

MASCONOMET REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Regular School Committee Meeting

May 18, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: J. Spencer, Chair, Topsfield D. Volchok, Vice-Chair, Boxford
C. Miller, Boxford L. Richards, Middleton
K. Prentakis, Middleton H. Rivers, Boxford
T. Buono, Middleton A. Pascucci, Middleton
K. Sherwood, Topsfield W. Hodges, Topsfield

MEMBERS ABSENT: P. Fitzsimmons, Boxford

OTHERS PRESENT: K. Lyons, Superintendent D. Flaherty, MS Principal
L. Hodgdon, MS Principal R. Was, TBM Rotary Club Representative
D. Mitchell, Teacher

A. **Call To Order** – Chair J. Spencer called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. on Wednesday, May 18, 2016 in the Ralph Osgood Presentation Room. The meeting is video and audio taped.

B. **Welcoming Remarks** – Chair J. Spencer recognized what a great Committee this was to work with, that many accomplishments have been made this year and thanked members for a very productive year. New Committee members H. Rivers, Boxford and A. Pascucci were introduced.

C. **Reorganization of School Committee**

1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair – J. Spencer opened the floor for nominations for the Chair of the School Committee.

A motion was made by K. Prentakis.

MOTION: To nominate D. Volchok as Chair of the School Committee.

Hearing no other nominations, the nomination for Chair was closed.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

The floor was opened for nominations for Vice-Chair of the School Committee. A motion was made by K. Prentakis.

MOTION: To nominate T. Buono as Vice-Chair of the School Committee

Hearing no other nominations, the nomination for Vice-Chair was closed.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

The gavel was passed to newly elected Chair D. Volchok.

2. Preliminary Discussion of Subcommittee Assignments – Completed forms were passed in to D. Volchok. D. Volchok will work with K. Lyons and D. Volchok in making the subcommittee assignments and will be presented at the next meeting. All subcommittees will stay intact until the new assignments are made.

D. Volchok presented a draft of the 2016-17 School Committee meeting schedule. He indicated that some dates needed to be changed (Feb. 22 and 23 to Feb. 15 and 16). A history was given of previous meeting schedules indicating that last year's was determined by the warrant schedule which wasn't as successful as envisioned. K. Sherwood indicated that there are towns and districts that sign warrants electronically and asked if Masconomet could do so also. K. Lyons and D. Volchok indicated that Legal Council and S. Givens were contacted regarding electronic signing. It was determined that while some towns and districts were using this method, it wasn't considered legal. K. Lyons indicated that a written opinion from Legal Council would be prudent. Discussion was held regarding the pros and cons of scheduling meetings every two weeks or meeting on the first and third Wednesday of every month. After review of the draft schedule, it was determined that the School Committee Retreat would be held on Saturday, August 20 at 8:00 a.m. and that meetings would be scheduled every two weeks. The Committee will vote on the calendar at the next meeting.

D. **Accept Topsfield/Boxford/Middleton Rotary Joseph Carroll \$1000 Donation (Check #4384) to be Used for the Academic Awards Night** - TBM Rotary Representative R. Was gave a brief history of Dr. Carroll's accomplishments and vision and of the origin of the donation for the Academic Awards Night. R. Was shared that he was proud to present the \$1000 donation to recognize students for their academic team accomplishments. A motion was made by K. Prentakis.

MOTION: To accept the \$1000 TBM Rotary Joseph Carroll donation to be used for the Academic Awards Night.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

E. **Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of Appointment of Superintendent Lyons to Serve as CREST Representative
2. Approval of Appointment of Superintendent Lyons to Serve as NEC Representative
3. Approval of Topsfield Fair Request to Use the Masconomet Parking Lot for Satellite Parking for the 2016 Fair
4. Warrants \$2,538,870.76 – Fourteen (14) Warrants Signed

A motion was made by K. Prentakis.

MOTION: To approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

VOTE: Motion passed.

F. **Approval of February 10, 2016 Executive Session Minutes** – A motion was made by J. Spencer.

MOTION: To approve the February 10, 2016 Executive Session Minutes as presented.

VOTE: Motion passed.

ABSTAIN: H. Rivers and A. Pascucci

G. Comments from the Audience - None

H. Comments from SABs – None

I. Comments from Principals – **HS Principal L. Hodgdon** congratulated D. Flaherty on the Middle School achieving Level 1 designation and reported on the following: the Honors Scholars Recognition Dinner, Senior Week activities, MCAS starting the first week in June, course scheduling for 2016-2017 has been completed, the Senior Internship Fair on May 27th, the Teacher Honor Wall presentation on June 13th. K. Lyons announced that volunteers for the graduation all night party were still needed. K. Lyons announced that the pre-graduation dinner would be held at 4:30 p.m. in the Faculty Dining Room. **Middle School Principal D. Flaherty** announced that she was especially excited for graduation as this is her first class graduating, that the PARCC administration was very successful and thanked S. Olia, MIS, and R. King for their assistance, that events for incoming 6th grade parents are scheduled and that field trips for both Grade 7 and Grade 8 students are planned, choral and band concerts will be held, and the celebration for overwhelming success in Masco Millions is planned. D. Flaherty announced that English Teacher M. Butler’s class wrote business letters and one of her students was selected to spend the day at the mall, and that the 7 White Team Innovation and Power of One celebration will be held on June 9th.

