

MASCONOMET REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

March 27, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: W. Hodges, Chair, Topsfield T. Cooper, Vice Chair, Middleton
K. Prentakis, Middleton A. Pascucci, Middleton
K. DeMarco, Boxford C. Miller, Boxford
Z. Bhaju, Topsfield J. Spencer, Topsfield
D. Rivers, Boxford D. Volchok, Boxford

MEMBERS ABSENT: J. Ciampa, Middleton

OTHERS PRESENT: K. Lyons, Superintendent
S. Givens, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations
P. Delani, High School Principal

- A. **Call to Order** – W. Hodges, Chair, called the Regular School Committee Meeting of March 27, 2019 to order at 7:04 p.m. in the Ralph Osgood Presentation Room.
- B. **Remarks by the Chair** – W. Hodges reminded the group that the meeting is audio and video recorded.
- C. **Comments from the Audience** – None.
- D. **Student Advisory Board Report** – M. Dzwill reported to the Committee about past and upcoming events. He reported on the success of the recent St. Patrick’s Day Senior Dinner and shared information about the planning of a community Color Run to be held at Masco in May. Dzwill described the work in his AP Statistics course on the HVAC study funded by the MEF. D. Rivers commented on the nature of the work and its relationship to real-world problem-solving. K. Lyons showed a video of work going on in the AP Statistics classroom and then explained how it is a textbook example of Project-based Learning (PBL) best practice.
- E. **Comments from the Principals** – P. Delani submitted informational bullets that were included in the meeting materials. He spoke to several bullets related to social-emotional learning initiatives in the High School. These included student engagement initiatives that work on the front-end of SEL, meaning that engaged students will have fewer social-emotional difficulties. He also reported on the Senior Internship Project and this year’s initiative to involve more Masco seniors, meaningfully, in the elementary schools. P. Delani also reported on the Master Teacher project of Annie Rollins, which focuses on the issue of boys and literacy. Masco students are now regularly involved with reading to elementary students and this teacher project has generated more interest in boys reading to boys as an intervention.
- H. **Consent Agenda (Consent Agenda Items Taken Out of Order)** – Chair W. Hodges asked that the Agenda be amended to remove Items 5 and 6 from the Consent Agenda, discuss, and vote on them separately. Scot Hamburger, an officer of the Baseball Boosters, was invited to speak to the gifts of a batting cage and artificial turf for flooring of a new cage. K. Lyons said that typically gifts are monetary but this gift will be a batting cage and turf contracted by the Boosters to be used by the baseball and softball teams. The proposed new cage will be situated in tandem with the existing batting cage and share stanchions. The money for this purchase was generated mostly from

baseball clinics. Since these items were removed from the Consent Agenda a motion was in order. A motion was made by J. Spencer and seconded by T. Cooper.

MOTION: To accept the gift of a Batting Cage from the Baseball Boosters and a gift of the turf from Ideal Turf Solutions valued at \$10,000 and \$9,000 respectively.

VOTE: 10 -0, Motion carried

The Committee thanked the Baseball Boosters and Ideal Turf Solutions.

- F. **Request for Supplemental Appropriation for Security Cameras** – S. Givens reported that the pricing for four security cameras, previously approved for purchase by the Committee, is higher than the \$16,000 appropriation made from the Stabilization Fund. The purchase will require a supplemental appropriation of \$4,000 to move forward to hopefully have them installed during April vacation. Discussion followed. K. Prentakis said that this estimation is 25 % off the actual cost so we need a better system of estimation. T. Cooper agreed we need to try to be more accurate. A motion was made by J. Spencer and seconded by D. Volchok.

MOTION: To approve a supplemental appropriation of \$4,000 from the stabilization fund to pay for, and install, four (4) security cameras

VOTE: 10-0, Motion carried.

