

DOVER

School Reports

2023



Report of the **Superintendent of Schools**

Elizabeth M. McCoy

I am honored to continue serving the students of Dover, Sherborn, and Boston alongside many talented educators, supportive families, and dedicated community members. Through the superintendent entry process, I have sought to deepen my knowledge of the District through conversations with stakeholders, observations of systems and routines, data collection and analysis, and a review of documents and policies. Assistant Superintendent Denton Conklin engaged in a similar study focused primarily on teaching and learning. Consistency between findings has lent validity to the themes and recommendations that resulted. The Superintendent's Report of Entry Findings, as summarized below, highlights the strengths, challenges, hopes, and aspirations of the District and its constituents.

The Dover-Sherborn Public Schools are rooted in academic excellence and committed to sustained success and ongoing improvement. By way of an academically rich and rigorous curriculum, extensive enrichment events and activities, highly competitive athletic teams and clubs, and a strong fine and performing arts program, students have an array of opportunities to develop their intellectual, physical, and artistic abilities. As evidenced by multiple measures, including standardized test scores, graduation rates, college enrollment, and alumni accounts, our students acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to thrive in postsecondary life. As reported by interviewees and survey submissions, the D-S Public Schools are the community's greatest asset and the reason most families choose to live and raise their children in Dover and Sherborn.

Moreover, parents, educators, and students consider the Dover-Sherborn community itself to be a significant strength for its small size, educational focus, and rural landscape, and they hold a high regard and deep appreciation for the people and places that embody both towns, which throughout the past 10 years have become more diverse. The METCO program is also referenced by many as being an asset that allows students to learn cooperatively alongside peers whose perspectives and backgrounds differ from their own and promotes skills such as empathy, critical thinking, and problem-solving that prepare students for a diverse, multicultural world.

Of significant value noted by students, parents, and caregivers are the faculty and staff, who are described as helpful, caring, supportive, flexible, understanding, fun, enthusiastic, dedicated, and hard-working. These professionals are revered for the strong relationships they have built with their students and for their efforts to get to know each individual and "uncover their unique gifts and talents." Staff also expressed a deep respect for their

Previous page: Community Service Club students from Dover-Sherborn High School (standing) host Dover-Sherborn Middle School students for a cookie decorating session. Photo courtesy of Dover-Sherborn High School.

colleagues and the positive climate and culture that contribute to a collaborative work environment.

The focus of the D-S Public Schools on the whole child is a strength acknowledged by a significant portion of the staff and community. The District's decade-long work with Challenge Success has led to greater balance for students, with research-based adjustments made to schedules, homework, and assessments. A "silver lining" of pandemic learning has been the marked shift in recognizing the importance of social-emotional wellness as a precursor to learning, and the efforts made to expand programming and personnel to meet the growing need for mental and behavioral support has been well-received. A recent equity audit reinforced the value of students' sense of belonging and its correlation to academic achievement, student motivation, classroom engagement, and improved health. Together these measures have fostered a student-centered environment grounded in opportunities for learning and growth across multiple developmental realms.

The complete Strategy for District Improvement was approved by the D-S School Committees in September 2023. Initiatives were outlined in each of the following five areas:

- ***Excellence & Innovation in Learning:*** Maintain academic excellence and rigor while adapting practices to prepare graduates for success in a rapidly changing world;
- ***Challenge & Support All Students:*** Enhance programming to ensure all students are able to achieve their full potential within a supportive learning environment;
- ***Professional Learning & Growth:*** Expand opportunities for professional growth and collaboration among educators in support of the District's vision for teaching and learning;
- ***Family & Community Engagement:*** Engage families and community members in the strategic pursuit of a shared vision and mission; and
- ***Safe & Sustainable Spaces:*** Evaluate and update facilities to ensure safe, sufficient, and sustainable spaces amid a changing educational and environmental landscape.

Understanding that maintaining an exceptional school district requires continuous reflection and a sustained drive for improvement, these priorities will inform our collective work for the next three to five years as we seek to "inspire, challenge, and support all students as they discover and pursue their full potential."

The District is eternally grateful to the taxpayers who provide a strong financial foundation for an excellent PreK–12 program. The D-S Public Schools continue to benefit from the generous support of community

organizations such as the PTOs, POSITIVE, Boosters, Friends of the Performing Arts (FoPA), and Mudge Foundation, among others. As a result, students have access to dynamic learning experiences in the classroom, on the field, on the stage, and through clubs and activities that challenge and inspire. Dover-Sherborn is an exceptional school district in both the academic and extracurricular arenas, and a source of pride for the community and its members.



Jazz performers from Chickering Elementary School's fifth grade and Dover-Sherborn Middle School's sixth grade. Image source: Twitter (Chickering School, @ChickeringDover, 2023).

Report of the Dover School Committee

Elizabeth Grossman, Chair
Goli Sepehr, Secretary
Jeff Cassidy
Martha Castle
Jessie Hole

The members of the Dover School Committee (DSC) are elected by Dover's residents. The Committee works with the Superintendent and school administration to oversee the operation and education program of Chickering School and works jointly with the Sherborn School Committee and the Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee (DSRSC) on matters impacting all three districts. The DSC is composed of five members elected on a rotating basis of one or two members each year for three-year terms.

Membership

In 2023, we welcomed new members Jessie Hole and Martha Castle to the DSC. Jessie and Martha were elected to three-year terms in May. We extend our sincere thanks to Colleen Burt and Sara Gutierrez Dunn who completed their terms on the DSC. Colleen Burt was elected to serve on the DSRSC.

District Leadership

In 2023, Superintendent Elizabeth McCoy and Assistant Superintendent Denton Conklin published findings relative to their yearlong entry process. As evidenced by data from multiple stakeholders, Dover continues to be valued for its commitment to academic excellence, focus on the whole child, and service to the community. We remain grateful for the continued leadership of Principal Deborah Reinemann and Assistant Principal James Carnes at Chickering Elementary School, as well as the dedication and commitment of our highly qualified and talented teachers and staff.

In September 2023, a Strategic Plan was launched in support of the District's vision and mission. Initiatives were outlined in five priority areas: Excellence and Innovation in Learning; Challenge and Support for All Students; Professional Learning and Growth; Family and Community Engagement; and Safe and Sustainable Spaces. By way of specific action steps over the next three to five years, the District aims to implement a shared vision for 21st-century education that inspires, challenges, and supports all students as they discover and pursue their full potential.

Retirements in the District in 2023 included Steven Harte and Kenneth Wadness. We wish both of these dedicated professionals all the best and thank them for their many years of service to our students and community.

Academics

Chickering Elementary School strives for academic excellence and continues to rank as a top-performing Massachusetts elementary school in the research publications of *U.S. News and World Report*. At the same time, we value students' social and emotional needs and recognize the unique talents of each student. The DSC sets policies to achieve its defined goals and seeks to accomplish them in a fiscally prudent manner. This year, Chickering extended its curriculum pilot of the Reveal Math Program and Illustrative Mathematics Program. The school also continued implementation of the Columbia Teachers' College Reading Project as part of a structured literacy program across both Chickering and Pine Hill Elementary Schools.

Finance

The DSC works hard to deliver the highest quality education in the most efficient way possible by reviewing its operations and allocating resources to best serve student needs. Salaries are the biggest budget item. We continued to receive federal and state grants, including funding from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund, given to help address academic needs resulting from the pandemic. Uses of these funds have included the implementation of a multitiered system of interventions for students.

In 2023, enrollment remained steady. We continue to match classroom sections to adhere to our long-standing classroom size policy of between 17 and 22 students. We will continue to monitor real estate trends and census data and adjust staffing levels to meet the community's changing needs.

The out-of-district special education budget, which covers students aged 3 to 22 years who are enrolled in schools outside the Dover Public School system, is a significant part of the overall budget. However, the Town is reimbursed by the State of Massachusetts for a percentage of the tuition costs that exceeds a calculated base amount. This reimbursement, referred to as the "circuit breaker," offsets these costs.

Facilities

We continue to perform maintenance required to keep the school building in top condition. We rely on a long-range, 20-year Capital Needs Assessment, initially prepared by an outside consultant in 2012 and updated in 2017, to guide our annual Capital Budget requests. During 2023, we replaced portions of the school flooring and continued the upgrade of the EMS software in accordance with this plan.

Appreciation

The DSC is grateful for the many members of our community who have given tirelessly to support Chickering in maintaining its tradition of excellence. The DSC thanks Dover taxpayers, the Dover-Sherborn Education Fund (DSEF), the PTO, and the Alan Thayer Mudge Memorial Fund for their ongoing financial support. The annual DSEF grant awards allow Chickering faculty and staff members to explore state-of-the-art methods for curriculum delivery, while the PTO gifts allow us to make the learning environment the best it can be for both the staff and students.



Global Play Day at Chickering Elementary School. Image source: Twitter (Chickering School, @ChickeringDover, 2023).

Report of the Chickering Elementary School

Deborah Reinemann, Principal

Jim Carnes, Assistant Principal

Laura Driscoll, Elementary Special Education Coordinator, Grades 3–5

Naomi O'Brien, Elementary Special Education Coordinator, PreK–Grade 2

Introduction

The 2022–23 school year resumed with normal classroom routines and structures, school assemblies, curriculum enrichment programs, and our “mask optional” stance honoring individual choice for masks. In the current 2023–24 school year, we continue to provide all students, PreK–5, with an enriched academic learning experience, coupled with a comprehensive fine arts program. Our FLES (Foreign Language in the Elementary School) serves as a model program across the state.

Enrollment and Staffing

As of October 1, 2023, total enrollment stayed nearly steady with 498 students, compared to 510 students in the previous year. We have four sections each at kindergarten and grades 1, 3, and 5; five sections each for grades 2 and 4; and two PreK classes. We appreciate the generous support of the Dover School Committee, which allows our class sizes to remain within the policy range of 17–22 pupils per class section. Looking ahead to fall 2024, we anticipate that enrollment and classroom numbers will remain steady.