J. Approval of Last Day of School for Students - A motion was made by J. Spencer.

MOTION: To approve Tuesday, June 21, 2016 as the last of school for the 2015-2016 school year, assuming no additional emergency closings.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

K. School Choice Program – K. Lyons gave an overview of the School Choice Program at Masconomet and the student selection process indicating that the last year for participation was probably before 2004. Discussion was held regarding the benefits of participating in the program based on declining enrollments for the future, the pros and cons of participating, the funding, the commitment of accepting students, the possibility of participating in the METCO Program, the possibility of deciding to participate for the coming school year, the lack of information at this time to make a decision for participation in the next school year, the reason for choosing to participate and the language in the MTA Agreement regarding staff requests for their child’s attendance at Masconomet. K. Lyons indicated that he could request an extension to the June 1 deadline for notification of the Committee’s decision. After discussion was held, it was determined that a decision regarding the Choice Program would be deferred to the next meeting when K. Lyons would present more information.

L. Foundation Budget Review Resolution – D. Volchok shared the Foudation Budget Review Commission Final Report indicating that J. Spencer, T. Buono and he attending the coalition meeting. An overview of the report and the topic was given and discussion was held. A motion was made by J. Spencer.

MOTION: The Masconomet School District School Committee supports the Foundation Budget Review Commissioner’s Resolution as follows:

Whereas the Massachusetts Foundation Budget Review Commission identified two areas (employee health insurance and special education) where the Massachusetts Foundation Budget significantly understates the true cost of educating students in the Commonwealth and has failed to keep pace with rising costs;

Whereas this underfunding means the cost of providing a quality education has increasingly been borne by local communities, most often at the expense of other vital municipal operations;

Whereas investing in education today leads to higher incomes, and thus less investment in police, prisons, subsidized health care, low income housing, welfare, etc. in the future;

Whereas state and local economies are most effectively strengthened “by investing in education and increasing the number of well-educated workers.”

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Masconomet School Committee calls on the Massachusetts Legislature and the Governor of Massachusetts to fully fund and adopt the recommendations of the Foundation Budget Review Commission in the immediate future.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

M. Superintendent Report - K. Lyons on the following: a very successful and engaging visit to the Middle School by Commissioner Chester, a very successful PARCC administration by MS Principal D. Flaherty with the help of her staff, and the MIS Department, 1:1 Initiative update indicating that a third-party vendor was chosen and an Open House on May 24th will be held, the May 9th Opioid Forum held at Masconomet, the STEM Lab construction update, the digital sign update, the MA Association of Superintendents and the Coalition of the Tri-Town Council public statements against supporting legalized marijuana initiatives on the ballot or in the legislature, and the wonderful presentation of the MS drama production of *Annie, Jr.*

N. Reports of the Subcommittees

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| 1. Budget Subcommittee – D. Volchok – No report – Fourteen (14) Warrants signed | | | |
| Payroll Warrant | \$ | 714,654.74 | Vendor Warrant \$ 32,288.00 |
| Payroll Warrant | \$ | 635,487.39 | Vendor Warrant \$ 1,443.75 |
| Vendor Warrant | \$ | 158,852.16 | Vendor Warrant \$ 74,078.89 |
| Vendor Warrant | \$ | 92.74 | Vendor Warrant \$ 91,692.32 |
| Vendor Warrant | \$ | 65,648.13 | Vendor Warrant \$ 0.66 |
| Vendor Warrant | \$ | 24,676.65 | Vendor Warrant \$ 7,640.98 |
| Vendor Warrant | \$ | 731,037.95 | TOTAL \$ 2,538,870.76 |
| Vendor Warrant | \$ | 1,276.40 | |

2. Policy Subcommittee – K. Lyons

- a. Policy JRAA, Non-Custodial Parents' Rights, 2nd Reading (Rescind per Counsel). A motion was made by K. Prentakis.

MOTION: To rescind Policy JRAA as presented.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

3. Community Relations Subcommittee – C. Miller announced that an article on the 1:1 Digital Initiative was in the May edition of the Tri Town Transcript.
4. School Start Time Advisory Committee – T. Buono shared that the survey was released on Monday and responses have been received from parents and staff. K. Lyons and the Administrators will determine how to use the survey results and that they will be released after school starts in the fall. A follow-up survey will be sent in the fall. T. Buono indicated that survey data would not be the only data used by the Committee. Information sessions on students and sleep will be held.

O. Other Business, Old or New – None

P. Adjournment and Executive Session - A motion was made by T. Buono.

MOTION: To go into Executive Session in accordance with Chapter 30A, Section 21a (3) of the General Laws for the purpose of discussing strategy for bargaining Support Staff Association Agreement and the Superintendent Contract and to accept the Memorandum of Understanding between the District and the MPFT bargaining unit. The Committee will return to Open Session.

VOTE: Motion passed by roll call at 9:40 p.m.

Return to Open Session at 10:50 p.m. A motion was made by K. Prentakis.

MOTION: To accept the Memorandum of Understanding between the Masconomet Regional School District and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, State Council 93, Local 939 as dated May 10, 2016.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by L. Richards.

MOTION: To adjourn.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously at 10:55 p.m.

Submitted by: _____

Olga Langlois, Secretary

Approved: _____

Date

Per the New Open Meeting Law, the list of the documents that were either distributed to the Masconomet Regional School Committee before the meeting in a packet, or at the meeting:

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|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. Agenda | 6. Policy JRAA |
| 2. Subcommittee Assignment Form | 7. Policies BDA, BEDA, JFBB |
| 3. Consent Agenda | 8. Literary Magazine Sagamore |
| 4. February 10, 2016 Executive Session Minutes | 9. Programs |
| 5. Foundation Budget Review Resolution Final Report | |