- G. **Open Meeting Law Complaint** – K. Lyons reported that Kim Sherwood filed a complaint with the School Committee and the Attorney General’s Office. She attended the March 6, 2019 meeting and the minutes are the subject of her complaint. K. Sherwood does not feel that the minutes were detailed enough in reflecting her comments. K. Lyons said that the minutes shouldn’t be a transcript but generally capture the business of the meeting such as votes and motions and sufficient detail of remarks as required by law. Copies of K. Sherwood’s complaint and K. Lyons’ responses were included in the meeting materials. Even though the Masconomet School Committee meetings are audio and video recorded, the Open Meeting Law only recognizes written minutes. K. Lyons told the Committee that reversing a vote on the previously accepted minutes from the March 6 meeting could be precedent setting. C. Miller said that she was comfortable with the vote as previously taken. It was suggested that the School Committee Chair could remind speakers at the School Committee Meetings that they can submit a written copy of their remarks at the time of the meeting as an addendum to the meeting comments. It was also suggested that School Committee Meeting agenda could include notes about minutes not being intended to be transcripts, and that individual making public comments can submit a written copy of their remarks for inclusion with the meeting records, noting that all meeting records are posted on-line. J. Spencer made a motion that was seconded by T. Cooper.

MOTION: To affirm the minutes of the March 6, 2019 School Committee meeting as previously approved.

VOTE: 7-0-3 Motion carried. Hodges, Spencer, and Bhaju, who were absent during the Public Comments section of the March 6th meeting, abstained.

H. Consent Agenda:

1. Warrants: \$1,121,446.39 (6) warrants signed since last meeting
2. Approval of February 27, 2019 School Committee Meeting Minutes
3. Approval of March 13, 2019 School Committee Meeting Minutes
4. Accept MEF Grant of \$2,000 for DECA National ICDC Competition
5. Removed from Consent Agenda
6. Removed from Consent Agenda
7. Approval of Overnight DECA ICDC Competition, April 26 – May 1, 2019 in Orlando, FL

A motion was made by T. Cooper and seconded by D. Rivers to approve Consent Agenda items 1, 2, 3, 4, and 7.

MOTION To approve Consent Agenda items 1, 2, 3, 4, 7
VOTE 8-0, Motion carried, Volchok and Hodges abstaining.

- I. Discussion of “How to Raise an Adult, Chapters 6 & 14, “Life Skills”** –The Book Discussion was tabled by Chair W. Hodges until the April 10, 2019 meeting. K. Lyons suggested adding Chapter 22 for the April 24th meeting.

K. Reports of the Subcommittees:

1. District Capital Improvement Task Force – D. Rivers stated that the report given by Z. Bhujra at the last meeting still stands as the update to Task Force work.
2. Budget Subcommittee - T. Cooper reported that the Budget Subcommittee would meet on April 1 to establish talking points and review the report of S. Givens. There will also be discussion of presentation strategy to each of the Tri-Towns. J. Spencer, D. Volchok, and K. Prentakis reported on Topsfield, Boxford, and Middleton.
3. Policy Subcommittee – J. Spencer reported that the Policy Subcommittee had met on April 3, 2019. The Subcommittee discussed the matter of School Committee membership criteria and serving on multiple Boards. The Subcommittee is recommending that the 2019-2020 Subcommittee take up a discussion about an interest in a policy on voting recusal guidelines. Spencer expects to have multiple policy revisions for first reads on April 10.
4. Community Relations Subcommittee – K. DeMarco reported that work on Facebook is still in progress. She cannot have the School Committee Facebook Account tie into her personal account so she is rethinking the management. She is looking into the management model of the account used by the Topsfield School Committee.

- L. Other Business, Old or New** – J. Spencer asked for a time clarification on the event sponsored by the National Park Service at the Visitor’s Center in Salem that was included in the packet. Nine students will be making presentations there. It will be held on April 3, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

M. Adjournment and Executive Session – At 8:50 p.m., a motion was made by T. Cooper and seconded by Z. Bhuju.

MOTION To go into Executive Session in accordance with Chapter 30, Section 21a (3) of the General Laws for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Masconomet Teachers Association, whereas discussing these subjects in open session might have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee. The Committee will not return to open session.

VOTE 10-0, motion carried

During the transition from open to closed meeting slides from the International Dinner were shown complete with a performance by the Jazz Band.

Submitted By: _____
Jacqueline Bolduc, Record Access Officer

Approved: _____
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. Agenda Guide
3. High School Update
4. Middle School Update
5. Supplemental Appropriation for Security Cameras
6. Open Meeting Law Complaint Documents
7. Consent Agenda
8. "How to Raise an Adult" Discussion Points
9. Personnel Changes
10. BC High MUN Flyer
11. Essex County Project Documentary
12. HVAC Heat Study MP Presentation by AP Stats Class
13. International Dinner PowerPoint Presentation