



Marlborough Public Schools

School Committee
17 Washington Street, Marlborough, MA 01752
(508) 460-3509

Call to Order

September 25, 2018

1. Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger called the regular meeting of the Marlborough School Committee to order at 7:35 pm at the District Education Center, 17 Washington Street, Marlborough, MA. Members present included Mrs. Ryan, Mrs. Hennessy, and Mr. Geary. Also present were Superintendent Michael Bergeron, Director of Teaching and Learning, Mary Murphy, Director of Finance and Operations Douglas Dias, MEA Representative Rupal Patel, Student Representative Timothy Goliger and Administrative Support Christine Martinelli. Chairman Vigeant joined the School Committee at 7:50.

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

3. **Presentation:**

A. MHS Student Advisory Committee Presentation

Allison Lucas, Student Representative from the Sophomore class, reported that the marching band has been working hard with the transition of a new director and learning material for this year's theme, from the music of *Queen*. Mrs. Hennessy complimented the Marching band, on how good they have been this year.

Hattie Parker, a freshman and first year representative, talked about the freshman experience and how positive it has been for them this year. She complimented the staff and upper classmen on how wonderful and kind they have been helping freshman navigate to their classes and schedule. Her one critique was that the new schedule is a little confusing. Senior Student Representative, Timothy Goliger commented on the new schedule, and that it is humorous being a senior and having to ask freshman how to get to classes. He ended that it will just take some adapting but will get easier as they go along.

B. Camp Invention

MHS teacher, Julie Baker, Director of Camp Invention and Whitcomb teacher, Kelly Hall, Assistant Director, spoke about the summer camp that was created by the National Inventors Hall of Fame. Approximately 80 campers, who are now in grades 4 and 5, attended the week-long camp held at Jaworek Elementary from July 23 to 27. Full

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scholarships were provided to all participants, and it was staffed with four teaching staff and 11 teen interns from the high school. The daily schedule had four modules, Optibot, Robotic Pet Vet, Mod My Mini Mansion and Stick to It. The camps learning experience is centered around creativity and innovation, entrepreneurship, teamwork and collaboration and curiosity.

Mrs. Hennessy commented that she liked how Marlborough High School students could be mentors at Camp Invention and asked how a student would apply for being a leadership intern.

C. New Superintendent Induction Program Advisor to the Superintendent

Mr. Bergeron introduced retired, tenured Superintendent, Matt King who will be his Induction Program Advisor for the next three years. Mr. King spoke of his 28 years of experience in Massachusetts as a superintendent and his work now as a coach in the induction program. Mr. King is working with Mr. Bergeron and two other new superintendents this year, to help them transition from their previous position into the challenging and complex position of a superintendent. He explained it is not about telling them what to do, but to help them think through the issues they face in their own context, because each community has different needs. He believes the superintendent's job is about relationships, student achievement and thinking strategically about what goes on in schools. The first year of this transition program is six hours a month of in person coaching, the second year is four hours of coaching and the third year is no onsite coaching, but the new superintendents meet as a group throughout that year.

4. Committee Discussion/Directives: None

5. Communications: None

6. Superintendents Report:

Mr. Bergeron began his report by including a draft of his goals for this year, for the committee to review and comment on. At the next School Committee meeting he will ask that they accept his goals for this year. The Superintendent's Goals are included in the handouts that can be found on the MPS website.



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October 2, Commissioner of Education Jeff Riley will visit Richer Elementary School. Invitations will be sent out for selected participants. At his visit, Commissioner Riley will have a short meeting with Principal Skaza, a walkthrough of the school and then the commissioner will sit down to talk with some of the students and staff.

On September 24, a small group of school committee members met to discuss a self - assessment for the district review with DESE.

Superintendent Bergeron discussed continuing work on Goal #2, *Increase the rigor and relevance of vocabulary for every student by adopting language objectives into our daily lesson planning.* At the leadership meeting on September 20 he met with two MPS EL administrators for a refresher on language objectives.

