



**DOVER SCHOOL
DISTRICT**

DOVER SCHOOL BOARD – MINUTES

Meeting Type:	Special Meeting Notice #2
Meeting Location:	McConnell Center, Room 305
Meeting Date:	Monday, January 25, 2021
Meeting Time:	6:00 P.M.

Ms. Russell read the following statement:

“I find an ‘emergency; exists within the meaning of RSA 91-A:2, III(b). Immediate action is imperative, and the physical presence of a quorum is not reasonably practical within the period of time requiring action. The facts on which my find of an ‘emergency’ is based are the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the need to accommodate social distancing and minimization of in person contacts, and this body’s ongoing, immediate need to address the important matters on the agenda for this meeting.”

- A. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Amanda Russell called a meeting of the Dover School Board to order on Monday, January 25, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
- B. ROLL CALL:** Present were Amanda Russell, Keith Holt, Carolyn Mebert, Zachary Koehler, and Rachel Burdin. Kathy Morrison and Jessica Rozzo are excused.

Also present were: Superintendent Bill Harbron, Business Administrator Michael Limanni, Assistant Superintendents Christine Boston and Paula Glynn, and District Administrators Peter Driscoll, Kim Lyndes, Patrick Boodey, Beth Dunton, Patty Driscoll, Samantha Tukey and Peter Wotton.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Zachary Koehler led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. CITIZENS FORUM (Limited to agenda items only): None

E. FISCAL YEAR 2022 BUDGET DISCUSSION:

Dr. Harbron introduced the Fiscal Year 2022 budget discussion by explaining the process to date and the goal to develop a tax cap budget while maintaining current programs and services.

Mr. Limanni presented the board with a draft budget of \$8,655,297, detailing some of the most prominent items. The tax cap for the City of Dover allowed for an approximate budget for the District of \$1.4 million, although, with the loss of approximately \$512,000 in adequacy aid, allows for a budget increase of \$987,964. The increase over the Fiscal Year 2021 budget was an \$8,655,297. In order to present a tax cap budget, Mr. Limanni said the District will need to reduce the draft budget by \$7,667,333.

Mr. Limanni stressed that a large part of the increase in the FY21 budget was due to the following: a 3.22% increase to all eligible teacher wages from the NH Retirement System, a 2.89% increase to all eligible non-teacher wages from NH Retirement System, 5.5% increase in District health insurance, and a \$4,503,840 increase in wages/benefits from the Dover Teachers Union, Dover Paraeducators Union, Dover Executive Office Personnel Union and the District’s Administrative Association.

He discussed cuts already made to the proposed draft budget consist of a portion of the math curriculum adoption, special education, athletics, technology and new faculty/staff requests.



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The most difficult, he noted, is the potential for staffing impacts which consist of removing (40) Dover Teachers Union positions, (13) Dover Paraeducator Union positions, (3) Dover Executive Office Personnel positions and (5) Non-union positions. He informed the Board that he and Dr. Harbron are meeting with Union Presidents to work together to try and reduce the bargaining agreements by \$2 million.

Dr. Harbron asked the Board to deliberate and provide input for what to consider bringing the draft budget to a tax cap budget as well as topics to discuss while meeting with the Union Presidents, to which Ms. Russell responded that meeting the tax-cap is not her primary concern.

F. LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Carolyn Mebert moved; Zachary Koehler seconded to approve the requested Leave of Absence. **A roll call VOTE PASSED 5/0.**

G. COVID-19 METRIC DISCUSSION:

Dr. Boston discussed the current metric and community data rates.

Dr. Harbron requests the board draft a letter to the Governor of New Hampshire to request that along with teachers, school staff, including paraeducators, bus drivers, custodians and clerical staff to be added to the group 1B for receiving the vaccination.

Mr. Koehler inquired on the amount of substitutes the District has available to substitute, to which Dr. Harbron responded he will speak with Evonne Kill-Kish for the number.

H. MATTERS OF INTEREST:

Mr. Holt requested the Board make a motion on how future meetings will be held, either in-person or remotely. Dr. Harbron provided if the meetings are to be held in-person, he will request administration remain remote.

Keith Holt moved; Zachary Koehler seconded to approve moving back to in-person School Board meetings beginning February 1, 2021. **A roll call VOTE PASSED 5/0.**

Zachary Koehler informed the Board that Non-toxic Dover is not pleased with the new policy passed on turf management. He will reach out to them to see their concerns. He and Dr. Mebert have informed them that the Board and administration have other matters to address as a priority, such as students returning to school.

Amanda Russell shared that she appreciated the letter from the Rochester Hockey Team hoping Dover could play as well.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Carolyn Mebert moved; Keith Holt seconded adjourning the meeting at 7:32 PM. **A roll call VOTE PASSED 5/0.**



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