With retirement and maternity leaves as the school year began, we were fortunate to have complete regular and special education teacher staffing.

Curriculum and Professional Development

Our School Improvement Plan includes three areas: MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Support), communication, and curriculum.

Our MTSS program continues to mature as we develop strong Tier 1 supports within each classroom, based on student needs. At Tier 2, a greater level of support, students are identified by common assessments and teacher recommendation. We provide reading, math, and social/emotional interventions in small groups across all grade levels. This school year we included pilot curricula in both math and SEL (Social Emotional Learning).

Our goal for communicating with members of our school community is to be clear, consistent, relevant, and accessible. The District has launched a new website wherein families can find all information about the school, including registration, family newsletters, and policies.

As a school, we seek to maintain the academic excellence and rigor of our curriculum while pursuing continuous improvement through curricular research and exploration. We support the District's Strategic Plan and have deepened our commitment to "create, foster, and implement culturally responsive practices to inform, educate, and improve our school community." Teachers are trained to bring culture and inclusion into the curriculum, and the school and classroom libraries offer literature representing a broad range of people. Professional development continues in this vein as we interpret and implement the recommendations from the district-wide equity audit.

Special Education

The Special Education Department works with students, families, and staff to provide a broad range of services that allow children access to the curriculum through modified instruction and materials, and in a supportive environment that meets students' needs. Special education and general education teachers collaborate to achieve the most effective planning and programming for students with complex needs, so that the school can better serve all children and maintain an inclusive environment.

We provide the following services and programs: assessment for Dover children younger than age five; programming options in the integrated preschool; counseling for social/emotional well-being; behavioral supports; speech and language therapy; occupational therapy; and physical therapy. These services are further supported by a state and federally mandated Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC), a parent-volunteer organization that works with all the schools in the Dover-Sherborn system.

School Advisory Council

The School Advisory Council (SAC) is a state-mandated committee of teachers, parents, and a community representative. It assists the school with the development of the School Improvement Plan and serves in an advisory capacity to the Principal. The SAC works collaboratively to identify the educational needs of school and to facilitate communication between the school and community.

During the 2023–24 school year, the SAC will continue reviewing our communication strategies and MTSS system to understand and support the process.

PTO

The Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) is made up of parents/guardians, with co-chairs, and a board that oversees fundraising, spending, and program development. We also have a teacher liaison to the organization. The PTO alternates its yearly fundraising efforts between an auction and a check-writing campaign, with funds primarily supporting curriculum enrichment. We are grateful for the generous support of the Dover

community, which enables us to provide teacher grants and a richer educational environment for our students.

Conclusion

Education remains a top priority in Dover. Our students are a part of a thoughtful and engaged learning community that offers an exceptional "whole child" educational experience for them, delivered by highly skilled and dedicated staff. The curriculum is designed to be inclusive, foster curiosity, and create a lifelong love of learning. We hold steadfast to our commitment to continual growth and improvement, and to making a difference in the lives of children.



Image source: Twitter (Chickering School, @ChickeringDover, 2023).

Report of the Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee

Judi Miller, Chair (Sherborn)
Mark Healey, Vice Chair (Dover)
Angie Johnson, Secretary (Sherborn)
Maggie Charron (Dover)
Kate Potter (Sherborn)
Colleen Burt (Dover)

The mission of the Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee (DSRSC) is to ensure that our nationally recognized, high-performing school system continues to provide innovative teaching and learning experiences that inspire and support all students on their individual educational journeys. Dover and Sherborn members of the DSRSC are elected by Dover and Sherborn citizens, respectively, on a rotating basis of one member each year for a three-year term.

Enrollment

As of October 2023, enrollment in the Dover-Sherborn Regional School District (the District) was 1,111 students.

District Strategic Plan

Superintendent McCoy had used her entry plan data to develop and propose a five-year Strategic Plan in spring 2023. This plan, adopted in September 2023, prioritizes both rigor and innovative practices to prepare students for an ever-evolving world. It aims to challenge and support every student, fostering a growth mindset through comprehensive programs and a welcoming environment. The plan champions educator development through collaboration and professional growth opportunities, while seeking family and community partnerships to realize a shared vision. In addition to direct and “whole child” student support in pursuit of academic and extra-curricular excellence for all, it commits to evaluating and optimizing facilities to ensure the safety and sustainability of learning spaces. It seeks at all times to provide a dynamic educational environment. The clear vision, mission, and goals of this Strategic Plan ensure sound and actionable progress in the coming years.

Academic Outcomes

The District remains one of the leaders in the Commonwealth in terms of academic outcomes for our students.

Next Generation MCAS testing results for 2023 were as follows:

- **English Language Arts:** Eighty-six percent of sophomores met or exceeded expectations (state average 58%).
- **Mathematics:** Eighty-eight percent of sophomores met or exceeded expectations (state average 50%).
- **Science and Technology/Engineering:** Eighty-six percent of sophomores met or exceeded expectations (state average 47%).

In 2023, 223 students took Advanced Placement (AP) courses in 15 subjects. In testing, 95% of the student scores were 3 or above, qualifying those students to earn equivalent college credit at most institutions.

Seventy-nine percent of the class of 2023 took the SAT, with mean test scores of 657 for Evidence-based Reading and Writing and 652 for Math.

In addition to its focus on strong academic outcomes, the District remains firmly committed to ensuring the social-emotional wellness of its students and continues its work with “Challenge Success” (www.challengesuccess.org), which has encouraged our schools to consider the whole child in their definition of success.

Leadership and Faculty

During the 2022–23 school year, we were fortunate to have Superintendent Elizabeth McCoy and Assistant Superintendent Denton Conklin accept positions to lead the District. They continue to build relationships and drive programming as their leadership was renewed into the current (2023–24) academic year.

Additionally, Ann Dever-Keegan, previous Dover-Sherborn High School (DSHS) Assistant Principal, was appointed as Interim Principal of Dover-Sherborn Middle School (DSMS) on July 1, and Timothy O’Mara, former DSHS guidance counselor, has taken the Interim Assistant Principal position for DSHS. Superintendent McCoy and Principal Smith continue to work hard to support the new leaders and strengthen the Regional Schools’ collaborative leadership for grades 6–12. Retirements at the District in 2023 included a number of educators and office staff: Lori Alighieri, Ellen Hyman, Deidre Clancy-Kelley, Susan Connelly, Maria Laskaris, and Susan Barss. We wish each of these dedicated professionals all the best in their retirement and thank them for their many years of dedicated service to our students and community.

Finance

The DSRSC thanks the citizens of Dover and Sherborn for their continued generous support of the schools. The District’s Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) budget is \$27,972,450 an increase of \$948,727 (3.51%) over the FY23 budget. Operating expenditures include: salaries and benefits, including other post-employment benefits (\$23,490,675); buildings, grounds, and utilities

(\$1,272,950); debt service (\$789,400); transportation (\$1,039,200), and other expenditures (\$1,380,315). State aid covered \$3,091,741 of these operating expenses. Revenues from student activity fees (\$45–\$75 per student); parking fees (\$300 per permit); and athletic fees (\$335 per sport, with a cap of \$1,340 per family) covered \$361,175 of these expenses. Remaining expenditures are funded generously through local taxes. The District's E&D (Excess and Deficiency) account submitted for certification as of June 30, 2023, is \$1,126,642. This account operates under Massachusetts General Laws in a manner similar to a town's Free Cash.

The DSRSC is grateful for the incredible support it received in both time and money from the Dover-Sherborn Boosters, the Friends of the Performing Arts, the PTO, POSITIVE, the Alan Thayer Mudge Memorial Fund, and the broader community. These groups continued to generously support us in 2023, and their contributions are critical to maintaining our excellent programs.

Contractual Agreements

In June 2023, a three-year teachers' contract, set to begin in September 2023, was negotiated and approved by the three local and regional school committees and the Dover-Sherborn Education Association (DSEA). The Educators' Agreement (Agreement), effective through August 31, 2026, fairly and sustainably accommodates the educational standards we expect for our students while providing support for the high-quality services expected from our educators. At the same time, it acknowledges the constraints affecting town, state, and federal budgets. We are grateful for the continued cooperation between the Town and District leadership and the DSEA, and we believe the Agreement achieves its three fundamental goals of supporting our students effectively, creating fair working conditions for our employees, and ensuring sustainable costs for our taxpayers.

Facilities

Our buildings and grounds represent a major educational investment by Dover and Sherborn for now and the future. To protect this investment, the DSRSC has a long-range capital maintenance and improvement plan for the physical assets of the district-wide campus. The DSRSC works with the finance committees and select boards of both towns to determine how to best fund upcoming capital expenses required to maintain the facilities and equipment coming off warranty from the 2005 construction and renovation project. Capital projects completed in summer 2023 included work at DSHS. In Lindquist Commons, bathroom renovations included new hand dryers and motion-sensor faucets for sustainability. In the school's math wing, new environmentally friendly flooring introduced a low-maintenance alternative which will save significant incremental labor hours each summer. Funding for the projects completed in 2023 was provided through use of the District's E&D funding. Looking forward, we anticipate the need to update the turf field and track. In addition, we continue to work cooperatively

with sustainability groups from both towns, and to investigate funding opportunities available through the State's Green Communities Designation and Grant Program. This program supports communities in achieving environmental goals through energy efficiencies and reducing life-cycle costs in buildings and construction.

Membership

Dover resident Colleen Burt joined the DSRSC for a three-year term, replacing Lynn Collins who had served a three-year term. The DSRSC is thankful for her service.

