

DENNIS-YARMOUTH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minutes of a School Committee Meeting
Monday, September 11, 2023

A Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School Committee meeting was held on Monday, September 11, 2023, at the Dennis-Yarmouth Intermediate/Middle School in South Yarmouth, Massachusetts.

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

Members not Present: Jennifer Rose, Vice Chairperson.

Others Present: Dr. Marc Smith, Superintendent of Schools; David Flynn, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations; Eileen Whalen, Recording Secretary to the School Committee; Michael Bovino, Principal, Dennis-Yarmouth Middle School; Tim Blake, Principal, Dennis-Yarmouth Intermediate School; Jennifer Edwards, Colin Culis, Michelle Dunn, DYEA; Holly Poor, Pat Plucinski, DYRSAA.

At 6:32 p.m., Jeni Landers, Chairperson, called the meeting to order.

Reports and Discussions

Student Representatives Report – Rose-Anna Joachim and Isabella Power

The student representatives reported on the happenings at the high school including the new student cookout and tours; the new cell phone policy; open house; and all the excitement about fall sports.

Permission for Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School Overnight Travel and Request to Miss 3 School Days – Colin Culis

Mr. Culis distributed informational packets to the committee and gave a presentation regarding the proposed trip to Washington, DC. After some discussion; on a motion by Joseph Tierney, seconded by Phillip Morris and carried unanimously 6-0, it was

VOTED: To approve a Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School field trip to Washington, D.C. as per Mrs. Bennett's August 21, 2023 memo. The dates of the trip are March 12, 13, and 14, 2024. The group requests permission to miss school for three days.

Superintendent's Entry Plan

Dr. Smith presented his Entry Plan, a copy of which was included in the packet. He shared his values of Equity, Growth, Relationships, and Teaching & Learning. The process of data collection will be through interviews, surveys, document review of data that already exists. Data will be collected across a wide variety of stakeholder groups including students and student organizations; families and family organizations; town and safety officials; community organizations and state officials/representatives; and faculty and staff working in a wide variety of roles across the district. Dr. Smith also shared the guiding questions he will use as well as next steps. He shared that he had recently met together with Rose-Anna Joachim and Isabella

Power; and that they represented both the student side as well as the family side of the stakeholder groups. He said that the voices of the families are very important.

At the close of the presentation, Superintendent Smith asked for questions from the committee.

Mr. Glynn said it was a great, well-thought-out plan. He asked what any plans might be for any gaps. Dr. Smith said that he has already met with the four chiefs from the two towns, both police and fire. He hopes that working together they can create a public safety team.

Mr. Morris shared his perspective on the community stakeholders and the Mass. Association of School Superintendents; Dr. Smith is currently training through the New Superintendent Induction Program, which is part of M.A.S.S. and DESE.

Mr. Tolentino said that communication is key and that communication looks different to everyone. Dr. Smith agrees and that adjustments are being made including more easily translated messaging.

Mr. Tierney said he likes the timeline and the fact that there will be updates throughout the year.

Ms. Bemis shared that communication is a two way street and that feedback and reflection is helpful in forming relationships.

Chair Landers said that she has been meeting with the superintendent. She also suggested that facilities be added to the list of stakeholders.

On a motion by Phillip Morris, seconded by Tomas Tolentino, and carried unanimously 6-0 it was

VOTED: To approve the Superintendent's Entry Plan as presented.

Subcommittee, Representatives, Liaison Report

School Building Committee Report – Joseph Tierney

Mr. Tierney said that punch list items are continuing; there are some supply chain issues. Chair Landers would like to see a report to the school committee sometime in the future.

School Committee Liaisons to the Boards of Selectmen

Dennis: Marilyn Bemis said that there is a child care subsidy program and that information is available on the Town of Dennis website.

Yarmouth: No report.

Superintendent's Report

Recognition of Donations and other Acknowledgments

Superintendent Smith acknowledged and thanked Staples for their \$959.84 contribution to the eSports program at the high school. He also wished to recognize the ongoing philanthropy of

Mr. Mark Ohrenberger of Yarmouth Port, who has once again donated LL Bean backpacks to the students of Dennis and Yarmouth, for which he is most appreciative.

Convocation and Opening Day Report

Dr. Smith reported that convocation went very well; it took place at the beautiful new Kenneth T. Jenks Performing Arts Center. New and long time staff members were acknowledged. He said that he shared his entry plan and that the presidents of the DYEA and DYRSAA had the opportunity to speak to their members. He also shared that he was able to visit all of the schools on the first student day and saw lots of warm, welcoming smiles and excitement all around.

Dr. Smith then wished to acknowledge the September 11th anniversary; the Committee shared his sentiments.

Consent Agenda

On a motion by Phillip Morris, seconded by Tomas Tolentino, and carried unanimously 6-0 it was

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

Donations:

Move to accept a donation of gaming equipment valued at \$959.84 from Staples to the Dennis-Yarmouth High School eSports Program as per Mrs. Bennett's August 16, 2023 memo.

Move to accept a donation of twelve LL Bean backpacks to the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School District from Mr. Mark Ohrenberger of Yarmouth Port as per Dr. Smith's August 29, 2023 memo.

Minutes:

7-6-23 Minutes

8-7-23 Workshop Minutes

Bills, Requisitions and Payroll

The warrants were signed by the committee.

Calendars

The upcoming calendars were reviewed.

Items Distributed at Meeting

Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School Washington, DC field trip handout.

Adjournment

At 7:25 p.m., on a motion by Tomas Tolentino, seconded by Joe Glynn, and carried unanimously 6-0; it was

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

Minutes recorded and prepared by,

Eileen M. Whalen

Eileen M. Whalen, Assistant Secretary