

DENNIS-YARMOUTH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minutes of a School Committee Meeting
Monday, May 1, 2023

A Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School Committee meeting was held on Monday, May 1, 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.

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; Sherry Santini, Director of Humanities and the Arts; Betsy Pontius, Director of STEM; Kendra Bennett, Principal, Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School; Michael Bovino, Principal, Dennis-Yarmouth Middle School; Timothy Blake, Principal, Dennis-Yarmouth Intermediate School.

At 6:32 p.m., Joseph Tierney, Chairperson, called the meeting to order.

Reports

A. Student Representative Reports – Kristen Stagg and Rose-Anna Joachim

The student representatives were not present.

B. Superintendent Report – Carol Woodbury

1. Introduce New High School Principal

Superintendent Woodbury introduced the new high school principal, Kendra Bennett. Mrs. Woodbury gave a brief summary of Ms. Bennett's career including her last 9 years at the high school first as a teacher then as an assistant principal. The school committee followed with words of welcome and congratulations. Ms. Bennett thanked the committee said she very much appreciates the opportunity.

Mrs. Woodbury then referenced the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School Athletic Hall of Fame Program which was distributed at the meeting. She related that it was a wonderful inaugural event with lots of stories about the coaches and athletes.

2. Betsy Pontius – STEM Curriculum Update

Superintendent Woodbury introduced Betsy Pontius, Director of STEM for the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School District. Mrs. Pontius provided an update on the STEM program. The Eureka Math Squared program was piloted in the K-5 schools this year and it will be implemented next school year. This is year one of Illustrative Mathematics in grades 6-8. In the high school grades they are going to move forward with Carnegie Math. Mrs. Pontius then gave a summary of Science and Engineering throughout the district. She gave examples of professional development and a variety of lessons that engage students. There is an upcoming seventh grade field trip to Bass River; Mrs. Pontius shared that we are very grateful for our many community partnerships. She then gave an update on Digital Literacy throughout the district. Makerspaces are growing

throughout the district including the brand new intermediate/middle school. In Computer Science kindergarten students now have Chromebooks and are learning coding. The presentation was followed by questions and comments from the committee who expressed their thanks and appreciation for the presentation.

C. School Building Committee Report – Joseph Tierney

Chair Tierney spoke of the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the new intermediate/middle school coming up on Saturday, May 6th at 10:30 a.m. Superintendent Woodbury said the gathering spot would be in the auditorium.

D. School Committee Liaisons to the Boards of Selectmen

Dennis: Jeni Landers reported that the Dennis Town Meeting will be held tomorrow night. Yarmouth: Joe Glynn reported that the Yarmouth Town Meeting was held April 25th and that the school budget passed.

E. Assistant Superintendent Report – David Flynn

Mr. Flynn reiterated that the school budget passed at the Yarmouth Town Meeting and that the Dennis Town Meeting will be held tomorrow evening. He then referenced the memo in the packet concerning the school bus transportation contract. On a motion by Jeni Landers, seconded by Joe Glynn, and carried unanimously 7-0 it was

VOTED: That the School Committee award a contract to Five Star Transportation, Inc. dba Five Star Bus to provide school bus transportation services from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026 as per our specifications and Five Star Bus' bid response of April 3, 2023.

School Committee Business

A. Superintendent Search

Chair Tierney shared that the Superintendent Search Subcommittee had met just prior to the school committee meeting and between 15 and 20 people attended the listening session. The applications opened the previous Friday and will close on May 15. There will be a survey going out to families through Remind.

B. Consent Agenda

On a motion by Jeni Landers, seconded by Phillip Morris, and carried 7-0, it was

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

Donation:

Move to accept a donation of ten \$200.00 Stop & Shop gift cards to the Ezra H. Baker Innovation School from the Andrea Holden Foundation.

Move to accept a donation of \$900 from the Masons of Cape Cod to support Music and Arts for children in need attending the Marguerite E. Small Elementary School.

Minutes:

April 3, 2023

April 24, 2023

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 the Meeting

Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony Program

Copy of Letter to Mrs. Woodbury from Chair Tierney

Letter from the Cape Cod Delegation of the General Court to the MSBA

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

At 7:23 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
Eileen M. Whalen, Assistant Secretary