



Marlborough Public Schools

School Committee
District Education Center
25 Union Street, Marlborough, MA 01752
(508) 460-3509

Call to Order

October 11, 2022

1. Michelle Bodin-Hettinger called the regular meeting of the Marlborough School Committee to order at 7:30 p.m. at 17 Washington Street, Marlborough, MA. Members present included Daniel Caruso, Katherine Hennessy, Earl Geary, and Denise Ryan. Heidi Matthews joined the meeting remotely. Also present were Superintendent Mary Murphy, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Robert Skaza, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services and Equity, Jody O'Brien, and Director of Finance and Operations, Douglas Dias. Additionally, MEA Representative Brendan St. George and Student Advisory Representative Jessica Rosenzweig were present.

This meeting is being recorded by local cable, WMCT-TV, and is available for review.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Presentation:**

- A. **MHS Student Advisory Committee**

Jessica Rosenzweig presented on behalf of the senior class representative, Rachel Scooler, regarding collaboration between MHS student leaders. The first ever Student Leadership meeting was held this past Thursday where student leaders from each grade discussed upcoming events.

The junior class representative, Risha Khanderia, spoke about the proposal for a community garden at MHS. This project was taken on by the Peer Leadership and Mentoring Club to combat food insecurity in the community and assist underprivileged families.

The sophomore class representative, Sarah Garner, described the steps taken to improve student participation in extracurricular activities for the Class of 2024. One step taken involved students handing out flyers with info about extracurricular options. Sarah has noted an increase in student participation since these outreach efforts commenced.

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The freshman class representative, Atul Modur, discussed the student perspective on the transition into high school. He described the shift from being the oldest in school to the youngest now. Atul mentioned the different high school events, such as Spirit Week and football games; he also touched upon the high school mindset that students have embraced.

4. Committee Discussion/Directives: None.

5. Communications: None.

6. Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Murphy requested that the School Committee approves her goals later this evening.

The Superintendent and Dr. Riley recognized Alexandre Banos and Eduardo Castro as the Class of 2023 recipients of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents' (MASS) Award for Academic Excellence.

The Superintendent and Dr. Riley also recognized Julia Charlwood and Samantha Nie as the Class of 2023 recipients of the National School Development Council (NSDC) Award for Academic Growth and Student Leadership in Learning.

Superintendent Murphy introduced Dr. Riley to update the committee on the modified graduation requirements for the Class of 2023.

Dr. Riley highlighted these MHS graduation requirement updates.

A. Assistant Superintendent of Teacher & Learning Report

Dr. Skaza, the Assistant Superintendent of Teacher and Learning, shared that the amount of Marlborough students being homeschooled has dropped since last school year from 72 to 60 students.

Dr. Skaza reported that about 300 staff members have been trained in Tier 1 of Restorative Practices thus far.

Dr. Skaza provided a curriculum resource update; this is the final year that Houghton Mifflin Harcourt will have the Journeys program available, so he and Mr. Sanborn are discussing next steps. Mr. Sanborn will join the next School Committee meeting to provide an update on this matter.

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Dr. Skaza congratulated many Class of 2022 and 2023 AP students on their AP Scholar Awards on behalf of MPS and Dr. Riley. The list of students and their awards is detailed in his report.

7. Acceptance of Minutes:

A. Minutes of the September 27, 2022 School Committee Meeting

Motion made by Mrs. Ryan, seconded by Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger to approve these minutes.

Motion passed 6-0-0. Roll call vote was taken. Yes: Bodin-Hettinger, Caruso, Geary, Hennessy, Matthews, and Ryan.

8. Public Participation:

Kevin Maccioli, who lives at 58 Ridge Road, gave a suggestion for future Restorative Justice updates. He then spoke about the topic of bullying and the district's bullying policy.

It should be noted that members of the public may provide comment via email before the meeting to superintendent@mps-edu.org. Public participation is a time for your comments to be heard by the committee; it is not a question-and-answer session.

9. Action Items/Reports

A. FY23 Superintendent's Goals

Superintendent Murphy requested that the School Committee approves her goals, which are attached to this agenda item.

Motion made by Mrs. Ryan, seconded by Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger to approve the FY23 Superintendent's Goals.

Motion passed 6-0-0. Roll call vote was taken. Yes: Bodin-Hettinger, Caruso, Geary, Hennessy, Matthews, and Ryan.

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B. MASC Delegate

Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger explained both the MASC conference and the delegate position.

Motion made by Mrs. Ryan, seconded by Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger to appoint Mrs. Hennessy as the MASC Delegate and Mr. Caruso as the alternate.

Motion passed 6-0-0. Roll call vote was taken. Yes: Bodin-Hettinger, Caruso, Geary, Hennessy, Matthews, and Ryan.

C. MASC Resolutions

Mrs. Hennessy read each of the six MASC resolutions, which are attached to this agenda item in detail.

Motion made by Mrs. Hennessy, seconded by Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger to approve Resolution 1: Regarding Sanctuary Laws for Transgender Students.

Motion passed 6-0-0. Roll call vote was taken. Yes: Bodin-Hettinger, Caruso, Geary, Hennessy, Matthews, and Ryan.

Motion made by Mrs. Hennessy, seconded by Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger to approve Resolution 2: To Increase the Maximum Balance Allowed by the Special Education Reserve Fund.

Motion passed 6-0-0. Roll call vote was taken. Yes: Bodin-Hettinger, Caruso, Geary, Hennessy, Matthews, and Ryan.

Motion made by Mrs. Hennessy, seconded by Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger to approve Resolution 3: Membership of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Motion passed 6-0-0. Roll call vote was taken. Yes: Bodin-Hettinger, Caruso, Geary, Hennessy, Matthews, and Ryan.

Motion made by Mrs. Hennessy, seconded by Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger to approve Resolution 4: Preserving Local Governance of Massachusetts Schools.

Motion passed 5-1-0. Roll call vote was taken. Yes: Bodin-Hettinger, Caruso, Hennessy, Matthews, and Ryan. No: Geary.

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Motion made by Mrs. Hennessy, seconded by Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger to approve Resolution 5: Personal Financial Literacy Education.

Motion did not pass 1-5-0. Roll call vote was taken. Yes: Bodin-Hettinger. No: Caruso, Geary, Hennessy, Matthews, and Ryan.

Motion made by Mrs. Hennessy, seconded by Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger to approve Resolution 6: Establishment of a Regional School Assessment Reserve Fund.

Motion passed 4-2-0. Roll call vote was taken. Yes: Bodin-Hettinger, Caruso, Matthews, and Ryan. No: Geary and Hennessy.

Mrs. Hennessy was granted permission to change any vote based on new information at the MASC conference.

D. Acceptance of Donations and Gifts

TJX Corporation. MPS received \$1,000.00 worth of office supplies from TJX Corporation.

Motion made by Mrs. Ryan, seconded by Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger to approve this donation.

Motion passed 6-0-0. Roll call vote was taken. Yes: Bodin-Hettinger, Caruso, Geary, Hennessy, Matthews, and Ryan.

10. Reports of School Committee Sub-Committees: None.

11. Members' Forum:

Mrs. Matthews has reviewed the warrant and asked another member to sign it.



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12. Adjournment:

Motion made by Mrs. Hennessy, seconded by Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger to adjourn at 9:29 p.m.

Motion passed 6-0-0. Roll call vote was taken. Yes: Bodin-Hettinger, Caruso, Geary, Hennessy, Matthews, and Ryan.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Heidi Matthews', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Heidi Matthews
Secretary, Marlborough School Committee

HM/jm

Approved October 25, 2022