



**DOVER SCHOOL
DISTRICT**

DOVER SCHOOL BOARD – MINUTES

Meeting Type:	Special Meeting Notice
Meeting Location:	McConnell Center, Room 306
Meeting Date:	Wednesday, November 1, 2023
Meeting Time:	6:00 p.m.

- A. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Carolyn Mebert called a meeting of the Dover School Board to order on Wednesday, November 1, 2023 at 6:00 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, district administrators Abby Small, Travis Bickford, Jennifer Krans, Kiley Hemphill, Siobhan Mehalek, and Peter Driscoll. Also present was Dover City Attorney Joshua Wyatt.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Kathy Morrison led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. AGENDA APPROVAL:

Carolyn Mebert announced the challenger, Julie Porter, will not be present for the meeting. She announced Sally Staude will speak on Ms. Porter's behalf. She reminded the public that discussions during Citizen's Forum will be limited to the book Boy Toy, by Barry Lyga.

Micaela Demeter moved; Maggie Fogarty seconded to approve the agenda as modified. **An ORAL VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

E. CITIZEN'S FORUM (Limited to agenda items only):

Laura Rundell, 11 Roosevelt Avenue – Spoke in support of schools providing free access to books.

Frances Meffen, 16 Benjamin Way – Spoke in support of the book Boy Toy remaining in the school's library.

Michelle Cedrone, 19 Cassily Lane – Spoke in support of schools providing access to books such as Boy Toy.

Lisa Meconi, 14 Richmond Street – Spoke in support of the book Boy Toy remaining in the school's library.

Andy Holtz, 11 Roosevelt Avenue – Spoke in support of the book Boy Toy remaining in the school's library.

Jodi Corbeil, 34 Back River Road – Spoke in support of the book Boy Toy remaining in the school's library. Requests how often the book has been checked out of the library in the last 15 years.

Jodi Langellotti, 453 Sixth Street – Spoke against materials included in the book challenger's submission.

NH State Representative Kelley Potenza, Concord – Requested to speak as a nonresident.



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Maggie Fogarty motioned to allow the nonresident to speak; no member seconded the motion.

Representative Potenza announced she would be speaking on behalf of Ms. Porter, to which Carolyn Mebert denied the opportunity, announcing Ms. Porter informed the Board earlier in the day that Sally Staude would be her representative.

Sally Staude, 21 Sierra Hill Drive – Spoke against the district's book review process, and in support of removing the book Boy Toy from the school's library.

Mary Hebbard, 97 Spruce Lane – Spoke in support of removing the book Boy Toy from the school's library.

NH House Representative Mike Belcher – Requested to speak as a nonresident.

Maggie Fogarty motioned to allow the nonresident to speak; no member seconded the motion.

Rick Hebbard, 97 Spruce Lane – Spoke in support of removing the book Boy Toy from the school's library.

Micaela Demeter moved; Maggie Fogarty seconded to recess the meeting.

Rick Hebbard, 97 Spruce Lane – Spoke in support of removing the book Boy Toy from the school's library.

Cora Quisumbing-King, 40 Sandpiper Drive – Spoke against the negative behavior throughout the meeting and encouraged others to treat one another with respect.

Haley Mock, 160 Henry Law Avenue – In support of the book Boy Toy remaining in the school's library.

Mary Provencal Fogarty, 16 Florence Street – In support of the book Boy Toy remaining in the school's library.

F. HEARING:

Micaela Demeter moved; Maggie Fogarty seconded to include an email sent to the superintendent from Boy Toy author Barry Lyga be included in the meeting materials. **An Oral VOTE PASSED 6/1.**

Dr. Mebert read aloud the email written by Mr. Lyga, which will be included in the meeting materials.

Sally Staude spoke on behalf of Julie Porter. Ms. Staude discussed a variety of scenarios that took place within the book Boy Toy that Ms. Porter feels are inappropriate for children to have access to.



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Ms. Staude includes the book encourages and promotes sexual abuse and should not be read by those under the age of 18 years. She also includes that allowing the book in the school library defies the city of Dover's codes and laws by making it available to minors, as it contains explicit adult content.

Ms. Staude requests on Ms. Porter's behalf, that the book Boy Toy be removed from the school library and placed in the city's public library.

G. BOARD QUESTIONS:

Carolyn Mebert announced the Board could ask Ms. Staude questions relating to Boy Toy, to which the Board did not.

H. BOARD DELIBERATIONS:

The Board did not deliberate.

I. BOARD DECISION ON THE BOOK BOY TOY:

Jessica Rozzo moved; Maggie Fogarty seconded to keep the book Boy Toy, by Barry Lyga in the Dover High School library. **An Oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

J. ADJOURNMENT

Michelle Clancy moved; Micaela Demeter seconded adjourning the meeting at 7:17 p.m. **An Oral VOTE PASSED 7/0.**