

# DENNIS-YARMOUTH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT Minutes of a School Committee Meeting

Monday, April 25, 2022

A Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School Committee meeting was held on Monday, April 25, 2022, at the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School Library in South Yarmouth, Massachusetts.

<u>Members Present:</u> Joseph Tierney, Vice Chairperson; Jennifer Rose, Secretary; Phillip Morris, Treasurer; Marilyn Bemis; Joe Glynn.

<u>Members Not Present</u>: Jeni Landers, Chairperson; Tomas Tolentino; Grace LePain and Kristen Stagg, Student Representatives to the School Committee.

Others Present: Carol Woodbury, Superintendent of Schools; David Flynn, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations; Eileen Whalen, Recording Secretary to the School Committee; Betsy Pontius, Director of STEM; Michael Bovino, Principal, Mattacheese Middle School; Tim Blake, Principal, Nathaniel Wixon School; Michelle Dunn, D-YEA; Vida Morris.

At 6:33 p.m., Joseph Tierney, Vice-Chairperson, called the meeting to order.

#### Reports:

<u>DYRSD School Committee Student Representative – Grace LePain and Kristen Stagg</u> The students were not present.

# Michelle Dunn - Dennis-Yarmouth Educators Association

<u>Citizen's Petition on Charter Schools</u>: Ms. Dunn reported to the committee that there is a citizen's petition on the Dennis Town Meeting warrant asking the selectmen to petition the legislature to allow school choice to extend to private schools and home schools. She explained that these schools are not held to the same standards as public schools. She is not asking for a vote from the Committee; she is asking that a stance be made on behalf of the schools at the Dennis Town Meeting.

<u>Fair Share Amendment</u>: Michelle Dunn presented a PowerPoint on the Fair Share Amendment. The amendment will appear on the November ballot. The amendment would add 4 percentage points to the tax on income above \$1 million. The legislature would spend the money on education and transportation.

A question and answer session followed. Various points were made on the Citizen's Petition. Superintendent Woodbury said that this is a new situation; there is no state oversight for private and home schooling; therefore there is no accountability. Ms. Dunn said she is not looking for a resolution from the committee. She said that a Dennis member of the committee could speak in opposition to the petition from the floor of town meeting.

The committee discussed the Fair Share Amendment. Vice Chair Tierney said that the vote is on the November ballot. On a motion by Marilyn Bemis, seconded by Phil Morris, and carried 4-0 with Mr. Glynn abstaining, it was

VOTED: To adopt the principles of the Fair Share Amendment pending review.

School Building Committee Report - Joseph Tierney

<u>Vote to Amend Membership</u>: After a brief discussion, on a motion by Joe Glynn, seconded by Marilyn Bemis, and passed unanimously 5-0, it was

VOTED: To accept with thanks the resignations of Mr. Nardone and Mr. Tolley from the school building committee.

School Committee Liaisons to the Boards of Selectmen

Dennis: Marilyn Bemis said that the Dennis Town Meeting is May 3rd.

Yarmouth: Joe Glynn reminded everyone of the precinct additions/changes in Yarmouth.

Assistant Superintendent Report - David Flynn

MSBA Statement of Interest for M.E. Small Elementary School 2022

Mr. Flynn gave a brief overview of the SOI. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Jennifer Rose, seconded by Joe Glynn, and passed unanimously 5-0 it was

VOTED: Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on April 25, 2022, prior to the SOI submission closing date, the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School Committee, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated no later than April 29, 2022 for the Marguerite E. Small Elementary School located at 440 Higgins Crowell Road, West Yarmouth, MA 02673 which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future.

Category 5: Replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility. The Marguerite E. Small Elementary School needs significant renovation work in all major systems. The building's exterior components including roofs, doors, windows, and masonry have all been cited as high-priority issues. The 2014 facilities audit and the updated study in February 2020 by Bureau Veritas identified the same issues along with possible structural settlement of the loading dock, interior air quality issues, leaking sanitary and heat piping, and the presence of asbestos containing materials. Additionally, the building lacks fire suppression and has multiple ADA requirement issues.

Category 7: Replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements. Current capacity is reasonable, however classroom layouts and floor plans with a size of about 900 square feet limit the kinds of educational activities that would reflect best practices for the grades and specialized services that must be provided within this school;

and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Jennifer Rose	yes
Phillip Morris	yes
Joe Glynn	yes
Marilyn Bemis	yes
Joseph Tierney	yes

# Superintendent Report - Carol Woodbury

No report.

### **School Committee Business**

Consent Agenda:

On a motion by Phillip Morris, seconded by Marilyn Bemis, and carried 4-0 with Joe Glynn abstaining, it was VOTED: To approve the following item as presented in the Consent Agenda:

Minutes:

March 28, 2022

On a motion by Phillip Morris, seconded by Marilyn Bemis, and carried 4-0 with Jennifer Rose abstaining, it was

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

**Minutes:** 

April 11, 2022

Vice Chair Tierney reminded everyone of the Celebration of Life for Ken Jenks coming up on May 15th.

# Bills, Requisitions, and Payroll

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

#### Calendars

The upcoming calendars were included in the packet.

#### **Public Comment**

Vida Morris asked about home schooling and also said the committee should be careful about resolutions. Michelle Dunn wished to follow up on the previous meeting's EL presentation. She said that three EL staff members have left the district because of high caseloads.

# Adjournment

At 7:36 p.m., on a motion by Joe Glynn, seconded by Phillip Morris, and carried unanimously 5-0; it was

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

Minutes recorded and prepared by,

Eileen Whalen, Recording Secretary