

MASCONOMET REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Regular School Committee Meeting

October 5, 2016

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: K. Lyons, Superintendent S. Givens, CFO
Representatives for Facilities Assessment L. Hodgdon, HS Principal

- A. **Call to Order** – Chair D. Volchok called the October 5, 2016 Regular School Committee meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. in the High School Library.
- B. **Remarks by the Chair** – D. Volchok announced that the meeting is video and audio taped. D. Volchok referenced the Resolution Against Lifting the Cap on Commonwealth Charter Schools that was in the agenda packet and asked if the Committee would like to discuss this under Old/New Business or review the information and discuss it at a later meeting. It was determined that the discussion would be held at a later meeting. D. Volchok stated that A. Pascucci and K. Sherwood would be attending the MASC conference in November and that they would need direction from the Committee on voting at the conference. He will send out the referendum items and a discussion will be held at the next meeting. After discussion was held, it was determined that the next meeting would start at 6:00 p.m.
- C. **Comments from the Audience** – None
- D. **Facilities Assessment Presentation (6:00 p.m. Walk Through)** – D. Murray, representing Habeeb Associates, Architects, led a presentation on the preliminary report of the Facilities Assessment Study, conducted by Habeeb & Associates, Architects. K. Lyons stated that D. Batchelder and S. Givens have been instrumental in designing the specifications for the study and being liaisons to Habeeb during all phases of the study. Priority levels 1, 2, and 3 and the Executive Summary were reviewed.
- E. **Discussion of Community Service Requirements** - J. Spencer stated that there have been questions regarding community service. As Policy JJG was reviewed, it was determined that fundraising was sometimes viewed as community service and the question was raised as to whether they should be treated differently. Policy IKF references the 40-hour graduation requirement for Community Service for all high school students. After discussion was held by the Subcommittee, it was suggested that the Administration be asked to consider a review of the current practice and policy and review what is effective in light of the new vision statements developed. The Administration would be asked for input to determine if the graduation requirement needed to be changed. K Lyons distributed an email from HS Principal L. Hodgdon regarding service learning, which is one step beyond community service. L. Hodgdon reviewed community service and service learning and the difference between the two and the trend toward service learning and how service learning would impact students. A discussion regarding community service was held at a recent Student Council meeting and most students felt that the graduation requirement was a check off rather than a meaningful activity. Discussion was held regarding the policies, the graduation requirement, the importance of the timing when considering making a change to the requirement, the value of the Freshman Walk and the potential impact of service learning. C. Miller asked if guidance could be contacted to see how many community service hours are done with Tri Town organizations that rely on the students for their events. L. Hodgdon would get that information. C. Miller asked if the students could find more local charities to support when donating Freshman Walk funds raised. K. Sherwood asked if there was fundraising for global trips. J. Spencer said the policy review would address that issue.
- G. **MCAS Testing Discussion/Decision** – K. Lyons stated that the Department of Education was expecting that schools administer grades 4 and 8 computer-based MCAS ELA and Mathematics tests for Spring 2017. For grades 3, 5, 6 and 7, districts may elect to have their schools do either the computer-based or the paper-based tests. Districts that administered PARCC computer-based tests in Spring 2016 were strongly encouraged to implement the same format for Spring 2017. The grade 10 ELA and Mathematics tests, as well as all Science and Technology/Engineering tests will remain paper-based only. Superintendents must register their testing mode decisions with the Department by completing a brief survey form by 12:00 p.m. October 14th. If a response is not submitted, the Department will assign the same testing mode as 2016. K. Lyons recommended the Committee approve a motion to authorize the Superintendent to respond for the District that Masconomet will continue with CBT in grades 7 and 8 for English and Mathematics consistent with the previous year. A motion was made by K. Prentakis
- MOTION: To authorize the Superintendent to respond for the District that Masconomet will continue with CBT in grades 7 and 8 for English and Mathematics consistent with the previous year.
- VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.
- F. **Out of Order - Request to Allow Middle School Students to Participate on the High School Interscholastic Ski Team** – J. Daileanes – K. Lyons gave a brief overview of the ski program indicating that it was under-enrolled and that the Committee approved continuation without fee changes for a period of one year. The administration had stated that after a year, if there were too few participants, a co-op program with another school would be attempted or the program might be discontinued. An attempt

to form a co-op was unsuccessful as Ipswich was the most interested, but could only contribute 3-4 skiers. This year, there are 22 returning participants and new sign-ups are in progress. J. Daileanes updated the Committee that 49 signatures were received for grades 9-12 and things looked good in regard to participation for this year and possibly for future years. He hoped to reach the 50 minimum requirement. J. Daileanes shared the pros of having middle school students participate on the ski team, but indicated that based on sign-ups, there wasn't a need for this at this time. Discussion was held regarding the pros and cons of having Middle School students participate in high school sports, especially contact sports. A motion was made by J. Spencer.

