

# UXBRIDGE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

June 22, 2023

BOS Meeting Room

**\*Joint meeting with BOS**

School Committee Members in Attendance:

	Present	Absent
Mr. Barry Desruisseaux, Chair	X	
Ms. Arlene Liscinsky, Vice-Chair	X	
Mr. Ed Maharay, Clerk	X	
Mr. Ben Casper	X	
Mr. David Shinnick	X	
Mr. Aaron Lenart	X	

POSTED UXB TOWN CLERK  
2023 AUG 8 AM 10:42

## 1. Call to Order

Mr. Desruisseaux called the meeting to order at 6:30PM.

## 2. Salute to the Flag

## 3. Business

### a. Interview Candidates for School Committee

The Committee and the BOS interviewed residents who had asked to be considered to be appointed to a seat on the School Committee until the May 2024 town elections.

The following candidates answered the questions listed below and shared their background and reasons for seeking the appointments:

**Matthew Keane (6:32-6:59)** (interviewed via Zoom)

**Claudia Tamsky (7:00-7:20)**

**Michael Dion (7:21-7:41)**

The following questions were asked by Board and Committee members:

Mr. Maharay: Why do you want to rejoin the school committee and what is it you want to accomplish? Asked for his thoughts on keeping the cohesiveness of the team so that they can focus on the primary concerns such as academics in the district. How has the turnover of the superintendent affected the education of the kids? (all Mr. Keane) What do you see as your role and vision in terms of the school committee? Mr. Maharay shared that he felt a woman and mother could bring good balance to the current Committee and asked Ms. Tamsky to share how she felt she could add to the Committee with those attributes. (Ms. Tamsky) The primary role (of

the Committee) is to hire the superintendent, set policy, and deal with the budget. Given that, how do you expect the relationship between the school committee and the superintendent and the school committee and the administration should be? (Ms. Tamsky, Mr. Dion). Are there any goals you would like to see moving forward? (Mr. Dion) How long do you see your commitment to the school committee? (Mr. Dion) When you oversaw individuals in your past position, how often would you meet with them in terms of their performance? (Mr. Dion)

Mr. Lenart: Tell me about a risk you have taken and how did you get through that and what was your result? (Ms. Tamsky) What kind of skills will you bring that will help us move forward? (Mr. Keane, Mr. Dion)

Mr. Shinnick: What do you see as the biggest opportunity for the district? As a Committee member how would you help foster that opportunity? How would you measure your success doing so? (All)

Ms. Liscinsky: Effective and successful school board members are generally unified and work together as a team. What is the best way to address differences of opinions on a board or between the board and the administration? (All)

Mr. Casper: What are some non-data drivers/indicators of a high-performing/high-functioning school district and how do you think we are performing against them? (Mr. Keane) Aside from test scores and numbers, what does a high-functioning school system look like? What do we need, other than test scores, that will make us the best? (Ms. Tamsky, Mr. Dion) What do you think might be the differences in leadership style between your experience in the military and that of a civilian committee? (Mr. Dion)

Mr. Mandile: What do you see as the major issue or issues facing the Uxbridge public school district? (All) How do you/would you work with people that have a deficiency in accountability? (Mr. Dion)

Mr. Plasko: What makes you the best candidate? What do you bring that the other candidates might not? (Ms. Tamsky, Mr. Dion)

Mr. Wise: None

Mr. Demers: Would you pledge to remain a member of the school committee through May 24? (All)

Mr. Shaw: What is one policy change that interests you? In follow up to that, do you think the school committee should have more input (in that area) or do you think the school committee should let the superintendent have more input and the school committee follows suit? (Mr. Keane) It was stated the policy manual is 468 pages. Do you consider that to be a little heavy and do you feel that possibly some of that should be trimmed so that it is more functional and understandable? (Ms. Tamsky, Mr. Dion)

Mr. Desruisseaux: As a committee we oversee and hire the superintendent. Do you feel it is something that needs to be watched on a regular basis or do you feel that you hire good people and you let them do their jobs and when there is an issue you take care of that issue? (Mr. Dion)

**b. Discussion and Vote Candidates (7:41-7:46)**

Members of the BOS and the school committee voted for their preferred candidate on a paper ballot that listed each candidate's name. Mr. Demers was not present and submitted his vote to the town manager remotely. The town manager and his assistant tallied the votes.

Individual votes recorded for each candidate are as follows:

Matthew Keane: Mr. Demers, Mr. Mandile, Mr. Shinnick

Claudia Tamsky: Mr. Maharay

Michael Dion: Mr. Casper, Mr. Desruisseaux, Mr. Lenart, Ms. Liscinsky, Mr. Plasko, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Wise

*Mr. Desruisseaux entertained a motion to make the recommendation that Michael Dion be appointed to the school committee for the remainder of the one year term. Mr. Casper moved the motion, Ms. Liscinsky seconded the motion. The Committee voted 6-0 in favor of the motion. The motion passed.*

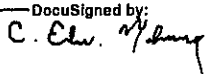
*Mr. Desruisseaux entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Maharay moved the motion. Mr. Shinnick seconded the motion. The Committee voted 6-0 in favor of the motion. The motion passed.*

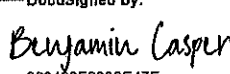
The joint meeting ended at 7:46PM.

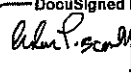
Respectfully Submitted,  
Debbie Stark  
Uxbridge School Committee Recording Secretary

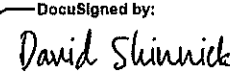
**School Committee Members:**

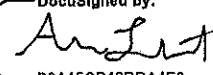
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