

Minutes
Maynard School Committee Meeting
Thursday, July 22, 2021, 6:00 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 by Superintendent Haas at 6:08 pm.

An attendance roll call was taken.

Mary Brannelly - Present
Elizabeth Albota - Present
Natasha Rivera - Present
Lydia Clancy - Present
Hilary Griffiths- Present

Also present were Brian Haas, Superintendent; Jennifer Gaudet, Assistant Superintendent; Jeff Ferranti, Director of Student Services; Colleen Andrade, Administrative Assistant.

Annual Reorganization of School Committee

Officer elections

Ms. Brannelly made a motion to nominate Lydia Clancy as School Committee Chair.

Ms. Albota 2nd the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Mary Brannelly - Yae
Elizabeth Albota - Yae
Natasha Rivera - Yae
Lydia Clancy - Yae
Hilary Griffiths- Yae

5-0 approved

Election for Vice-Chair

Ms. Brannelly made a motion to nominate Natasha Rivera as Vice-Chair.

Ms. Albota 2nd the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Mary Brannelly - Yae
Elizabeth Albota - Yae
Natasha Rivera - Yae
Lydia Clancy - Yae
Hilary Griffiths- Yae

5-0 approved

Subcommittee & liaison appointments

It was suggested that the Budget sub-committee stay the same, Ms. Brannelly and Ms. Rivera.

Communications could be rolled into Strategic Planning and Curriculum. There was a need for marketing MPS which Ms. Albota would be working on. Suggested Ms. Brannelly and Ms. Albota for this sub-committee. This subcommittee will still have discussion around curriculum. Although not under School Committee purview, since the School Committee has a vested interest in curriculum within the District, the Strategic Planning and Curriculum Subcommittee will report back with regular frequency,

Negotiations sub-committee will now be called Personnel. Negotiations do not happen every year but have personnel matters that School Committee is involved in every year. Suggested Ms. Clancy and Ms. Rivera to be on the subcommittee.

Policy sub-committee suggestion was Ms. Clancy and Ms. Griffiths.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion sub-committee suggested Ms. Albota and Ms. Griffiths. There was a discussion about adding an advisory group or task force, and what their role would be with the sub-committee.

It was noted that the MOA between the School and Police departments was delayed for a year. There are new recommendations coming from the State regarding this. The current SRO has also resigned from the Police Dept and school principals would be involved with interviewing for the new SRO.

Liaisons

Fincom - Natasha Rivera

Select Board - Elizabeth Albota and Natasha Rivera

SEPAC - Natasha Rivera, Hilary Griffiths

Safety and Wellness - Hilary Griffiths (safety) Mary Brannelly (wellness)

Artspace - Lydia Clancy

There were no objections to the suggested sub-committee or liaison members.

Superintendent's Annual Performance Review

School Committee members Mary Brannelly, Natasha Rivera, and Lydia Clancy summarized their comments attached to the evaluation.

The consensus was that Mr. Haas did an amazing job with the difficult year, he hit the ground running in his first year. Communication was greatly improved with families, staff, and administration. They appreciated his thoughtfulness and support.

The audience was offered to give input. No one spoke.

Ms. Rivera made a motion to accept the summative evaluation report with accompanying comments for Brian Haas' 2021 evaluation.

Ms. Brannelly 2nd the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Mary Brannelly - Yae

Natasha Rivera - Yae

Lydia Clancy - Yae
Elizabeth Albota - Abstained
Hilary Griffiths - Abstained
Motion Passed 3 Yae, 2 Abstained

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Clancy asked the School Committee to accept without objection, the minutes from 5/12/21. There were no objections.

Minutes for 5/12/21 approved.

Acceptance of Warrants

Ms. Clancy asked the School Committee to accept without objection, warrant #'s 21-070, 071, 072, 073, 074, 075, 22-000. There were no objections.
Warrants 21-070, 071, 072, 073, 074, 075, 22-000 accepted.

Urgent Business (If necessary) - none

Citizens' Comments - none

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Haas attended the MASS Executive Institute last week and talked about the highlights. Mentioned project 351 which several Maynard students had participated in the past and how they would like to have students more involved in the future.
Decisions about masks will be made closer to the start of school. At this time there are many different views on the topic. Mr. Haas was anticipating opening fully in person this year.

Jen Gaudet reviewed the grant-funded summer programs. One is a collaboration with the Boys and Girls club with STEAM programming. The Academic fun academy is for students entering grades 1-5 working on literacy and math skills. Credit Recovery Program for students entering grades 9-12. Tigers back to school programing, 2-wk program for older students in grades 7-12, and another for students in grades 1-6 with focus on social-emotional learning.

There was discussion about the timing of when information went out to families, what were the enrollment numbers for the programs, and how progress would be monitored for these programs.

Other Business

AVLL Softball/Keenan Field presentation - a representative from AVLL was unable to attend, this matter will be on a future agenda. Ms. Clancy asked the School Committee to accept without objection to table this agenda item.

MTSS update (ESSER-funded positions)

Fowler had 3 positions, based on who applied, the focus was shifted to 2 teachers who had strengths in data analysis. They will still be working with teachers in and outside of the classroom, as well as working with the consultant.
A .4 need at MHS has been reduced to a .2 based on actual need.
The guidance position has been filled.

Felt it was best to start the year with current staff, take data, talk to families and see if the social worker is needed, or something else.

Various educational computer applications are used with students for math and ELA that can track progress. Benchmarks assessments are 3 times a year.

When the 1-year positions are posted to cover the MTSS staff, it was noted to make sure it's advertised as a 1-year term position.

There was discussion that a social worker position may benefit the Town as a whole, although the Town had no plans on hiring a social worker at this time.

Ms. Rivera asked for an update on what was planned budgetarily and what is now anticipated.

Members' Comments

Ms. Brannelly asked if the list of colleges that seniors were accepted to could be updated on the website.

Ms. Rivera noted there was a charter review committee meeting next week. She asked for an update on the Aspen timeline and communications to families about it.

Ms. Albota and Ms. Griffiths were excited to start working as School Committee members.

Ms. Griffiths asked if the homework club could better catch kids who have trouble accessing it.

Ms. Clancy noted that IT does not have a way to shut off Facebook comments, although they can set up filters to deal with issues with FB comments. They have words that are filtered to remove comments but filters get cleared every so often by FB.

The Maynard Sesquicentennial parade has invited all current and past school committee members to walk in the parade.

Ms. Albota made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Rivera 2nd the motion

Roll Call Vote

Mary Brannelly - Yae

Elizabeth Albota - Yae

Natasha Rivera - Yae

Lydia Clancy - Yae

Hilary Griffiths - Yae

5-0 approved

Meeting Adjourned at 10:10 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Colleen Andrade

Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools

Approved 10/7/2021