

DENNIS-YARMOUTH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minutes of a School Committee Meeting
Monday, April 29, 2019

APPROVED

5-20-19

A Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School Committee meeting was held on Monday, April 29, 2019, at the Station Avenue Elementary School in South Yarmouth, Massachusetts.

Members Present: Jeni Landers, Chairperson; Andrea St. Germain, Secretary; Brian Carey, Treasurer (arrived 7:20 p.m.); 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; Jack Carder, Student Representative to the School Committee; Eileen Whalen, Recording Secretary to the School Committee; Carole Eichner, Director of Early Learning; Maria Lopes, Director of Pupil Services; Leila Maxwell, Director of STEM Instruction; Sherry Santini, Director of Humanities and the Arts; Tony Morrison, Principal, Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School; Mike Bovino, Assistant Principal, Mattacheese Middle School; Patrick Riley, Principal, ME Small School; Kevin Depin, Principal, Ezra H. Baker Innovation School; Lisa Kucia, Literacy Collaborative Coach; Vicky Copenhaver; Nancy Potter; Karen Purcell; Jennifer DeMango, Intermediate Literacy Collaborative Coach; Carol Mahedy, ELA Coach 4-8; Tracy Post, Yarmouth Board of Selectmen; Sheryl McMahon, Dennis Board of Selectmen; James Plath, Dennis Finance Committee; Chris Flanagan, Dennis Board of Selectmen; Robert Ciavarra, Yarmouth Finance Committee; Michelle Dunn, DYEA; Vida Morris

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

Open the Meeting

Ms. Landers asked for a moment of silence in honor of D-Y Educator Tom Dilley. Mr. Dilley passed away on Sunday, April 28, 2019.

Reports

DYRSD School Committee Student Representative – Jack Carder

Jack Carder reported on the successful German trip; the great start the baseball team is having; another successful Dolphin Dash; an appearance by the Jazz Band in Brewster; and AP exams are starting.

School Committee Liaisons to the Boards of Selectmen – B. Carey, Dennis; J. Tierney, Yarmouth

Brian Carey, Dennis: No report

Joe Tierney, Yarmouth: No report

DYRSD Building Committee Update – Joseph Tierney

MSBA Extension: Carol Woodbury reported that an extension was applied for from the MSBA; it was approved on April 10th. The extension is approved through June 30, 2019.

Assistant Superintendent Report – Ken Jenks

Proposed Middle School Update and Financing: Ken Jenks discussed the need to borrow money to pay Perkins Eastman, the architectural firm designing the proposed school; for work performed during the months of December and part of January prior to the work being halted on January 25, 2019 due to the litigation issue. Quotations were solicited for interest rates on a one year Bond Anticipation Note in the amount of \$562,540 to

pay for the work completed by Perkins Eastman this fiscal year. On a motion by Phil Morris, seconded by Andrea St. Germain, and carried unanimously by roll call vote it was

VOTED: To approve the sale of a 2.21% Bond Anticipation Note in the amount of \$562,540 to TD Bank, N.A.

Jeni Landers – yes
Andrea St. Germain – yes
James Dykeman – yes
Brian Sullivan – yes
Phillip Morris – yes
Brian Carey – not present for vote

Superintendent's Report – Carol Woodbury

2019-2020 Calendar: Carol Woodbury reminded the Committee that the 2019-2020 calendar had previously been approved and was included in the packet.

School Committee Policies JB-Equal Educational Opportunities and AC-Non-Discrimination: Carol Woodbury brought to the attention of the Committee a memo from Maria Lopes, Director of Pupil Services, outlining the need to revise the language in the above referenced policies to include the homeless. This can be accomplished by adding the word “homeless” or “housing status.” Carol Woodbury recommended that the Committee dispense with the policy adoption protocol for a Policy subcommittee review first and move right to the full committee sequence of two reviews before adoption.

