

**Minutes**  
**Maynard School Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, May 20, 2021, 7:00 pm**  
**Remote Meeting**

Pursuant to Gov. Baker's Executive Order dated March 12, 2020, suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A sec. 20, the School Committee has modified meeting procedures to ensure the safety of all participants. The public was not allowed to physically access this School Committee meeting. This meeting was held virtually (internet) using Zoom Technology. All members of the public were invited to join the meeting virtually online or by phone. In addition, a recording of the meeting is posted on the WAVM YouTube page under Maynard School Committee Meetings. (<https://www.youtube.com/user/WAVMproductions/playlists>)

Meeting Called to Order at 7:08 pm. An attendance roll call was taken.

Mary Brannelly - Present  
Jessica Clark - Present  
Natasha Rivera - Present  
Lydia Clancy - Present  
Bethlyn Houlihan - Present

Also present were Brian Haas, Superintendent; Wayne White, Business Manager; Jeff Ferranti, Director of Student Services; Colleen Andrade, Administrative Assistant.  
Anticipated Speakers: Haven Estabrook, Student Representative;

**Approval of Minutes** none to approve

**Acceptance of Warrants**

Ms. Clancy asked the School Committee to accept without objection, warrant #'s 21-60, 21-61, 21-62. There were no objections.

Warrants 21-60, 21-61, 21-62 accepted.

**Urgent Business** (If necessary) - Solar Array project

Select Board discussed the project at their last meeting and will go back to Sunpower to ask if they could proceed with roof and canopy solar arrays, without the field behind GM. The Select Board would then be updated, then the School Committee about where Sunpower stands. Another RFP will not be sent out at this time if Sunpower has no viable option.

Discussion around having more inclusive discussions between School and Town departments about any future solar project. If solar panels are proposed for school property, the Superintendent and/or school committee should be involved in discussions. Ms. Clancy suggested editing the article to include limited scope and limited timeline, would prefer to narrow the scope of the article, as well as feeling there needed to be some financial agreement. 3 interested organizations. It was noted that MHS would not be a viable option for rooftop solar panels once the new Green Meadow was built. Committee members felt the project should not be on property surrounding GM until after the feasibility study and the location of the new building decided on.

Ms. Rivera will reply to Justine St. John that the School Committee is recommending that they have a representative during the discussions and re-evaluation of the solar project.

### **Student Representative's Report – Haven Estabrook**

The student council is organizing an up-day for 8th-grade orientation to take place next week. Spirit days are every Friday where students dress according to a different theme. Drive-in theater will take place tomorrow night, and a tailgate tomorrow morning. Seniors have several outdoor field trips and events. Sports have been taking place. Students have been trying to reduce homework by changing the homework policy. We will be coming to a future School Committee meeting to talk about it. Advisory takes place every Thursday, not school-related, subjects are tennis, board games, fun way to get to know our teachers.

**Citizens' Comments** - Ms. Clancy read the comment which was emailed.

### **Superintendent's Report - Brian Haas**

Mr. Haas noted how unique and fun the advisory classes offered were. MASC came out with an anti-vaping curriculum.

5/12 was national school nurse day and he recognized the hard work the school nurses have done all year.

Youth Risk Behavior Survey data came out which will be looked at over the summer to determine how we want to use that towards goals.

Sr project - School to Prison Pipeline by Allie Cormier. She had a panel with State Reps, College Prof., very well thought out and interesting. Most Sr's have the option to take college-level classes. Allie is graduating from MHS and also graduated with her Associate's Degree in Science and Business Administration.

MSBA Update - receiving proposals from companies who want to be our Owners Project Manager, applications deadline is tomorrow. The next step will be interviewing.

End of year Events/Celebrations - students had a great time at the prom. Fowler had an 8th-grade dance in the parking lot.

New guidance that just came out takes off some pressure for outside activities, MHS is going over guidance about graduation.

Before/After school program - Have 3 organizations that are interested. Some organizations offer substantially more than childcare, tutoring. Timelines are being set.

### **Chair's Report**

Ms. Clancy welcomed newly elected School Committee Members, Elizabeth Albota and Hilary Griffiths. Both expressed they were excited to be joining.

Ms. Clancy clarified the upcoming School Committee meetings.

### **Other Business**

**Vote to approve Dir. Of Student Services contract** - the interim Director, Jeff Ferranti has been asked to continue as the permanent director of Student Services.

Ms. Brannelly made a motion to approve the MPS Director of Student Student Services from July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

Ms. Clark 2nd the motion.

Natasha Rivera's had technical difficulties with her audio.

It was unclear if Ms. Rivera had a comment on the motion and it suggested rescinding the motion until her technical difficulties were resolved.

Ms. Brannelly rescinded her motion  
Ms. Clark 2nd the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mary Brannelly - Yae  
Jessica Clark - Yae  
Bethlyn Houlihan - Yae  
Lydia Clancy - Yae

**Motion passed 4-0**

Ms. Brannelly rescinded

Ms. Clancy Made a motion to table the motion until Natasha would come back on

Ms. Clark 2nd the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mary Brannelly - Yae  
Jessica Clark - Yae  
Bethlyn Houlihan - Yae  
Lydia Clancy - Yae

**Motion passed 4-0**

Ms. Rivera was able to call into the meeting by phone.