Visit www.doversherborn.org to keep up with changes, school events, or to contact our staff or school committees.



Community Service Club. Photo courtesy of Dover-Sherborn High School.

Report of the Dover-Sherborn Middle School

Ann Dever-Keegan, Interim Principal

The mission of the Dover-Sherborn Middle School (DSMS) is to meet the needs of all students through a nurturing, supportive, and challenging learning environment where students, parents, caregivers, and teachers embrace our core values to ensure excellence and success now and in the future.

DSMS continues to provide an outstanding educational experience and positive culture for its students in grades 6, 7, and 8. Our talented staff, the availability of state-of-the-art technology, a beautiful library, and student-friendly space make the school a welcoming place for all students. Thanks to a supportive community and budget allocation, our teachers have many resources at their disposal. Class size continues to be approximately 16 students and the daily curriculum is both challenging and exciting. DSMS is a one-to-one school and again this year provided each student with a new ACER Chromebook, enabling students to research, write, collaborate, and create in real time in the classroom.

Our theme for the 2023–24 school year is “Be Kind, Be Curious, Be You.” DSMS staff work to infuse these actions into our students’ everyday experiences and ultimately create a school community that is full of kindness, curiosity, and students walking their own paths.

Recognition and Awards

- **Project 351:** Once again two eighth-grade students represented DSMS at the Governor’s youth community service organization, which promotes leadership, development, enrichment, and impact.
- **Student Leadership Awards:** At all-school assemblies our staff presents “shout-outs” to students demonstrating leadership, scholarship, citizenship, and our school values of kindness, curiosity, and individuality.
- **MATHCOUNTS:** Our 2022–23 DSMS MathCounts team returned to in-person competition in 2023. Twelve students attended, and our team of four mathletes placed sixth at the Metrowest Chapter regional competition.

Activity Highlights

The following are just some of the curriculum enrichment activities that took place throughout the year:

- **Music and arts presentations:** DSMS Choirs, Concert Band, and Jazz Band students had the opportunity to shine at events such as the Dover-Sherborn Jazz Brunch, Winter and Spring Concerts, the Chocolate Cafe, and more, both during and after school hours. Many of these events are supported by the D-S Friends of the Performing Arts (FoPA). Term 1 general music classes shared their Band and Blues Fest culminating performances, as will the following term classes. The creative and powerful work of our visual arts students can be viewed throughout the year in our lobby’s art gallery.
- **D-S Drama fall musical presentation:** This past fall, our very talented DSMS cast and crew put on an incredible production of *Mary Poppins*. Our performers sang, danced, and acted, dazzling audiences by their energetic performances, as well as by the extraordinary costumes and set design.
- **Turkey Tourney:** The half-day prior to the Thanksgiving break is dedicated to building community and positive school culture. Students and staff take part in decorating doors, playing turkey toss, and running a turkey trot. The morning ends with an all-school assembly featuring our student musicians, a slide show, and student shout-outs.

The following groups focused on many community-service projects:

- **The Student Council** successfully hosted dances for grades 7 and 8. This group also plans and promotes many school spirit events such as Spirit Days and Weeks.
- **Help Club** has raised money for Making Strides Against Cancer, JB Keys, The Trevor Project, and Riverside Community Care.
- **Citizen Action Groups**, or CAGs, are the mainstay of our citizenship program for all eighth-grade students. During the first half of the year, students learn about various issues and concerns in our community. They then choose to join a CAG that matches their interests, such as working with the environment, assisting local food pantries, supporting local veterans, addressing hunger and homelessness, and mentoring and helping children in need. Each CAG has 15–20 students and a teacher who work together to explore and address the issue. In May, all CAGs participate in a service day at various venues in the area.

- **DSMS D1A (Day One, A Block):** This new student group planned and held the school's annual opening assembly, which serves as a welcome to new students, as well as a welcome back to the entire school community. Student-led activities and presentations covered all the important and exciting things that DSMS has to offer, as well as expectations for our community.
- **Trip to Washington, D.C.:** This year, after a pause due to the pandemic, we were able to successfully re-establish the eighth-grade annual trip to Washington D.C.

Professional Development

DSMS is committed to providing learning and growth opportunities for its staff through professional development that is aligned with District and DSMS initiatives to promote a culture of data and tiered support for students, student engagement, and social and emotional learning. This year's offerings continue our focus on best teaching practices that deepen student engagement and learning, and on refining curricular resources to better ensure that all student needs are met.

Grants

In 2023, POSITIVE (Parents Offering Support In Time, Involvement, Volunteering, Enthusiasm) provided grants for academic and extracurricular enrichment. DSMS is grateful for the generous support of this group.



Dover-Sherborn Middle School production of Mary Poppins. Photo courtesy of Dover-Sherborn Drama.

Report of the Dover-Sherborn High School

John G. Smith, Principal

Dover-Sherborn High School (DSHS) is a community of learners whose goal is to inspire academic excellence and a commitment to personal and civic responsibility. We engage in the learning process with honesty, creativity, dedication, and respect, and seek to cultivate an atmosphere of freedom and trust in a safe and nurturing environment.

DSHS is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and consistently ranks among the top public schools for academic excellence in both Massachusetts and the nation. Our students excel in the classroom, on the stage as musicians and actors, and as athletes on the various playing fields and venues in our area. We are grateful for the support of our community and our parents and guardians.

Curriculum Requirements

In the 2022–23 school year, DSHS served approximately 660 students in grades 9 through 12. Each year, over 90% of graduating students attend four-year colleges and universities. To graduate, all students must complete four years of English, four years of mathematics, and three years each of laboratory sciences, social studies, and world language. They must also earn 18 credits in the fine and performing arts and/or technology, engineering and computer science and 12.5 credits in wellness (physical and health education). In addition, they must complete 40 hours of community service and pass the required state MCAS (Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System) exams.

Although DSHS offers three levels of courses in each of the academic disciplines, students are not tracked. DSHS also does not compute “rank-in-class” for its students, a policy approved by the Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee.

Most departments offer a variety of courses that are heterogeneously grouped. The schedule is based on an eight-day rotation. All primary courses (and most electives) meet six times out of the eight-day cycle, and each class meets for nearly an hour. Laboratory sciences may meet up to two additional periods each cycle.

Academic Testing

PSAT

The PSAT was offered in October 2022 to juniors and sophomores. One hundred ten juniors (63% of the class) and 108 sophomores (70% of the class) took the test. Based on their scores, 21 students received National Merit Scholarship Program Letters of Commendation and two students were recognized as National Merit Semifinalists.

SAT

- **SAT I:** Seventy-nine percent of the Class of 2023 took the SAT test, with 77% of the students earning a combined score of over 1200 in Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and in Mathematics. The following table shows the average of the highest SAT test scores for the Class of 2023 and the previous senior class as calculated in Naviance. Compared with national and state averages, DSHS students significantly outperform their peers.

SAT Mean Scores						
	Class of 2022			Class of 2023		
	DSHS	MA	US	DSHS	MA	US
Evidence-Based Reading & Writing	641	567	529	648	560	520
Mathematics	651	561	521	643	551	508

AP

Fifteen AP (Advanced Placement) courses were offered during the 2022–23 academic year. These courses are typically offered during the junior and senior years and allow students to maximize their educational opportunities within the confines of the master schedule and graduation requirements. All students receiving AP credit are expected to take the AP examination at the end of the year. In spring 2023, 223 students took 540 examinations. The results for individual courses are as follows:



Robotics Club. Photo courtesy of Dover-Sherborn High School.

AP Course	# Students	Students Scoring 3 or Higher (%)
Biology	44	100
Calculus AB	16	100
Calculus BC	24	100
Chemistry	42	100
Computer Science A	23	96
English Language and Composition (G-11)	74	92
English Literature and Composition (G-12)	51	100
French Language and Culture	11	100
Latin (Not offered in 2021-22)	5	100
Physics C: Mechanics	17	94
Spanish Language	12	100
Statistics	48	79
Studio Art: 2D Art & Design	11	82
U.S. Government and Politics (G-12)	75	92
U.S. History (G-11)	78	99

MCAS

For the 2023 MCAS exams, the Commonwealth is using the Next Generation MCAS test. The testing highlights for DSHS students are as follows:

- **English Language Arts:** Eighty-six percent of sophomores met or exceeded expectations (state average 58%).
- **Mathematics:** Eighty-eight percent of sophomores met or exceeded expectations (state average 50%).
- **Science and Technology/Engineering:** Eighty-six percent of sophomores met or exceeded expectations (state average 47%).

Graduate Post-Secondary Plans			
	Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023
Four-Year College	94%	93%	96%
Two-Year College	1%	2%	<1%
Post-Graduate Program	2%	2%	<1%
Other (gap year, job)	3%	3%	3%

Departmental Highlights

ENGLISH

The English Department offers courses at the college preparatory and honors levels for freshmen and sophomores, and at the college preparatory, honors, and advanced placement (AP) levels for juniors and seniors. During their freshman year, students focus on the themes of identity and self-discovery through their study of short stories, novels, drama, poetry, and nonfiction. Sophomores explore great themes in literature and hone their analytical and expository writing skills. AP courses include English Language and Composition offered to juniors, and English Literature and Composition offered to seniors. Juniors not enrolled in AP English Language take a full year of American Literature at either the college preparatory or honors level. Seniors not enrolled in AP English Literature enroll in two of five same-level courses in focused areas, such as contemporary literature, poetry, film, and nonfiction studies.

Through effective reading, writing, and critical thinking, we hope our students will use their language and communication skills to understand more about themselves, their world, their responsibility toward others, and their place in both the local and global communities.