On a motion by Andrea St. Germain, seconded by James Dykeman, and carried 5-0, it was

VOTED: To dispense with the policy adoption policy that requires a first review by the Policy Subcommittee and consider these items (Policy AC and Policy JB) for the first discussion of the full committee this evening with a vote at the next posted meeting.

After further brief discussion, on a motion by Andrea St. Germain, seconded by James Dykeman, and carried 5-0, it was

VOTED: To add the words “housing status” to the above referenced policies AC and JB and bring before the committee for final review at the next posted meeting.

District Improvement Plan:

Curriculum Update: Carol Woodbury invited Leila Maxwell, Director of STEM Instruction, and Sherry Santini, Director of Humanities and the Arts, to present a curriculum update. Ms. Santini introduced several staff members, Lisa Kucia; Vicky Copenhaver; Karen Purcell, Jen DeMango; Nancy Potter; and Carol Mahedy. This is a collaborative effort and is teacher-driven. A guaranteed and viable curriculum ensures that all students have an equal opportunity to learn core curriculum, have access to the same content, knowledge, and skills in each class, and the necessary time to learn. A guaranteed and viable curriculum is the variable most strongly related to student achievement (Marzano, 2003). She then reviewed Curriculum Overview, Scope and Sequence, and Next Steps. Dr. Douglas Reeves, 3 standards are endurance, leverage, and readiness for success. Ms. Santini then briefly reviewed the Progression of Power Reading Standards for Literature K-7; followed by a review of Progression of Power Writing Standards for K-7. Ms. Santini then reviewed the ELA Scope and Sequence for Grades 1, 3, and 7. She indicated that that these are snapshots of what a year could look like; the book is the resource. The documents organize tools for the teacher; the scope is “what,” the sequence is “when.” The 7th grade ELA Scope and Sequence is not broken up into reading and writing;

the students should be building connections between the two. Students should think of themselves as readers, writers, and authors. The next steps are to give the information to the teachers.

Carol Woodbury asked that questions from the Committee be held until the end of the presentation.

Leila Maxwell presented on the Mathematics Curriculum. The Curriculum Leadership Council is comprised of 10 teachers in grades K-7; the K-3 math coach, and the 4-8 math coach. They met for 3 days in the summer and held nineteen 2-hour meetings throughout the year. Their goal was common assessments for grades K-5 and lesson planning templates for grades 6-7. This was a collaborative group; they set goals and made connections to the standards and progression. This is Year 2 of benchmark assessments for grades 4-10; there has been improvement. She described baseline, fluency (computation without hesitation) and “sprints” which are 2 minute practices for that particular grade level. Teachers are finding these to be quick, efficient checks of understanding. Future plans would include expanding the Curriculum Leadership Council to include grade 8-9-10 teachers; the high school is further along in the process and they are ready to come together vertically. Grades K-3 would involve a review of current District assessments, results, reports, and expansion, and continued classroom instruction focus for grades K-12. The classroom magic happens when there is fidelity, math conversations, and appropriate vigor. Ms. Maxwell then showed two videos, the first of a district kindergarten classroom collaborating on math word problems. The second video showed second grade students in teams engaged in critical thinking and taking ownership of their learning.

Ms. Maxwell then showed the Families and Students resource on the new district website which is expanded to include even more parent tips.

Ms. Maxwell then presented on the Science Curriculum. They will be following the math format; where we are and where we need to go. She shared a Venn diagram showing where ELA, Math and Science intersect. Students must read, write, and speak. We are preparing students for their futures. Grades 5 and 8 completed their MCAS tests on iPads; the high school used paper. Science curriculum should be coherent, engaging, relevant, and rigorous. The new science framework was established in April 2016, followed by district professional development in 2016-2017 which included a college level course, which was taken by 17 elementary teachers. The K-3 teachers collaborated and at the end of the year they agreed on implementing certain units of study the following school year. Principals purchased the appropriate materials. In 2018-2019 the Curriculum Leadership Council was established, comprised of 3 K-3 teachers, one teacher from Wixon and one teacher from MMS, along with the science coach. They developed goals, processes, progression all aligned with the frameworks. The units are stored in one location and teachers have the ability to download the information. Future plans include professional development, further development of resources, and developing a 3-5 year Curriculum Review Cycle.

