

APPROVED

12-4-23

DENNIS-YARMOUTH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes of a School Committee Meeting

Monday, November 20, 2023

A Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School Committee meeting was held on Monday, November 20, 2023, at the Dennis-Yarmouth Intermediate/Middle School in South Yarmouth, Massachusetts.

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

Members Not Present: Phillip Morris.

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; Colin Kulis; Traci Wyse; Tara Mason; Rob Marzilli; DYEA.

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

Reports and Discussions

Student Representatives Report – Rose-Anna Joachim and Isabella Power

The students reported on the fall play, *Murder on the Orient Express*, which was enjoyed by all. The National Honor Society recently held their annual blood drive. Many of the clubs participated in a Thanksgiving food drive at the food pantry. Everyone is looking forward to the pep rally which will take place on Tuesday. The field hockey team made it to the Elite Eight; fall sports banquets are taking place and winter sports are beginning.

Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School 2024 Field Trip to Washington, D.C. (Updated)

Colin Kulis

Mr. Kulis updated the school committee on the changes to a previously approved trip to Washington, DC. They have changed tour companies due to some personnel issues. They are now using EF Tours. The students will be flying instead of taking a bus to Washington. Mr. Kulis reviewed the itinerary which is nearly identical to the previous one. Questions followed including fundraising, how much of an increase in price; how to help families.

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

VOTED: To approve a Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School Field Trip to Washington, D.C. and request to miss three school days (March 12, 13, 14, 2024) as per Ms. Bennett's November 8, 2023 memo.

Dennis-Yarmouth Middle School May 2024 Trip to Quebec City

Michael Bovino

Mr. Bovino gave a presentation regarding a proposed May 2024 middle school trip to Quebec City. Sixth and seventh grade French students would attend along with up to five chaperones.

The middle school has done this trip in the past; they are using the same hotel as before. The students will use journals to connect the curriculum to the field trip. At the conclusion of the presentation, a question and answer followed. Concerns about fund raising were raised. Ms. Mason said that she has done this trip twelve times; parents are an integral part of the fundraising effort and it has always been very successful. Ms. Mason also said that she has monthly family meetings leading up to the trip and there is a lot of advance learning. Jennifer Rose added that her daughter was able to take this trip in middle school and she felt it was a wonderful experience.

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

VOTED: To approve a Dennis-Yarmouth Middle School Field Trip to Quebec City May 22-25, 2024 as per Ms. Mason's memo.

Dennis-Yarmouth Middle School 2025 Rome and Athens Field Trip

Michael Bovino and Rob Marzilli

Mr. Bovino and Mr. Marzilli gave a presentation on a proposed trip to Rome and Athens in 2025. The trip would involve 6th and 7th graders and would take place April 19-26, 2025, during April vacation, thereby missing no school. The itinerary, costs, and other details were shared with the Committee. The presentation was followed by a question and answer period. Ms. Bemis feels it is a wonderful experience but such a big trip for 6th and 7th graders. She also asked how the trip connects to curriculum standards. Mr. Marzilli said he believes the students, who will be in 7th and 8th grade by the time the trip happens, will rise to the occasion. The 7th grade curriculum includes ancient Rome and Athens; the students will be required to journal the trip. Fund raising ideas were discussed.

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

VOTED: To approve a Dennis-Yarmouth Middle School Field Trip to Rome and Athens April 19-26, 2025 as per Mr. Bovino's memo.

Subcommittee, Representatives, Liaison Report

School Building Committee Report – Joseph Tierney

No report.

School Committee Liaisons to the Boards of Selectmen

Yarmouth: No report.

Dennis: No report.

Report out from Policy Review Subcommittee Meeting

Dr. Smith reported on the recent Policy Review Subcommittee Meeting. He explained that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) periodically reviews school committee policies and makes their recommendations. The following policies were discussed:

EFE – Civil Rights Complaint Policy for Child Nutrition Programs (new) (2nd review)

This is a new policy; the superintendent consulted with the Director of Food Services, Rooney Powers, who is in agreement with this policy.

IGA/IGD – Curriculum Development and Adoption – (updated) – combined Policies IGA and IGD (2nd review)

MASC recommends combining existing Policies IGA and IGD into one Policy IGA/EGD.

IL – Evaluation of Instructional Programs (2nd review)

MASC recommends removal of this Policy; most of the processes are outdated or are covered elsewhere in the policy manual.

IMA – Teaching Activities/Presentations (2nd review)

MASC recommends removal of this Policy; the superintendent recommends retaining it.

These proposed policies will have a third and final reading at the next school committee meeting, December 4, 2023.

Superintendent's Report

Acknowledgments

Dr. Smith shared that as the fall athletic season comes to end, several of our high school teams have been recognized for their wonderful display of overall team sportsmanship:

Cape Cod Soccer Officials Association - Boys & Girls Soccer
Cape & Island League Team Sportsmanship Award (Maritime Division) Boys Soccer
Cape & Island League Team Sportsmanship Award (Atlantic Division) Field Hockey
MIAA Division 3 Cross Country Team Sportsmanship Award - Boys & Girls Cross Country
MIAA Unified Basketball Team Sportsmanship Award - Unified Basketball

The superintendent attended the recent Ezra H. Baker Farm to Table Dinner and shared the following information from Rooney Powers, Director of Food Service:

Ezra Baker's Farm to Table Family Dinner was held on Thursday November 9th. This event was first started in 2013 after Baker received a Farm to School Grant and the dinner has continued through the years. Now, donations from local farms and businesses help support the event. Homemade soups, a full salad bar, fresh breads and pasta and meatballs were served and shared with the families of Ezra Baker. This year we estimated over 400 guests enjoyed the food and spending time with each other.

This past Thursday, November 16th, the Food Service Department served a full Thanksgiving dinner District wide. This hugely popular tradition has become a day to look forward to by both the students and staff. Over 800 pounds of turkey was served along with stuffing, gravy, potatoes, squash, corn, cranberry sauce, rolls and dessert. It's our pride and pleasure to provide what could be the only Thanksgiving meal for some of our students. Bravo to our lunch ladies for an amazing job serving about 2,500 turkey dinners!

Consent Agenda

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

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

Minutes:

October 23, 2023

Bills and Requisitions

The warrants were signed by the committee.

Calendars

The upcoming calendars were reviewed.

Public Comment

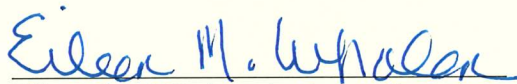
None.

Adjournment

At 7:30 p.m., on a motion by Joseph Tierney, seconded by Joe Glynn, and carried unanimously 6-0; it was

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

Minutes recorded and prepared by,


Eileen M. Whalen, Assistant Secretary