documents"), may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be regarded as an original and all of which shall constitute one and the same document; delivery of an executed counterpart of a signature page to a Document by electronic mail in a ".pdf" file or by other electronic transmission shall be as effective as delivery of a manually executed counterpart signature page to such Document; and electronic signatures on any of the Documents shall be deemed original signatures for the purposes of the Documents and all matters relating thereto, having the same legal effect as original signatures.

Further Voted: that each member of the Committee, the District Secretary and the District Treasurer be and hereby are, authorized to take any and all such actions, and execute and deliver such certificates, receipts or other documents as may be determined by them, or any of them, to be necessary or convenient to carry into effect the provisions of the foregoing votes.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion and discussion followed. Mr. Flynn said that the MSBA audit will affect the borrowing; it is a timing game. Mr. Morris approved of the due diligence of taxpayer's funds. Upon no further discussion Chair Tierney asked for a vote; the motion passes unanimously, 7-0.

Mr. Flynn shared with the Committee that he applied for and received a grant for an HVAC upgrade.

School Committee Business

On a motion by Phillip Morris, seconded by Jeni Landers, and carried 6-0 with one abstention, it was

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

Donations: Move to accept the donation of time, materials, and funds for the improvement of the courtyard at the Ezra H. Baker Innovation School from Whitten Landscaping, Stonewood Products, and the EHBi Parent Teacher Advisory Council as per Mr. Depin's October 21st letter and Mrs. Woodbury's November 7th memo included in the packet.

Field Trip Approval:

Approval of Mattacheese Middle School Foreign Language field trip to New York City (May 24-26, 2023).

Minutes

October 17, 2022

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

FY23 School Calendar

FY23 Draft School Calendar

Equal Opportunity Schools State Flyer

Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School District PowerPoint Presentation

Equal Opportunity Schools 2021-2022 Year End Report

Public Comment

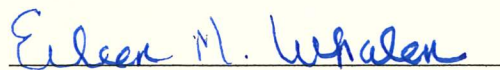
Vida Morris commented on the Fair Share Amendment and said that the Committee had been misinformed when they voted to support the amendment. Jim Cullen is a Yarmouth resident who spoke of racism and asked the Committee for their leadership in sponsoring a community wide forum on implicit bias. Angelina D. read a statement about her experience with her child's class picture; she said she is sad and disappointed in the way the situation was handled.

Adjournment

At 9:30 p.m., on a motion by Phillip Morris, seconded by Jeni Landers, and carried unanimously 7-0; it was

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

Minutes recorded and prepared by,


Eileen M. Whalen, Assistant Secretary