MATHEMATICS

The Mathematics Department provides standard courses at college preparatory and honors levels, with Algebra 1 or Geometry in grade 9, Geometry or Algebra II in grade 10, and Algebra II or Precalculus in grade 11. Several options are offered in grade 12, depending on previous levels of proficiency attained: AP Calculus BC, AP Calculus AB, Honors Calculus, College Preparatory Calculus, AP Statistics, Probability and Statistics, and Precalculus and Applied Topics. We also continue to offer a semester-long elective course, Financial Literacy, which is available to students in grades 11 or 12 who have passed Algebra II. A new semester-long elective, Business Marketing & Public Speaking, is being developed for 2024–25.

The Dover-Sherborn Math Team, a member of the *Southeastern Massachusetts Mathematics League*, continued its strong tradition of success, placing third out of 36 schools in Southeastern Massachusetts for the 2022–23 school year. Based on our third place finish among medium-sized schools in the *Massachusetts State Championships*, our team also qualified to represent the state in an invitational meet with the *New England Association of Math Leagues*. This was the first time the team qualified to compete at this level in more than 20 years, and it finished third overall in New England in the small/medium school division.

SCIENCE

The Science Department provides a rigorous curriculum sequence at the college preparatory, honors, and AP levels, with three years of coursework required for graduation: Biology in grade 9, Chemistry in grade 10, and Physics in grade 11. Electives open to juniors and seniors are AP Biology,

AP Chemistry, AP Physics, Advanced Topics in Biology, Anatomy and Physiology, Astronomy, Environmental Research, Forensic Science, and Marine Science.

The Science Olympiad team has been performing well in monthly West Suburban Science League competitions and is currently ranked fourth. Last year, five AP Chemistry students were nominated by their teacher to compete in the sectional competition of the *U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad*, the Avery Ashdown Exam. One student placed in the top 25 students in Eastern Massachusetts, qualifying him to compete in the National Chemistry Exam against the top 900 students in the country. Last spring, AP Physics students earned first place at the *Eastern Massachusetts Physics Olympics*. Physics students also demonstrated a quantum diamond exhibit at the Museum of Science.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Courses are offered in history and the social sciences at both the college preparatory and honors levels for freshmen and sophomores, and at three levels (college preparatory, honors, and advanced placement) for juniors and seniors. World History I & II and U.S. History are required of all students. Electives include AP American Government, Government and Law, Economics, Introduction to Psychology, and Facing History.

For 2023 AP examinations, 92% of our U.S. Government students qualified with a passing score of 3 or better, while the national average was 49%. In U.S. History, 99% of our students qualified with a score of a 3 or better, while the national average was 48%.

The Social Studies Department's enrichment programs and activities included the *EPIIC Tufts Inquiry Program; a Model U.N. Simulation* in Boston; *Mock Trial*, in which our team finished third in the state competitions; and the *Close-Up Program*, a weeklong government studies program held in Washington, D.C. The Department's *2023 Summer Reading Program* for grades 9–12 continued to focus on themes and issues of systemic racism, various distinct cultures within American society, and the growing polarization in American politics.

Honors and Awards: Several students received honors or awards in 2023. One student received the Daughters of the American Revolution Award for excellence in character, service, leadership, and patriotism; two students each received a youth leadership award and represented DSHS at the *Hugh O'Brien Sophomore Youth Leadership Conference*; one student received the Fredrick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony Community Service and Social Justice Award; and another student received the Social Studies Award presented at the *Senior Academic Award Night*.

WORLD LANGUAGE

The World Language Department offers four-year sequential programs in French, Spanish, Latin, and Chinese, in both college preparatory and honors tracks. Students progress from novice to intermediate stages of language proficiency in French, Spanish, Latin, and Chinese. AP French

Language and Culture, AP Latin, and AP Spanish Language and Culture courses are offered.

Honors and Awards: A number of World Language students received honors for the 2022–23 school year. In fall 2022, 26 students were inducted into the Dover-Sherborn World Language Honor Society for their achievement and dedication to learning world languages and cultures. In May 2023, seven students received awards from the Massachusetts State Seal of Bilingualism: one in French and six in Spanish.

FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS

Performing Arts (Theatre and Music): Courses offered include Music Theory, Guitar I and II, American Musical Theater, and Acting Workshop, newly added. Additionally, three performance ensemble courses are offered: Chorus, Concert Band, and the Jazz Band (by audition). These groups perform at many school and community events throughout the year. Course offerings and their adjacent performances seek to provide opportunities for the creation and enjoyment of music for all D-S students and community members.

Schedule changes made four years ago to improve student access to ensembles have yielded excellent results, in that the Concert Band and Chorus now consistently enroll over 60 high school students in each ensemble—more than double the enrollment numbers prior to 2020.

Visual Arts: Courses offered include Art 2D, Art 3D, Ceramics I and II, AP Studio Art, Darkroom Photography, Digital Photography, Yearbook Design I, II, and III, Computer Graphic Design, and Silkscreen Printing. These course offerings provide the opportunity for all D-S students to create and enjoy art.

Honors and Awards: D-S students and their teachers continue to distinguish themselves in activities and competitions outside the school:

- *Scholastic Art Awards* recognized three of our students for their artistic works. Collectively these three students received four Gold Key, one Silver Key, and two Honorable Mentions.
- *Eastern District Senior Festivals*, sponsored by the Massachusetts Music Educators' Association (MMEA), awarded honors to six students, three of whom went on to perform at the MMEA All-State Festival at Symphony Hall in Boston, and one student also went on to perform regionally at the All-Eastern Festival.

TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

During the past nine years, the primary goal of the Technology, Engineering, and Computer Science Department has been to more strongly align the grade 6–8 and grade 9–12 curriculums to better prepare students for college courses in computer science and engineering. To build a strong foundation for their subsequent high school courses, Dover-Sherborn

Middle School (DSMS) students take engineering courses at all three grade levels. Students in grades 6 and 7 take computer science, with a heavy emphasis on programming. Eighth-grade students complete a capstone-style project that combines their previously learned coding skills with a hands-on aspect, such as coding a video game and building and wiring a controller.

At the high school level, 14 new courses have been created over eight years. All course offerings, both new and previously existing, are now a continuation of the DSMS curriculum. The entire curriculum for each course offered in grades 6–12 is reviewed and updated each year. During the 2022–23 school year, we focused on cultural responsiveness and worked to add meaningful and thought-provoking units to each course. In 2023–24, we will continue thoroughly examining our curriculum units for their equality and diversity.

The Department offers the following computer courses for high school students: Social Media Literacy, Intro to CAD, Web Design Using HTML & CSS, Computer Programming with Java Script, Technology and Society, iOS App Design, Video Game Design, and a capstone AP Computer Science course for sophomores, juniors, or seniors. Our newest course offerings will include a business course and also the AP Computer Science A for the 2024–25 school year. The Department also offers engineering and technology classes, including TV Media I, II, and III, and Industrial Technology I and II. A yearlong Engineering course is offered at both the college preparatory and honors levels and may be taken for science or elective credits that count toward graduation.



*Dover-Sherborn High School production of The Music Man.
Photo courtesy of Dover-Sherborn Drama.*

WELLNESS

The Freshman Wellness Curriculum requires one semester each of Contemporary Issues covering nutrition, sexuality, mental health, and alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; and one semester each of Outdoor Education (one quarter) and Fitness Development (one quarter). Students in grades 10–12 can choose from the following electives: Cardiovascular Fitness, Outdoor Pursuits, General Survival, Student Leadership Internship, Stress Management, Sport Education (Net Sports, Winter Team Sports), Dance Education, CPR/AED Training, Yoga/Pilates, Coaching, Teaching, Recreation and Leadership, Fitness Program Planning, Drugs and Society, Muscular Fitness, Sports and Society, RAD (Rape, Aggression, Defense Systems), and Target Sports.

GUIDANCE

College Counseling: Eighty-eight percent of the Class of 2023 completed some form of early decision, priority, or early action applications to colleges and universities. To respond to the growing number of early college applications, counselors facilitate a five-class seminar series for grades 11 and 12. Juniors participate in spring classes that help prepare them in advance for college applications, including completing their resumes, beginning their essays, and starting work on their Common Application. Seniors begin their seminar series during the first week of school and can complete their Common Application online, add schools to Naviance, edit and complete their essays, and participate in mock interviews. Seminars covering stress management, high school transition, and career and personal exploration are also available to freshmen and sophomores.

Counselors meet with seniors individually and in groups. They also host representatives from more than 100 colleges and universities and spend time strengthening their working relationships. Counselors meet several times with juniors individually to discuss the college application process and to guide their post-secondary educational planning. Counselors also meet with freshmen and sophomores to discuss their academic and future career plans, as well as introduce them to online programs that aid students in college and career exploration. An overview of the guidance curriculum can be found on the high school website.

Support Programs: The Guidance Department offers several support programs:

- *Freshman welcoming activities* support freshmen during their transition to high school.
- *The Peer Helper Program* this past year trained 40 upper-class students to assist incoming freshman with healthy decision-making, respect for others, study and exam-taking strategies, social issues, and expectations for their sophomore year.

- *The Signs of Suicide (SOS) Program* for sophomores and seniors teaches students how to identify the symptoms of depression and suicide in themselves or their friends and encourages them to seek help.
- *Parent-departmental meetings* are held throughout the year to discuss important issues and concerns specific to each grade level.

LIBRARY

The DSHS library is a place where students and faculty can read, research a topic, access information, or complete a homework assignment. It is equipped with large tables for student collaboration, private study booths, and 16 computers for word-processing or online searches. The collection includes approximately 20,000 print volumes, six newspapers, and 20 periodicals. In addition, patrons can search the library catalog for a growing collection of e-books. Digital services include online databases available from Massachusetts Regional Library System and those purchased by subscription, as well as thousands of ebooks and audio-based materials via OverDrive. The library houses a portable cart with 25 iPads and 15 Chromebooks for classroom use. An average day brings approximately 300 students and teachers to the library.

