

**DUDLEY-CHARLTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Approved minutes of the meeting of the Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee, held Thursday, July 9, 2020 at 7 p.m., via **Video Conferencing**:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81696577728?pwd=UitlMDQrS01ncHNSejdRcXhGSkjhQT09#success>

Meeting ID: 816 9657 7728

Password: 8q4ZJH

In attendance were members of the School Committee:

Kenneth J. Laferriere, Chair  
Pauline J. Aucoin, Vice Chair  
Cathleen Carmignani  
Jordan W. Evans  
Catherine M. Kabala  
Jamie L. Terry

Member Stephanie A. Reed was not in attendance.

Also in attendance were Steven M. Lamarche, Superintendent of Schools, Brian J. Ackerman, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning; district administrators Lori Pacheco, Dean Packard, Christopher E. Starczewski, residents, Devon Wallace, Eve Summer, Sandra Sullivan, recording secretary.

**I. Call to Order**

The chair called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**II. Moment of Silence**

The chair called for a moment of silence.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

*Minutes of Regular Meeting of Wednesday, June 24, 2020*

*A motion by C. Kabala, second by J. Evans to approve the minutes of the school committee meeting of Wednesday, June 24, 2020, as corrected, was approved by unanimous roll call vote.*

*C. Carmignani – yes*

*J. Evans – yes*

*C. Kabala – Yes*

*J. Terry – yes*

*P. Aucoin – yes*

*K. Laferriere - yes*

*Minutes of the Executive Session, Wednesday, June 24, 2020*

*A motion by P. Aucoin, second by C. Kabala to approve the minutes of the executive session of Wednesday, June 24, 2020, was approved by unanimous roll call vote. Pa / ck exec session*

*C. Carmignani – yes*

*J. Evans – yes*

*C. Kabala – Yes*

**Minutes of the School Committee  
Meeting of Thursday, July 9, 2020**

*J. Terry – yes*

*P. Aucoin – yes*

*K. Laferriere – yes*

**IV. Approval of Warrant**

Warrants are being approved electronically.

**V. Citizens' Forum**

No one from the public spoke at this time.

**VI. Communications**

There were no communications to report this evening.

**VII. Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Lamarche participated in a conference call with Commissioner of Education Jeffrey Riley this morning. He said there is no firm information on where the state is heading regarding opening the school year. Mr. Lamarche said there may be word by the end of July. The commissioner urged communities to take their time with this process.

Meanwhile, the district's Reopening Committee continues its work. A survey was made available to families and the feedback will assist in developing a cohesive plan. He thanked the committee members: Jamie Terry, Tom Purcell and James Philbrook, Dr. Rock Jean-Guillaume, Becky Bussiere, Greg Duval, Shannon Sullivan, Darren Haig, Kareen Powaza, Katie Lyons, Nancy Eisnor, Chris Tittle, Theresa Vaida Veilleux, Lorinda Allen, Dr. Brian Ackerman, Lori Pacheco, Christopher Starczewski, Matt Greenberg, Rich Mathieu, Lt. Dennis Carlson.

Mr. Lamarche said the survey elicited 1,561 responses, with 93.1% indicated that they plan to send their child or children to school and 69.6% indicated they would utilize school provided transportation. If the state required a hybrid model of schooling; defined as some student time spent physically in school and sometime remotely, 27.8% indicated the inability to manage remote learning. The student readiness question showed that 21.8% of our students are somewhat or not ready. Conversely, 78.2% showed that our students are completely or mostly ready. Last, the district received 1,241 written responses and continue to review those responses.

Two additional surveys are planned for families to provide more information on instructional practices and to share concerns for social/emotional needs. This will assist with readiness planning for a return to school.

Parents were given an opportunity to express their concerns. Among them were the need for children to wear masks, improve the remote learning experience, lunches, and the learning experience.

Mr. Laferriere said a formal report is anticipated by the end of July, but cautioned that anything could change by September.

**VIII. New Business**

A. Appointment of School Committee Secretary - Ms. Sandra Sullivan

Mr. Lamarche has resigned from this position to which he was elected at the June 24, 2020 school committee meeting.

