



DOVER SCHOOL BOARD – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting #12
Meeting Location: McConnell Center, Room 306
Meeting Date: **Monday, December 12, 2022**
Meeting Time: **7:00 p.m.**

- A. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Carolyn Mebert called a meeting of the Dover School Board to order on Monday, December 12, 2022, at 7:01 p.m.
- B. ROLL CALL:** Present were Carolyn Mebert, Jessica Rozzo, Kathy Morrison, Maggie Fogarty, Robin Trefethen, Micaela Demeter, and Michelle Clancy.

Also present were Superintendent Bill Harbron, Assistant Superintendent Christine Boston, Business Administrator Michael Limanni, District Administrators Abby Small, Siobhan Mehalek, Kiley Hemphill, Jen Krans, Travis Bickford, Peter Driscoll, Kim Lyndes, Patrick Boodey, Patty Driscoll and Deanna Strand.

- C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Michelle Clancy led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- D. AGENDA APPROVAL:**

Maggie Fogarty moved; Jessica Rozzo seconded to approve the agenda as presented. **An oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

- E. CITIZENS' FORUM:** (to be recessed, if necessary, and resumed following Committee Reports)

Citizen's Forum 7:04 – 8:28 (1 hour, 24 minutes)

Micaela Demeter moved; Robin Trefethen seconded to allow any non-resident to speak in regard to the transfer of names for the Dover High School Gymnasium. **An oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

Ernie Clark, 32 Glenwood Avenue – Spoke in support of transferring the name of the Oliver J. Adams Memorial Gymnasium to the new Dover High School Gymnasium.

Sally Staude, Sierra Hill Drive – Spoke against books containing sexual content being in school libraries. She also spoke of the District's reading and math proficiency scores provided by the State, and requested the Board stop working with Great Schools Partnership and New Hampshire Learning Initiative, providing they are vendors who are pushing white privilege and social emotional learning.

Chuck Rhoades, 4 Austin Drive – Spoke in support of having a variety of literary topics available in school libraries including those that discuss sexual orientation.

Andy Holtz, Roosevelt Avenue – Spoke of the Dover community, including the majority are those who support its diverse citizen's. He also spoke in support of having a variety of literary topics available in school libraries.

Tony Retrosi, Dover Point Road – Spoke against banning books in libraries and curriculum.

Liz Goldman, 44 Rutland Street – Spoke against banning books and expressed the importance of social emotional learning.

Brianna Burnett, 1 Abby Lane – Spoke against young children having access to books containing sexual content.



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Michael Comeau, Dover Point Road – Spoke against young children having access to books containing sexual content.

Leviathan Stewart, Redden Street – Spoke against the banning of books and in support of having a variety of literary topics available in school libraries. She also suggests the District put more funding into the library to provide the Dover High School librarian with an assistant.

Josie Pinto, Locust Street – Spoke on behalf of Robbie Hinkel of Silver Street who was unable to attend. His letter read that he is against the banning of books at public and school libraries.

Linds Jakows, Locust Street – Spoke against the banning of books specifically those pertaining to the LGBTQ community. She also spoke on behalf of community member Lina Frances who is also against the banning of books.

Susan Spence, 8 Madeline Drive – Spoke in support of all librarians, whose job is to offer a variety of literary topics in school libraries that support their diverse student enrollments as a whole.

Jessica Nyby, 2 Crestview Drive – Spoke in support of the LGBTQ community and against the banning of books in libraries.

Laura Rundle, Roosevelt Avenue – Spoke in support of having a variety of literary topics available in school libraries.

Tom Mooney, 6 Towle Avenue – Spoke in support of having a variety of literary topics available in school libraries.

Jim Verschueren, 102B Sixth Street – Spoke against the negative behavior by citizens at recent School Board meetings, as well as providing his support of having LGBTQ literature available in school libraries. He submitted a petition showing support for the District's faculty, staff and Board.

Amanda Russell, 20 Cranbrook Lane – Spoke in support of the behavior specialist position requested in the budget proposal. She also spoke against the banning of books in school libraries.

Nate Stewart, Redden Street – Spoke of indoctrination in the schools.

Maggie Fogarty moved; Micaela Demeter seconded to extend Citizen's Forum beyond the one-hour time limit. **An oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

Steve Giguere 26 Danielle Lane – Challenges the Board to make Dover better. He spoke in support of having a variety of literary topics available in school libraries, as well as his support for the transfer of names of the DHS gymnasium.

