

DUDLEY-CHARLTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Approved minutes of the meeting of the Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee, held Wednesday, July 24, 2019, Charlton Middle School, 2 Oxford Road, Charlton, MA 01507, 7 p.m.

In attendance were members of the School Committee:

- Mary N. Antocci, Vice Chair
- Pauline J. Aucoin, Chair
- Cathleen Carmignani
- Catherine M. Kabala
- Kenneth J. Laferriere
- Stephanie A. Reed
- Jamie L. Terry

Also in attendance were Steven M. Lamarche, Superintendent of Schools, Richard J. Mathieu, Director of Finance and Operations; district administrators Lorinda Allen, Dean W. Packard, Kathleen E. Pastore; District ELL Coordinator Lisa Wondolowski; media representatives: Rich Earle, audio-visual coordinator, Sandra Sullivan, recording secretary.

I. Call to Order

The chair called the meeting to order at 7:00

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of Regular Meeting of Wednesday, June 26, 2019

A motion by M. Antocci, second by S. Reed to approve the minutes of the meeting of Wednesday, June 26, 2019, as corrected, was approved by unanimous vote.

Minutes of Executive Session of Wednesday, June 26, 2019

A motion by S. Reed, second by M. Antocci to approve the minutes of the executive session of Wednesday, June 26, 2019, was approved by unanimous vote.

IV. Approval of Warrants

The following warrants were distributed and signed by a majority of members without further comment or questions:

Accounts Payable		Payroll		Subcommittee Warrant	
Warrant #	Amount	Warrant #	Amount	Warrant #	Amount
9	\$377,887.16	1316D	\$336,216.76	1	\$1303620.00
10	\$11,913.34	1316P	\$913,511.24	2	\$612105.06
150	\$72,384.40			3	\$295.00

**Minutes of the School Committee
Meeting of Wednesday, July 24, 2019**

				4	\$990.00
				5	\$60.00
				6	\$56,177.66
				7	\$33,952.18
				8	\$614,887.52
				147	\$53,812.02
				148	0.00
				149	\$300,420.28
Total	\$462,184.90	Total	\$1,249,728.00	Total	\$2,976,319.72

V. Citizens' Forum

No one spoke at this time.

VI. Communications

The committee welcomed Mr. Lamarche as he is attending his first meeting as superintendent. Mr. Lamarche said he is privileged and proud to be the new superintendent, and thanked the school committee for allowing him this opportunity. He said his daily goal is to be better and the best superintendent he can be.

Mr. Laferriere reported on an email he received from Charlton resident Kristen Kustigian regarding district's application to the Massachusetts School Building Association as a possible source of funds to repair the roofs at Charlton Middle School and Shepherd Hill Regional High School. Mr. Laferriere answered Mrs. Kustigian by saying the school roofs do not meet the age criteria to be considered for the funding. The MSBA is considering roofs that are 25 years old or older.

Mr. Laferriere reported on a phone call he received from Dudley PTO member Michelle LeBlanc to discuss maintaining compliance with the Dudley Board of Health regulations when food is served at PTO-sponsored events.

Mr. Laferriere attended the Summer Summit Conference sponsored by the Massachusetts Association of School Committees. He has material to share if the committee members would like to review it. Mr. Laferriere said a key topic was the use of social media to reach the community.

Mrs. Aucoin verified the members of the warrant subcommittee as Mrs. Kabala, Mrs. Carmignani, Mrs. Antocci, and Mrs. Aucoin. Mrs. Terry and Mrs. Reed are the alternates.

VII. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Lamarche reported on the recent meeting of the Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative. Allen Himmelberger has been appointed as the Collaborative's interim administrator for the 2019-2020 school year.

Mr. Lamarche said the first Administrative Council meeting was held with the district team on July 16 at Nichols College. The team discussed district initiatives such as the Portrait of a Graduate, emergency protocols, opening day, programming, creating a master calendar, as well as district and school building capital needs.

Mr. Lamarche said district principals, as well as the STEAM director, and the director of pupil personnel services attended the National Association of Secondary School Principals conference in Boston. The conference theme

**Minutes of the School Committee
Meeting of Wednesday, July 24, 2019**

of *Reimagining the Possible* looked at the areas of leadership, and building a culture that values education. Mr. Lamarche said it was great to be together as a team, and termed the conference as invigorating.

Mr. Lamarche said professional development is being offered in the district this week in support of the co-teaching initiative. Pupil Personnel Services Director Lorinda Allen said the effort will begin with the new school year in August. Teaching teams were identified in May. Additional trainings will be held in October and January.

Mrs. Terry requested this initiative be outlined for parents who want to know what this will be like for their child. Mr. Lamarche agreed to add this to a future meeting agenda, and schedule a presentation by teachers.

VIII. New Business

A. Introduction and Entry Plan

Mr. Lamarche presented a framework for his Entry Plan. He described it as a studied introduction to the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District. He said his plan will be comprised of information gathered from parents, town officials, and the community. His goal is to have the plan written by the end of August, and hopes to have it in full effect during the FY 21 budget season.