Jeni Landers thanked the presenters. She asked Sherry Santini how the ELA units match up. Ms. Santini asked Lisa Kucia to answer. Ms. Kucia explained that it is resource-specific; that grade level proficiency standards will have some overlap.

Brian Sullivan asked Ms. Santini about specific resources; indicating that for instance in math the resource is Eureka. Ms. Santini explained that there are interactive, grade-appropriate, guided reading kits.

Andrea St. Germain thanked the presenters, saying it was a lot of work and they should be applauded; Phil Morris agreed.

Attendance Plan: Carol Woodbury presented the attendance plan strategic initiatives/objectives to implement a system of attendance procedures to ensure that all students are in school for learning. Chronic absenteeism was discussed. There are some students who miss a lot of school. Brian Carey asked if there is a list of

excused absences such as a college visit. There are no excused absences. Some efforts to deal with chronic absenteeism are working with parents, and tutoring. We have to be creative.

Jeni Landers discussed moving the Public Comment section up in the agenda to before School Committee Business. On a motion by Brian Carey, seconded by James Dykeman and carried 5-1, it was

VOTED: To move Public Comment to before School Committee Business.

Public Comment Period

Vida Morris commented on the regional agreement regarding future vacancies and the feasibility study. Michelle Dunn announced that the Trivia Night fundraiser for the DYEA Scholarship Fund would take place on Thursday, May 2nd at 5:30 p.m. at the Loft at the Cove.

School Committee Business

Regional Agreement: Jeni Landers read aloud a letter regarding the regional agreement from Joe Tierney who was unable to attend the meeting. After brief discussion, on a motion by Phil Morris, seconded by Andrea St. Germain, and carried unanimously by roll call vote it was

VOTED: To support an amended motion at the Yarmouth and Dennis Town Meetings to approve Section 4 of the proposed revised Regional Agreement, as reviewed and revised by DESE and as distributed in tonight's packet, and upon approval at both Town Meetings to submit Section 4 to the Commissioner of Education.

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

After further discussion regarding the Regional Agreement Subcommittee, on a motion by Brian Carey, seconded by Phil Morris and carried 6-0 it was

VOTED: To resume the work of the Regional Agreement Subcommittee in less than 60 days.

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:

Move to accept a \$500 donation from Mrs. Patricia Sakellis to the EHBI music program.

Move to accept a \$500 donation from The Friday Club in support of the District's Sports Program.

Move to accept a \$700 grant donation from the League of Women Voters Education Fund to D-YRHS.

Move to accept a \$500 donation from The University of Michigan to D-YRHS.

Move to accept a \$10,000 donation from Mr. Anthony Marzulli of Dennis to be used for the deferment of school meal expenses for district families.

Bills, Requisitions, and Payroll

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

Calendar

The next school committee meeting is scheduled for May 6, 2019. The Yarmouth Town Meeting is Saturday, May 4th at 9:00 a.m.; the Dennis Town Meeting is Tuesday, May 7th at 7:00 p.m. Brian Carey announced the success of the Dolphin Dash on Saturday, April 27th and would like to extend an invitation to Paul Funk to attend an upcoming school committee meeting.

Items Distributed at the Meeting

Bond Anticipation Note Proposal Memo

ELA Presentation

Mathematics Presentation

Science Presentation

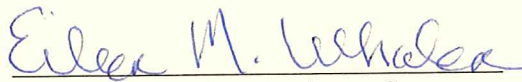
Memo to the Committee from Joe Tierney, Vice Chair

Adjournment

At 8:40 p.m., on a motion by Brian Carey, seconded by James Dykeman, and carried 6-0, it was:

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

Minutes recorded and prepared by,



Eileen M. Whalen, Assistant Secretary