

MASCONOMET REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Regular School Committee Meeting

October 19, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: D. Volchok, Chair, Boxford T. Buono, Vice Chair, Middleton
C. Miller, Boxford L. Richards, Middleton arr. 6:50
K. Prentakis, Middleton H. Rivers, Boxford
J. Spencer, Topsfield W. Hodges, Topsfield
P. Fitzsimmons, Boxford arr. 6:53 K. Sherwood, Topsfield

MEMBERS ABSENT: A. Pascucci, Middleton

OTHERS PRESENT: K. Lyons, Superintendent D. Flaherty, MS Principal
L. Hodgdon, HS Principal P. Bullard, Pupil Personnel
D. Tenanty, Mathematics DH T. Fay, Science DH
M. Hildebrand, English DH I. Duros, Director of Guidance
K. Carlson, Topsfield Resident Other

- A. **Call to Order** – Chair D. Volchok called the October 19, 2016 Regular School Committee meeting to order at 6:02 in the Ralph Osgood Presentation Room
- B. **Remarks by the Chair** – D. Volchok announced that the meeting started at 6:00 p.m. tonight because the final presidential debate was tonight. The meeting is being video and audio taped.
- C. **Comments from the Audience** – Topsfield resident K. Carlson gave her opinion both as a concerned public school parent and as a taxpayer in Topsfield about the MASC initiative regarding Charter Schools. Her concerns regarding affordability to live in communities such as the Tri Town that have excellent schools and the need for charter schools to promote excellence for students were shared. She urged the Committee to support a yes vote on Ballot Referendum 2. Complete comments are available in agenda backup materials.
- D. **Comments from SABs** – None
- E. **Comments from Principals** – High School Principal L. Hodgdon reported on the following: homecoming week, hall decorating, Senior Halloween dance, curriculum and instructions update (C. Fay & M. Siden working hard on curriculum pathway), freshman year update, PSATs were administered today with 547 exams taken by juniors and sophomores, the freshmen participated in an election program conducted by the Social Studies Department, the French Exchange Program (students arriving at end of October with our students going to France in the Spring), the Freshman Walk raised over \$15,000 for Project Semi-Colon, the college readiness night will be held in November, the Foreign Language Honor Society induction will be on Oct. 24th and the production *Carrie*, which is loosely based on the S. King novel is very well done and addresses aspects of bullying. Young children are advised not to attend the production. Middle School Principal D. Flaherty reported on the following: the October superpower is Creativity, October is Bullying Prevention month and Oct. 19th is National Unity Day, Fall Excels (17 activities with 150 slots filled) have started, the fall fundraiser was almost complete, professional development update (attended Unpacking the New MA Science Curriculum Standards with two MS science teacher and MS Staff Book Read), the faculty meeting on Monday with teacher presentations by the math department, the interdisciplinary project: grade 8 Art and History, parent communications: the Middle School Years, and upcoming October activities. Both Principals indicated that mock elections would be held at student lunches. K. Lyons shared that *Life is Good* is very much alive and being shared among teachers and that monthly meetings are being held with Tri-Town colleagues, librarians and leadership groups.
- F. **MCAS/PARCC and SAT/ACT Presentation** – D. Tenanty, T. Fay, M. Hildebrand, I Duros, D. Flaherty and L. Hodgdon presented a Power Point slide show highlighting 2015-2016 PSAT results, SAT 10 year trends, 2016 SAT Means by School District, ACT 10 year trends, AP program and testing results. PARCC Level Descriptors and Grades 7 and 8 assessment results. Grade 10 math, ELA and Grade 9 STE results were presented. A comparison of comparable high schools was given. The Big Picture, Addressing High Needs Students, and Continuous Improvement of Teaching and Learning was shared.
- G. **Student Demographics/Tri Town Students Attending Private Schools and Essex Technical** – I. Duros reported on the following: 8th graders leaving Masconomet, 10 year trends that have been pretty consistent over the past 10 years, the five categories of educational options for student attendance she covered were: Essex Technical, St. John's Prep, Other Private Schools and Home Schooled. For the most part, the students leaving the District were equaled out by the students entering the District.
- H. **MASC Resolutions Discussion** – K. Sherwood and A. Pascucci will be the Committee representatives at the MASC/MASS Joint Meeting in November. D. Volchok indicated that there were 4 proposed resolutions (1. Foundation Budget, 2. Tax Reform Ballot Questions, 3. Charter School Reform, and 4. Social and Emotional Well-Being of Students) for member districts consideration at the meeting and he stated that it would be best to give direction to the representatives on how the Committee would vote. All resolutions were read and discussed. A motion was made by K. Prentakis.

MOTION: To support Resolution 1: Foundation Budget.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by J. Spencer.

MOTION: To abstain from Resolution 2: Tax Reform Ballot Question.

VOTE: Motion passed

OPPOSED: K. Prentakis and L. Richards

A motion was made by T. Buono.

MOTION: To support Resolution 4: Social And Emotional Well-Being Of Students

VOTE: Motion passed.

OPPOSED: L. Richards

A motion was made by K. Prentakis.

MOTION: To nominate K. Sherwood as the official Committee representative at the MASC/MASS joint meeting.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

I. Charter School Ballot Question Discussion – A motion was made by K. Sherwood.

MOTION: To table Charter School Ballot Question Discussion.

DISCUSSION: K. Sherwood stated that as a public vote will be taken in a few weeks and that she will vote at the MASS/MASC meeting, she did not feel a discussion needed to be held.

VOTE: K. Prentakis and K. Sherwood – Motion failed.

