



**DENNIS-YARMOUTH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL COMMITTEE AGENDA**

Monday, April 29, 2024

**Dennis-Yarmouth Intermediate/Middle School
286 Station Avenue
South Yarmouth, Massachusetts 02664**

6:30 p.m.

THIS MEETING WILL ALSO BE ACCESSIBLE TO VIEW REMOTELY:

Channel 22 Live: <https://bit.ly/3IV5MVh>

YouTube Live: <https://bit.ly/3CGdOXR>

Members:

Ms. Jeni Landers, Chairperson
Ms. Jennifer Rose, Vice Chairperson
Ms. Marilyn Bemis, Secretary
Mr. Tomas Tolentino, Treasurer
Mr. Joseph Tierney
Mr. Phillip Morris
Mr. Joe Glynn

Administration

Dr. Marc J. Smith, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. David Flynn, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations
Mrs. Maria Lopes, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services and Instruction
Rose-Anna Joachim, Student Representative to the School Committee
Isabella Power, Student Representative to the School Committee

- I. Open the Meeting (6:30)**
- II. Reports and Discussions**
 - i. Student Representatives Report – Rose-Anna Joachim and Isabella Power
 - ii. Math Curriculum Implementation Update - Betsy Pontius, Director of STEM
 - iii. FY25 Budget – “Plan B” Options – Superintendent Marc J. Smith
- III. Subcommittee, Representatives, Liaison Report**

School Committee Liaisons to the Boards of Selectmen
- IV. Superintendent’s Report**
 - i. Recognition of Donations and Acknowledgments
 - ii. Superintendent Evaluation Process - Evidence Presentation
 - Progress on Superintendent Goals

- Focus Indicators

V. School Committee Business (Enclosure 5)
Consent Agenda

VI. Bills, Requisitions and Payroll

VII. Calendars (Enclosure 7)

VIII. Public Comment

IX. Adjournment

**The items listed to be discussed are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.*

***Please note: The timeframes listed above are intended to guide the School Committee in their work. It should be understood that the times are approximate, and therefore may occur earlier than noted; and may be taken out of order at the request of the Chair and a vote of the School Committee.*

Should there be a need for clarification on any of the aforementioned, please contact me prior to the meeting to allow sufficient time for further research if necessitated. Thank you. Dr. Marc J. Smith, Superintendent

Consent Agenda (Enc. 5)

The Superintendent recommends the School Committee approve the following items as presented:

Donations:

Move to accept a donation of women's hygiene products to the Dennis-Yarmouth Middle School from the Dennis Union Church as per Mr. Bovino's April 8, 2024 memo.

Move to approve the McGinnis Scholarship as per Dr. Smith's memo of April 29, 2024.

Move to approve the Friends of DY Football Scholarship as per Mrs. Saucier's memo of April 24, 2024.

Minutes:

April 8, 2024

Math Curriculum Implementation Update

April 29, 2024





DY's Math Pathway

A student-centered/problem solving approach to
mathematics

Eureka Math Squared K-5
Illustrative Mathematics 6-8
Carnegie Math 9-11

High Quality Implementation

- **Instructional Leaders-** 10 Learning Walks initiated district-wide
- **Teachers-** 8 professional learning sessions focusing data centered planning
- **Coaches-** 5 Coaching the Coaches sessions



Observation and Feedback

Core Action 1

Ensure the work of the enacted lesson reflects the Focus, Coherence, and Rigor required by college- and career ready

Core Action 2

Employ instructional practices that allow all students to learn the content of this lesson.

Core Action 3

Provide all the students with the opportunity to exhibit mathematical practices while engaging with the content of the lesson



