

APPROVED

2-24-20

DENNIS-YARMOUTH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minutes of a School Committee Meeting
Monday, February 10, 2020

A Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School Committee meeting was held on Monday, February 10, 2020, at the Station Avenue Elementary School in South Yarmouth, Massachusetts.

Members Present: Jeni Landers, Chairperson; Andrea St. Germain (arrived 7:18 p.m.), Secretary; Brian Carey, Treasurer; James Dykeman, Jr.; Brian Sullivan; and Phillip Morris.

Members Absent: Joseph Tierney, Vice Chairperson

Others Present: Carol Woodbury, Superintendent of Schools; Ken Jenks, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative and Business Services; Eileen Whalen, Recording Secretary to the School Committee; Tainan Nunes, Student Representative; Carole Eichner, Director of Early Learning; Maria Lopes, Director of Pupil Services; Leila Maxwell, Director of STEM; Sherry Santini, Director of Humanities and the Arts; Paul Funk, Principal, Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School; Ann Knell, Principal, Mattacheese Middle School; Tim Blake, Principal, Nathaniel Wixon School; Kevin Depin, Principal, Ezra H. Baker Innovation School; Patrick Riley, Principal, M.E. Small School; Peter Crowell, Principal, Station Avenue Elementary School; Chris Flanagan, Dennis Board of Selectmen; Jen Legge; Michelle Dunn; Vida Morris.

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

At 6:35 p.m., Jeni Landers, Chairperson, opened the public hearing.

A. Presentation of FY21 Budget – Ken Jenks, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative and Business Services; Carol Woodbury, Superintendent

Ken Jenks gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed FY21 budget including the timeline; goals; foundation enrollment; revenue; choice and charter; and budget drivers. Carol Woodbury discussed the Student Opportunity Act; there is significant need in many towns and they are receiving the most money. The Dennis-Yarmouth school district will be on a short plan. The Commissioner is looking for a few bold public commitments from school districts. Some of our students have increasingly complex needs and need specialized supports. She told the committee that some new programming is needed such as an additional assistant principal at the Wixon School. This position would support the needs of behaviorally challenged students and also assist with educator evaluations. She also said that there is a need at the high school for a managed therapeutic program. Ken Jenks added that there is a facility housed in the community and the students who have been placed there must be educated by the district. He then continued with the budget presentation. The Committee voted previously for an FY21 budget of \$65,183,279. He has been able to make some refinements concerning retirements, debt service, and postage and feels that the budget could be reduced to \$64,937,171.

B. Public Comment

Vida Morris had questions about the revenue sources and local revenue assumptions; in particular miscellaneous revenue.

C. School Committee Comments

Discussion followed regarding new programs, choice and charter, and how to use the Student Opportunity Act money. Mrs. Woodbury said she has never seen the Chapter 70 amount go down; it is an exercise in what is needed and what you can do without. She added that the district has a good track record of reducing things when it makes sense; for instance, closing schools and consolidating schools. She has reviewed the budget line by line. She said that there are some things that we don't know about yet.

On a motion by James Dykeman, seconded by Brian Carey, and carried 6-0 by roll call vote, it was

VOTED: To approve an FY21 budget of \$64,937,171.

Brian Carey	yes
James Dykeman	yes
Jeni Landers	yes
Phillip Morris	yes
Andrea St. Germain	yes
Brian Sullivan	yes

D. Close of Public Hearing

At 7:35 p.m., Jeni Landers, Chairperson, closed the public hearing.

Reports

DYRSD School Committee Student Representative – Tainan Nunes

Tainan reported about recycling programs at the high school; Valentine activities, Black History Month; and the upcoming math competition that the high school is hosting. Club photos were recently taken and the yearbook club did a great job running it. The International Food Festival is coming up on March 4th. The jazz band recently played at the Wixon school and the 4th and 5th graders were very excited. The boys basketball team has made the tournament.

School Committee Liaisons to the Boards of Selectmen

B. Carey, Dennis: Mr. Carey said that the selectmen will be looking for assessments.

J. Tierney, Yarmouth: Mr. Tierney was not present, therefore no report. Jeni Landers added that the committee will work together on a rotation so that there will be a school committee presence at the selectmen meetings.

DYRSD Building Committee Update – J. Tierney

Carol Woodbury gave the building committee update in the absence of Mr. Tierney. There is a change to the building committee membership. A Yarmouth parent is unable to continue membership on the committee; Mrs. Woodbury reached out to the principals for ideas for a replacement.

On a motion by Joseph Tierney, seconded by Brian Carey, and carried 6-0 it was

VOTED: That the committee approve the following changes in the MMS Building Committee membership: The addition of Laurie Crosbie (replaces Teodora Torres). The next building committee meeting will take place on Thursday, February 13th, at 4:30 p.m. at the high school library.

Assistant Superintendent Report – Ken Jenks

M.E. Small Update: Ken Jenks reviewed the timeline including the capital studies in 2008 and 2013; the focus was on the roof and the loading dock. The 2016 study again highlighted the problems with the roof. There will be a walk-through of district buildings on February 24-25-26; this way everyone will hear and see the same things. He then spoke of the MSBA process. He discussed the capital needs timeline. Discussion followed regarding ADA compliance triggers and the effect on repairs. Mrs. Woodbury stressed that the building is fixed when it needs to be fixed; roofers are called and they fix the leaks. She also mentioned that when Station Avenue Elementary was built 25 years ago it was designed to have room for an addition. She also mentioned the possibility of swing space; perhaps Mattacheese could be utilized for that purpose.

Brian Sullivan expressed frustration that the state has put in place triggers which will force the district to spend more than they need to in order to fix the M.E. Small roof. Mr. Morris recalled that the same thing happened when the Simpkins School was in need of repairs; the cost triggered the ADA compliance rule which eventually resulted in the building of Station Avenue Elementary School.