**Minutes of the School Committee  
Meeting of Thursday, July 9, 2020**

A motion by P. Aucoin, second by C. Kabala to nominate Sandra Sullivan as the school committee secretary was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

*C. Carmignani – yes*

*J. Evans – yes*

*C. Kabala – Yes*

*J. Terry – yes*

*P. Aucoin – yes*

*K. Laferriere - yes*

**B. Appointment of School Committee Representative to the Equity Committee**

Dr. Ackerman will lead this committee, comprised of 10-12 members from all stakeholder groups in the district, and which will engage in discussions to actively confront racism in our schools and community.

Dr. Ackerman said this process will foster equity, access and equanimity

Ms. Evans has volunteered to serve on this committee.

**IX. Next Meeting Dates**

**School Committee Meeting:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020, Via Video Conferencing, 7 p.m.

**Budget and Finance Subcommittee:** TBD

**Policy Review Subcommittee:** TBD

**Curriculum Subcommittee for Teaching and Learning:** TBD

**Capital and Safety Subcommittee:** TBD

**X. Future Agenda Items:** Reopening Committee, Fiscal Year 2021 Budget, Update on Equity Committee

**XI. Executive Session:** “To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel;

*District Administrators: Superintendent of Schools, Finance Director, Director, Pupil Personnel Services; Principals – 7; Assistant Principals -4, Special Education Coordinators – 4, Director of Technology*

*Central Office Personnel: Benefits Coordinator, Accounts Payable Administrator, Payroll Administrator, Data Specialist/Registrar, Executive Assistant to the Finance Director, Executive Assistant to Pupil Personnel Services Director, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Food Services Director, Sr. Network Computer Technician, Computer Technician*

The chair entertained a motion to enter executive session to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel, and to reconvene in open session for a vote or votes, if necessary, and to adjourn. This was approved by unanimous vote at 7:25 p.m.

*C. Carmignani – yes*

*J. Evans – yes*

*C. Kabala – Yes*

*J. Terry – yes*

**Minutes of the School Committee  
Meeting of Thursday, July 9, 2020**

P. Aucoin – yes  
K. Laferriere – yes

The committee returned to open session at 8:42 p.m.

A motion by C. Kabala, second by J. Evans to approve a 2% increase to the annual salary rates for all employees on independent contracts, retroactive to July 1, 2020: *Superintendent of Schools, Finance Director, Director, Pupil Personnel Services; Principals – 7; Assistant Principals -4; Special Education Coordinators – 4, Director of Technology; Benefits Coordinator, Accounts Payable Administrator, Payroll Administrator, Data Specialist/Registrar, Executive Assistant to the Finance Director, Executive Assistant to Pupil Personnel Services Director, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Food Services Director, Sr. Network Computer Technician, Computer Technician, was approved by unanimous roll call vote.*

*C. Carmignani – yes  
J. Evans – yes  
C. Kabala – Yes  
J. Terry – yes  
P. Aucoin – yes  
K. Laferriere - yes*

A motion by C. Kabala, second by J. Terry to increase the salary of the payroll administrator by \$1,968 effective July 1, 2020, was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

*C. Carmignani – yes  
J. Evans – yes  
C. Kabala – Yes  
J. Terry – yes  
P. Aucoin – yes  
K. Laferriere - yes*

A motion by C. Kabala, second by J. Terry to offer Dudley Elementary School Principal Kelly True a FY 2021 annual salary rate of \$102, 500, prorated based on her start date, was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

*C. Carmignani – yes  
J. Evans – yes  
C. Kabala – Yes  
J. Terry – yes  
P. Aucoin – yes  
K. Laferriere - yes*

**XII. Adjourn**

A motion by C. Carmignani, second by J. Terry to adjourn the meeting was approved by unanimous roll call vote at 8:47 p.m.

*C. Carmignani – yes  
J. Evans – yes  
C. Kabala – Yes*

**Minutes of the School Committee  
Meeting of Thursday, July 9, 2020**

*J. Terry – yes*

*P. Aucoin – yes*

*K. Laferriere - yes*

Items used for this meeting include

Agenda for meeting of Thursday, July 9, 2020;

Superintendent's Report, July 9, 2020;

Minutes of School Committee Meeting of Wednesday, June 24, 2020;

Minutes of the Executive Session of Wednesday, June 24, 2020;

Copies of independent contracts for district administrators and district office personnel.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Sullivan, Secretary