ATHLETICS

The 2022–23 school year was a very successful one for D-S athletics. Student athletes and their coaches worked extremely hard, ultimately achieving a 205–97–13 record (67% wins) across all three seasons and earning second place (behind Norwell High School) in *The Boston Globe's* D4 Ames Award given to the athletic program with the highest winning percentage in their state division.

During graduation week, the Athletic Department recognized 16 student athletes, eight female and eight male, who will each play a sport at the next level in college athletics in fall 2023.

Winter Sports: The winter sports season ran from November 2022 to March 2023, with 265 participants across 13 sports. Both Boys and Girls Basketball won TVL Small Championship titles for the first time in school history; for the girls it was their first league title ever. Boys Basketball made the MIAA D3 tournament, losing in the first round; and the Girls Basketball advanced to the MIAA D3 Elite 8 Game at Rockland. Boys Alpine Ski won the MBE League, while Girls Alpine Ski came in second. Boys Alpine Ski placed third and Girls Alpine Ski placed 12th at the MIAA State race. Boys Ice Hockey qualified for the MIAA D4 Tournament, qualifying for the Sweet 16 Round at Sandwich after upsetting Boston Latin Academy in the MIAA D3 Round of 32. Girls Ice Hockey qualified for the MIAA D1 State Tournament at Winthrop. Boys and Girls Nordic Ski, the Boys and Girls Swim and Dive, and the Boys and Girls Indoor Track and Field teams all qualified for the MIAA State tournament. Members of Boys Basketball received TVL MVP honors.

Spring Sports: The spring sports season ran from March to June, with 301 students participating in nine sports. Girls Lacrosse, Boys Lacrosse, Boys Tennis, and Girls Tennis all won TVL Small Championship titles. In addition, Boys Lacrosse advanced to the MIAA D4 Final Four game; Boys Tennis was MIAA D3 State finalist; and Girls Tennis was MIAA D3 Final Four finalist. Baseball qualified for tournament play but lost in the MIAA D3 Round of 32. Girls Track and Field and Boy's Track and Field both broke records in the 1600 SMR: for the girls, the 3xTJ relay, and for the boys, the 4x100. Sailing competed in six races, finishing 11–18. Girls Lacrosse, Boys Lacrosse, Boys Tennis, and Boys Track and Field each had a member who earned TVL Small MVP honors. TVL Coach of the Year honors went to coaches of Girls Tennis, Boys Lacrosse, and Girls Lacrosse.

Fall Sports: The fall 2023 sports season ran from August to November, with 292 participants in seven sports. Golf, Girls Cross Country, Girls Soccer, and Field Hockey all won TVL Small Championship titles. Golf also won the MIAA D2 Sectional Championship and went on to win the MIAA D2 State Championship, its second state championship in three seasons; a sophomore team member also won the MIAA D2 Individual State Championship with a score of 72 on the day. Girls Cross Country was MIAA D2 State finalist at both Divisionals and All-States, its best finish in school history. Boys Cross Country was MIAA D2 State finalists at Divisionals, and 11th at All-States. Together the Boys and the Girls Cross Country teams had the best combined finish in school history. Both Girls Soccer and Field Hockey were MIAA D3 Final Four finalists for the second season in a row. Field Hockey Boys Soccer qualified for the MIAA D3 Elite 8 game after winning its first two games. Football placed fourth in the TVL Small. TVL MVP honors went to individual members of Golf, Girls Cross Country, Girls Soccer, and Field Hockey. Coach of the Year honors went to coaches of Girls Soccer, Girls Cross Country, and Field Hockey.



*Girls Lacrosse State Championship.
Photo courtesy of Dover-Sherborn High School.*

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

On October 19, 2023, 47 students were inducted into the Dover-Sherborn High School Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS), bringing our D-S membership to 85 leaders and scholars. Admission to the NHS is granted to juniors and seniors who have demonstrated a commitment to academics by attaining a GPA of 3.8 or higher, and who exemplify the NHS pillars of character, leadership, and service. Admission into the National Honor Society takes years of perseverance and self-motivation, and our members are a testament to the power of Dover-Sherborn students to use their education to make a difference. Our current NHS members serve the local community by tutoring fellow students and community members, completing an individual service project, and raising money for the Greater Boston Food Bank. Information about membership requirements and the NHS application can be found on the high school's website.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Our school is proud to offer students a number of diverse clubs, organizations, and opportunities to become involved in our D-S school community. An activity fee of \$75 is required for participation in many of the clubs on campus.

- **Academic and student-life organizations:** Chess Team, Class Officers, Debate Team, Coding Club, Destination Imagination, EPIIC Tufts Inquiry, Harvard Model United Nations, Math Team, Mock Trial, National Honor Society, Robotics Team, *RUNES* literary magazine, School Newspaper, Science Olympiad, Senior Project, Student Council, and Yearbook.
- **Art, music, and drama clubs:** Two a cappella groups (DS al Coda and Noteworthy), Arts Club: Open Studios, Crew, Drama Club, Filmmaking Club, Knitting Club, Music Club, and Digital Recording Studio.
- **Social and cultural awareness groups:** AFS International Exchange Program, Health & Society, Asian Student Union (formerly CAPAY), Black Student Union, Cheer Club, Community Service Club, Down to Earth, Fitness Club, Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA), Global Citizenship Program, Hispanic/ Latino Student Union, Home Economics Club, Jewish Heritage Club, MARC, Medical Club, Peer Helping, Red Cross Club, Relay for Life, STEM Club, Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD), Sustainability Task Force, Volleyball Club, Women's Group, and World of Difference.

Parent and Community Groups

D-S BOOSTERS

The D-S Boosters supported the athletic program with grants for the purchase of capital items. It continues to promote community spirit and provide recognition to student athletes participating in all sports at DSHS.

D-S FRIENDS OF THE PERFORMING ARTS (FoPA)

FoPA is a 501(c)3 organization of parents and community volunteers who support the vocal and instrumental music and drama programs at the D-S Regional Schools. FoPA awards scholarships to seniors who have demonstrated excellence in the performing arts. It funds grants for workshops, equipment, and material requests, and provides production support for the concert bands, jazz bands, a cappella groups, and drama programs and students. (More information is available at www.doversherbornfopa.org.)

PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION (PTO)

The DSHS PTO is organized for charitable educational purposes to actively support the Administration, to promote and encourage communication between parents, teachers, and the school in matters of common interest, and to encourage spirit building initiatives among student, faculty, and community. Its ongoing efforts are managed through monthly meetings that are open to all parents and guardians of DSHS students. The board includes representatives from many parent organizations, the Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee, and parents/guardians of students in each of the four grades. Meetings typically begin with an update from Principal Smith and often include teachers or administrators who talk about their areas of expertise and answer questions. Specific meeting dates, times, and locations are posted on the DSHS calendar. New faces and voices are always welcome. To learn more about the DSHS PTO, please visit our website at <https://sites.google.com/site/dshspto2015/>.

GUIDANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL (GAC)

The Guidance Advisory Council is composed of three representatives from each grade for grades 6–12, each serving two-year terms. It serves as a communication channel between the middle and high school communities and the Guidance Office. Chaired by the Director of Guidance and a parent/guardian committee member, the Council's functions include communicating parent/guardian and community perspectives to the administration, assisting with Regional Schools tours for prospective students and families, and providing hospitality for guidance-sponsored events. Subcommittees support guidance programs and services designed to enhance the educational experience for students and parents/guardians in the Regional Schools. The Council meets five times per year: September, November, January, March, and May.

Report of

Dover-Sherborn Community Education

Lisa B. Sawin, Director

Elizabeth McCoy, Superintendent

Dover-Sherborn Community Education is a self-sustaining department of the Dover-Sherborn Regional Schools. Our mission is to provide programs that enrich the lives of everyone in our community. Our hope is to create lifelong learners through a community/school partnership that offers interesting, thought-provoking, and stimulating classes and programs at a reasonable cost. Community Education includes Extended Day at both Chickering and Pine Hill Elementary Schools, and Youth and Adult Enrichment classes.

Dover-Sherborn Community Education offers the following programs:

Extended Day

The tuition-based Extended Day Program is held at both elementary schools, where safe and stimulating after-school environments are provided for students in grades K–5. Children engage in arts and crafts projects, nature projects, outdoor physical activities, games, and creative play. Snacks are provided. The program is offered Monday through Friday with two afternoon pickup times: 5:15 p.m. and 6 p.m. At the time of this writing, 88 children were enrolled in Dover and 96 children in Sherborn. Both programs maintain waiting lists.

After-School Enrichment

After-school enrichment programs providing age-appropriate classes for elementary and high school students are also offered. Classes for students are held at Pine Hill Elementary School, Chickering Elementary School, Dover-Sherborn Middle School (DSMS), and Dover-Sherborn High School (DSHS).

In 2023 we offered both virtual and in-person classes. Offerings for grades K–5 included Cupcake Decorating, Flag Football, Hip Hop, Chess, Lego Construction, Home Alone, Paint Your Pet, Drawing, and Babysitting and Childcare. We also supported and oversaw the DSMS Drama program during the summer and facilitated string instrument lessons in all four schools during the school year.

Adult Enrichment

In 2023, the Community Education Adult Program offered a combination of virtual and in-person classes. Virtual classes included Understanding Medicare, Demystifying Social Security, Estate Planning, and How to Apply for College Financial Aid. In-person classes included Boating Skills, Seamanship and Basic Navigation, Floral Design classes, SAT Prep, Dog Obedience, Watercolor Painting, Oil Painting, Guitar Lessons, First Aid, CPR, and Golf Lessons at the Needham Golf Club.