Jeni Landers added that the people of Dennis voted to contribute to the repairs of the Baker school roof; the roof at M.E. Small in Yarmouth has been allowed to fall into a state of disrepair.

James Dykeman said that the MSBA has been very supportive with money for the high school, Mattacheese, and the Baker school.

Brian Carey wanted to assure parents that student safety is paramount, the roof at M.E. Small leaks but it is structurally sound. He is hoping that the MSBA will accept the M.E. Small School for repairs.

Superintendent Report – Carol Woodbury Good News

SAE

Sharon DiPrete, SAE School Nurse, has successfully completed the National Certification for School Nurses examination. By passing this exam, Ms. DiPrete has met the knowledge and requirements to be nationally recognized as a certified school nurse. SAE students and staff will be treated to a special music presentation called *Jazz in the Schools* on February 13 at 2:15. This outreach program of the Cape Cod Symphony and Conservatory will include a 45-minute concert/history of jazz lessons performed by drummer, Bart Weisman and his Jazz trio. Students have made Valentines for the veterans at Brockton Veteran's Hospital. Mrs. Woodbury read aloud a note from Principal Crowell which accompanied the Valentines.

MMS

Last Friday night Mattacheese sponsored the second dance of the year. Thank you to the faculty and parents who supported the event. A whopping 57% of our student body attended the dance and a good time was had by all. Our new Mattacheese Librarian, Ms. Denning, has announced our new Library Interns. Fifty-three students applied to become interns. Congratulations to the 5 students who will take on the responsibility of serving as Interns. Speaking of the library, on the day that the MMS book order came in, by the end of the school day 50 books had been signed out. 6th Grade

Ambassadors will be announced at the end of this week. Once again, large numbers of applications have been submitted. Keep up the great work Mattacheese!

DYRHS

D-Y was well represented at the 60th All-Cape Music Festival sending 40 talented musicians. Students from all over the Cape auditioned in November, and the best of the best were picked to perform in the Orchestra, Band, and Chorus. The festival was hosted at Barnstable High School Thursday, January 30, Friday, January 31, and Saturday, February 1. After three days of grueling rehearsals, the students performed a concert for a huge crowd Saturday afternoon.

In addition to this festival, last Wednesday D-Y hosted the All-Cape Jazz Festival auditions. Students from all over the Cape auditioned to be part of the All-Cape Jazz Band (festival in April) including a large group of musicians from D-Y. In the end D-Y had 10 students make the band - more than any other high school on Cape Cod!

The girls' ice hockey team has qualified for the MIAA State Tournament; they are currently 12-1-1.

The Jazz Band traveled to Wixom to perform for the 4th and 5th graders. This was a huge success for both the D-Y Jazz Band and the students at Wixon.

D-Y's Poetry Out Loud was again a huge success. This school-wide competition was highlighted by seventeen student performances reciting poetry and students performing dance routines and songs. Our school-wide winner, Eleanor Sears, will be competing in the semi-finals on Sunday, March 1, 2020 at the Cultural Center of Cape Cod at 1:00 p.m.

EHBi

Last Thursday was just "SOUP" -er at EHBI! It was our annual Math Fair and Family Dinner. Families attended school where they could play math games in the gym and then enjoy a family style dinner in the cafeteria, complete with 2 home-made soups, salad, and pasta. The food was prepared by your incredible food service staff, led by Rooney Powers. Our custodial crew transformed the cafeteria by removing our round tables and replacing them with long, banquet style seating which encouraged families to sit and talk together. So many EHBI staff members were on hand either at stations in the math fair or welcoming families in the cafeteria. It was standing room only! Families brought donations for the Family Pantry of Cape Cod. It was a great night which celebrated community!

MES

Our Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser starts next week. If you would like to make an on-line donation, please click on M.E. Small Elementary School on the website. Thank you!

NHW

On Friday, February 7 the DY High School Jazz Band played at Wixon. The Jazz Band received a standing ovation from the kids. We are looking forward to the high school making this an annual event at Wixon. Our Glow Run kicks off on February 13. If you'd like to make a pledge to support a Wixon student, you only have a few days left to do so.

School Committee Business

Consent Agenda:

On a motion by Brian Carey, seconded by James Dykeman, and carried 6-0, it was

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

Acceptance of Donations

Move to accept with gratitude a donation of several pairs of new shoes from the Fill-A-Backpack Organization to the Ezra H. Baker Innovation School.

Move to accept with gratitude a donation of \$8000.00 from Ms. Sarah Shea Smith to the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School Girls Golf Team.

Minutes

January 27, 2020

Bills, Requisitions, and Payroll

Bills, requisitions, and payroll were signed by the School Committee.

Calendars

The next school committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 24, 2020, at Station Avenue Elementary School.

Information Items

Letter to Independence House from Ms. Cashen.

Items Distributed at the Meeting

PowerPoint Presentation: FY21 Tentative Budget & Potential Reductions

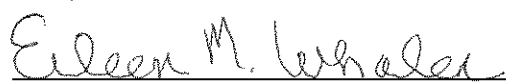
Public Comment Period

Vida Morris had several questions about the budget; Ken Jenks suggested she make an appointment with him to discuss further. Carole Eichner, Director of Early Learning, announced that kindergarten registration is now on line. Children who will be five years old before September 1st may register for kindergarten now. Once parents register their child they will be contacted by the school to complete the registration process.

At 8:20 p.m., on a motion by James Dykeman, seconded by Brian Carey, and carried 6-0 it was

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

Minutes recorded and prepared by,


Eileen M. Whalen, Assistant Secretary