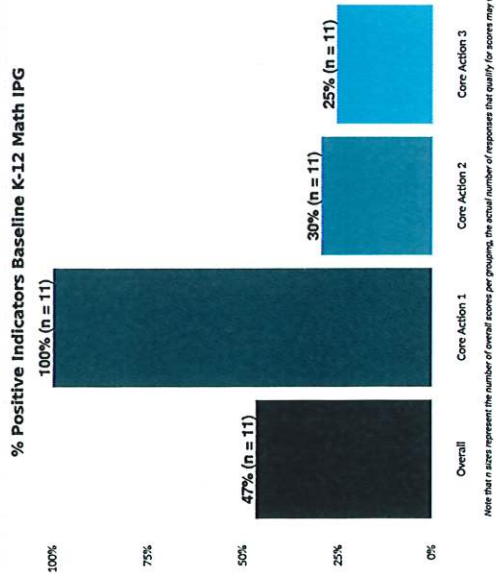
Early Impacts

Projected Proficiency Data MAP Growth FY24 Fall/Winter Math

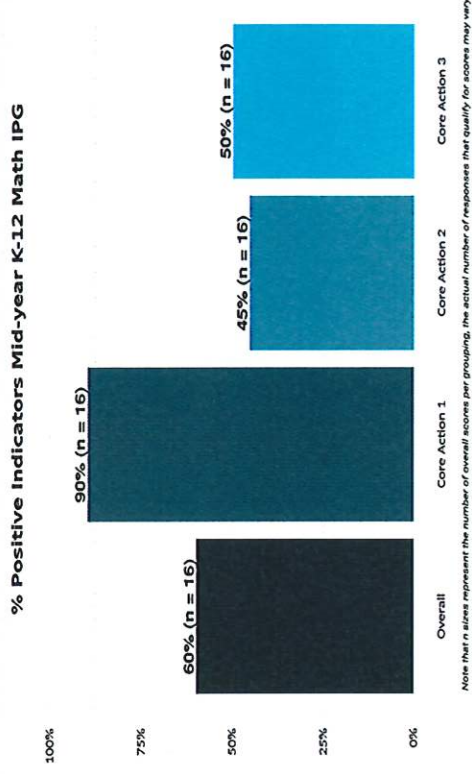
School/Grade	% Fall 2023 E/M	% Winter 2024 E/M	% Difference
EHBi2	52.8	57.9	+5.1
EHBi3	43.1	52.4	+9.3
MES 2	39	39	0
MES 3	35.3	46.3	+11
SAE 2	53.1	60	+6.9
SAE 3	53	70.2	+17.2
DXI 4	27.9	29.4	+1.5
DXI 5	23.2	23.9	+0.7
DYM 6	24.1	30.4	+6.3
DYM 7	21.4	23.3	+1.9
DYHS 8	29.8	26.1	-3.7

Classroom Observations: IPG Core Action Overview (Math)

K-12 Math IPG Overview from Fall 2023









K-12 Math IPG Overview from Winter 2024



Methodological note: Ratings of 3 and 4 on 4-point Likert scales and Yes on a Yes/No items were considered positive.

Implementation Efforts

Enabling Condition	Not Present	Emerging	Developing	Strong	Very Strong
Head 	Knowledge, beliefs, practices, and systems are not present	Knowledge, beliefs, practices, and systems are promising but are too new or not yet well-defined	Knowledge, beliefs, practices, and systems are promising but are not yet consistently observed across the school system	Knowledge, beliefs, practices, and systems are consistent across the school system, but not demonstrating significant impact	Knowledge, beliefs, practices, and systems are consistent across the school system and demonstrating significant impact
Heart 					
Habits 					

Enabling Condition	Not Present	Emerging	Developing	Strong	Very Strong
Head 	Knowledge, beliefs, practices, and systems are not present	Knowledge, beliefs, practices, and systems are promising but are too new or not yet well-defined	Knowledge, beliefs, practices, and systems are promising but are not yet consistently observed across the school system	Knowledge, beliefs, practices, and systems are consistent across the school system, but not yet demonstrating significant impact	Knowledge, beliefs, practices, and systems are consistent across the school system and demonstrating significant impact
Heart 					
Habits 					

Teachers feel supported by leaders and report strong relationships with their colleagues.

Teachers report that school leaders support Professional Learning and curriculum implementation.

- A majority of teachers agree/strongly agree that:
 - School leaders make sure they have access to materials and resources needed to implement the curriculum.
 - School leaders make time for professional learning and press them to implement what they learned.

Teachers have strong relationships.

- A large majority of teachers agree/strongly agree that:
 - They trust their fellow teachers.
 - They feel connected to fellow teachers.
 - They collaborate with fellow teachers regularly.

What we have learned...

For every increment of performance that we expect from our educators, we have an equal responsibility to provide educators with the capacity to meet that expectation.

(paraphrased from Richard Elmore)

Bridging the Gap Between Standards and Achievement, 2002

Next steps..

