

**Groton-Dunstable Regional School District  
School Committee w/ Executive Session  
May 10, 2023 - 7:00pm**

**Members Present:** Rosanna Casavecchia, Yasmeen Cheema, Rafael Glod, Jeff Kubick, Brian LeBlanc, Lacey McCabe (entered after call to order and vote to move to Executive Session)

**Members Absent:** Fay Raynor

**Administration Present:** Dr. Laura Chesson, Superintendent; Kristin DeFranciso, Ass't. Superintendent; Sherry Kersey, Director of Finance & Operations

**Others:** Kristyn MacInnis, SEPAC Representative

**Call to Order: 7:00 PM**

**The Chair made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel and to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 30A, Sec. 21 a-3 (Unit A) and to return to regular session.**

**So Moved - R. Glod**

**Second - J. Kubick**

Discussion - None

**Roll Call - R. Casavecchia, yes; J. Kubick, yes; B. LeBlanc, yes; R. Glod, yes; Y. Cheema, yes**

**Motion Approved - 5-0**

**Return to Regular Session at 7:30 PM**

**Public Comment -** Former teacher, alumni, current students spoke on behalf of the chorus regarding the Superintendent's decision to deny a fundraising trip to the

**The Chair entertained a motion to approve meeting minutes for April 12, 2023 and April 26, 2023 as presented in the packet.**

**So Moved - J. Kubick**

**Second - R. Glod**

Discussion

**All in Favor - Motion Approved 6 - 0**

**Vote to Approve Warrant**

**J. Kubick made a motion to approve 2 payroll warrants totaling \$2,199,919.64 and 3 Accounts Payable warrants totaling \$650,814.09 for a grand total of \$2,850,733.73.**

**Second - R. Glod**

Discussion - None

**Roll Call - R. Casavecchia, yes; J. Kubick, yes; B. LeBlanc, yes; L. McCabe, yes; R. Glod, yes; Y. Cheema, yes**

**Motion Approved 6-0**

**Superintendent's Update**

Shout out to local businesses that support educator appreciation week.

Review of the end of year calendar with dates for graduation, retirement celebration, and a review of the last day(s) of the school year half day schedule.

PFAS Update included next steps with a plan sent to the Department of Environment Protection from the Town of Groton/GDRSD. At this time, 21 home sites have been tested, some are receiving bottled water, 4 have had POET (point of entry) systems installed, and a total of 7 tested did not detect higher levels of PFAS. With work to be done on the irrigation system at the HS, the playing fields may not be available for the next school year. The AD will work for districts that will allow field usage.

Dr. Chesson reviewed data on behaviors as well as the responses by staff that are then entered into the student information system by teachers and administrators. Discussion ensued.

[PowerPoint](#) Update

[PowerPoint](#) Behavior

Field Trip request for Camp Sunshine by the high school with approval recommended by Dr. Chesson.

**The Chair entertained a motion to approve the field trip to Camp Sunshine as presented in the packet this evening.**

**So Moved - J. Kubick**

**Second - L. McCabe**

Discussion - None

**All in Favor - Motion Approved 6 - 0**

**Job Descriptions for Student Support and Safety**

Presentation of information was given by Ass't Superintendent Kristin DeFrancisco

There will be an emphasis on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Social Emotional Wellness and Mental and Behavioral Health.

The Coordinator of Tier I Services (SEL responsibilities, sharing MBH, DEI responsibilities)

- This position will work with educators to build the systems and structures for supports that all students need.

The Coordinator of Tier II and III Services (Sharing MBH and DEI responsibilities)

- This position will work with educators to build systems and structures for the sub-set of students that need more supports than the tier I provides for them
- Both positions work directly with the Coordinator of Special Education, Related Services and ESY Program.

A review was given of how the Tiers work and how these jobs, through the work to be done, will support the success of all students.

In short, the administration will be taking 2 FTE's that are currently funded in the budget as well as taking work from a third FTE, that was dropped and is not part of the budget, and dividing that work between these 2 coordinators. A request was made to delay voting on these positions until the full committee is available. Dr. Chesson's concern is the delay in being able to post early enough to get qualified and talented candidates.

[PowerPoint](#) Job Descriptions MTSS

**The Chair entertained a motion to approve the job descriptions for the Coordinator of Tier I Services and the Coordinator of Tier II and Tier III Support Services.**

**R. Glod made a motion to table the motion until the next meeting on May 24th.**

**The Chair told the committee that there was no need to make a motion not to vote.**

**J. Kubick made a motion to approve the restructuring into the 2 positions based on Tiers of Support with final approval pending a vote on May 24th with full job descriptions.**

**Second - B. LeBlanc**

Discussion - None

**All in Favor                      For - 2                                      Against - 4**

**Motion Failed**

**Supply Policy - will move to another meeting agenda**

**Policy JIC - 3rd Read**

Information from the last meeting was reviewed by J. Kubick with the request that this version be approved but it should come back again to review questions asked by F. Raynor who was not in attendance this evening.

**J. Kubick made a motion to approve Policy JIC as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee and request that the Policy Subcommittee review and respond to the suggestions made by Fay Raynor in her document.**

**Second - R. Glod**

Discussion - None

**All in Favor - Motion Approved 6 - 0**

**Tri-Board Appointment**

Town Manager Mark Haddad requested 2 members of the School Committee to join a board of individuals that will discuss financial needs over the next few months in order to be better prepared for next year's budget.

**The Chair entertained a motion to name himself and F. Raynor for the newly formed TriBoard with R. Casavecchia as an alternate.**

**So Moved - J. Kubick**

**Second - L. McCabe**

Discussion - None

**All in Favor - Motion Approved 6 - 0**

### **Liaison Reports**

Y. Cheema - report on MS-PTO. June 15 there will be a meeting at the MSN library general meeting to discuss this year's accomplishments as well as results of fundraising events and elections.

R. Glod - Annual Town Meeting was held on Monday, May 8th and elections will be Tuesday, May 16 from 12-8pm. New from the legislature, Sen. Kennedy has sponsored a bill in the senate for \$100m to assist with cost overruns on MSBA projects, global supply, and supply costs. The senate will vote in 2 weeks. The DEI final meeting is coming up and an end of year report will be delivered on 5/24.

B. LeBlanc - report on the Friends of Prescott who will continue to pursue a ½ day after-school program that will impact the PTYC.

K. MacInnis - SEPAC updates include a Best Buddies event on 5/13, a workshop on IEP Eligibility on 5/11 and Coffee & Conversation on 5/17.

**New Business - None**

Meeting Adjourned at 9:30 PM

Jo Ann Sivazlian, Secretary

Documents shared:

Agenda

Discipline Data

Field Trip Approval - Camp Sunshine

Job Descriptions

Minutes 4.12.23

Minutes 4.26.23

Policy JIC

Superintendent's Update

Warrant

APP'd 6.7.23