### **Vote to approve School Committee Meeting dates July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022**

Ms. Brannelly made a motion to accept the proposed 2021-2022 School Committee meeting dates.

Ms. Rivera 2nd the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Mary Brannelly - Yae  
Jessica Clark - Yae  
Bethlyn Houlihan - Yae  
Natasha Rivera - Yae  
Lydia Clancy - Yae

**Motion passed 5-0**

Ms. Brannelly made a motion to approve the MPS Director of Student Student Services from July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

Ms. Rivera 2nd the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Mary Brannelly - Yae  
Jessica Clark - Yae  
Bethlyn Houlihan - Yae  
Natasha Rivera - Yae  
Lydia Clancy - Yae

**Motion passed 5-0**

**Vote to approve Assistant Principal Job Description** - Interviews were already in progress.

It was noted that some items from the Principal of L&O job description were missing, concerning safety, ALICE drill, liaison with fire, police, crisis team, cybersecurity, liaison to the handbook. The job description did not mention the grade range of the school, it was suggested to add that.

It was asked why The job description mentioned reporting to the Principal of "Curriculum and Instruction" and not simply "Principal". Mr. Haas said the goal was to keep the best of both models and retain the designations.

Ms. Brannelly made a motion to accept the job description and to include the school safety, handbook, grade, and term, meaning it was a 1-year position.

Ms. Houlihan 2nd the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mary Brannelly - Yae  
Jessica Clark - Yae  
Bethlyn Houlihan - Yae  
Natasha Rivera - Yae  
Lydia Clancy - Yae

**Motion passed 5-0**

**Continuous Improvement and Monitoring Plan Presentation** - Jeff Ferranti presented the Tiered Focus Monitoring Review audit findings which found MHS was not offering physical education for every grade 9-12. Every student needs to take a physical education experience every year. He believed that health also qualified for this requirement. The MHS principals are working on how to offer these programs to all MHS students.

Ms. Rivera asked that the presentation be shared at the SEPAC collaboration meeting

**Literacy Committee Update** was tabled to next meeting

**MTSS Positions** - Brian Haas gave an overview of the 8 positions. The original thinking was there would be gaps in student learning after the past year. Job descriptions are still being finalized, and specific job descriptions for each of the positions will be provided. Will also provide the data that lead us to decide what positions to post for.

ESSR money allows the district to address areas affected by COVID and fund programs or staff to help. These positions will provide additional assistance for math, literacy, SEL, EL, and counselors. Will be at least 1 year, but could be stretched out to possibly 3 years.

Existing teachers can apply if they wish, then someone would be hired to fill in for their class while they are in the MTSS position.

Ms. Clancy asked that a way to evaluate and assess the progress of the positions be determined whether they helped students and in what areas.

A suggestion is to note the grade range and duties/qualifications for each position on the job description, make sure the wording is consistent, take a closer look at the physical qualifications wording. As well as obtain feedback from teachers about student gaps and how progress would be monitored. Also might want to obtain feedback from MHS students about where they think they need assistance. May also need to have conversations with Town about additional benefits costs.

**Summer School/Programs** – Brain Haas presented the various summer options that were being planned during the summer to prepare students in K-12 for back to school. These positions will be funded by grant money. The MPS programs will be free. B&G Club offered programs are run by them and may have a fee.

Suggested to get the word out soon. Members expressed concern that possibly too late in offering since parents had already made summer plans. Reassurances made by Ms. Gaudet of community interest. There are no caps on students enrollment, every child who wants to attend can. Staffing will depend on student enrollment. Ms. Clark wanted to make sure this was an inclusive program.

#### **Subcommittee Reports & Members' Comments**

Bethlyn Houlihan noted that the Strategic Planning and Curriculum Subcommittee and Communications Subcommittee will be held next week. After the pandemic, wondering what we want to keep. Assess what we have learned and try to retain what worked.

Natasha Rivera said the Budget Subcommittee met earlier today. Will get an update at the next Budget meeting about PK and literacy pilots with associated costs. Suggested Strategic Planning and Curriculum Subcommittee bring it up around the curriculum. Heard some classrooms going back to paper, hoping they were not reverting back to old habits in classrooms and try to leverage technology instead of copying worksheets.

Ms. Haas noted that teachers were making an effort to take a break from screen time.

Mr. Haas said that the Grant specialist was now a .5 FTE position. It was refocused on COVID Grants and removed anything beyond that. May need the position more than .5 in the future. Will help manage the grants around COVID. Medicaid piece was pulled out.

Jessica Clark noted that Charles Gobron mentioned that going over data from Emerson there was a correlation between students' food insecurity and equity gaps. Hoping we can implement something with ESSR funds to help with that.

Ms. Clancy stated that the School Committee would enter into Executive Session under MGL; CH30A; § 21(a)(3)-To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the MEA (Teachers Union) and Custodial Union since an open meeting would have a detrimental effect

on the bargaining of the public body and the chair so declares. School Committee will not return to open session.

Roll Call Vote to move into Executive Session:

Mary Brannelly - Yae

Jessica Clark - Yae

Bethlyn Houlihan - Yae

Natasha Rivera - Yae

Lydia Clancy - Yae

**Motion passed 5-0**

Moved into executive session at 9:50

*Respectfully Submitted*

*Colleen Andrade*

*Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools*

*Approved 8/19/2021*