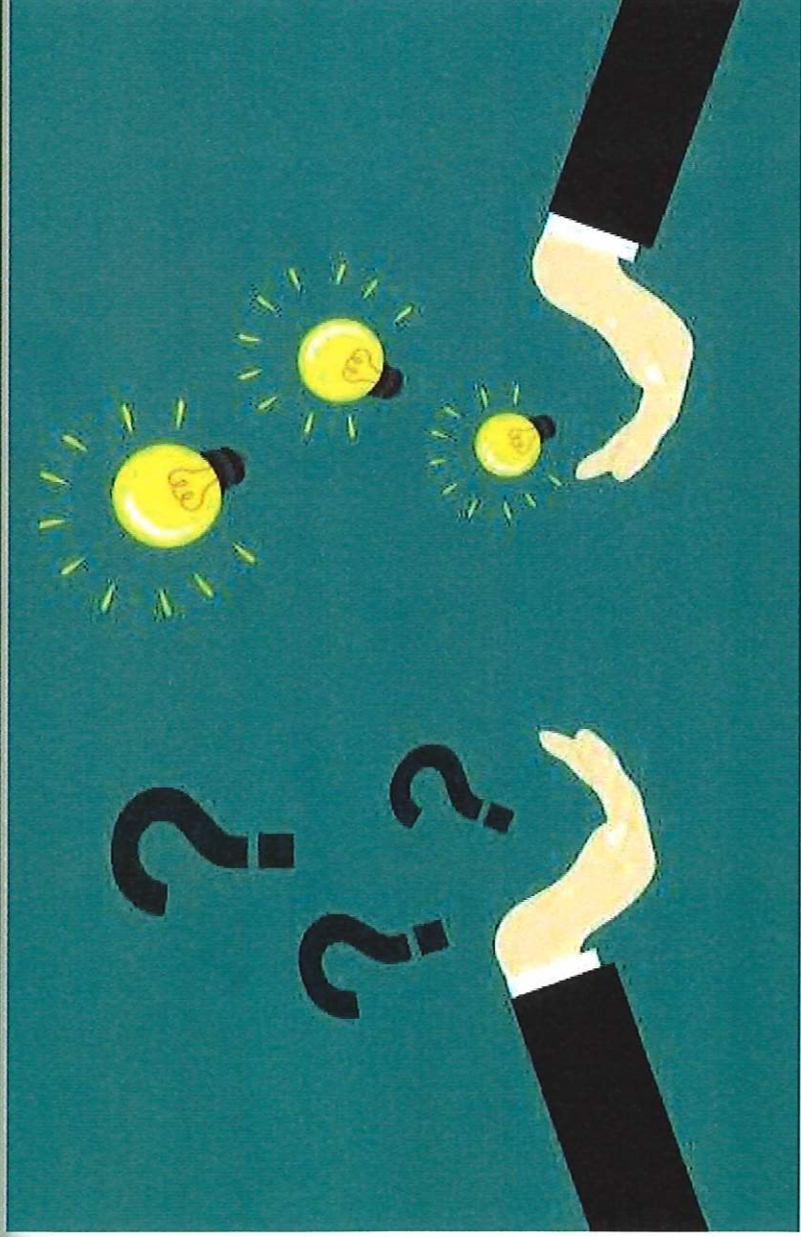
1. Connect what we have learned to our greater work on strategic planning (summer, 2024).
2. Plan aligned professional learning experiences that benefit our instructional leaders, our educators, and our coaches.

Celebrate

District Vision

Educators engage students of every background and ability with tasks that inspire curiosity. Our students thrive in classrooms where reasoning, collaboration, productive struggle, and problem solving are expected. Educators believe that all students can achieve at the highest levels of math; we partner with families and the community and hold ourselves accountable for the success of every student.

Questions?



April 29, 2024



Superintendent's “Plan B” FY 25 Budget Proposals





Where We are Now

Steps Taken by School Committee

- Revised Net State Aid based on Governor's Budget
- Reduced Budget for Revised Choice/Charter Tuition
- Increased Projected Local Revenue based on Recent Trends
- Right-Sized Staffing Levels (- 35.5 positions)
- Reduced Curriculum Expenditure (-\$100,000)
- School Committee Vote 3-13-2024 to Use \$500,000 of E&D to help offset FY 2025 Town Operating Assessments
- Revised Operating Budget Request = **\$76,890,501**
- Reduction of \$2,014,252 since January 8th

What is Left?



Dennis

- Total operating assessment for FY 25 is \$19,378,586
- Warrant will ask town to “raise and appropriate from available funds”
- Town meeting is May 7th

Yarmouth

- Total operating assessment for FY 25 is \$41,168,199
- Warrant article will ask to approve contingent upon approval of \$880,000 override
- Town meeting is April 30th
- Town election (final vote on override) is May 21st

If Override Does not Pass



Financial Impact

- DYRSD will need to lower assessment to Yarmouth by \$880,000
- By language in regional agreement, can not simply lower assessment to one town
 - Will need to lower overall budget in order to get Yarmouth assessment decreased by \$880,000
 - This will result in a further \$1,273,000 reduction in the DYRSD operating budget
 - \$880,000 decrease in Yarmouth assessment
 - \$393,000 decrease in Dennis assessment

Early Options

Option # 1



Position	# of Positions	Savings
Teacher	11	\$550,000.00
Para	0	\$0.00
Admin Asst	6	\$270,000.00
Assistant Principals	2	\$230,000.00
Central Office	2	\$240,000.00
Total Savings		\$1,290,000.00

Likely impacts:

Teacher Reductions

- Increased class size in grades K-5
- Reduced programming in the arts (music, band, visual and performing arts) in grades 6-12

Admin Assistant Reductions

- Reduced responsiveness to families and the community at each of the 5 school buildings and from Central Office
- Increased work load for other roles (principals, central office staff, remaining admin assistants)

Assistant Principals

- Reduced response rate to student discipline & reduced family/staff engagement
- Reduced ability by leadership to conduct effective observation and feedback of professional staff

Central Office

- Increased work load for other roles (teachers, principals, team chairs, etc.)
- Inability to meet state requirements for compliance

