

MEDFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

High School Library - 7:30 p.m.

Monday, April 3, 2017

PRESENT: Maryanne Sullivan, Chairperson  
Anna Mae O'Shea Brooke, Vice Chairperson  
Timothy Bonfatti, Recording Secretary  
Christopher Morrison, Finance Secretary  
Jessica Reilly, School Committee Member  
Chris McGrory - Student Representative  
Francine Kelly, Secretary

Jeffrey Marsden, Superintendent

**Executive Session:** Yes, for the purpose of discussing Contract Negotiations with AFL-CIO Council#9, Local #3901; Custodian/Maintenance Group, Cafeteria Group, and Secretarial Group.

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:41 p.m. by Ms. Sullivan. School Committee members welcomed Jessica Reilly as the new member of the School Committee.

Ms. Sullivan thanked the MTA representative for amending her minutes from some misstatements made from the January 9, 2017 School Committee meeting and sending the corrected version to all members of the teachers union.

**Public input:** None

**Approval of Minutes:**

Ms. Sullivan asked that the February 13, 2017 minutes be amended changing information given by Superintendent Marsden regarding a public information request to say "Medfield resident" instead of Chris McCue Potts that requested the information. Ms. Sullivan asked for a motion to approve the February 13, 2017 minutes; first by Anna Mae O'Shea Brooke, second by Tim Bonfatti. **The vote was unanimous.**

**New Business:**

- High School Student Advisory Council (III) (SP 1,3) - Ayer Campbell, 9th grade advisor, reviewed some of the fundraisers and talked briefly about the new Chinese Club with 12 members currently in the club noting the new Chinese Club website. Lily Bannister, 10th grade advisor, reviewed the sophomores upcoming fundraisers and spoke briefly about the upcoming Harlem Wizards basketball event. Tina Wagenseller, 11th grade advisor, informed the School Committee of the upcoming prom fundraiser events talking briefly of the different prom events and decorations. Tom Cadman, 12th grade advisor, spoke briefly of the progress of the Class Gift from the senior class, noting how well the fashion show fundraiser went for the all night graduation party and how successful the play "The Wizard of Oz" was saying that both nights were sold out. Tom mentioned that the senior projects

are now underway saying that for the seniors, this is a very exciting time of year. Superintendent Marsden commented on how great the play was congratulating Tom's part in the play as the Tin Man.

- Approval of 2017-2020 School Bus Contract (II) (SP 5) - Superintendent Marsden reviewed the new bus contract expressing his overall frustrations with the cost and lack of bidders for the new bus contract. Mr. Morrison also expressed his concerns over the bidding process, and lack of any other company's willing to bid on the contract. There was a short discussion around those concerns with Superintendent Marsden saying that the money for the bus expenditure will be spread out over the next three years asking for the School Committee to vote and approve the bus contract moving forward. First by Mr. Morrison, second by Ms. O'Shea Brooke. **The vote was unanimous.**
- FY 18 Budget Mailer (II) (SP 5) - Superintendent Marsden asked for feedback on the current process of mailing the School Budget Mailer. Superintendent Marsden would like to see an electronic format available online and sending postcards with the budget information location instead of the current method which is becoming more costly each year. Mr. Morrison and Ms. Sullivan expressed their concerns over changing the format and bulk mailing for this year suggesting that this is how the community has always received the budget mailer and may be too short notice to change for this year. At this time, it was decided that the FY18 budget mailer would be mailed the same way as previous years but adding something to this year's budget mailer that future school budget mailers will be made available online instead of bulk mailing with notices being mailed out to each family and advertising these changes early enough in the process for next year.

### **Old Business:**

- FY18 Budget (II) (SP 5) - Superintendent Marsden thanked the Warrant committee for the school budget approval feeling that it is a fair number and appreciated everyone's support and everyone that came to the Warrant Committee meeting for the second vote on the Budget proposal. Mr. Morrison talked about the priority and importance of Medfield School District budget for the district and thanked everyone, including members of the Warrant Committee, for their all their efforts and support during this process.
- Dale Street Statement of Interest (II) (SP 5) - Superintendent Marsden informed the School Committee that the SOI for Dale Street School has been completed and submitted to the State. There was a discussion on the process and how long it may take before Dale Street School is moved up on the list (currently at #5). Mr. Bonfatti reviewed the way a Statement of Interest is prioritized noting that it may take a few more years for the Dale Street School to move up in priority.
- Donations (III) (SP 1) - NONE