B. DESE State Seal of Bi-Literacy *-(Vote May be Required)*

ELL coordinator Lisa Wondolowski reported on a new state-wide initiative for students who demonstrate bi-lingual ability and mastery in all four domains of language, listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Working with foreign language department at Shepherd Hill, Ms. Wondolowski has identified 58 seniors who are appropriate for this seal, which would be affixed to either their diploma or transcript upon graduation. Ms. Wondolowski said 34 of these students have the ability to earn the seal with distinction. Colleges will waive requirements for those students with the seal, and for those students not going to college, the seal shows employers they are bi-literate. Ms. Wondolowski said she is prepared to implement this initiative by fall to assist students as they apply to colleges.

C. Update on 2019-2020 School Choice *-(Vote May be Required)*

Mr. Lamarche said there are currently 42 applicants for grades 7-9 in the district. Of those, 27 have enrolled, 17 of which are at the high school, where there are 30 seats open.

There are currently applications for grades 5, 6, 10, 11, and 12.

A motion by C. Kabala, seconded by S. Reed to open School Choice seats to grades 9-12 at Shepherd Hill, capping the number at 30 students, was withdrawn.

A motion by C. Kabala, second by S. Reed to open School Choice seats at grades 7-12, with a maximum of 60 students, was approved by unanimous vote.

Mr. Lamarche discussed class sizes, and noted there is currently 23 students per class in grade 1. He said he will pay close attention to the enrollment and report to the committee at its August 21 meeting.

Mrs. Kabala said August 21 would be too late to act.

A motion by C. Kabala, second by S. Reed to add a grade 1 classroom at Mason Road School for the 2019-2020 school year was approved by a vote of 5-2. Voting in favor were P. Aucoin, C. Carmignani, C. Kabala, K. Laferriere, S. Reed. Opposed were J. Terry and M. Antocci.

**Minutes of the School Committee
Meeting of Wednesday, July 24, 2019**

Mr. Mathieu said the new position could be funded by the contingency fund. Mrs. Terry and Mrs. Antocci said that money should be reserves for unbudgeted special education costs and emergencies.

Mrs. Kabala said high class sizes in at this grade rises to the same level of need.

Mason Road School has reduced one kindergarten section, so there is room for an additional classroom.

Mrs. Kabala asked if there has been any net gain from the summer hiring. Mr. Mathieu said the budget is over by \$20,000.

Mrs. Antocci asked if the position can be filled with a transfer; Mr. Lamarche agreed to look at this possibility.

D. Update Assistant Superintendent Search

The position of Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning was posted internally on Monday. Mr. Lamarche requested to form a screening committee comprised of school committee members, administrators and possibly a member of the community.

Mrs. Aucoin appointed Mrs. Carmignani and Mrs. Terry to the screening committee.

E. Director of Finance and Operations Report (Vote May be Required)

Mr. Mathieu, will have an update on close out of Fiscal Year 2019 at the August 21 meeting, with an informed estimate of Excess and Deficiency fund certification.

Mr. Mathieu said the district's contract for the supply of electricity expires in November. He requested the school committee authorize him to join a purchasing cooperative, and sign a 12-month contract with EDF Energy at the rate of .09098 per kilowatt hour.

A motion by S. Reed, second by M. Antocci to authorize the finance director to sign a 12-month contract with EDF Energy to provide electricity at the rate of .09098 per KWh, was approved by unanimous vote.

IX. Next Meeting Dates

School Committee Meetings:

Wednesday, August 21, 2019, Shepherd Hill Regional High School, Dudley, 7 p.m.

Budget and Finance Subcommittee

Wednesday, July 31, 2019, Shepherd Hill Regional High School, 8:30 a.m.

X. Future Agenda Items – School choice update;

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

XII. 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 votes if necessary, and to adjourn, and this was approved by unanimous roll call vote at 8:10 p.m.

The committee returned to open session at 8:26 p.m.

**Minutes of the School Committee
Meeting of Wednesday, July 24, 2019**

A motion by S. Reed, second by M. Antocci to approve Appendix B – Extra Curricular Stipends of the Agreement Between the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District, and the Dudley-Charlton Teachers Association, 2019-2022, for the 2019-2020 school year as presented, was approved by a vote of 6-1. Voting in favor were M. Antocci, C. Carmignani, C. Kabala, K. Laferriere, S. Reed, J. Terry. Mrs. Aucoin abstained.

XIII. Adjourn

A motion by S. Reed, second by J. Terry to adjourn the meeting was approved by unanimous vote at 8:27 p.m.

Items used for this meeting include

<i>Agenda for Wednesday, July 24, 2019</i>	<i>Minutes of Meeting of Wednesday, June 26, 2019</i>	<i>Minutes of the Executive Session of Wednesday, June 26, 2019</i>
<i>Superintendent's Report 6/19/19</i>	<i>Director of Finance and Operations Report 6/19/19</i>	<i>Appendix B, Agreement Between the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District, and the Dudley-Charlton Teachers Association, 2019-2022</i>
<i>Seal of Biliteracy</i>	<i>Criteria for Seal of Biliteracy</i>	<i>School Choice Update</i>

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Sullivan, recording secretary