

MASCONOMET REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE

May 6, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT: T. Cooper, Chair, Middleton C. Miller, Vice Chair, Boxford  
B. Thornborough, Boxford M. Gnoza-Ogden, Topsfield  
D. Volchok, Boxford K. Prentakis, Middleton  
K. DeMarco, Boxford J. Ciampa, Middleton  
Z. Bhaju, Topsfield W. Hodges, Topsfield

MEMBERS ABSENT: A. Pascucci, Middleton

OTHERS PRESENT: M. Harvey, Superintendent  
J. Sands, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations  
P. Bullard, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services

- A. **Call to Order** – T. Cooper, Chair, called the regular meeting of the School Committee of May 6, 2020 to order at 7:01p.m. via zoom teleconference.
- B. **Remarks by the Chair** – T. Cooper reviewed the guidelines for the zoom conference and thanked the teachers for their work. She also acknowledged the receipt of letters regarding the health services position.
- C. **Comments from the Audience** – Meredith Shaw asked for clarification regarding the discussion for the health services position. This discussion will be held at the next SC meeting. M. Gnoza-Ogden asked if students could be allowed back into the schools to obtain their musical instruments. The students cannot participate in Band Class without them. This will be discussed at a future meeting.
- D. **Coronavirus Response Update** - M. Harvey updated the SC on the past weeks activities. A survey was sent to the class of 2020 regarding graduation activities and a graduation planning meeting is being set up. Remote summer learning is being discussed. In person summer learning under strict guidelines if allowed. M. Harvey reviewed the funding under the Cares Act. The extension to the current MOU with the MTA will be discussed at the next meeting.
- E. **Presentation from Ben Hodges, Director of Digital Learning and Ryan King, Technology Services Specialist**– Ben Hodges and Ryan King provided an update to the SC. The teachers have been working hard getting comfortable with remote learning during this transition. Training is ongoing. Staff has new technology skills such as video lessons. 85% of the students are participating online and 91% are completing the assignments. Keeping the students engaged has been an issue so teachers are using polling questions, calling on students and providing google forms to fill out. Special Education is utilizing break out groups and academic support. Students who receive modifications are provided these modifications without the other students in the class knowing. Technology services is working on polls for the teachers to be able to see who has logged in and for how long. Each student has their own individual login for blackboard. Z. Bhaju asked if participation varied by grade. She also stated that we need to take advantage of this unique opportunity to teach with new mediums. K. Prentakis expressed his concern with how much of the curriculum was being covered with remote learning. W. Hodges asked if staff has started looking towards the fall. Ryan informed the SC that the training the staff is receiving now is laying the foundation for any future remote learning. D. Volchok asked how the lack of text books is being

addressed. Online text books are being utilized for Math and Science, others are using websites, videos etc.

**F. Approve Student Opportunity Plan** – M. Harvey reviewed the three year plan, explaining how funds are to be spent on particular groups of students, such as students with disabilities, inclusions and student support. P. Bullard assisted with the plan. With the reform of Chapter 70, the state needs accountability from the district. K. DeMarco made a motion, which was seconded by K. Prentakis to accept the Masconomet Student Opportunity Plan as presented.

Rollcall Vote:

T. Cooper – yes

K. Prentakis – yes

D. Volchok – yes

M. Gnoza-Ogden – yes

W. Hodges – yes

C. Miller – yes

K. DeMarco – yes

B. Thornborough – yes

J. Ciampa – yes

Z. Bhujju – yes

MOTION: To accept Student Opportunity Plan

VOTE: 10-0 Motion Carried

**G. Letter from Boxford Board of Selectmen regarding FY21 Masconomet Budget** – C. Miller reviewed the letter from the Boxford Board of Selectmen asking for a 0% budget increase and 0% raises for non-union personnel. C. Miller does not support making these changes and has drafted a response with the other SC members from Boxford. W. Hodges made a motion, seconded by Z. Bhujju to accept the response letter as presented.

Rollcall Vote:

T. Cooper – yes

K. Prentakis – yes

D. Volchok – yes

M. Gnoza-Ogden – yes

W. Hodges – yes

C. Miller – yes

K. DeMarco – yes

B. Thornborough – yes

J. Ciampa – yes

Z. Bhujju – yes

MOTION: To accept response letter

VOTE: 10-0 Motion Carried

## **H. Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of School Committee Meeting Minutes from April 7<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020
2. Warrants \$3,488,011.03 – Fifteen (15) Warrants Signed since 4-15-2020

The consent agenda was read by T. Cooper. Z. Bhujju asked that the minutes from April 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> be removed from the consent agenda. A motion was made by Z. Bhujju and seconded by C. Miller to accept the consent agenda with the exception of April 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> minutes.

Rollcall Vote:

T. Cooper – yes

K. Prentakis – yes

D. Volchok – yes

M. Gnoza-Ogden – yes

W. Hodges – yes

C. Miller – yes

K. DeMarco – yes

B. Thornborough – yes

J. Ciampa – yes

Z. Bhujju – yes

MOTION: To Accept the Consent Agenda  
VOTE: 10-0 Motion Carried

Z. Bhaju reviewed the changes requested for the April 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> minutes. April 15<sup>th</sup> minutes will be resubmitted. Z. Bhaju made a motion, seconded by K. DeMarco to accept the April 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> minutes with proposed amendments.

Rollcall Vote:

T. Cooper – yes	C. Miller – yes
K. Prentakis – yes	K. DeMarco – yes
D. Volchok – yes	B. Thornborough – yes
M. Gnoza-Ogden – yes	J. Ciampa – yes
W. Hodges – yes	Z. Bhaju – yes

MOTION: To accept the April 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Minutes with Proposed Amendments  
VOTE: 10-0 Motion Carried

- I. **Adjournment** – A motion was made by K. DeMarco and seconded by C. Miller to adjourn at 8:43p.m.

Rollcall Vote:

T. Cooper – yes	C. Miller – yes
K. Prentakis – yes	K. DeMarco – yes
D. Volchok – yes	B. Thornborough – yes
M. Gnoza-Ogden – yes	J. Ciampa – yes
W. Hodges – yes	Z. Bhaju – yes

MOTION: To Adjourn  
VOTE: Motion Carried

Submitted By: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
Lynn Viselli Recording Secretary Date

**Per the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, the list of documents that were either distributed to the Masconomet School Committee before the meeting in the packet or at the meeting.**

1. Agenda
2. Masconomet Student Opportunity Plan
3. DESE Student Opportunity Plan Short Form
4. Letter from Boxford Board of Selectmen
5. Consent Agenda