



## DOVER SCHOOL BOARD – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting #9  
Meeting Location: McConnell Center, Room 306  
Meeting Date: **Monday, September 11, 2023**  
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, September 11, 2023, 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 William Harbron, Assistant Superintendent Christine Boston, Chief Financial Officer Michael Limanni, District Administrators Travis Bickford, Siobhan Mehalek, Jen Krans, Abby Small, Peter Driscoll, Kim Lyndes, Beth Dunton, Brittany Granfield, Patrick Boodey and Aaron Ward.

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Robin Trefethen led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**D. AGENDA APPROVAL:**

Maggie Fogarty moved; Micaela Demeter seconded approving the agenda. **An Oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

Micaela Demeter moved; Maggie Fogarty seconded to move agenda item N.1 to follow Citizen's Forum. **An Oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

**E. CITIZEN'S FORUM:**

Citizen's Forum 7:02 – 7:20 p.m.

Sally Staude, Sierra Hill Drive – Discussed topics such as district enrollment, student test scores, graduation rates and teacher attrition. She inquired as to where district funds are going.

Jill Brooks, 60 Cushing Street – Thanked the Board for their role as members and for the clarity they provide citizens throughout their meetings.

Harrison Demeter, 33A Piscataqua Road – Spoke on behalf of retired teacher Jeffrey Leaf, as well as Jenifer Peterson.

Walter Fasson, 85 Boxwood Lane – Spoke on behalf of retired teacher Jeffrey Leaf, as well as Jenifer Peterson.

Aiden Haggerty, Hillside Drive - Spoke on behalf of retired teacher Jeffrey Leaf.

Jenifer Peterson, Dover Point Road - Spoke on behalf of retired teacher Jeffrey Leaf.

Maliah Campbell, Cranbrook Lane - Spoke on behalf of retired teacher Jeffrey Leaf.

The Board tabled Citizen's Forum to follow School Board Matters of Interest.

**N.1. Recognition for Jeffrey Leaf (Moved up in the agenda)**



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Steffany Gallant, Hough Street – Spoke on behalf of retired teacher Jeffrey Leaf. She announced the Dover Middle School's Renaissance Room would be renamed the Jeffrey Leaf Theatre to honor his years of service and dedication to the students of Dover.

Micaela Demeter presented Jeffrey Leaf with a copy of the plaque to be hung outside the room.

Jeff Leaf, 1 Wallingford Street – Gave thanks to everyone for the honor of being recognized. He acknowledged all who participated in and all who helped to create the program to make it what it is today.

**F. REQUEST TO ENTER INTO PUBLIC HEARING** – Donation of funds from the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food in the amount of \$10,935.

Dr. Carolyn Mebert opened the Public Hearing for citizens to speak. No citizens spoke.

Michelle Clancy moved; Micaela Demeter seconded to accept the donation. **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. Non-Public, August 3, 2023
2. Non-Public, August 7, 2023
3. Regular Meeting #8, August 14, 2023
4. Special Session, August 21, 2023
5. Special Session, August 30, 2023

Jessica Rozzo moved; Maggie Fogarty seconded approval of the minutes as presented. **An ORAL VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

**H. CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. **Correspondence:** None
2. **Resignations/Retirements:**
  - a. John Argiropolis – Math Teacher – Dover High School - Retirement
  - b. Audra Lewis - Librarian - Frances G. Hopkins School at Horne Street – Resignation
  - c. Eola Miskell – Paraeducator – Dover High School – Resignation
  - d. Jessica Maravich - Paraeducator – Woodman Park School - Resignation
3. **Leaves of Absence:** None
4. **Job Shares:** None
5. **Nominations:**
  - a. DTU Nominations



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- b. DPA Nomination
- c. Fall Coaching Nominations
- 6. Extended Travel (Student Trips):**
  - a. Final Approval – Dover High School Career Technical Center – National FFA Convention Fieldtrip to Indianapolis, Indiana: October 31 - November 4, 2023
- 7. Donations:** None

Dr. Harbron requests the nomination for the fourth-grade teacher at Garrison School be approved contingent upon City Council approving the funds at their upcoming meeting on Wednesday.