We also collaborated with other communities, including Concord-Carlisle, Acton-Boxborough and Medway, to offer classes such as Line Dancing, Ballroom Dancing, Instant Piano and Instant

Guitar for Hopelessly Busy People. Partnering with The Glass Bar in Needham, we offered in-person classes for youths and adults on various glass-fusing techniques. New this year, we partnered with Social Club Simple to offer virtual classes, including How to Use Uber Transportation for Independence, Using Snapchat Safely, Google Sheets for Awesome Beginners, and others. Virtual classes are recorded to allow viewing them at any time. Additional support is also provided by the instructor following the class for students who have questions. We plan to continue offering virtual classes, since they appear to work well for both students and instructors

Registration

Registration for the Extended Day Program is held in March for the following school year. Registration for all other programs, including Adult Enrichment, begins once brochures have been distributed or when the information is posted online. Full class descriptions and all brochures and flyers can be found at www.doversherborn.org (click on “Students & Families,” then “Community Education”). Online program registration is available at <https://dscommed.communityroot.com/index/registration>.

Contact Information

The Community Education office is located in Lindquist Commons on the DSHS campus, 9 Junction Street, Dover, MA 02030. Our phone number is (508) 785-0036, extension 7516.

Public Schools Enrollment

As of October 1, 2023

The following enrollment numbers represent Dover children attending Chickering Elementary School, Dover-Sherborn Middle School, and Dover-Sherborn High School:

Kindergarten	62
Grade 1	75
Grade 2	89
Grade 3	66
Grade 4	96
Grade 5	87
Grade 6	76
Grade 7	87
Grade 8	84
Grade 9	69
Grade 10	83
Grade 11	83
Grade 12	96
Total Enrollment	1,053



Boys Basketball Tri-Valley League Small Co-Champions.
Photo courtesy of Dover-Sherborn High School.

Dover Public Schools Financial Recapitulation

For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

REVENUE

School Aid (Chapter 70)	\$941,020
Total Revenue	\$941,020

EXPENDITURES

General Education	\$4,779,069
Special Education	3,329,815
Other	1,551,913
Total Expenditures	\$9,660,793

Net Cost to the Town	\$8,719,773
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Holiday bag decorating for the Council on Aging. Photo by Madison Butkus; courtesy of the Dover-Sherborn Hometown Weekly.

Dover-Sherborn Regional School District: Revenue Summary

For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

REVENUE

Revenue from Local Sources

Member Town Assessments	\$23,453,269
Student-related Fees	315,240
Earnings on Investments	130,848
Use of Excess & Deficiency Funds	110,000
Other	924
Total Revenue from Local Sources	24,010,281

Revenue from State Aid

School Aid (Chapter 70)	2,500,220
Transportation (Chapter 71)	658,551
Total Revenue from State Aid	3,158,771

Revenue from State and Federal Grants

906,991

Other Revenue

School Lunch	916,342
Community Education Programs	822,695
Other Local Receipts	68,957
Private Grants	21,679
Total Other Revenue	1,829,673

Total Revenue from All Sources	\$29,905,716
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Dover-Sherborn Regional School District: Expenditure Summary

For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

EXPENDITURES

Expenditures by the School Committee

General Education	\$12,486,264
Other Operating	9,637,734
Special Education	2,884,077
Transportation	932,137
Debt Service	835,200
Total Expenditures	26,775,412

Expenditures from State and Federal Grants

905,472

Other Expenditures

Community Education Programs	717,144
School Lunch	709,228
Private Grants	71,507
Other	44,739
Total Other Expenditures	1,542,618

Total Expenditures from All Funds **\$29,223,502**

Dover-Sherborn Regional School District: Total Gross Wages

For the Calendar Year 2023

	Regular Wages	Overtime/ Other	Total Gross Wages
Administration			
Ellen Chagnon	\$137,761		\$137,761
Denton Conklin*	154,280		154,280
Amy Davis*	3,900		3,900
Ann Dever-Keegan	144,500		144,500
Dawn Fattore*	158,750	\$1,336	160,086
Mary Feerick	66,169		66,169
SonjaLea Katz*	58,897		58,897
John Lafleche	21,172		21,172
David Lawrence	71,000		71,000
Janelle Madden*	80,253	600	80,853
Monique Marshall-Veale	94,562		94,562
Kathryn McCarthy*	150,850		150,850
Elizabeth McCoy*	212,625	5,000	217,625
Sean McGee*	103,783		103,783
Jennifer Meek	65,000	1,100	66,100
Timothy O'Mara	61,500		61,500
Anthony Ritacco Jr.*	119,742		119,742
Donna Scungio*	85,608		85,608
John Smith	163,050		163,050
Tracy Sockalosky	121,800		121,800
Emily Sullivan	108,154	1,200	109,354
Victoria Sulser	60,000	1,100	61,100
Robin Tusino	58,846		58,846
Leeanne Wilkie*	86,913		86,913
Administrative Assistants			
Susan Barss	31,061	1,180	32,241
Elizabeth Benatti	61,923	2,100	64,023
Susan Connelly*	19,292	9,155	28,446
Colette Cronin	33,395	525	33,920
Tracey DeFlaminio*	60,565		60,565
Nancy Fabian	37,915	300	38,215
Cheryl Ingersoll*	8,088	1,675	9,763
Janet Kwon	29,959	6,723	36,681
Kathryn Lonergan	61,923	1,300	63,223
Diane McCrobie*	74,095		74,095
Diane Morales	21,726	228	21,953

	Regular Wages	Overtime/ Other	Total Gross Wages
Administrative Assistants (Cont'd)			
Heather Olenik	\$14,318		\$14,318
Keri Romano Campbell*	60,809	\$325	61,134
Kathleen White	42,182	300	42,482
Coaches			
Cameron Bailen	1,033		1,033
Maura Bennett	8,312		8,312
Kurt Borgman	3,023		3,023
Brett Boyd	5,290		5,290
Daniel Carroll	3,023		3,023
Sarah Chapin	1,000		1,000
Kanee Chlebdia	16,247		16,247
Robert Conrad	7,000		7,000
Zachary Conrad	3,500		3,500
Ryan Debin	4,263		4,263
Carly Eckles	6,045		6,045
Robert Evans	3,100		3,100
Scott Foley	11,412		11,412
Richard Grady	9,068		9,068
Mark Gray	2,023		2,023
Joseph Gruseck	8,525		8,525
Evren Gunduz	11,698		11,698
Tara Gunduz	2,067		2,067
Stephen Harte	8,525		8,525
Hillary Havener	3,100		3,100
Jonathan Kirby	12,245		12,245
Kevin Kroesen	3,023		3,023
David Laidman	7,179		7,179
Eric Lochiatto	9,581		9,581
Angelo Macchiano	4,156		4,156
Ann Mann	6,045		6,045
Alexander Marlow	9,068		9,068
Erin Massimi	8,312		8,312
Molly McGill	8,525		8,525
Thomas McGill	4,500		4,500
Laura McGovern	3,023		3,023
Brian McLaughlin	8,312		8,312
Samuel Merten	12,950		12,950
Matthew Michel	3,023		3,023
Tonya Milbourn	8,525		8,525
Gavin Mish	3,023		3,023
Robert Mosher	13,330		13,330
Gianna Napoli	7,285		7,285
Meggan Newmarker	3,023		3,023
Maura O'Brien	3,023		3,023

	Regular Wages	Overtime/ Other	Total Gross Wages
Coaches (Cont'd)			
Dale Olmsted	\$13,045		\$13,045
Timothy O'Mara	10,201		10,201
Jerome Penn	7,000		7,000
Peter Phelan	1,000		1,000
Karen Raymond	6,045		6,045
Stephenson Ryan	16,479		16,479
Noah Schulze	7,285		7,285
Frederick Sears	2,521		2,521
David Swanson	3,250		3,250
Mark Thompson	6,045		6,045
Michael Tosone	4,263		4,263
Susannah Wheelwright	6,680		6,680
Robert Williamson	3,023		3,023
Eugene Zanella	3,023		3,023
Community Education			
Jennifer Bradley	2,520		2,520
Stephanie Cahoon	6,041	\$250	6,291
Tracey Carlin	49,769	6,080	55,849
Yi-Ju Chen	21,326	750	22,076
Kathryn Chiu	4,565	750	5,315
Samantha Conroy	3,776		3,776
Abigail Crane	1,750		1,750
John Crowley	11,860	250	12,110
Kathleen Demarzo	8,401		8,401
Carly Dow	2,943		2,943
Mary Ann Fabian	45,357		45,357
Krystelle Ghanem	640		640
Kate Giudice	875		875
Cecily Graham	19,587	250	19,837
Helen Haas	4,672		4,672
Nicole Harvey	4,215	250	4,465
Judy Jacobsen	297		297
Ashley MacNeil	4,843	4,435	9,278
Theresa Malvesti	3,931	750	4,681
Andrew Marden	2,344	500	2,844
Sean McCarthy	18,678	2,792	21,470
Alison Mueller	18,172	750	18,922
Jillian Newcomb	1,058		1,058
Audrey Parker	1,199		1,199
Kendall Parker	1,956	250	2,206
Marcia Pinkham	9,322	750	10,072
Andrea Reine-Wales	22,034	750	22,784
Erika Sabatino	1,663		1,663
Jordan Sabatino	1,286		1,286

