

APPROVED MAY 18, 2020

Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee
Dover School Committee
Sherborn School Committee
Union #50 Superintendency Committee
Meeting Minutes April 28, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Dover School Committee

Henry Spalding, Chair*

Brooke Matarese*

Mark Healey

Leslie Leon

Rachel Spellman*

Sherborn School Committee

Angie Johnson, Chair*

Amanda Brown*

Mike Fitzgerald

Nancy Cordell

Megan Page*

Dover-Sherborn Regional School
Committee

Anne Hovey

Maggie Charron

Judi Miller

Kate Potter

Michael Jaffe

Lynn Collins

* - Union #50 Member

** - Union #50 non-voting member

- 1. Call to order** – The meeting was called to order at 6:31pm. There was a quorum of the Dover Sherborn Regional School Committee (DSRSC), the Dover School Committee (DSC), the Sherborn School Committee (SSC), and the Union #50 Superintendency Committee.

Union #50 Chair Angie Johnson read the following into the record:

Good evening. This Open Meeting of the Joint School Committees is being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of the "COVID-19 Virus."

In order to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19, we have been advised and directed by the Commonwealth to suspend public gatherings, and as such, the Governor's Order suspends the requirement of the Open Meeting Law to have all meetings in a publicly accessible physical location. Further, all members of public bodies are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely.

For this meeting, the Joint School Committees are convening via Zoom App, as posted. Information on how to join our School Committee mtgs and mtg agendas were posted on the Dover Sherborn District Website and on the town calendars.

Please note that this meeting is being recorded, and that some attendees are participating by video conference. Accordingly, please be aware that others may be able to see you, so please take care not to "screen share" your computer. Anything you broadcast may be captured by the recording.

Community comments are an opportunity for members of the community to be heard. We respectfully request that you please make your comments brief (2-3 minutes) and that you move the discussion forward by adding new information. Please try to avoid repeating points that have already been made.

Community comments are an opportunity for us to listen to members of the community. It is not a forum for answering questions or engaging in a debate. Once the public comment section of the meeting has been concluded, we will move on to other business and unsolicited comments from the community will no longer be permitted. This is standard operating procedure in school committee meetings across our 3 school districts.

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We invite everyone to stay and listen to the rest of the meeting, but understand that is not possible for everyone. Please feel free to leave the Zoom call as best suits your needs. We appreciate that you have taken the time to participate and encourage you to reach out to your school committee reps at any time.

Before we turn to the first item on the agenda, permit me to cover some ground rules for effective and clear conduct of our business and to ensure accurate meeting minutes:

As chair, I will introduce each item on the agenda. After the person presenting said item is finished, the Chair will proceed to take questions from the school committee members.

Please indicate you would like to speak by virtually raising your hand. Please wait until your name is called.

Finally:

Please remember to mute your phone or computer when you are not speaking.

Please remember to speak clearly and in a way that helps generate accurate minutes.

Please wait for the Chair to recognize you and please remember to state your name before speaking.

All votes will be conducted by roll call vote. When voting begins, please unmute yourself as a group so we can move quickly. When the chair calls on you, please state your name and your vote. At the conclusion of voting please go back on mute.

2. Community Comments - none

3. Superintendent Update - Ms. McCoy spoke about the results of the recent survey that was sent to parents and educators as well as the guiding principles the administrators are using for Phase 3 of remote learning. The Goals for Phase 3 are:

- Standards - move all students toward consistent engagement in remote learning, with a focus on connectedness and on the content standards most critical for success in the next grade
- Streamline - ensure programming is accessible and secure and communication is streamlined
- Support - developing a system for identifying and supporting students not effectively engaged in remote learning

4. School Start Time Update - Dr. Keough gave an update on the work of the School Start Time Task Force II. There will be a final update at the Joint meeting in June before implementation for the 2020-21 school year.

5. Policy Update: Second Read - there were no substantive changes since the first reading. Motion to adopt Policies JB, JC, JF, JFABD, JFABE, JFABF, JE-E-1, JIC, JJA, JJH-R, JLCEB, JLC-E, JRA, AND JRD as presented in packet with changes as mentioned by Lynn Collins.

DSRSC: motion by Michael Jaffe, second by Maggie Charron

Vote in favor: Anne Hovey, Maggie Charron, Judi Miller, Kate Potter, Lynn Collins, and Michael Jaffe

SSC: motion by Nancy Cordell, second by Amanda Brown

Vote in favor: Angie Johnson, Megan Page, Amanda Brown, Nancy Cordell, and Mike Fitzgerald

DSC: motion by Leslie Leon, second by Mark Healey

Vote in favor: Henry Spalding, Brooke Matarese, Rachel Spellman, Mark Healey and Leslie Leon

6. Transportation Contract Amendment - With the initial close of schools through April 6th and then May 4th, fifteen districts that contract with Connolly Bus for transportation organized as a group to negotiate a reduced daily rate in alignment with DESE's request "to continue payments for outsources operational services that are needed to ensure continuity of essential services".

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Connolly Bus has laid-off all their drivers and ensured they were receiving unemployment benefits resulting in a substantial reduction to the daily bus rate. In addition, the costs of the dispatcher wages and fuel not consumed were also deducted. DS's daily rate of \$320 was reduced to \$164.08, 51.3% of the original contract price. The reduced per diem covers payroll for the central office staff, mechanics, insurance, rent, and other fixed operating costs.

With the recent announcement of schools being closed for the remainder of the year, DS Schools will realize this reduced rate for 61 days totaling savings of approximately \$180,000: Dover \$34,000, Sherborn \$30,000, and Region \$116,000. Additionally, the DS Schools will realize a savings of approximately \$50,000 for unused sports and activity trip charges.

Motion to approve the amendment to the Standard Service Agreement with Michael J. Connolly & Sons as presented.

DSRSC: motion by Judi Miller, second by Kate Potter

Vote in favor: Anne Hovey, Maggie Charron, Judi Miller, Kate Potter, Lynn Collins, and Michael Jaffe

SSC: motion by Mike Fitzgerald, second by Amanda Brown

Vote in favor: Angie Johnson, Megan Page, Amanda Brown, Nancy Cordell, and Mike Fitzgerald

DSC: motion by Rachel Spellman, second by Mark Healey

Vote in favor: Henry Spalding, Brooke Matarese, Rachel Spellman, Mark Healey and Leslie Leon

7. Adjournment 8:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Amy Davis