Early Options

Option # 2



Position	# of Positions	Savings
Teacher	16	\$800,000.00
Para	0	\$0.00
Admin Asst	1	\$45,000.00
AP	3	\$345,000.00
Central Office	1	\$120,000.00
Total Savings		\$1,310,000.00

Likely impacts:

Teacher Reductions

- Increased class size in grades K-5
- Reduced programming in the arts (music, band, visual and performing arts) in grades 6-12
- Reduced job-embedded professional development provided through instructional coaching

Admin Assistant Reductions

- Reduced responsiveness to families and the community from Central Office
- Increased work load for other roles (school roles, central office staff, remaining admin assistants)

Assistant Principals

- Reduced response rate to student discipline & reduced family/staff engagement
- Reduced ability by leadership to conduct effective observation and feedback of professional staff

Central Office

- Increased work load for other roles (teachers, principals, team chairs, etc.)

Early Options

Option # 3



Position	# of Positions	Savings
Teacher	9	\$450,000.00
Para	0	\$0.00
Admin Asst	3	\$135,000.00
AP	4	\$460,000.00
Central Office	2	\$240,000.00
Total Savings		\$1,285,000.00

Likely impacts:

Teacher Reductions

- Reduced programming in the arts (music, band, visual and performing arts) in grades 6-12
- Reduced job-embedded professional development provided through instructional coaching

Admin Assistant Reductions

- Reduced responsiveness to families at school buildings
- Increased work load for other roles (school roles, principals, remaining admin assistants)

Assistant Principals

- Reduced response rate to student discipline & reduced family/staff engagement
- Reduced ability by leadership to conduct effective observation and feedback of professional staff

Central Office

- Increased work load for other roles (teachers, principals, team chairs, etc.)
- Inability to meet state requirements for compliance

Questions?





Marc J. Smith, Ed. D.

2023-2024 Evaluation Evidence Submission



Goals and Focus Indicators

Superintendent Focus Indicators (identified next to appropriate goals below) approved by School Committee on 2/5/24

Goals:

Goal 1: New Superintendent Induction Program (NSIP) - Develop skills in strategy development, data analysis, and instructional leadership by actively engaging in the first year of the New Superintendent Induction Program. (*Focus Indicator* Standard I.E - Data-informed Decision-Making; Standard IV.D - Continuous Learning)

Goal 2: Math Curriculum Implementation K-12 - Support the implementation of new Math Curriculum across the district by instituting learning walks with the instructional leadership team focused on establishing key instructional practices that impact student learning. (*Focus Indicator* Standard I.A - Curriculum; Standard I.B - Instruction)

Goal 3: Effective Entry and Direction Setting - Assess the district's most critical needs and identify the strategies and goals that will address those needs most effectively along with measures that will be used to assess progress through a process that engages key stakeholder groups. (*Focus Indicator* Standard III.C - Communication; Standard III.D - Family Concerns; Standard IV.C - Communications)

Goal 4: District & School Safety Planning - Establish and lead a team made up of staff from Police and Fire from both Yarmouth and Dennis as well as school staff to review and revise all school safety protocols and procedures as well as identify areas for improvement and future capital, facilities, and systems needs. (*Focus Indicator* Standard II.A - Environment; Standard IV.A - Commitment to High Standards)

Previously Submitted Documents

[Superintendent Goal Document](#) - Approved by School Committee on 9/18/23

[Mid-Year Progress Report Presentation](#) - Presented to the School Committee on 2/12/24

Goal # 1 - New Superintendent Induction Program (NSIP)

NSIP meets monthly either virtually over Zoom or in person in Marlborough. Additionally, I have monthly meetings with my NSIP coach and assignments to complete as a part of participating in NSIP. NSIP has provided me with professional learning, coaching, and practice to develop and hone my skills at utilizing multiple sources of evidence related to student learning to set district goals and improve organizational performance. Additionally, work with NSIP has supported me in working with school and district leaders to monitor student progress as a district and report that information out to key stakeholders.

Supporting Evidence

- [December 18th SC Presentation](#) of DYMS and DYHS MCAS & MAP data along with Curriculum Directors Data presentation
- [Sample Agenda](#) from NSIP Meetings & [Sample Presentation](#)
- [This is a strategy development tool](#) that they shared with us at our last meeting. It is designed to help us go from our report of entry findings (April 8 meeting) to action.
- Link to [folder](#) with this evidence and evidence from Mid-Cycle review

Goal # 1 - New Superintendent Induction Program (NSIP)