	Regular Wages	Overtime/ Other	Total Gross Wages
Community Education (Cont'd)			
Lindsay Sawin	\$2,679		\$2,679
Lisa Sawin	47,971	\$650	48,621
Katelyn Schapira	3,791	250	4,041
Suzanne Sheridan	5,580	750	6,330
Brady Smith	21,648	750	22,398
Joel Sterling	924		924
Emily Stevens	1,546		1,546
Andrea Tizzano	1,804		1,804
Scott Walker	14,301		14,301
David Wilson	16,928	750	17,678
Keira Wilson	1,540		1,540
Custodians			
Dean Bogan	69,964	2,171	72,135
David Bonavire	47,463	575	48,038
Kevin Callahan	51,462	1,837	53,300
Gislaine DeOliveira	17,640	1,097	18,737
Maria DosSantos	17,004	545	17,549
Christopher Hendricks	70,898	10,842	81,740
Judy Jacobsen	5,460	132	5,592
Joseph Larose	51,462	17,732	69,194
Lenin Sanchez-Martinez	55,360	6,619	61,979
Jackson Schroeder	52,417	7,335	59,752
Eric Schwenderman	57,553	2,220	59,773
John Waters	51,462	4,916	56,379
Stanley Wohlfarth	45,600	9,059	54,659
Educational Assistants			
Raelene Asselin	17,964	1,880	19,844
Annmarie Bowen	24,740		24,740
Imanhi Bruno-Reeves	25,893	4,254	30,147
Daniel Carroll	19,635	2,336	21,971
Molly Cavanaugh	15,692		15,692
Gavin Connolly	32,485		32,485
Zachary Conrad	12,850	941	13,791
Valerie Cook	31,054	2,660	33,714
Courtney Denman	31,943	1,323	33,267
Sophia Devin	11,781	796	12,577
Carolyn Driscoll	6,063		6,063
Jane Fitch	19,635	136	19,771
Rachel Frangipane	13,998		13,998
Jennifer Giannetto	31,943	463	32,406
Grace Gillis	12,850	686	13,537
Gary Golden	31,943	1,359	33,302
Ramune Keegan	32,485	25	32,511
Kathleen Kelley	32,055		32,055

	Regular Wages	Overtime/ Other	Total Gross Wages
Educational Assistants (Cont'd)			
Kevin Kroesen	\$34,734	\$3,409	\$38,143
Jacqueline Lambros	12,850		12,850
Kelley Loneragan	32,485	10,969	43,454
Zachary Maloof	19,635		19,635
Elaine McCarthy	31,943	627	32,571
Annmarie McCrave	31,943	2,750	34,693
Michael Merrihew	19,635		19,635
Daniel Morris	32,123	153	32,275
Robert Mosher	23,073	3,017	26,091
Jonathan Naor	19,467	2,085	21,552
Alexandra Nottingham	3,927	48	3,975
Dale Olmsted	31,943	75	32,018
Jeannine Serratore	31,943	350	32,293
Nadine Succar	26,007		26,007
Gwenyth Swain	32,055	2,326	34,381
Ashley Tuccillo	31,943	392	32,336
Scardino Volmar	5,885	178	6,063
Robyn Wheeler	12,850	153	13,003
Educators			
Sheri Ablaza	27,033	125	27,158
Lori Alighieri	78,619	7,795	86,414
Sarah Altman	43,366	1,184	44,549
Kurt Amber	121,490	9,294	130,783
Mary Andrews	121,490	7,998	129,487
Jill Arkin	113,239	1,500	114,739
Hayley Arsenault	21,677	225	21,902
Marissa Bachand	121,490	2,667	124,156
Janae Barrett	121,490	1,425	122,915
Janice Barry	72,894	5,459	78,352
Donna Bedigan	113,239	9,500	122,739
Carmel Bergeron	113,239	27,240	140,479
Karyn Bishop	121,490	3,671	125,161
Carly Blais	70,740	560	71,299
Amanda Boczanowski	34,988	75	35,063
Heather Bond	95,035	13,295	108,330
Thomas Bourque	117,162	9,458	126,619
Joshua Bridger	121,490	6,332	127,822
Lisa Brodsky	121,490	1,925	123,415
Darren Buck	113,239	1,335	114,573
Paul Butterworth	121,490	2,423	123,913
Brittany Cabral	86,707	1,685	88,392
Elizabeth Carlson	45,675		45,675
Daniel Carroll	19,147	450	19,597
Christy Carter-Gilbert	31,331	285	31,616

	Regular Wages	Overtime/ Other	Total Gross Wages
Educators (Cont'd)			
Joseph Catalfano	\$121,490	\$900	\$122,390
Maura Cavanaugh	117,162	1,475	118,637
Caryn Cheverie	121,490	2,209	123,698
Kanee Chlebda	86,060	1,725	87,785
Caitlin Ciminelli	68,669	1,424	70,093
Deirdre Clancy-Kelley	15,231		15,231
Allison Collins	121,490	11,977	133,467
Sara Collins	82,881	11,433	94,314
Jason Criscuolo	121,490	800	122,290
Emily Daly	77,260	638	77,897
Carey Dardompre	110,897	1,583	112,481
Elizabeth Darling	16,237		16,237
Sandra Domenikos	33,961	50	34,011
Mark Dondero	62,367	1,170	63,537
Cassidy Donohue	23,694	925	24,619
Gretchen Donohue	117,162	10,969	128,130
Amanda Doran	72,548		72,548
Joanne Draper	121,490	1,810	123,300
Thomas Duprey	111,324	8,579	119,903
Carly Eckles	87,780	2,414	90,194
Brooke Ehle	62,241		62,241
Christopher Estabrook	113,239	4,386	117,625
Jeffrey Farris	117,162	8,969	126,130
Maria Fiore	121,490	1,025	122,515
Elizabeth Friedman	121,490	3,571	125,061
Michelle Gaffney	73,275	73,275	
Leonie Glen	121,490	10,635	132,124
David Gomez	121,490	2,306	123,796
Judy Goen	121,489	3,583	125,072
Richard Grady	121,490	7,257	128,746
Nicole Graziano	64,649	1,500	66,149
Nicholas Grout	121,490	10,069	131,558
Joseph Gruseck	111,324	4,361	115,685
Hillary Havener	82,881	1,215	84,096
Alyssa Healey	71,555	6,616	78,172
Beth Hecker	117,162	7,698	124,860
Kerry Hennessy	111,324	2,111	113,434
Geoffrey Herrmann	86,544	15,766	102,310
John Hickey	121,490	12,665	134,154
Mara Hicks	34,444	34,444	
Scott Hunttoon	118,686	5,030	123,717
Ellen Hyman	73,275	5,567	78,842
George Jenkins	57,191		57,191
Anne Joyce	27,977	250	28,227
Keith Kaplan	121,490	6,572	128,061

	Regular Wages	Overtime/ Other	Total Gross Wages
Educators (Cont'd)			
Aketa Kapur	\$52,561		\$52,561
Dianne Kee	105,395	\$1,925	107,320
Maria Laskaris	78,619	5,592	84,211
Emily Lawson	10,231		10,231
Sierra Lazenby	20,480	270	20,750
Christopher Levasseur	121,490	9,869	131,358
Lindsay Li	121,490	4,346	125,836
Yanhong Li	121,490	938	122,427
Alejandro Linardi Garrido	117,162	1,300	118,462
Heidi Loando	111,324	1,948	113,272
Eric Lochiatto	67,994		67,994
Heather Lockrow	98,911	100	99,011
Kristen Loncich	112,776	2,093	114,869
Anita Lotti	121,490	5,893	127,383
Elliott Lucil	121,490	4,561	126,051
Wendy Lutz	118,686	2,950	121,637
Amanda Lydon	30,138	675	30,813
Angelo Macchiano	110,081	1,965	112,046
Kenneth Macie	84,459	575	85,034
Lily Martini	65,249	550	65,799
Kara McAuliffe	111,324	781	112,105
Brett McCoy	113,239	1,740	114,978
Molly McGill	55,025	2,413	57,437
Laura McGovern	121,490	15,265	136,754
Julie McKee	121,490	4,957	126,446
Brian McLaughlin	121,490	19,789	141,279
Elisabeth Melad	121,490	8,452	129,942
Alyson Melucci	93,648	4,756	98,404
Mary Memmott	121,490	1,320	122,810
Kelly Menice	121,490	6,736	128,225
Tonya Milbourn	113,239	1,725	114,964
Megan Molica	71,952	225	72,177
Kathleen Moloy	121,490	8,703	130,193
Keenan Moore	62,367	4,833	67,200
Andrea Moran	88,761	2,859	91,620
Audrey Moran	117,162	1,500	118,662
Robert Mosher	13,403	500	13,903
Veronica Moy	117,162	9,939	127,101
Brigid Mullen-Richards	77,260	425	77,685
Natalie Nahabedian	54,454	2,336	56,790
Gianna Napoli	60,068	2,583	62,650
Erin Newman	111,324	8,506	119,829
Erin Newton	63,237	875	64,112
Laura O'Garr*	53,575		53,575
Brendan O'Hagan	15,706		15,706

	Regular Wages	Overtime/ Other	Total Gross Wages
Educators (Cont'd)			
Timothy O'Mara	\$58,931	\$3,405	\$62,335
Michael Patti	22,709	1,952	24,661
Adelina Perez-Krebs	77,260	525	77,785
Kimberly Phelan	121,490	9,553	131,043
Joan Pierce	89,227	4,653	93,879
Janel Pudelka	117,162	7,068	124,230
Amanda Rogers	91,408	1,998	93,406
Laura Romer	72,035	25	72,060
Wendy Rush	65,839	3,956	69,795
Stephenson Ryan	121,490	4,511	126,001
Jessica Rymut	53,324	597	53,920
Sandra Sammarco	105,395	960	106,355
Caroline Samoiloff	86,060	1,250	87,310
Kelly Savla	80,286	5,063	85,349
Noah Schulze	57,460	6,965	64,425
Anita Sebastian	89,978		89,978
Delaney Secrest	65,249	125	65,374
Russell Shade	27,977	225	28,202
Catherine Simino	67,943	7,909	75,853
Leigh Simon	87,041	1,368	88,409
Karen Smith	14,607	175	14,782
Joelle Sobin	105,120	4,127	109,247
Carol Spezzano	111,324	9,259	120,582
Laura Sukys	73,292	3,524	76,816
Jenifer Sunday	56,189	6,773	62,962
Maureen Swain	83,151	5,751	88,902
Michael Sweeney	91,478	1,956	93,435
Leah Swinson	73,292	3,861	77,154
Mark Thompson	117,162	1,950	119,112
Patricia Uniacke	121,490	2,525	124,015
Rebecca Waterman	107,937	4,180	112,117
Richard Waterman	107,937	500	108,437
Robert Williamson	94,331	12,568	106,900
Hannah Wright	97,843	2,208	100,051
Kimberly Wynn	77,260	3,593	80,853
Food Services			
Lori Comiskey	18,716	1,058	19,773
Catherine Cornoni	8,053		8,053
Kimberley Fangel	29,196	850	30,046
Sarah Grinnell-Somers	773		773
Jennifer Hann	8,189		8,189
Katie Jackson	21,516	760	22,276
Lisa Johnston	40,643	2,657	43,299
Stephanie Landolphi	21,647	860	22,507

