

APPROVED

4-8-24

DENNIS-YARMOUTH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes of a School Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

A Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School Committee meeting was held on Wednesday, March 13, 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.

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; Kendra Bennett, Principal, Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School; Michael Bovino, Principal, Dennis-Yarmouth Middle School; Jeanne Campbell, Michelle Dunn, DYEA.

At 6:32 p.m., Chair Jeni Landers called the meeting to order.

Superintendent's Award for Academic Excellence

Superintendent Smith announced that Rose-Anna Joachim has been chosen as the recipient of this year's Superintendent's Award for Academic Excellence. Rose-Anna will be honored along with the other Cape Cod recipients at a dinner to be held at Cape Cod Regional Technical High School on April 2nd. Dr. Smith read a brief biography about Rose-Anna; he and Chair Landers then presented Rose-Anna the Certificate of Academic Excellence. The presentation was followed by congratulations from the entire Committee.

Reports and Discussions

Student Representatives Report – Rose-Anna Joachim and Isabella Power

Rose-Anna reported on events at the high school including spring sports; The Little Mermaid rehearsals; the upcoming NHS Blood Drive; the April trip to Japan; the World Languages National Honor Society Induction; Schnitzelfest; the upcoming 8th grade dance; and the Washington DC trip. She also announced that senior Molly Gedutis recently won an award from the Environmental Protection Agency for her work with the environment.

Approval of FY25 Budget

Superintendent Marc Smith

Assistant Superintendent David Flynn

Dr. Smith presented a PowerPoint on the FY25 budget; it is a truncated version of the presentation the Committee has already seen. He reviewed the timeline; perfect storm; steps taken; the School Committee vote to use \$500,000 of E & D to help offset FY25 town operating assessments; and the revised operating budget request. Mr. Flynn continued the presentation by reviewing the assessments; minimum local contribution; total operating assessment; debt assessment; and FY25 revenue budget.

On a motion by Tomas Tolentino, seconded by Phillip Morris and carried unanimously 6-0 by roll call vote, it was

VOTED: That the School Committee adopt an FY 2025 budget of **\$80,899,651** with a Transfer from E&D of **\$500,000** toward the Operating Budget; and a Dennis operating assessment of **\$19,378,586** and a debt service of **\$1,420,782** for a total Dennis assessment of **\$20,799,368**; and a Yarmouth operating assessment of **\$41,168,199** and a debt service of **\$2,588,368** for a total Yarmouth assessment of **\$43,756,567**.

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

Following the vote, Chair Landers thanked everyone for their hard work. Dr. Smith said that while he and Mr. Flynn are the ones reporting at School Committee and other meetings, the entire leadership team has worked extremely hard during this process. Mr. Tierney said that he attended the select board meetings and is very impressed with the sense of trust and confidence that is being built with the towns. Mr. Morris is appreciative of the quality of information being provided and the commitment to the families and taxpayers of the towns.

Subcommittee, Representatives, Liaison Report

School Building Committee Report – Joseph Tierney

No report.

School Committee Liaisons to the Boards of Selectmen

Dennis: Chair Landers said that elections are coming up.

Yarmouth: No report

Superintendent's Report

Recognition of Donations and Acknowledgments

Dr. Smith recognized and thanked Charlie and Jane Martin for their generous donation of a train table, trains, and accessories to our preschool program. He also thanked the D-Y Women's Club for their continued support of the district by donating school supplies to teachers at the Ezra H. Baker Innovation School.

Dr. Smith reported that he had just attended the World Languages National Honor Society Induction at the high school where he gave the opening remarks. He said that our students have so many opportunities to achieve excellence and it is just another strength of our district.

Select Board/Finance Committee Report Out

Dr. Smith reported on attending the recent Select Board/Finance Committee meetings along with Mr. Flynn and Mr. Tierney. The Town of Dennis asked for a truncated version of the budget presentation; Yarmouth asked for a more detailed version. Both boards felt that they had enough information to move forward. One key takeaway from the meetings was that the entire budget process should begin earlier in the year.

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:

Donation

Move to accept a donation of a train table and assorted trains, tracks, and accessories to the preschool classrooms at the M.E. Small Elementary School and the Ezra H. Baker Innovation School from Charlie and Jane Martin of Yarmouth Port as per Ms. Mooney's letter of March 4, 2024.

Move to accept a donation of teacher school supplies to the Ezra H. Baker Innovation School from the D-Y Women's Club as per Mr. Depin's February 28th letter.

Surplus

Move to declare as surplus 336 Medify air purifiers as per Mr. Faucher's March 6th letter.

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Bills, Requisitions and Payroll

The warrants were signed by the Committee.

Calendars

The upcoming calendars were reviewed.

Items Distributed at Meeting

FY 2025 Budget PowerPoint

Public Comment

Jeanne Campbell thanked everyone for their hard work on the budget; she encouraged everyone watching to support the budget at town meeting.

Mr. Flynn told the Committee that he would like to use DocuSign to sign warrants because the next meeting is not scheduled until April 8. In this manner bills could be paid in a more timely fashion.

Adjournment

At 7:05 p.m., on a motion by Tomas Tolentino, seconded by Phillip Morris, 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