MOTION: Approve to have the Administration apply for a waiver with the MIAA to allow Middle School students to participate on the High School Ski Team.

VOTE: Motion passed

H. Superintendent Evaluation Process Overview – K. Lyons presented slides outlining the Superintendent Evaluation process, with a focus on step 5 of the evaluation. The purpose of the presentation was to remind veteran Committee members and expose new members to the process, as well as to inform the public the steps over the next two meetings. A self-report and evidence to the Committee will be provided on October 19th and the Committee will be scheduled to deliver an end-of-cycle evaluation with ratings on either November 2nd or the 16th. The Committee will need to affirm its process consistent with last year or approve a different process for this year. Last year, individual members were asked to complete their individual ratings form and forward it to the Chair. D. Volchok requested the forms be returned by Oct. 26th in order to have the summary evaluation available for the Nov. 2nd meeting.

I. Approval of Masconomet 2025 Vision and Values Statements – J. Spencer – A brief overview of the statements developed was given. A motion was made by T. Buono.

MOTION: To approve Masconomet 2025 Vision and Values Statements as amended (capitalization).

DISCUSSION: Discussion was held after L. Richards shared her concern regarding missing aspects in addressing social and emotional well-being in the statement.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

OPPOSED: L. Richards

J. Superintendent Report – K. Lyons reported on the following: update on vacancies in Business Office and Information Technology, Digital Sign update, Dr. Owens' informative presentation on Sleep and School Start Times on Sept. 27th, an update on the Public Forum on Sleep Survey Results, and the State putting a hold on Student Impact Rating.

K. Report of the Subcommittees –

1. **Budget Subcommittee** – T. Buono reported on the subcommittee meeting held last Wednesday where a feedback session was held with the Boxford, Topsfield and Middleton Selectmen and Finance Committees invited. Four (4) warrants have been signed since the last meeting.

Payroll Warrant	\$	671,242.78	Vendor Warrant	\$	212,217.44
Vendor Warrant	\$	15,000.00	Vendor Warrant	\$	<u>67,513.45</u>
			TOTAL	\$	965,973.67

2. **Policy Subcommittee** – J. Spencer stated that a meeting is scheduled for Oct. 28th and work will continue on Section G and the Digital Resources Policy.
3. **Community Relations Subcommittee** – C. Miller reported that the subcommittee was close to publishing the Problem Solver and Communication Guide for Parents. The subcommittee is proceeding with a guide for parents new to the District. The new editor of the Tri Town Transcript will be contact regarding the School Committee column.
4. **School Start Time Advisory Committee (STAC)** – W. Hodges indicated that discussion on this topic has been community wide. He will be scheduling a date for a large meeting. The Actions Development group met last week and will meet again tomorrow. H. Rivers indicated that there has been a high response rate for the surveys, especially the student one.
5. **Turf Up Masco Update** – W. Hodges reported that the RFP would be divided into two sections rather than the previous RFP model. A new draft RFP will be developed.

L. Old/new business – K. Lyons reported that the Committee had conceptually approved a Music Trip to France for Spring 2017 so that fundraising, vendors, interest, etc. could be pursued. With recent developments in France, Music Director W. O'Keefe indicated that France may not be an ideal place for the music trip. He was seeking approval to change the trip from France to Ireland. Some changes from the original trip may occur. K. Lyons will contact W. O'Keefe about the need for travel insurance. A motion was made by W. Hodges.

MOTION: To approve Music Director W. O'Keefe's request to change the music trip from France to Ireland for Spring 2017.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

M. Consent Agenda –

1. Accept Class of 2008 (\$5,000, Ck. #84556) and Class of 2012 (\$10,000, Ck. #84557) Donation for LED Sign
2. Warrants \$965,973.67 – Four (4) Warrants Signed

A motion was made by P. Fitzsimmons.

MOTION: To approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

N. **Adjournment** – A motion was made by P. Fitzsimmons.
MOTION: Move to adjourn.
VOTE: Motion passed unanimously at 9:46 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:

1. Agenda
2. Facilities Assessment Presentation
3. Masconomet 2025 Vision and Values Statements
4. Superintendent Report
5. Music Trip Itinerary
6. Consent Agenda