Specific connections to Focus Indicators

- One of the first tasks that NSIP trained us and supported us in was data collection and analysis as a part of our Entry Process. These two presentations ([August](#) and [October](#)) are good examples of sessions where the focus was on data collection and analysis. These sessions helped to shape and refine my entry process as well as elevate skills I had developed during my Ed. D. program.
- Regular visits from my NSIP coach provide me an opportunity to demonstrate my ongoing and continuous work to improve my own instructional leadership. My coach attends leadership meetings with me, learning walks, visits classrooms with me, and sits in on additional interactions with leaders providing me with feedback afterwards. I have been open with the leadership team regarding her role as someone there to provide me with feedback for growth. Additionally, the work at NSIP has had me think deeply about how I utilize meetings and this year I have structured meetings with principals and other instructional leaders to support their collaboration around instruction and student learning ([example](#))

Goal # 2 - Math Curriculum Implementation

Working with the Director of STEM Instruction, I have established systems to ensure that all instructional staff implement effective and rigorous standards-based units of instruction. This has been accomplished through both district leadership learning walks ([example](#) and [example](#)) as well as through regular building walks with individual principals (just superintendent and principal). We have used these walks to calibrate instructional feedback and prepare school leaders to provide feedback regarding content, student engagement, and how to personalize instruction to meet the needs of all learners. Additionally, we have established a district-wide structure to support a multi-layered approach toward implementation. This includes walkthroughs for calibrations, leadership training, teacher training, coach training, and leadership coaching.

- [October 23rd SC](#) Agenda including Betsy Pontius's [presentation](#) tied to Goal # 2
- Betsy will be back on April 29 to update the Committee on some early signs of academic achievement and growth from the team's work this year

Goal # 2 - Math Curriculum Implementation

Specific connections to Focus Indicators

- In order to ensure that we had a common way to evaluate what we were all seeing as we visited classrooms across the district, the Director of STEM Instruction, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Services & Instruction and I all agreed that using a common framework would be important. This, combined with a consistent process, would ensure that the team was grounded in common language and a common standard for quality curriculum and quality instruction. We settled on the tool [linked here](#), entitled the Instructional Practice Guide (IPG). The IPG provides clear and explicit “look fors” for high-quality curriculum implementation as well as instructional practices that set high expectations and meet the demands of all learners. When debriefing our learning walks, we captured evidence from the walks in a common tool ([linked here](#)) and used this to have very targeted, detailed conversations about our strengths and areas for growth as a district.

Goal # 3 - Effective Entry and Direction Setting

The purpose of my entry process has been to assess the district's most critical needs and identify the strategies and goals that will address those needs most effectively through a process that engages key stakeholder groups. I have engaged in a thorough process that has collected a wide variety of data and analyzed that data into a collection of themes. On April 8th, those themes were presented to the School Committee and the public.

These themes will next be used to help set strategic direction for the district as well as be used as the framework for the district's next strategic plan.

- [Entry Plan](#) - Approved August 7, 2023
- Updates on the entry process were provided to the Committee (S.C. Meetings - November 6, 2023 & December 4, 2023)
- Completed Entry Plan Presented on April 8
 - [Complete Entry Findings Report](#)
 - [Entry Plan Presentation](#)

Goal # 3 - Effective Entry and Direction Setting

Specific connections to Focus Indicators

- The entry process has afforded me the opportunity to set up systems and structures for effective two-way communication. Effective communication systems have included ways of contacting and connecting with families who speak home languages other than English. The “Superintendent’s Message” gets high visibility (see chart to the right) and is translated into well over 100 languages. Additionally, [translators](#) were available for family focus groups. This format, along with various surveys ([example](#)) and focus groups (example) ensures that family concerns were addressed equitably.
- In addition to family communication, the entry process has allowed me to demonstrate effective communication with a wide range of stakeholders. Specific examples include focus groups with [staff](#), [students](#), and individual meetings with SC members.



Goal # 4 - District & School Safety Planning

The main tasks associated with this goal have been to establish a Safety Team made up of members from each town's public safety officials as well as school staff. The team was then to review and revise all school safety protocols and procedures as well as identify areas for improvement and future capital, facilities, and systems needs. This task has proven to be a very large task and will require a multi-year effort.

Thus far this year, we have established a regular monthly meeting schedule, as well as a steady membership. ([agenda example](#)). The next task the group worked on was to standardize evacuation procedures across the district. We discovered that each school utilized different evacuation procedures and procedures for accounting for students. The team decided upon one standard approach and then created a "[cliff notes](#)" version that could be used with all staff. The goal of the team is to create simplified procedures for our major events (evacuation, active shooter, shelter in place, and weather crisis) that are clear, simple and easy to follow. These can be distributed among staff and easily followed in a crisis situation.

