

MASCONOMET REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
School Committee Workshop Meeting
August 20, 2016

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: K. Lyons, Superintendent

- A. Call To Order and Welcome** –Chair D. Volchok called the Workshop Meeting to order at 9:48 a.m. on Saturday, August 20, 2016 at the Flint Library in Middleton. He welcomed the Committee to its annual workshop meeting. He expressed his belief about Masconomet having an excellent School Committee with outstanding potential.
- B. Vision 2025** – J. Spencer and K. Lyons presented draft Masconomet 2025 Values and Visions Statements with a series of slides. Discussion was interspersed with the slides and Committee members made several suggested edits that were accepted and will be incorporated into the next draft. Members also suggested a list of more concise “headlines” representing each of the five vision statements. J. Spencer and K. Lyons agreed to develop that concept and report back to the Committee. There was strong consensus of the Committee to affirm the draft Vision and Values Statements.
- C. Communication** – C. Miller – It was determined that the Committee would review the Digital 1:1 Initiative after one year and communicate the outcome back to the Communities. We would ensure that there would be a presentation of the Facility Assessment findings. C. Miller presented a working list of topics to be covered in the Tri-Town Transcript column. Enhancing parent, community and school communication was the goal and focus of the subcommittee.
- D. School Committee Effectiveness** – D. Volchok – A discussion was held regarding the structure of the School Committee meetings and decided to adjust the agenda to more effectively utilize the audience’s and the Committee’s time at the meetings.
- E. Budget Goals** – T. Buono reviewed the draft priorities for FY18 which were based off last year’s priorities. Discussion was held regarding having the priorities be more specific, such as noting the Enrollment/Staffing assessment that would be performed this year as a method toward managing the budget, curriculum development/alignment and building capacity to meet students’ needs should be combined into one priority that could include identifying specific professional development goals or staffing (e.g. Director of Curriculum) as the District moves forward in the process. For improving communication, it was agreed that the Public Hearing would involve both budget and School Choice and that a notification of both will be put in the Tri-Town Transcript. The Budget Subcommittee should also work with the Town Finance Committees and Boards of Selectmen earlier in the budget process to build consensus on the warrant article approach for the telecommunications system and potentially a re-do of the parking lot. Building cost efficiencies should replace managing out-of-district placements as the placements are only one aspect of containing costs. K. Prentakis noted that the District should optimize saving opportunities and look for additional income/resource opportunities (e.g. solar projects, other collaborative, etc.). It was determined that the Facilities Assessment and Enrollment/Staffing analysis are both important in managing costs. T. Buono reviewed the proposed budget calendar and stated that some changes were made based on the availability of data/documents such as the School Council Improvement Plans. T. Buono will meet with K. Lyons and S. Givens to further refine the Budget Calendar and will bring the updated draft calendar to the next Committee meeting. The Budget Subcommittee will meet on September 14th with all Finance Committees and Boards of Selectmen invited and it was suggested that all these groups receive notification in the future for major budget calendar items such as the Public Hearing.
- F. School Start Time Advisory Committee** – W. Hodges and H. Rivers – W. Hodges gave an update on the status of the School Start Time Advisory Committee.
- G. Adjournment** - A motion was made by P. Fitzsimmons.
MOTION: To adjourn.
VOTE: Motion passed at 2:30 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Kevin M. Lyons, 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. Draft Budget Calendar and Priorities