

DMA Board Meeting Minutes
Date: November 24, 2025
Start Time: 18:01 hours
Adjourn Time: 19:28 hours
Meeting Duration: 1 hour 27 minutes

Present: Helen Barbato, Don McLamb, Dan Newcott, Jelena Batula, Cheryl Davis-Robinson, Jennifer McCloskey, CAPT Dan Bates, Chris Kenny, Nicole Krajewski, Brian Rostocki

Absent: Scott Green, Ken Gatson

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to Order 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At 18:01 hours, Chairperson McCloskey called the November DMA Board meeting to order, following the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ None required
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Comments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretary's Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The secretary's report for October 2025 meeting distributed for approval. First: McLamb Second: McCloskey Vote: unanimous – approved 	None Required
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commandant's Report 	<p>ACADEMIC AND PROGRAMMATIC UPDATES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of marking period one: 20 students with academic struggles with plans in place to support. DMA is reviewing these staff earlier in the year, reviewed at the halfway point last year. • Met with the department chairs and reviewed pros and cons with the new schedule. • Sports Update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None Required

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Winter practices and scrimmages are underway. Games are scheduled for later in the month. <p>ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fall School Choice update: 2024-2025 had 137 applicants, 95 were freshman. 2025-2026 to date has 173 applicants, 151 are freshmen. This is the largest number of applicants for choice the first day it opened. Interviews will be scheduled for December. ● Veteran’s Day Breakfast: held on 11/13 and had over 115 veterans in attendance. Each veteran was aligned with a cadet. Representatives from Nemours, Barclays and the VA Hospital were also in attendance. The choir will be attending both the Nemours and VA Hospital holiday concert. Considering having the breakfast start in the Dome versus the Mess Hall so that more cadets can be a part of the celebration with the Vets. ● Goldey Beacom College: largest freshman class from DMA for Fall 2025. Working with the college for DMA students to take up to 5 classes at \$100 a piece either during the school year or the summer. College president would like to come over for the parade and tour of the campus. ● Received Red Clay school district funding of 35% preload. Have not received Appoquinimink 35% preload (see treasurer’s report below.). <p>JROTC Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Many upcoming community service events: Stockings for Soldiers, Color Guard for the Pearl Harbor event on 12/7 ● Drill team won the competition at Kingsway High School. ● December 11 is the Military Ball. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAPT Bates will be talking to the two VFWs that will be combining. • Holiday concert on 12/17. • Graduation speaker will be Mike McCann, State Trooper (who was also State Trooper of the year) who is a 2006 DMA graduate. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spoke about getting more alumni relations involved with the school; looking to start an alumni association. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasurer's Report 	<p>Treasurer's Report: Report Provided by Don McLamb</p> <p>Financials of 10/31/2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 33% through our Fiscal Year (4 of 12 months) <p>Revenue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$5.1 million has been collected, which is 53.8% of budgeted revenue. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Collected \$56K in revenue in the month of October • Local funding still remains under last year's collections. Last year, DMA collected \$513K by October and currently only collected \$81K ytd. The amount collected from local funding is currently under the ytd budget amount by approximately \$840K. Total local budget from districts is \$2.2-\$2.2M. The other piece of local revenue is interest on local fund balance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Update on local funding payments: Red Clay paid in November their 35% (Preload). Only Appoquinimink 35% preload of \$34K is outstanding. FYI, there is no official deadline to make the payments to us. We will continue to monitor and will keep this group updated accordingly. 	None required

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Historically, 65% of what is owed from the school districts are usually paid in December/January when the cadet numbers are finalized. <p>Expenses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$3.28 million YTD expenses have been incurred, which is 34.6% of budgeted expenses. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Salaries and benefits are over YTD by 8% (Oct was a 3 pay month) ○ Health insurance expense is over YTD budget amount by \$36K or 13%. Last month it was \$29K over YTD budget. Don misspoke last meeting and stated that we were under the YTD budget. ○ Building and land improvements are close or over YTD budget due to an unexpected fence install for approximately \$9K. ○ There are no items of revenue or expense that have an unexplained material variance from budgeted amounts. ○ Currently have a YTD surplus of \$1.8M. ● 2025-2026 Preliminary Budget review with Finance Committee for the current year 7/1/25-6/30/26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The committee compared the current year budget against last year ending numbers and last year budget. Ken discussed the differences and rational that went into the items for the current year budget. Items to note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ State and local revenue is higher than last year actual by approximately 7.5% - this is due to more cadets. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Navy aid revenue is higher than last year due to more NSIs at higher pay. Navy reimburses 50% on NSO pay ▪ Admin and donations: higher than last year actual due to more cadets and better collection efforts. ▪ Salary is higher than last year actual by 5%. This does not include the Loyalty and Longevity programs of approximately \$70-80K or merger to the new pay scale for staff. ▪ Health insurance: higher than last year's budget by 20% but under last year actual by 11%. ▪ Equipment repair/building/land improvements: under last year actual by 65%. Sewer project was completed last year. Ken will continue to monitor these expenses as the year progresses. ▪ As a result of this review, the Finance committee was comfortable with the current year budget. <p>First: McCloskey Second: Batula</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vote: unanimous – approved 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance Committee 	<p>Finance Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The committee met on 11/13/25. • The committee reviewed and discussed by 10/31/25 financial statements. • Reviewed the 2025 preliminary budget. • Next meeting is planned for 1/15/26. 	None required.

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	<p>Citizens Board Oversight Committee (CBOC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scheduled to meet on 12/3. • Committee is scheduled and are currently reviewing April-September 2025 transactions. • This committee could use another cadet parent member. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brian will remain Chairperson, Jelana and Jenn are on the committee. • Could use another parent board member and perhaps an alumni. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Potential parent member: Andrea Spahr (Nicole will reach out). Potential alumni board member Jennifer Dempsey (Jenn McCloskey will reach out) • Bi-laws need to be updated. • Development of a skills matrix for board members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None required.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Excellence Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheryl has agreed to the Chairperson of this committee. Jennifer will send over the materials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None required.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ad hoc Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None required.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None required.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None required.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next Board Meeting 	<p>The next Board meeting will be Monday, November 24, 2025.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None required.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Session 	<p>Motion to go into executive session</p> <p>First: Barbato Second: Krajewski</p> <p>Start: 19:07 End: 19:28</p> <p>Motion to come out of executive session</p> <p>First: McLamb</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

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	Second: Krajewski	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjournment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First: Batula • Second: McCloskey • Vote: Affirmative – Unanimous <p>Adjourned 19:28 hours</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None required.

Respectfully Submitted /s/ *Helen Barbato*