Goal # 4 - District & School Safety Planning

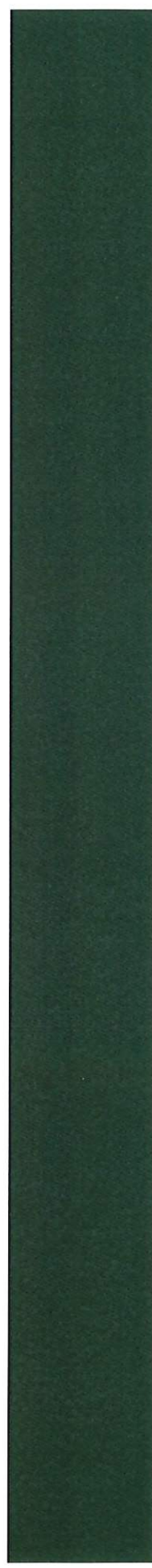
Specific connections to Focus Indicators

- I am responsible for the meeting agendas. We only have an hour to meet, one time per month, so it is important that I structure and facilitate a meeting with clear purpose and focus so that the group has productive conversations on this important topic. Through this facilitation, we have been able to self-assess our needs as a team using the [MCPOA School Security Best Practices Guide](#) and use that to determine our best first place to start. Additionally, we have debriefed specific situations that have arisen during the year and developed new protocols within this year.
- School safety and security protocols are paramount operational systems for student health and safety. Early in my time in D-Y, I identified these as areas needing district-wide consistency. The purpose of this goal and creation of this team is to address this need. Future goals for this group will include capital planning, further procedure development, and assessing training needs.



Questions?

2023-2024 Evaluation Evidence Submission





Dennis-Yarmouth Middle School
286 Station Avenue
South Yarmouth, MA



Michael Bovino **Telephone: 508-778-7979 eFax: 774-352-2501**
Principal <https://www.dy-regional.k12.ma.us/middle-school>

Elijah Switzer
Holly Burns
Assistant Principals

To: Dr. Marc Smith
Superintendent

From: Michael Bovino
Principal

RE: Acceptance of donations

Date: April 8, 2024

Dennis Yarmouth Middle School would like to thank the Dennis Union Church for the generous donation of women's hygiene products for our students. This donation is a huge help and is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Michael Bovino
Principal




Dennis Yarmouth Regional School District

Office of the Superintendent

296 Station Avenue, South Yarmouth, Massachusetts 02664

Phone: (508) 398-7600 Fax: (508) 398-7622

To: Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School Committee

From: Marc J. Smith, Ed. D. 
Superintendent

Date: April 29, 2024

Re: Establishment of the McGinnis Scholarship

The Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School District has received a request to establish the McGinnis Scholarship. This scholarship will be open to graduates of Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School who meet the following criteria:

- Open to all students with a preference to students who show financial need, community involvement, or are overcoming personal/family struggles.
- Student must have attended Dennis-Yarmouth High School for at least two of the four years.
- There will be eight (8) scholarships at \$5000 each (this can adjust from year to year).
- Students pursuing education beyond high school in any field or endeavor not generally considered college bound are encouraged to apply. At least one scholarship will be given to students pursuing this path (if there are applicants).

I recommend that the School Committee approve the establishment of the McGinnis Scholarship.

Thank you.

MJS/emw



Dennis Yarmouth Regional School District


Office of the Superintendent

296 Station Avenue, South Yarmouth, Massachusetts 02664

Phone: (508) 398-7600 Fax: (508) 398-7622

MEMORANDUM

TO: Marc Smith
Superintendent

FROM: Jane Saucier
Assistant Treasurer 

RE: New Scholarship for School Committee Approval

DATE: April 24, 2024

The Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School District has received a donation in the amount of \$1,500 to establish a yearly scholarship for three (3) graduating seniors. These funds have been generously given to the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School District by the Friends of DY Football.

Name: Friends of DY Football Scholarship

Amount: \$1,500 Annually (\$500 per student)

Payment Date: A check will sent directly to the school that the awarded students will attend after successful completion of their second semester

Length: Scholarship will be funded annually

Selected by: DYHS Guidance Department

Criteria: The wish of the Friends of DY Football is that this scholarship be made available any students, male or female, who were either a football player or cheerleader for the team during their senior year. Additionally, eligible interested students are requested to submit an essay sharing how being part of the football team and/or cheerleader has made a positive impact on their life.

As in the past, a vote of the School Committee is needed. There will be no cost to the district associated with this award. I recommend that the Friends of DY Football Scholarship be approved.

DENNIS-YARMOUTH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minutes of a School Committee Meeting
Monday, April 8, 2024

A Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School Committee meeting was held on Monday, April 8, 2024, at the Dennis-Yarmouth Intermediate/Middle School in South Yarmouth, Massachusetts.

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

Members not Present: Joe Glynn.

Others Present: Dr. Marc Smith, 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; Betsy Pontius, Director of STEM; Michael Bovino, Principal, Dennis-Yarmouth Middle School; Timothy Blake, Principal, Dennis-Yarmouth Intermediate School; Carol Mahedy, Principal, Marguerite E. Small Elementary School; Mark Haley, Haley and Aldrich; Chad Crittenden, Mitch Miller, PMA; Curt Sears.

At 6:00 p.m., Chair Jeni Landers called the meeting to order.