	Regular Wages	Overtime/ Other	Total Gross Wages
Food Services (Cont'd)			
Leidiane Martins Silva	\$6,820	\$250	\$7,070
Bonnie Turco	31,244	1,115	32,359
Maria Vaccaro	17,594	270	17,864
Anne Wong	21,645	1,030	22,675
Health Services			
Janet Chandler	88,932	1,148	90,080
Ashley Dion	25,907		25,907
Kerry Laurence	113,239	992	114,230
Arlene O'Donovan-Driscoll*	26,057	800	26,857
Margaret Parsons	98,107	1,148	99,255
Meaghan Smith	60,636	5,656	66,293
Information Technology			
Kurt Bonetti*	63,675	225	63,900
Lucan Curtis-Mahoney*	38,911		38,911
Karen Gibbs*	75,694		75,694
Henry Jones*	90,071	4,000	94,071
Substitutes			
Sheri Ablaza	52,250		52,250
Ashley Atkinson	57		57
Douglas Barone	18,210		18,210
Olivia Butterworth	4,900		4,900
John Carter	1,265		1,265
Christy Carter-Gilbert	15,580		15,580
Michael Cave	4,835		4,835
Nicole Corbett	11,200		11,200
Anthony Cueroni	15,960		15,960
Ronald Gengo	6,700		6,700
Rose Gilio	115		115
Jiefang Hu	2,215		2,215
Ellen Irmiter	250		250
Dorothy Kaija	15,040		15,040
Diane Keverian	24,195		24,195
Alice Mackay	1,727		1,727
Claire Mackay	930		930
Krishna Mahoney	200		200
Emily Marsh	125		125
Mary McGourty	4,008		4,008
Darice Merageas	114		114
Kimberly Nehiley	900		900
Tara Nolan	575		575
Amy Robinson	6,730		6,730
Elizabeth Rubin	1,535		1,535
Kenna Shue	1,035		1,035

	Regular Wages	Overtime/ Other	Total Gross Wages
Substitutes <i>(Cont'd)</i>			
John Soraghan	\$10,835		\$10,835
Peter Vangsness	11,353		11,353
Kathyleen Wright	4,940	\$50	4,990
Support Services			
Raelene Asselin	14,114		14,114
Susan Benson		750	750
John Berti		613	613
Andrea Cassidy	20,845	258	21,102
Mila Clark	3,588		3,588
Katherine Crawford	36,923		36,923
Louis Dittami	1,450	1,290	2,740
Ardys Flavelle	10,123		10,123
Denise Foley	2,020		2,020
Justin Halton	5,400		5,400
Caryn Haskins	14,911		14,911
Jennifer Hawkins	1,690		1,690
Jacqueline Johnson	20,872		20,872
Holly LaFave	140		140
Linda Lannon	1,350		1,350
Claire Mackay	7,975		7,975
Anne Picardo	2,205		2,205
Margaret Polk	21,221	375	21,596
Katherine Potter	5,390		5,390
Cameron Siciliano	30,769	500	31,269
Zoe Stinchfield Grave	405		405
Brian Verdy*	9,721		9,721
Grand Totals	\$19,296,982	\$1,131,498	\$20,428,480

* Salary listed represents total salary, a portion of which is allocated to Pine Hill School and Chickering School.

** Salary listed represents total salary, a portion of which is allocated to Town of Dover.

Report of the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School Committee

Ford Spalding, Dover Representative, Minuteman School Committee

Chair, Minuteman School Building Committee

Dr. Kathleen A. Dawson, Superintendent, Minuteman Regional Vocational
Technical School District *(resigned September 30, 2023)*

Kevin Mahoney, Interim Superintendent/District Director
(effective October 24, 2023)

About Minuteman

Minuteman is a four-year, accredited vocational and technical high school serving the member towns of Acton, Arlington, Bolton, Concord, Dover, Lancaster, Lexington, Needham, and Stow. Minuteman combines rigorous academics and relevant career and technical programs that prepare students for higher education and career opportunities. Attendance at Minuteman offers the following:

- **A freshman year of experiencing a modern educational plan in a modern educational building.** The Minuteman campus has adapted to meet current employment opportunities and is designed in a way that excites student learning, creativity, and collaboration to provide education with a purpose.
- **A modern American high school experience.** Minuteman students follow a traditional high school academic curriculum while also exploring their interests and discovering their passions in career and technical offerings that include, among others, the following majors: animal science, culinary arts, cosmetology, horticulture, building trades, biotechnology, environmental science, robotics, health occupations, engineering, electrical, automotive technology, and early childhood education.
- **Preparation for college and life.** Students receive the academic foundation and study skills needed to enter and graduate from college with career objectives and professional training and they earn industry certifications, affording them the business acumen and flexibility for pursuing their dreams.
- **The opportunity to be more than just another student.** At Minuteman, teachers and staff are personally invested in getting to know and work closely with each individual to help students realize their full potential.

Enrollment

As of September 2023, about 93% of all grade 9–12 students reside in the nine member-town communities of Acton, Arlington, Bolton, Concord, Dover, Lancaster, Lexington, Needham, and Stow. For the second year in a row, all freshman students resided in member towns. Total enrollment as of fall 2023 was 686 students, with 649 in-district students and 37 out-of-district students. Five students from Dover were enrolled at Minuteman as of October 1, 2023.

District Budget

The total District budgetary assessment is \$25,481,911, an increase of 4.5% over the previous year. Dover's share is \$248,626, an increase of \$51,199 based on the contractual assessment formula. The budget includes operating and capital/debt assessments. The District received unanimous support for the budget recommendations.

Grants Awarded

In 2023, the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District received a grant of \$354,000 for metal fabrication and joining technologies, which will help the school train students for high-demand occupations employing these technologies. The grant will also help the school expand and deepen its curriculum, add industry-recognized credentials, increase secondary enrollment in existing programs, and offer post-secondary opportunities for adults enrolled in the Minuteman Technical Institute (MTI).

Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical High School also received \$500,000 for technology and equipment to support expanding the Animal Science/Veterinary Science Vocational Program. The equipment will provide opportunities for students to receive hands-on learning with state-of-the-art training tools and earn additional industry-recognized credentials.

Co-op Opportunities

Juniors and seniors at Minuteman are eligible for student employment through the Cooperative Education Program (Co-op). Co-op students can work at job sites within the scope of their career majors. The Co-op is open to seniors all year and to juniors for the year's second half. One hundred students were out on Co-op during the school year. Participating employers include Emerson Hospital, Winchester Hospital, Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research, Massachusetts General Hospital, the von Andrian Laboratory at Harvard Medical School, and Traverso Lab at MIT. Minuteman places students in a wide range of opportunities in advanced engineering, biotechnology, carpentry, cosmetology, electrical, engineering and robotics, plumbing, horticulture, and other fields.

Graduating Class

The Class of 2023 had a graduation rate of 100%, with 64% of students heading to either a two-year or four-year college and 36% heading into planned apprenticeships, trade school, or joining the workforce. Graduates plan to attend such schools as MIT, Clark University, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, The New School, the University of Massachusetts, Johnson & Wales University, and Maine College of Art & Design, to name a few.

Minuteman Technical Institute

MTI offers 10-month and 15-week courses in various career trades for adults looking to gain technical skills in a new, high-demand profession. MTI collaborates with and develops programming to meet workforce demands through such industry partners as MassHire, North Atlantic States Carpenters Training Fund, AET Labs, Rolls-Royce Naval, and the International Facilities Management Association (IFMA).

MTI students gain recognized industry credentials in OSHA and Hot Works, as well as earn hours toward state licenses. MTI's partnership with IFMA has led to the development of the Facilities Management Program, which directly addresses the need in the Greater Boston area for certified facilities managers.

All students in the Cosmetology Program who sat for the State Board of Cosmetology and Barbering Exam, passed on the first attempt. Of the Welding Program students, 98% who took the American Welding Society certification tests passed on their first attempt, while 97% of the students completing the Carpentry Pre-Apprentice Program found employment and were retained beyond their first 30 days.

Secretary of the Navy Visit

On December 8, 2023, Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro visited Minuteman High School and the Minuteman Technical Institute to engage with students and faculty. The visit, which came just days ahead of the historic Army-Navy football game, aimed to inspire and motivate the next generation of leaders.

The Secretary's visit began at Minuteman High School, where he toured classrooms, met with students, and hosted an inspirational question-and-answer session with students. During his address to the students, Secretary Del Toro emphasized the importance of education, resilience, and leadership, drawing on his own experiences in the Navy. It is important to note that he is a graduate of a vocational high school. He shared anecdotes from his career and highlighted the diverse opportunities that a strong education can provide, including the potential for careers in the Armed Forces. Local news outlets captured the Secretary's visit.