### **Superintendent's Report to the Committee:**

- MCAS 2.0 Update (I) (SP 1) - Superintendent Marsden informed the School Committee that grades 5-8 will be taking the MCAS on a computer for the first time this year. Superintendent Marsden reviewed all the technology testing, work, and safeguards that

have been put in place for the computer based MCAS test. Superintendent Marsden thanked Eoin O'Corcora for all his hard work and effort in making sure everything goes as smooth as possible. Superintendent Marsden commented on the survey on the MCAS exams saying that this survey is nothing new, with the only difference being is that this year the MCAS survey is at the end of the test instead of the beginning of the test. There was some discussion on what the MCAS 2.0 test looks like, testing from a chromebook vs. paper, and when the results will become available to the school district.

- Director of Student Services Update (I) (SP 1) - Superintendent Marsden reviewed the status of the Director of Student Services position informing the School Committee that the person recommended for the job decided to stay at her current school district. Superintendent Marsden reviewed what will happen moving forward talking of hiring an interim person again for the next school year and reposting the position. Mr. Morrison asked for the number of candidates that did apply with some discussion on their resumes and experience. Superintendent Marsden said although he feels the sense of urgency, he did not feel that the other applicants would have been a good fit for Medfield which is something he feels very strongly about. Superintendent Marsden thanked everyone who worked on the Director of Student Services Search Committee and hopeful in finding someone that will meet the needs of the Medfield School District and families of Medfield.
- Teacher Exchange Program (1) (SP 3) - Superintendent Marsden informed the School Committee of the Teacher Exchange Program that was held on March 30, 2017 between Westwood and Natick. Superintendent Marsden talked about how the program evolved, the number of teacher participants, the schedule for the half day, and the conversations and shared information that came from the teacher's experiences. Superintendent Marsden said it was a very successful exchange of ideas and great feedback from all teachers that participated saying that from the many comments and conversations, this will be an ongoing event 2-3 times next year for a half day to perhaps increasing it in the future. There was some discussion on how the teachers were selected, if this is considered professional development for the teachers that participated, and some discussion of Medfield teacher reflections on their experiences while visiting the other districts. The School Committee thanked Superintendent Marsden for putting this program together for our teachers and the school district.
- District Recognition (III) (SP 3) - Superintendent Marsden congratulated the Girls Basketball Team for winning the State Championship and noted the Miss Amazing contest that was held saying it was a wonderful event and great job done by everyone involved. He reminded everyone of Medfield hosting Special Olympics on Friday in which the theme this year is Basketball. Superintendent Marsden looks forward to the Spelling Bee fundraiser and wished the Jazz Band a fun trip to Cuba.

At this time, Ms Sullivan opened up the meeting to the School Committee for any additional input. Chris McGrory, reminded everyone of the "Annual Day of Silence" on that the Student Council will be in partnership with the Harmony Club for this day of silence that is recognized all over the country on Wednesday, April 12, 2017. Chris also informed the School Committee some of the members of the student council will be attending the Student Council Conference at Abby Kelly High School. Mr. Morrison commended Tracy Allen for all

her hard work on her 3 productions this year and thanked the Warrant Committee for working so closely with the School Department on this year's budget. Ms. O'Shea Brooke congratulated all the hard work and students from the Destination Imagination fair this year and gave a warm thank you to Blake Middle School for having the LGBTQ presentation saying she was so impressed with the openness and thoughtfulness of the students. Ms. Sullivan also commented on the LGBTQ presentation saying she was very moved by the students who presented noting that everyone could benefit from their message of being kind to one another.

**Adjournment:**

Ms. Sullivan made a motion to adjourn the meeting; first by Mr. Morrison, second by Ms. O'Shea Brooke. **The vote was unanimous.**

Meeting adjourned: 8:54 p.m.

Next Meeting: April 24, 2017

Minutes approved by the School Committee: May 15, 2017

Respectfully Submitted:  
Francine Kelly, Secretary

**EXHIBITS AND DOCUMENTS:**

- Agenda and Narrative for Monday, April 3, 2017
- Minutes for February 13, 2017
- Certificate of Corporate Vote for Connolly Bus Company
- Sample of the MCAS student questionnaire
- Teacher Exchange Program teacher comments
- Sample of FY 2018 Proposed School Budget mailer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=moIq9qasYdk&list=PLypOllJHc4M3mkgPYRqVtwMog4c-DMN>  
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