On a motion by Tomas Tolentino, seconded by Phillip Morris, and carried by roll call vote 5-0, it was:

VOTED: That the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School Committee will enter into Executive Session, to return to Public Session, to meet or confer with a mediator, as defined in section 23C of chapter 233, with respect to any litigation or decision on any public business within its jurisdiction involving another party, group or entity, provided that: (i) any decision to participate in mediation shall be made in an open session and the parties, issues involved and purpose of the mediation shall be disclosed; and (ii) no action shall be taken by any public body with respect to those issues which are the subject of the mediation without deliberation and approval for such action at an open session.

Phillip Morris	yes
Tomas Tolentino	yes
Joseph Tierney	not present for vote
Marilyn Bemis	yes
Jennifer Rose	yes
Jeni Landers	yes

At 7:25 p.m., Chair Landers reopened the public session.

Reports and Discussions

- i. Student Representatives Report – Rose-Anna Joachim and Isabella Power

Rose-Anna reported on happenings at Dennis-Yarmouth High School including the New Horizons Band combined concert; MCAS testing; the AP fair; spring sports; and the Dolphin Dash taking place on May 11th. Isabella reported on the many field trips taking place including Japan.

Chair Landers acknowledged Rose-Anna's selection as the Superintendent's Academic Excellence winner. A dinner was held at Cape Cod Tech for all of the Cape winners. Ms. Landers also said that Rose-Anna has been accepted to both Yale and Harvard.

- ii. DYIMS Turf Presentation - Mark Haley, Haley & Aldrich
Superintendent Smith introduced Mark Haley from Haley & Aldrich, the third party vendor who was hired to evaluate the turf fields at the new school. Mr. Haley gave a brief introduction on his company and area of expertise. He followed with a presentation outlining his investigation and findings. He reviewed the technical documents regarding the field drainage below the turf along with the specifications. There is strict criteria regarding the base stone specifications. It was decided that geotextile was not necessary. Previous testing was done on January 22nd, October 22nd, and July 23rd. On January 24th Haley & Aldrich was contacted to determine why the turf fields are not performing as intended. They did post-construction field testing including grain size test results and found that the mixture is 45-60% sand in the upper field and 60% sand in the lower field. Chair Landers thanked Mr. Haley for his presentation and questions from the Committee followed. Mr. Tierney asked about the double ring test done by Sports Lab. Mr. Haley said the turf has holes for drainage and that the shock pad is permeable. Dr. Smith said that this is an important step toward resolution of the drainage problem.
- iii. Report of Entry Findings – Superintendent Marc J. Smith
The superintendent distributed a Superintendent's Entry Plan – Report of Entry Findings to the Committee. Dr. Smith referenced the summary which was included in the packet including the Summary of the Process wherein data was collected and analyzed to search for common themes. Next is the District Profile which found that there has been an increase in enrollment especially in the younger grades. Emerging Themes-Strengths, one of which is pride in being a Dolphin right from the start of school; school and district based traditions that build pride; the many opportunities for all students including music, band, athletics, and diverse programming. All have access points for all students. Areas for Growth include consistency, inconsistent expectations from one classroom to another; disproportionate disciplinary data; a cell phone policy that is not universally practiced. He then followed up with implications for Strategy; there are many strengths upon which to build. Dr. Smith noted that student achievement was not mentioned at all during any of his focus group meetings and that we need to prioritize student achievement. The focus groups revealed possible reasons for the high number of families choosing to school choice out including negative beliefs about the student body; negative press and social media; and letting our story be told by others. We need to tell our own story. The superintendent told the Committee that additional details are included in the full report.

Chair Landers thanked the superintendent for his report and asked for follow-up

questions from the Committee. Mr. Tierney said the D-Y staff is very engaged in the district and that student achievement is the most important thing. Chair Landers said the report was very interesting. She reminded the Committee that they are able to continue completing the superintendent evaluation documents and that they will be due at the May 6th meeting.

iv. 2024-2025 School Choice Participation

On a motion by Phil Morris, seconded by Joseph Tierney, and carried unanimously 6-0, it was

VOTED: That the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School District participate in the 2024-2025 School Choice Program.

v. Student Opportunity Act

Dr. Smith reviewed portions of the Student Opportunity Act submission, a copy of which was included in the packet. Particular points were that full implementation of the mathematics program will continue and the extension of the school day. It is an investment in student achievement.

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

VOTED: To approve the 2024 Student Opportunity Act Plan Submission as presented in the packet.

Ms. Bemis asked if there is any follow-up from DESE; Dr. Smith said it is self-monitored.

vi. MSBA Application – M.E. Small Elementary School

Superintendent Smith told the Committee that he and Dave Flynn met recently along with State Representative Chris Flanagan and Senator Julian Cyr and representatives of the Massachusetts School Building Authority to help strengthen the district's application for the M.E. Small School. Carol Mahedy had also put together a group for their input. The most important change to the application was to show how the building is not helping the education process for students. M.E. Small has had a spike in enrollment and because Station Avenue Elementary does not have the space, all sub separate programs are run at M.E. Small. Seeking equity for all students across the district is a major reason for the application.