Jaime Berggren, 123 Durham Road – Spoke against having books available to students in the elementary and middle school levels that contain inappropriate material.

Monique Foote, Elm Street – Thanked Dover's school staff and Board for ensuring Dover's students are receiving a quality education. She spoke in support of having a variety of literary topics available in school libraries.



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Christina Freeze, Portland Avenue – In support of having age-appropriate literature offered to students on a variety of literary topics.

Leigh-Anne Sapienza, 48 ½ Dover Point Road – In support of having a variety of literary topics available in school libraries. She also noted concern over the number of vacant special education paraeducator positions in the district.

Dennis Sheppard, 70 Constitution Way – Spoke in support of having a variety of literary topics available in school libraries, but against the explicit illustrations shown during the meeting by certain citizens.

Marissa Deegan-Jones, 38 Glenwood Avenue – In support of the Board and of having a variety of literary topics available in school libraries.

Cynthia Walter, 22 West Concord Street – In support of the Board and of the district's policy on Reconsideration of Materials.

Ava Ford, Portland Avenue – Spoke against the ideas vocalized by citizens during the evening that children should rely on friends to learn about sexual education, but rather it should be provided by validated sexual education sources.

Maggie Fogarty moved; Robin Trefethen seconded for the Board to take a five-minute recess. **An oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

F. PUBLIC HEARING:

Dr. Harbron requested the Board approve a donation made to the District by FeedNH.org for the Dover High School Career Technical Center's culinary program.

Robin Trefethen moved; Jessica Rozzo seconded to approve the donation of \$15,000. **A roll call VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

Carolyn Mebert - Aye
Jessica Rozzo - Aye
Kathy Morrison - Aye
Maggie Fogarty - Aye
Robin Trefethen - Aye
Micaela Demeter - Aye
Michelle Clancy – Aye

G. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Regular Meeting #11, November 14, 2022 (attached with revisions)
2. Budget Workshop, November 28, 2022

Michelle Clancy moved; Micaela Demeter seconded approval of the minutes as presented. **An oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

H. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Correspondence:** None



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2. Resignations/Retirements:

- a. Jeffrey Leaf – Music Teacher – Dover Middle School - Retirement

3. Leaves of Absence: None

4. Job Shares: None

5. Nominations:

- a. DPA Nomination

6. Extended Travel (Student Trips): None

7. Donations:

- a. December Donations

Robin Trefethen moved; Jessica Rozzo seconded to approve the amended Consent Agenda to include the extended travel requests and additional donations presented. **An oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

I. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: None

J. POLICY-CHANGES-PROPOSALS:

1. EBBB – Indoor Air Quality and Water Quality – Revised Policy, First Reading

Michelle Clancy moved; Micaela Demeter seconded to table the policy presented until the next regular meeting. **An oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

K. POLICY ADOPTION:

1. BBBF – Student Board Members – New Policy, Second Reading
2. EBB – School Safety Program – New Policy, Second Reading
3. EBCA - Crisis Prevention and Emergency Response Plans – Revised Policy, Second Reading
4. EBCD – Emergency Closings – Revised Policy, Second Reading
5. EHAB – Data Governance and Security – Revised Policy, Second Reading
6. EHB – Data/Records Retention – Revised Policy, Second Reading
7. IC/ICA- School Calendar – Revised Policy, Second Reading
8. IHBA – Special Education – Revised Policy, Second Reading
9. IHBA – Policy for Independent Evaluation of Students – Revised Policy, Second Reading
10. IHBA – Determining Specific Learning Disability – Withdraw, Second Reading
11. IMBA – Distance Education – Revised Policy, Second Reading
12. JJA – Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular Programs, Student Activities, Organizations – Revised Policy, Second Reading
13. JJJ – Access to Public School Programs by Nonpublic, Charter School and Home Educated Pupils - New Policy, Second Reading
14. JJJ-R – Administrative Regulations for Access to Public School Programs by Nonpublic, Charter School and Home Educated Pupils – New Policy, Second Reading
15. JLCF – Wellness Policy – Nutrition and Physical Activity Components – Revised Policy, Second Reading
16. JLDBB – Suicide Prevention and Response – Revised Policy, Second Reading
17. KFA – Conduct on School Property – New Policy, Second Reading

Jessica Rozzo moved; Robin Trefethen seconded to approve the policies presented. **An oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

