

**DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF  
EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES – May 4, 2020 (draft B)  
Virtual Meeting via Zoom, Webinar ID 831 7155 8102**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:01pm by Board President Julie Schumaker.

**A. ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Ron Darr, Jason Gold, Mara Greatorex, Daryl Kipke, Dick Lundy, Barbara Read, Julie Schumaker, Student Representatives Chadley Robards, Annalisa Shehab

**Administrative & Supervisory Staff:** Rick Munir, Sharon Raschke, Barba Santo, Mollie Sharrar, Christopher Timmis, Hope Vestergaard

**DEA Representative:** Jessica Baese

**DESPA Representative:** none

**Guests:** Melanie McIntyre, Jami Bronson, Chrissy Hladky, Daniel Alabré, Jennifer Arnold, Jodi Helmholtz, Matt Deloria, Megan Meeker, Ryan Spencer, Sarah Hunt, Wendy Martin, Tanya Dunn

**Press:** Lonnie Huhman (The Sun Times News)

Julie Schumaker outlined the Virtual Meeting Process to highlight procedural differences from the ways that in-person meetings are typically conducted.

**B. MEETING MINUTES**

Jason Gold made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from April 20, 2020 as presented. Dick Lundy seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried (unanimous).**

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

An action item (#2) was added to approve the proclamation regarding school lunch heroes.

Barbara Read made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Mara Greatorex seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried (unanimous).**

**D. SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS**

1. School Lunch Hero Proclamation. Dr. Timmis shared a draft proclamation to honor the tremendous work of the Food and Nutrition department. More than 132,000 to-go meals have been delivered to Dexter families since March 17<sup>th</sup>.

**E. ADMINISTRATION & BOARD UPDATE**

1. Superintendent Update.

- a. Dr. Timmis discussed the considerable progress of remote learning and shared weekly lesson examples from the buildings. Grade level teachers at Anchor, Beacon, and Wylie have collaborated to provide content that is manageable for parents, and engaging and consistent for all students. Dr. Timmis shared a video presentation for a support ribbon campaign (#4CommuniTREE) that Wylie students presented to the City Council. At Creekside, Pinnacle and Summit teachers collaborate within their platform to provide plans and Google classrooms for regular subjects and specials. Mill Creek is doing something similar with their programs. High School virtual classes are being created by individual teachers.

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- b. Administrative Staff have been doing preliminary planning for possible fall scenarios depending on what happens with COVID-19. Possible scenarios include:
    - Bring students back into the building with physical distancing restrictions and other health restrictions.
    - Start the school year in September and have intermittent shutdowns of specific buildings or the entire district throughout the school year.
    - Start the school year remotely with the hope that we transition to buildings later in the school year.
    - Bring in smaller numbers of students at a time on an alternating/rotating schedule to minimize the number of students in the building at one time.
    - Teach remotely for a semester or an entire school year.
    - Create a new model where some kids are remote, some are in the building as they traditionally would have been, and others are in some sort of hybrid model.
  - c. The Department of Education has approved Dexter to receive CARES Stimulus Money – approximately \$174,000 to backfill some of the costs created by the closure; the District is looking at options to provide childcare for medical and other essential workers (limited to those groups at least initially). DCS has applied for grants to support this programming but determinations have not been made yet.
  - d. The District is reviewing recently released Executive Orders regarding district operations. They are extensive.
2. Board President Update. None.
  3. Student Representatives Update.
    - Chadley Robards noted that students are preparing for AP testing and DHS Teacher Deb Marsh has been extremely supportive during that process.
    - Annalisa Shehab noted that DHS Principal Kit Moran and teachers are doing regular check-ins with students to ensure that students stay connected.

**F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – none**

**G. CONSENT ITEMS – none**

**H. ACTION ITEMS**

1. Bid Package 25. Dick Lundy made a motion that the Board of Education award contracts for Bid Package 25 (DHS Special Needs Toilet) to the Spieker Company and assign contracts to Granger for management, as shown in the attached recommendation letter dated April 30, 2020. Jason Gold seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried (unanimous).**

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2. School Lunch Hero Proclamation. Dick Lundy moved that the Board of Education approve the following proclamation:

*WHEREAS nutritious meals at school are an essential part of the school day; and*

*WHEREAS the staff of the District's school meals and nutrition department are committed to providing healthful, nutritious meals to the District's children; and*

*WHEREAS the men and women who prepare and serve school meals help nurture our children through their daily interaction and support; and*

*WHEREAS the food and nutrition staff have worked tirelessly to ensure the delivery of more than 125,000 healthful meals to district students during the COVID-19 closure; and*

*WHEREAS the day of Friday, May 1, 2020 is School Lunch Hero Day*

*NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Dexter Community Schools District expresses its deep appreciation to these valuable employees and volunteers and commends their good work on behalf of children.*

Mara Greatorex seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried (unanimous).**

**I. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. Committee Meetings. Two committee meetings were held virtually on April 22 (finance, facilities) and one (facilities) was held virtually on May 1. Board members discussed relevant bylaws 0155 (committees), 0167.3 (public participation) and 0168.3 (committee meetings). A concern of having committee meetings held virtually with a fourth member logging in who is not on the committee is that it creates the appearance of a quorum and a potential Open Meetings Act violation. The Board discussed their understanding of the law and the mechanics of holding virtual public committee meetings. The Board reached no consensus on this topic. The Superintendent has requested written guidance from the District's legal counsel regarding the policy requirements.
2. WISD Budget. Board members had the opportunity to discuss the WISD's proposed budget for 2020-2021. The Board must adopt a resolution of support or disapproval no later than June 1, 2020. This item will return for action at the May 18 meeting.
3. DCS 2020-2021 Budget Projections. Board members had the opportunity to discuss three budget scenarios that were reviewed by the finance committee on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Administration has requested direction from the Board regarding the parameters to be used to prepare the 2020-21 budget, including a target range for expense over revenue. This item will return May 18 for further discussion and /or action regarding a recommendation to the finance committee.

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- J. COMMITTEE UPDATES** – these were both addressed as part of earlier items on the evening’s agenda.
1. Finance Committee
  2. Facilities Committee
- K. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
1. Daniel Alabré made a comment.
  2. Jami Bronson made a comment.
- L. BOARD COMMENTS**
1. Mara Greateorex. Mara shared the results of E4DS’s recent fund drive, which will soon be announced; Mara praised teachers for their dedication and flexibility; Mara expressed displeasure that a board member continues to criticize board actions and promote discontent on social media and in letters to the editor and suggested everyone should focus on efforts to support students during this crisis.
  2. Barbara Read. Barbara stated that she is proud of the teachers and district and food service. She clarified that she has never accused board members of wrong-doing in the meetings; she reiterated her disagreement with the decision not to open the virtual committee meetings to the public. Barbara read an excerpt from one of Governor Whitmer’s Executive orders regarding open meetings.
  3. Julie Schumaker. Julie praised the DCS Teen Wayfinder newsletter; she complimented teachers and staff for their extraordinary efforts toward remote learning; she noted that she does not engage in social media posts regarding board actions because that is not the appropriate forum for board discussions; she urged everyone to avoid causing undue stress and incurring unnecessary legal fees for the district during this crisis.
  4. Ron Darr. Ron pointed out that he was booted off the virtual Board meeting several times during the course of the evening and expressed concern that this type of technical issue could happen to community members during virtual meetings.

At approximately 9:25pm, President Julie Schumaker adjourned the meeting.

MINUTES/hlv

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Mara Greateorex  
Secretary  
Board of Education