He thanked Richer Principal Skaza and Assistant Principal Joseph Padilla for their invitation to Walking Wednesday at Richer School, where he enjoyed stretching exercises and a walk to the school. Mayor Vigeant also attended joining in on the healthy activity.

Last, on September 27, UMass Memorial Hospital is hosting a discussion on substance abuse at the Whitcomb School, from 7 – 8:15, with two doctors leading the panel discussion.

A. Director of Finance & Operations Report:

Mr. Dias is working with the City's Procurement Officer in developing an RFQ for redistricting services. The RFQ was sent out to ten vendors with bids to come in October 19. Mr. Dias' goal is to partner with a vendor this fall and allow the committee to start evaluating the options for when the new elementary school is added, and the fifth grade is brought back to the elementary schools.

Mr. Dias thanked Diane Smith and her team for their effort and guidance as he worked through his first fiscal closing, FY18, in Marlborough on 9/07/18. He feels confident for another strong fiscal year in FY19 and in the weeks ahead will begin preliminary work on the FY20 budget.

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He reported a negative balance of \$2,143 to the cafeteria balances as of 9/19/18, compared to a negative balance of -\$1,779 at the same time last year. Work will continue with administrators and food service staff on strategies to lower this amount.

The Translation and Registration and Parent Outreach Center teams are close to being fully staffed. The phone bank is up and running, translators were available at curriculum night last week and utilized by the families that were present and work will continue to ensure that the RPOC has all the tools needed to be successful.

Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger asked about the amount of non-English speaking families that came to curriculum night and she hopes that we are getting the message out to families that we have this service for them. Student Representative Timothy Goliger praised the district for having both Spanish and Portuguese translators on-site at the curriculum night. Mrs. Hennessy asked if Superintendent Bergeron was looking for SC members to bounce redistricting ideas off regarding RFQ. He said it would be a good idea to have small non-cohort committee to review some of the information.

B. Director of Student Services Report:

Ms. O'Brien reported that sixteen teachers completed the Level 1 Wilson Reading Certification program in June. Eleven of those teachers are participating in on-going Wilson training to be able to provide group instruction and 1:1 instruction. This is the second stage of professional development, with the goal to offer Level 2 Wilson Certification in year three.

There are currently 56 special education students in Out of District placements. Twelve are within collaborative programs, thirty-seven placements are at private day schools and seven placements are residential. This number is down from 65 students in OOD, that was reported in April 2018. The goal is to provide opportunities and to strengthen our in-district schools so OOD students come back and to prevent future students from going to outside placements.

At Whitcomb School, on October 10 at 7pm, the district is sponsoring a free parent presentation. Author Michael Delman, "Your Kid's Gonna Be Okay," will be speaking about



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building executive skills and how parents can teach their children these self-management skills.

Mrs. Hennessy asked a clarifying question about Wilson Reading and the MPS schools that the sixteen teachers come from.

Mrs. Ryan is excited about the executive functioning presentation and book, “Your Kid’s Gonna Be Okay”. She asked what level this was targeted for and how it will be advertised.

7. Acceptance of Minutes:

A. Minutes of September 11, 2018 School Committee Meeting

Motion made by Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger, seconded by Chairman Vigeant, to approve as submitted, the School Committee minutes of September 11, 2018.

Motion passed 5-0-0.

8. Public Participation: None

9. Action Items/Reports:

Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger made a motion to move up 9C and seconded by Chairman Vigeant to move up item 9C.

Motion approved 5-0-0.

A. MHS Staggered Openings Schedule

High School Principal Dan Riley presented the staggered openings schedule for the school year. The school committee had the date in front of them as Mr. Riley reviewed the various staggered openings as well as a change to an October date. A motion was made by Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger and seconded by Chairman Vigeant to approve the staggered openings. Motion approved 5-0-0.

Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger moved to go into executive session. Chairman Vigeant took a roll call vote to go into executive session at 8:15.

Motion passed 5-0-0.

The School Committee returned from executive session and resumed the meeting.

