

**DENNIS-YARMOUTH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Minutes of a School Committee Meeting**  
Monday, November 1, 2021

**APPROVED**

11-15-21

A Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School Committee meeting was held on Monday, November 1, 2021, at the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School Auditorium in South Yarmouth, Massachusetts.

Members Present: Jeni Landers, Chairperson; Phillip Morris, Treasurer; Jennifer Rose, Secretary; Joe Glynn; Tomas Tolentino; and Marilyn Bemis.

Members Not Present: Joseph Tierney, Vice Chairperson; Grace LePain and Kristen Stagg, Student Representatives to the School Committee.

Others Present: Carol Woodbury, Superintendent of Schools; Maria Lopes, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services and Instruction; David Flynn, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations; Betsy Pontius, Director of STEM; Sherry Santini, Director of Humanities and the Arts; Brenda Burke, Assistant Director of Student Services; Eileen Whalen, Recording Secretary to the School Committee; Michael Bovino, Principal, Mattacheese Middle School; Tim Blake, Principal, Nathaniel Wixon School; Kevin Depin, Principal, Ezra H. Baker Innovation School; Carol Mahedy, Principal, Marguerite E. Small Elementary School; Peter Crowell, Principal, Station Avenue Elementary School; Patricia Leary, Assistant Principal, Station Avenue Elementary School; Vida Morris.

At 6:30 p.m., Jeni Landers, Chairperson, called the meeting to order.

**Reports:**

DYRSD School Committee Student Representatives – Grace LePain and Kristen Stagg

The students were not present.

Superintendent's Report – Carol Woodbury

School Performance Reviews (PK-5)

Assistant Superintendent Maria Lopes gave a brief overview of the school performance in Grades PK-5 and introduced the principals. Carol Mahedy, Interim Principal, M.E. Small gave a brief synopsis of MCAS results. She also gave examples of working toward improvements including smaller class sizes; an interventionist; and art and music becoming full time offerings. The MES PTO raised money to buy a book vending machine; the students are very excited about this. Peter Crowell, Principal, Station Avenue Elementary gave a snapshot of the last school year. He gave a synopsis of MCAS scores. There has been an increase of 5 support teachers. There is one special educator; one EL educator; and 2 reading support teachers per grade level. He acknowledged Assistant Principal Patricia Leary's hard work in fine tuning student placement over the summer. Kevin Depin, Principal, Ezra H. Baker Innovation School gave a brief summary of MCAS scores. He then updated the Committee on the 21-22 school year. Class sizes are at 15 and students are still cohorting. He acknowledged the hard work of the coaches and classroom teachers. Student health and wellbeing are also very important. Tim Blake, Principal, Nathaniel Wixon School gave a brief synopsis of the last school year as well as a review of MCAS scores. There are now 4 reading teachers; one per team. They have reinstituted RTI at the end of the day. Wixon and Mattacheese have begun having shared professional development experiences.

At the conclusion of the presentations, Superintendent Woodbury opened the meeting to questions from the Committee. Chair Landers commented that it is comparing different groups of students and MAP testing is better to see how an individual student is performing. She thanked the principals for their hard work. Marilyn



Bemis would like periodic updates; the other members expressed their thanks to the principals. Vida Morris called a point of order; she wanted to be able to ask questions of the principals; Chair Landers said there would be public comment later on in the agenda.

#### School Building Committee Report –Joseph Tierney

Mrs. Woodbury reminded the Committee of the Topping Off Ceremony taking place on November 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at the D-YIMS building site.

#### School Committee Liaisons to the Boards of Selectmen

Dennis: No report.

Yarmouth: No report.

#### Assistant Superintendent Report – David Flynn

Mr. Flynn briefed the Committee on the tentative budget timeline, a copy of which was distributed to the Committee prior to the meeting.

#### **School Committee Business**

##### Consent Agenda:

On a motion by Joe Glynn, 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 150 golf clubs; golf towels; golf balls; memberships for 2 girls on the varsity golf team; and 14 one-quarter zip pullovers to the DYRHS Girls Golf Team from the Dennis Women's Golf Association as per Dr. Funk's October 15, 2021 memo.

**Surplus:** Move to declare as surplus 200 old, unsupported iPad Air 1's. These iPads will be sold to a technology buyback service as per Mr. Bryant's October 18, 2021 memo.

Move to declare as surplus 110 outdated, irreparable high school biology books as per Dr. Funk's October 18, 2021 memo.

##### **Minutes:**

October 18, 2021

##### **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**

Tentative Budget Timeline

##### **Public Comment**

Vida Morris expressed her disappointment in the performance reviews and wanted to know how the Ezra Baker Innovation School became an innovation school. Chair Landers invited Mr. Depin to respond. He explained that it is a process; that all Ezra Baker students learn a foreign language which is Spanish. He said that reading, writing, science, and math are all important; but that parents put their trust in them to care for their children in all ways including social and emotional.

**Adjournment**

At 7:45 p.m., on a motion by Tomas Tolentino, seconded by Marilyn Bemis, 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