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

VOTED:

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on April 8, 2024, prior to the SOI submission closing date, the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School Committee, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the

Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated no later than April 12, 2024 for the Marguerite E. Small Elementary School located at 440 Higgins Crowell Road, West Yarmouth, MA 02673 which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future.

Category 4: Prevention of severe overcrowding expected to result from increased enrollment. While the Cape and the Islands have been experiencing declining enrollment for close to two decades, Dennis-Yarmouth has seen a significant increase in enrollment in the last 3 years. Since the 2020-2021 School year, the student enrollment in the district has risen 12.8% (from 2,739 students to 3,091). The change from the 2022-2023 to 2023-2024 school year was an 8.2% increase in student enrollment. This is the largest school enrollment that the district has experienced since 2013. Most of this enrollment increase has occurred at the elementary levels. MES in particular has seen a 17% enrollment increase since 2020-2021.

Category 5: Replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility. The Marguerite E. Small Elementary School needs significant renovation work in all major systems. The building's exterior components including roofs, doors, windows, and masonry have all been cited as high-priority issues. The 2014 facilities audit and the updated study in February 2020 by Bureau Veritas identified the same issues along with possible structural settlement of the loading dock, interior air quality issues, leaking sanitary and heat piping, and the presence of asbestos containing materials. Additionally, the building lacks fire suppression and has multiple ADA requirement issues.

Category 7: Replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements. Current capacity is reasonable, however classroom layouts and floor plans with a size of about 840 square feet limit the kinds of educational activities that would reflect best practices for the grades and specialized services that must be provided within this school; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

vii. April 22, 2024 Scheduled School Committee Meeting Date Conflicts with Religious Holiday Observance

After a brief discussion, the Committee unanimously agreed to reschedule the April 22, 2024 School Committee meeting to April 29, 2024.

Chair Landers then polled the Committee on their prior unanimous vote in favor of participating in School Choice for School Year 2024-2025.

Phillip Morris yes

Tomas Tolentino yes
Joseph Tierney yes
Marilyn Bemis yes
Jennifer Rose yes
Jeni Landers yes

Subcommittee, Representatives, Liaison Report

School Building Committee Report – Joseph Tierney

No report.

School Committee Liaisons to the Boards of Selectmen

No reports.

Superintendent's Report

Recognition of Donations and Acknowledgments

Superintendent Smith acknowledged Cape Hook Designs' generous donation of tee-shirts to the Dennis-Yarmouth Middle School for their recent YPD vs. DYM basketball game.

Dr. Smith announced the 20th Annual *Through Young Eyes* art exhibit currently on display at the Cape Cod Museum of Art through May 7th. Several Dennis-Yarmouth students have their art work on display in the exhibit.

The superintendent told the Committee that he recently attended an academic signing for Dennis-Yarmouth senior Molly Gedutis who will attend the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth on a full scholarship; one of only two of these scholarships given by the school.

FY25 Budget Override

Dr. Smith gave a brief update to the Committee. The Town of Dennis will not need an override. The Town of Yarmouth will be asking voters for an override of \$880,000 and this will need to pass both at town meeting and at the annual town election. The override would cost the average Yarmouth taxpayer \$55.20 per year.

Transportation Update

Dr. Smith told the Committee that he has asked Dave Flynn and Maria Lopes to look into the 2-tier bus system and they have determined that it can work. Mr. Flynn and Mrs. Lopes will follow up with the bus company.

The superintendent's report was followed up with some questions from the committee.

Chair Landers asked what will happen if the budget override does not pass; is there a Plan B? Mr. Flynn said that if the override did not pass in Yarmouth that the Dennis assessment will need to be reduced proportionately. Dr. Smith said that there would have to be deeper cuts and probably would affect between 20-30 positions.

Ms. Rose asked if a bus pass policy might be feasible.

School Committee Business

Consent Agenda

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

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

Minutes:

March 6, 2024

March 13, 2024

Bills, Requisitions and Payroll

The warrants were signed by the Committee.

Calendars

The upcoming calendars were reviewed.

Items Distributed at Meeting

Superintendent’s Entry Plan – Report of Entry Findings

Billerica School Committee Policy for Student Transportation

Barnstable School Committee Bus Policy

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

At 9:18 p.m., on a motion by Joseph Tierney, seconded by Phillip Morris, and carried unanimously 6-0; it was

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

Minutes recorded and prepared by,

Eileen M. Whalen, Assistant Secretary

May 2024

April '24

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 21 22 23 24 25 26 27
 28 29 30

June '24

S M T W T F S
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 30

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28		29	30	1	2	3	4
5		6	7	8	9	10	11
		SC Meeting 6:30					
12		13	14	15	16	17	18
19		20	21	22	23	24	25
		SC Meeting 6:30		1.5 hour early release all grades			
26		27	28	29	30	31	1
		Memorial Day					
2		3	Notes				