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B. Memorandum of Agreement between the Marlborough School Committee and Administrators' Union

A motion was made by Mrs. Ryan and seconded by Chairman Vigeant to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Marlborough School Committee and the Administrators' Union.
Motion passed 5-0-0.

C. FY19 Operating Budget Transfers

Mr. Dias is recommending transfers within the FY19 operating budget, the monies are being transferred for balance purposes. A motion was made by Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger and seconded by Chairman Vigeant to approve the budget transfers.
Motion passed 5-0-0.

D. Policies for First Read:

Mrs. Hennessy read the four policies for First Read and for the committee to contact her if they had any questions. These policies will be voted on at the next School Committee meeting.

Policy #7.310 Overnight Travel

Policy #7.320 Student Extended Field Trip Protocols

Policy #8.120 Student Records

Policy #8.30 Restraint Prevention & Behavior Support

E. Policy for Removal

Mrs. Hennessy made a motion for removal of **Policy #8.080 Re-Entry**, Chairman Vigeant seconded the motion to remove Policy #8.080 Re-Entry.
Motion approved 5-0-0.

F. Acceptance of Donations and Gifts

Follett Buy Back Program paid Richer Elementary, \$40.22 for payment of books sold through the Consignment Buy-Back program. A motion was made by Mrs. Ryan and seconded by Chairman Vigeant to accept with gratitude the \$40.22 paid by Follett for books sold.

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Motion approved 5-0-0.

New York Life gave a \$500.00 grant to Richer Elementary to support the goal of being a Grief Sensitive School. A motion was made by Mrs. Ryan and seconded by Chairman Vigeant to accept with gratitude the \$500.00 grant from New York Life.

Motion approved 5-0-0.

Lifetouch Photography donated \$726.41 to Richer Elementary for commissions from spring photo day. A motion was made by Mrs. Ryan and seconded by Chairman Vigeant to accept with gratitude the \$726.41 in commissions from Lifetouch Photography.

Motion approved 5-0-0.

Skybridge Americas, Inc. & Coca Cola Give program earned \$29.78 in funds raised by parents and the community when Coca Cola products are purchased. A motion was made by Mrs. Ryan and seconded by Chairman Vigeant to accept with gratitude the \$29.78 donation from Skybridge Americas.

Motion approved 5-0-0.

Donor's Choice, Maker Space Classroom donation of \$232.75 in materials for Whitcomb School. A motion was made by Mrs. Ryan and seconded by Chairman Vigeant to approve with gratitude \$232.75 donation from Donor's Choice.

Motion approved 5-0-0.

FY19 IDEA 240 Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Grant for \$1,338,858.00 for MPS. A motion was made by Mrs. Ryan and seconded by Chairman Vigeant to approve the grant.

Motion approved 5-0-0.

FY19 Title I 305 DESE Education Grant for \$811,809.00 and **FY19 Title I 309 DESE Education Grant** for \$55,262.00 were reviewed and approved by DESE. A motion was made by Mrs. Ryan and seconded by Chairman Vigeant to approve the two grants.

Motion approved 5-0-0.

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FY19 Title IIA DESE Grant for \$150,560.00 and **FY19 Title III 180 DESE Grant** \$154,291.00. A motion was made by Mrs. Ryan and seconded by Chairman Vigeant to approve the two grants.

Motion approved 5-0-0

10. Reports of School Committee Sub-Committees:

Mrs. Hennessy reminded the committee there will be another Policy subcommittee meeting on October 5.

Mrs. Ryan reviewed the warrant with Mr. Dias. There were no questions from the School Committee regarding the Warrant.

11. Members' Forum:

Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger spoke regarding the subcommittees within the district that SC members are participating in. She suggested they let each other know about their subcommittees they are serving on, in case any other member would like some of these great opportunities to get involved themselves.

12. Adjournment:

Motion made by Mrs. Bodin-Hettinger, seconded by Chairman Vigeant to adjourn at 8:42 pm.

Motion passed 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,



Heidi Matthews
Secretary, Marlborough School Committee

HM/cm