



Marlborough Public Schools

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

Call to Order

November 22, 2022

1. Michelle Bodin-Hettinger called the regular meeting of the Marlborough School Committee to order at 7:32 p.m. at 17 Washington Street, Marlborough, MA. Members present included Daniel Caruso, Earl Geary, Katherine Hennessy, 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 Eileen Barry 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:** None.

4. **Committee Discussion/Directives:** None.

5. **Communications:** None.

6. **Superintendent's Report:**

Superintendent Murphy explained that the Wrap-Around Service Providers manage 115 cases and have received 79 new referrals thus far this year. They provide a variety of services, such as coordinating Thanksgiving meals for families in the district. Mrs. Murphy acknowledged the need to expand these services and provide the two providers with additional help. She mentioned that Mrs. O'Brien acquired grant funding to hire an additional social worker for the remainder of the school year.

Superintendent Murphy presented the Class of 2023 John and Abigail Adams Scholarship recipients. These students are listed within her report.

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A. Director of Finance & Operations Report

Mr. Dias, the Director of Finance and Operations, reported that the Food Services participation rate increased to 69.2% (district-wide) in October. He recognized Deb Dallamora and her Whitcomb School staff for being the first team to reach the 75% participation goal over a one-month period.

Mr. Dias stated that the Jaworek School HVAC system is able to be updated next summer due to the ESSER federal funding available for HVAC projects. The district is determining how to leverage additional funding at Kane School as well.

Mr. Dias provided the committee with a transportation update. He mentioned that the district meets with NRT every week and is in communication with them daily regarding routes. There are currently 8 vacant driver positions in Marlborough, but there are 3-4 individuals in the process of becoming drivers. There were only 6 vacancies at the start of the school year, so a few drivers have been lost. Mr. Dias explained all of the recruitment efforts that the district has taken.

B. Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning Report

Dr. Skaza, the Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, presented an overview of the 2022 MCAS data and shared the next steps to address the areas in need of improvement, which are revealed through the data. He invited Ron Sanborn, Heather Russo, and Jose Reyes to answer any questions from the committee. Dr. Skaza's presentation slides are attached to his report.

Superintendent Murphy and Mrs. O'Brien discussed the attendance issues in the district and state.

Mr. Caruso voiced his concern regarding the comparison of MCAS scores over the years.

Dr. Skaza spoke about the enrichment programs in the district.

Mr. Sanborn, Mrs. Russo, and Mr. Reyes described the various math and English interventions being utilized in the district.



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7. Acceptance of Minutes:

A. Minutes of the November 8, 2022 School Committee Meeting

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

Motion passed 5-0-1. Roll call vote was taken. Yes: Bodin-Hettinger, Caruso, Geary, Matthews, and Ryan. Abstain: Hennessy.

8. Public Participation: None.

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 Operating Budget Transfers

Mr. Dias outlined various budget transfers in the attached document.

Motion made by Mrs. Matthews, seconded by Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger to approve these transfers.

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

B. Acceptance of Donations and Gifts

Donor's Choose. Ms. Hammond's class in Jaworek school received \$606.71.

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.

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It is the policy of the Marlborough Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, gender, religion, national origin, color, homelessness, sexual orientation, gender identity, age or disability in its education programs, services, activities or employment practices.



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Ohiopyle Prints, Inc. MHS received \$149.99 from Ohioyle Prints, Inc.
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.

Locus Robotics. MPS received \$4,480.00 from Locus Robotics.
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:

Mrs. Hennessy shared that a Policy Sub-Committee will be held tomorrow.

11. Members' Forum:

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

Mrs. Hennessy congratulated the Dessert Theater group.

Mrs. Barry acknowledged the Kane 5th grade running club for participating in a 5k Turkey Trot at the Lost Shoe this past weekend.

12. Adjournment:

Motion made by Mrs. Ryan, seconded by Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger to adjourn at 9:01 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 December 13, 2022

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