OPPOSED: D. Volchok, T. Buono, C. Miller, H. Rivers, J. Spencer, W. Hodges, L. Richards and P. Fitzsimmons

A motion was made by J. Spencer.

MOTION: To support the Resolution Against Lifting the Cap on Commonwealth Charter Schools

DISCUSSION: K. Prentakis stated that he objected to the process not necessarily the ballot question. J. Spencer stated that he didn't trust the government to fund additional charter schools. Discussion was held regarding the pros and cons of charter schools and the pros and cons of supporting the resolution against lifting the cap on charter schools. It was stated that the Committee represents the constituents of their communities, not the State. K. Sherwood stated that Chapter 70 funds haven't been adjusted in many years and that charter schools would allow pathways for students whose parents couldn't afford private schools or to live in communities with high achieving schools. She stated that a charter school could be seen as an alternative and could make a difference.

VOTE: Motion passed

ABSTAIN: K. Prentakis, K. Sherwood, and W. Hodges

A motion was made by J. Spencer.

MOTION: To support Resolution #3: Charter School Reform

VOTE: Motion passed.

ABSTAIN: K. Prentakis, K. Sherwood and W. Hodges

J. Superintendent Evaluation Part 5 – Self-Assessment and Evidence – K. Lyons presented his 2015-2016 End-of-Cycle Report, highlighting the Student Learning goal, Professional Practice Goal, District Improvement Goals 1(Strategic Planning Stage 1) and 2 (Safe and Secure Environment), outcome benchmarks and process benchmarks of each goal. A reflection on performance on the Four Educator Standards for Superintendents (Instructional Leadership, Management and Operations, Family and Community Engagement and Professional Culture) was given. K. Lyons stated his final thoughts indicating the he is challenged, but not frustrated in his efforts to lead the District toward a more interdisciplinary structure that is more capable of teaching every student well. D. Volchok has sent out the evaluation form and process. All evaluations should be returned to him by next Wednesday. All evaluations will be collated and copies sent to the Committee before the November 2 meeting.

K. Superintendent Report – Tabled to November 2, 2016 meeting

L. Report of the Subcommittees – Tabled to November 2, 2016 meeting

1. Budget Subcommittee – T. Buono

2. Policy Subcommittee – J. Spencer

- a. Policy JK Student Discipline – 1st Reading
- b. Policy JLF Reporting Child Abuse – 1st Reading
- c. Policy JQ Student Fees, Fines, and Charges – 1st Reading
- d. Policy GBD School Committee/Staff Communications – 1st Reading
- e. Policy GBEB Staff Conduct – 1st Reading
- f. Policy GBEBB Teacher/Staff Student Relations – 1st Reading
- g. Policy GBGB Staff Personnel Security and Safety – 1st Reading
- h. Policy GBI Staff Participation in Political Activities – 1st Reading
- i. Policy GBJ Personnel Records – 1st Reading
- j. Policy GCA Professional Staff Positions– 1st Reading
- k. Policy GCB Contracts and Compensation Plans– 1st Reading
- l. Policy GCC Professional Staff Leaves and Absences– 1st Reading
- m. Policy GCD Professional Staff Vacation and Holidays – 1st Reading
- n. Policy GCE Professional Staff Recruiting/Posting of Vacancies– 1st Reading
- o. Policy JFAAA Evidence of Residency/Guardianship – 2nd Reading
- p. Policy JK-R1 Student Discipline Guidelines – 2nd Reading

- q. Policy JK-R2 Suspension and Expulsion – 2nd Reading
- r. Policy JK-R3 Student Discipline and Students with Disabilities – 2nd Reading
- 3. Community Relations Subcommittee – C. Miller
- 4. School Start Time Advisory Committee – W. Hodges
- 5. Turf Up Masco Update – W. Hodges

M. Old/New Business – K. Lyons requested the Committee accept the Masconomet Education Foundation (MEF) Teacher grant for \$1000 for N. Clark, Science Department teacher. A motion was made by K. Prentakis.
 MOTION: To accept MEF teacher grant for \$1000 (check # 8664246) for N. Clark Science Department teacher.
 VOTE: Motion passed.

N. Consent Agenda – Tabled to November 2, 2016 meeting.

- 1. Approve July 20, 2016 Regular School Committee Meeting Minutes
- 2. Approve August 20, 2016 Regular School Committee Meeting Minutes
- 3. Approve September 7, 2016 Regular School Committee Meeting Minutes
- 4. Approve September 21, 2016 Regular School Committee Meeting Minutes
- 5. Accept GE STAR Award for \$500.00 (Ck. # 008334) for English Teacher T. Trevenen
- 6. Warrants \$1,722,168.15 – Nine (9) Warrants Signed

O. Approval of Executive Session Minutes – Tabled to November 2, 2016 meeting

- a. July 20, 2016 Executive Session Minutes
- b. August 20, 2016 Executive Session Minutes

P. Adjournment & Executive Session (Discussion of Option B Salary Guide Requests) – A motion was made by P. Fitzsimmons.
 MOTION: To go into Executive Session in accordance with Chapter 30, Section 21a (3) of the General Laws for the purpose of discussing Option B Salary Guide Requests, whereas discussing this 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: Motion passed by roll call at 9:04 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. Comments from K. Carlson
- 3. Consent Agenda
- 4. MCAS/PARCC and SAT/ACT Presentation
- 5. Student Demographics/Tri Town Students Attending Private Schools and Essex Technical
- 6. MASC Resolutions
- 7. Superintendent Evaluation – Self-Assessment and Evidence – End-of-Cycle Report
- 8. Policies for 1st Reading
- 9. Policies for 2nd Reading
- 10. Superintendent Report
- 11. Consent Agenda
- 12. Executive Session Minutes