

**MINUTES**  
**Maynard School Committee**  
**Monday, August 24, 2020, 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.

Meeting Called to Order at 7:07 pm. An attendance roll call was taken  
Mary Brannelly - Present  
Natasha Rivera - Present  
Lydia Clancy - Present

Other's present were Brian Haas, Superintendent; Wayne White, Interim Business Manager; Colleen Andrade, Administrative Assistant  
Finance Committee: Ken Estabrook, Jillian Prendergast, Alannah Gustavson, Tom Black, Elliot Bruce, Peter Campbell

Mr. Estabrook noted that the State had not finalized its budget but had given some guidance on Chapter 70 funding. The BOS had been given recommendations on how to balance the budget. Of the cuts of approx \$400,000, the schools have been asked to cut their budget approx. \$265,000. The Finance Committee was interested in understanding the operations of remote opening and the finances needed to make that happen.

Mr. Haas stated that Schools will start remotely, with exception of approx 20 high-risk students in each building with some staff. Teachers who work remotely can work at home or from their classrooms. Some additional COVID expenses are PPE, extra custodian, nurses, technology, training related to covid, and training for curriculum and instruction for remote learning. Bus monitors are a DESE recommendation. Requests for staff leave have started to come in, and may require additional hires, but they are willing to work with staff creatively. If Sped services can not be met, they need to be made up with compensatory services. Technology additions include chromebooks for all students in the district, curriculum subscription services, hotspots, internet and communications. Chief Stowers will be submitting expenses to FEMA and MEMA and what doesn't get approved will be submitted thru the Cares Act. There are still expenses that haven't been decided on that will be also submitted to the Cares act funding. There are also other various Federal and State grants/funding that will be used for these expenses. Additions that do not get approved may be cut or paid thru the operational budget

Lost revenue is still somewhat unknown. Facility rentals fees go towards building maintenance. Excel is typically a self generated program, but the district would need to cover any shortfall. It did run into a deficit last spring. Excel unemployment is also an expense paid by the Town. Transportation capacity is limited, the bus fees help subsidize the cost. Food Service typically does run at a small deficit that the District must cover.

There are plans to use the busses to deliver meals at bus stops to students. The Preschool tuitions offset salaries and program costs. It is not known what the tuition will be this year.

If required to reduce the budget further, some of the additional COVID related staffing will be reduced or eliminated, some of the funds allocated to pay for those expenses can be used for other expenses. Para's may need to be used more frequently as substitutes. The lack of the additional nurses may mean the floater nurse could be unavailable while covering the comfort (isolation) room. The District would look anywhere they can to reduce the budget, COVID related or operating budget (which is already tight). Cuts will be made the furthest away from students as possible.

The MSBA project is still moving forward. The feasibility study is on the Town Warrant to come out of the Stabilization fund. If done in this calendar year, we will be reimbursed by 55% percent. It is believed that it will come in at less than 1 million dollars.

There was a discussion about not offering some sports to reduce expenses. Mr. Haas noted that stipends and transportation would not have to be paid, but was not sure how much that would save. School focused on the whole child and he felt it would not be in the best interest to make those cuts at this time.

Mr. Haas was also meeting with the EXCEL Director and others to work on options on how EXCEL can continue and be self-sustaining.

Ms. Rivera asked if there was any potential relief for that \$265,000 from the Stabilization Fund that would allow it to stay within the 2-3% that the state recommended.

Ms. Clancy pointed out that capital improvements expenses could be bonded this year where operational expenses could not.

Mr. Estabrook said they would discuss it when deliberating about the warrant articles

Ms. Rivera made a motion to adjourn.  
Ms. Brannelly 2nd the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Mary Brannelly - Yae  
Natasha Rivera - Yae  
Lydia Clancy - Yae

**Motion passed 3-0**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:48 pm.

*Respectfully Submitted*

*Colleen Andrade*

*Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools*

*Approved 9/3/20*