



**DOVER SCHOOL
DISTRICT**

DOVER SCHOOL BOARD – MINUTES

Meeting Type:	Special Meeting Notice
Meeting Location:	Council Conference Room, City Hall
Meeting Date:	Monday April 6, 2020
Meeting Time:	6:30 P.M.

- A. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Amanda Russell called a meeting of the Dover School Board to order on Monday, April 6, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. This meeting was held as a remote meeting due to the social distancing order put into effect by the Governor of New Hampshire. The meeting was open and audible to the public.
- B. ROLL CALL:** Present were Amanda Russell, Keith Holt, Kathy Morrison, Carolyn Mebert, Zachary Koehler, Jessica Rozzo and Rachel Burdin.

Also present were: Superintendent Bill Harbron, Business Administrator Michael Limanni, Assistant Superintendent Paula Glynn, Assistant Superintendent Christine Boston, IT Director Christy Prosser, Principal Peter Driscoll.

C. COVID-19 UPDATE

Dr. Harbron introduced the evenings remote learning update, which will focus on technology, K-12 learning and Student Services.

Ms. Prosser updated the Board on the District's move to a remote learning environment with technology. The IT Department has taken multiple measures in security and content filtering. The Help Desk ticket system has seen approximately 400-500 tickets per week on a variation of items. They have also put in place a community support email system based on education. The biggest challenge the department has been faced with are the security measures for each of the platforms being used; Zoom, Google, Microsoft Teams and Cisco Web-Ex. Ms. Prosser is sending out tech updates to staff weekly to stay current.

Ms. Glynn updated the Board with the K-8 remote learning model. She provided moving to a 4-1-week schedule allows for students to have days of learning Monday through Friday but allows for teachers to use Fridays as a day with limited office hours but used mostly for refectation and planning for the following week.

Ms. Glynn provided the District is following the NH DOE guidance consisting of the following; less is more, allow for family and teacher flexibility, embrace creativity and problem solving, emphasize relationships, support all students and extend grace to one another. She also provided that the NH DOE has waived state assessments for this year.

Ms. Glynn informed the Board that staff decided that learning expectations for grades K-8 would focus on reading, writing, creating, speaking, listening, reflecting, and problem solving. Any new learning will focus on essential skills and concepts that students may need. These grade levels will not be graded during this time, although they are asking for work to be sent back electronically for teacher feedback.

The District has seen a tremendous amount of devotion from our teachers and departments. Teachers create a menu for students consisting of technical and non-technical work. Remote learning has allowed for teachers to work more closely together across grade levels and common core classes.

Ms. Glynn provided teachers have been finding it challenging to balance their home life, their own children's learning and their classroom teaching. The District finds that equity is the biggest challenge; trying to find the resources and supports for all students equally. The District has worked with ESOL translators and have been working with families to provide technical resources to the ones who require it. These inequalities must be factored into all teachers plans.



**DOVER SCHOOL
DISTRICT**

DOVER SCHOOL BOARD – MINUTES

Meeting Type:	Special Meeting Notice
Meeting Location:	Council Conference Room, City Hall
Meeting Date:	Monday April 6, 2020
Meeting Time:	6:30 P.M.

Mr. Driscoll presented on the high schools remote learning. The high school is working with a green/white schedule and running 4 blocks each day. He provided that teachers are meeting with students outside of the scheduled block times to offer additional help to students.

Mr. Driscoll said Chromebooks were delivered to most families who requested them, although some have not come to pick them up. In regard to technology, he has seen a great collaboration between teachers and students helping one another across different platforms. Teachers have also voiced that remote learning is a great platform to learn for certain students who are excelling.

Mr. Driscoll informed the Board quarter three grades will close on April 8, although the high school will provide a progress report, rather than a quarter grade. He also provided that if the graduation ceremony can go as scheduled, Lundholm Gymnasium is still able to be used. He will be meeting with the senior class advisors on their thoughts for graduation. The junior prom scheduled for May 9 has been postponed to October.

Mr. Holt informed the Board he has been contacted by multiple families who feel that Lundholm Gymnasium is still too close of quarters if the ceremony is allowed and asked for other options to be considered for locations. Mr. Driscoll responded that other locations have been considered, but to host the ceremony outside is cautionary due to unpredictable weather conditions.

Dr. Boston updated the Board on the Student Services Department. She provided the paraprofessional staff have been volunteering with food distribution, conducting small session workgroups with students and participating in google classrooms with teachers. IEP meetings continue to be scheduled as well as annual meetings. The department is looking at what the return to school will be regarding the benchmark and services needed. Dr. Boston also provided the District has been seeing an up rise in mental health issues, particularly anxiety.

Mr. Holt inquired if Zoom was a secure enough platform to hold IEP meetings, to which Dr. Boston replied in the positive; every precautionary feature is being used and private links are being sent to families.

Mr. Limanni discussed the meal distribution and the reason for moving to a distribution schedule of three days per week. This allows for more safety precautions for the staff participating.

Mr. Koehler inquired to what was being done with the leftover food, to which Mr. Limanni responded there is minimal food left over.

D. 2019 - 2020 CALENDAR MODIFICATION

Dr. Harbron requested the Board approve a modified 2019-2020 Academic Calendar, by modifying the dates for April vacation to April 24-April 27 and replacing the May 22 Teacher Workshop day with a day of instruction. With the NH DOE already giving approval to use student hours rather than days, this would allow students to have their last day of school on June 5.

Mr. Holt inquired if that would impact the June 10 graduation date, to which Mr. Driscoll responded that would be discussed.

Carolyn Mebert moved, Zachary Koehler seconded to approve the requested calendar modifications made by the Superintendent. **A roll call VOTE PASSED 7/0.**



DOVER SCHOOL BOARD – MINUTES

Meeting Type:	Special Meeting Notice
Meeting Location:	Council Conference Room, City Hall
Meeting Date:	Monday April 6, 2020
Meeting Time:	6:30 P.M.

E. FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Mr. Limanni informed the public that the Board will present a tax cap budget to the City. With funds possibly coming in from the C.A.R.E. Act and receiving higher tuition revenues, the District will be able save funds. The next 30-60 days will provide a clearer number of what revenues will be brought in.

Mr. Limanni provided the budget the School Board approved will still be the budget presented to the City.

F. ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Russell thanked everyone working in the education; administration, paraeducators, bus drivers, food service, office staff, as well as essential services, health workers, grocery stores, and gas stations. She stated, "The pressure is immense, and your work is quite phenomenal".

Carolyn Mebert moved, Zachary Koehler seconded adjourning the meeting at 8:14 PM. **A roll call VOTE PASSED 7/0.**