L. RESOLUTIONS: None



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M. OLD BUSINESS: None

N. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Naming Recognition – Transfer of the name “Oliver J. Adams Memorial Gymnasium” from the previous Dover High School Gymnasium to the new Dover High School Gymnasium

Micaela Demeter moved; Maggie Fogarty seconded to approve the transfer of the name “Oliver J. Adams Memorial Gymnasium” from the previous Dover High School Gymnasium to the current Dover High School Gymnasium. **An oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

2. Senate Bill 420 Extraordinary Need Grant

Travis Bickford and Jen Krans provided an overview of how Extraordinary Needs funds could be used. Dr. Harbron informed the Board the Accountability Plan for the funds must be submitted to the State by January 9.

Micaela Demeter moved; Maggie Fogarty seconded to proceed with developing the plan and consider whether paying from the DTU rather than the DPA scale would be more advisable, leaving it at the discretion of administration. **An oral VOTE PASSED 5/2.**

3. 2022-2023 Tuition Rates

- a. Barrington School District
- b. Bellamy Academy
- c. Nottingham School District
- d. Other NH Districts and CTC

Robin Trefethen moved; Michelle Clancy seconded to approve the tuition rates for Barrington School District for \$15,456.56, Bellamy Academy for \$48,925, Nottingham School District for \$16,848.41 and the CTC for \$12,679.39. **A roll call VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

Carolyn Mebert - Aye
Jessica Rozzo - Aye
Kathy Morrison - Aye
Maggie Fogarty - Aye
Robin Trefethen - Aye
Micaela Demeter - Aye
Michelle Clancy – Aye

4. 2023-2024 Dover School District Academic Calendar

Dr. Harbron requested the Board approve the calendar presented.

Michelle Clancy moved; Micaela Demeter seconded to approve the 2023-2024 Dover School District Academic Calendar. **An oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

5. Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Presentation



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Dr. Mebert requested the Board table discussing the Fiscal Year 2024 budget until the next Budget Workshop scheduled for the following week.

6. Condition of Accounts

Mr. Limanni updated the Board on the condition of accounts.

O. SUBMISSION AND PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Michelle Clancy moved, Robin Trefethen seconded to direct the Superintendent to pay Manifest 23-F in the amount of \$5,297,449.62 for FY23 for the period of November 15, 2022, through December 12, 2022. **A roll call VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

Carolyn Mebert - Aye
Jessica Rozzo - Aye
Kathy Morrison - Aye
Maggie Fogarty - Aye
Robin Trefethen - Aye
Micaela Demeter - Aye
Michelle Clancy - Aye

P. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Harbron presented his report to the Board.

Q. COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

R. SCHOOL BOARD MATTERS OF INTEREST:

Jessica Rozzo thanked citizens who spoke at the meeting, specifically the younger students.

Robin Trefethen noted the evening reminded her of her senior year when her class elected the first same sex couple as the class couple, which was supported by the community but protested by Westborough Baptist Church. She included she is troubled to see the District is dealing with the same issues today but glad to see such community support at the meeting for Dover and its students.

Carolyn Mebert discussed the sex education manual mentioned by a citizen earlier in the evening, including the manual was nominated for a national award but was pulled from receiving the award because of its use of the words gay and lesbian.

Maggie Fogarty announced she was moved to see the room filled with many citizens speaking in support of the LBGTQ community. She encourages anyone who would like to become active in LBGTQ rights, search *603 Equality* on Facebook.

Micaela Demeter noted there is value in accepting the perspectives of others. She also reminded the public that if they object to District materials to follow the steps outlined in policies KEC and KEC-R.

Dr. Harbron announced the book *Perfectly Normal* that had illustrations shown during Citizen's Forum is not the edition in the school library. The illustrations shown are in the books most recent edition. He



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noted the edition the District has is not in the general selections but is reserved as a reference book and must be requested.

Dr. Harbron also provided SORA is restricted for grades six and below and some literature is only accessible at the public library for older grades.

Dr. Harbron noted the District is no longer contracted with Great Schools Partnership as mentioned during Citizen's Forum, including the contract ended at the end of the 2021-2022 school year.

Dr. Harbron announced he has met with the City to discuss a proposed road construction project for Route 108 which is still in the planning stages.

R. ADJOURNMENT:

Michelle Clancy moved; Micaela Demeter seconded adjourning the meeting at 9:55 PM. **An oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**