Jessica Rozzo moved; Robin Trefethen seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.  
**An Oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

### **I. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:**

Mr. Driscoll announced the election for the student representative will take place at the end of the month.

### **J. POLICY-CHANGES-PROPOSALS:**

#### **1. EFB – USDA Nondiscrimination Statement – Revisions – First Reading**

Maggie Fogarty moved; Michelle Clancy seconded to table the policy presented. **An Oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

### **K. POLICY ADOPTION:** None

### **L. RESOLUTIONS:** None

### **M. OLD BUSINESS:** None

### **N. NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **1. Recognition for Jeffrey Leaf**

Moved up in the agenda.

#### **2. Bus Safety Task Force Presentation**

Aaron Ward, Dean of Students at Garrison Elementary School provided an overview of the Bus Safety Task Force and the work they are doing.

#### **3. Review of Memorandum of Understanding Between Public School Districts and Public Charter Schools Regarding Special Education**

- a. Seacoast Charter School (Dover)
- b. Coastal Waters Charter School (Exeter)
- c. Great Bay Charter School (Exeter)



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Robin Trefethen moved; Maggie Fogarty seconded to approve the templates for the Memorandum of Understanding with the three Public Charter Schools. **An Oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

#### 4. Bid Award – Translation and Interpretation Services

Robin Trefethen moved, Micaela Demeter seconded to award Ascentria Community Care, Inc. Language Bank of Manchester, NH the amount not to exceed \$40,000 for a one-year agreement with the option to renew for an additional year. **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

#### 5. Condition of Accounts

Mr. Limanni presented his condition of accounts and also informed citizens they can go to the City of Dover's online transparency page to view all expenditures for the City of Dover's departments, including the school district.

#### O. SUBMISSION AND PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Michelle Clancy moved, Robin Trefethen seconded to direct the Superintendent to pay Manifest 24-C in the amount of \$4,372,976.44 for FY24 for the period of August 15, 2023, through September 11, 2023. **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:

The Superintendent submitted his report to the Board and thanked everyone in the district for a great start to the school year, despite high temperatures.

#### Q. COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

#### R. SCHOOL BOARD MATTERS OF INTEREST:

Michelle Clancy discussed concerns she received regarding an unsafe crosswalk at Garrison Elementary School. She inquired as to how a crossing guard can be placed at each of the elementary schools rather than just Woodman Park School, to which Dr. Harbron responded he will investigate the matter.



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Maggie Fogarty announced on Thursday at 10am at Granite State College in Concord, citizens can speak to the New Hampshire Board of Education to discuss the vendor contract with PragerU.

Dr. Harbron requested Mr. Driscoll present news to the Board, to which Mr. Driscoll announced at the Annual NHIAA meeting held earlier in the day, Dover High School won the 2022-2023 Sportsmanship Award.

Mr. Driscoll corrected a statement made during Citizen's Forum regarding the low graduation rate. He clarified the graduation rate is close to 98%.and students going off to college is 70-75%.

Dr. Harbron corrected a statement made during Citizen's Forum that stated district funds were used to pay for contracts with the Great Schools Partnership and NHLI. He clarified that both contracts were funded through grant funds and not local funds.

Dr. Harbron announced there will be a Meet and Greet reception on September 20<sup>th</sup> for Board members to meet the new deans. He also reminded the Board of the City Council meeting taking place on Wednesday at 7pm.

Micaela Demeter added the work NHLI is doing with the district supports framework that the state of New Hampshire has adopted.

Micaela Demeter announced the resolution submitted to NHSBA was supported with alternative texts.

Micaela Demeter discussed concerns of the Dover Middle School handbook and the district's dress code policy. She recommends details of the policy be included in the handbook.

**Re-opening of Citizen's Forum 8:25 – 8:26 p.m. – No citizens spoke.**

### **R. ADJOURNMENT:**

Michelle Clancy moved; Micaela Demeter seconded adjourning the meeting at 8:26 p.m. **An Oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**