

Medway School Committee  
Minutes  
Medway, MA  
April 26, 2018

The School Committee of the Medway Public Schools held a meeting on Thursday, April 26, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., in the presentation room at Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway, MA. School Committee members in attendance included Chairperson, Ms. Borgatti, Ms. Dietrich, Ms. Le and Mr. Segarra. Not present was Ms. Sullivan. Also in attendance were Superintendent Armand Pires and Assistant Superintendent Gabrielle Abrams. The meeting was video-taped.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Borgatti called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., noting all the members were present.

B. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Warrants were signed by committee members.

C. REPORT OF STUDENTS

Olivia Fink reported on various events including the partnership with the community farm at McGovern. This allows students to take an active role in planting and growing different foods. At the middle school the 8<sup>th</sup> grade completed the MCAS, while at the high school, they are still in process of taking MCAS. Also at the high school was the Best Buddies prom. The high school had two trips over school vacation week, Italy and Ireland. Sophomores are taking the MCAS using Chromebooks.

D. PRESENTATIONS

a. **STEM Saturday for Girls**

Cari Purchase, Middle School Principal, Amanda Luizzi, Memorial School Principal and Mary Evans, Instructional Coach presented the highlights of the Stem Saturday for girls event held on March 24, 2018. This is the third annual event and provides hands on learning for the girls. Ms. Purchase gave a brief history of the event. Ms. Evans said it was a successful event and they have received feedback that they will incorporate into next year's event. Ms. Luizzi recognized the committee and volunteers.

b. **Content Area Curriculum and Instructional Leaders**

Superintendent Armand Pires and Assistant Superintendent Gabby Abrams presented the proposed reorganization to the committee. Dr. Pires explained there have been ongoing conversations with the MFT and he is pleased to update the committee on the proposal moving forward. Ms. Abrams outlined the current model that has been in place since 2009 and reviewed the challenges and benefits of the current model. Ms. Abrams explained that through a study they identified 3 priorities for reorganizing these roles. The priorities include, a need for more content specific focus, a focus on better vertical alignment, especially at pivotal

developmental and school transition stages and a desire to provide educators with targeted, instructional feedback to support improvement and student success. Ms. Abrams gave an overview of the proposed positions. Ms. Borgatti stated that now that the agreement is signed with the MFT, these are no longer proposed positions, but will move forward at the start of the next year. Ms. Borgatti thanked the MFT for their collaboration.

c. **Tier 1 SEL Programming Update**

Kat Bernklow, Director of Student Services and Ryan Sherman, Director of Wellness presented the Tier One Social and Emotional Learning Programming update. Dr. Sherman defined social emotional learning and explained the learning model as well as the timeline to achieve this model. Dr. Sherman talked about the members on the SEL Steering committee, currently there are 26 members. Last year at this time they had completed the self-study, now they have identified gap analysis. Dr. Sherman explained that they are already using this SEL model but want to punctuate and be consistent working towards the same goal. Ms. Berklow shared best practices and discussed the Responsive Classroom. She explained that the content can be flexible but language should be consistent. Dr. Sherman gave an overview of the Elementary and Secondary Level recommendations. The committee discussed the recommendations, Mr. Segarra stated that he would like to see the instructional leaders be experts in Responsive Classroom and Facing History and Ourselves. During the October Professional day, teachers will be introduced to Responsive Classroom.

d. **Review of Athletic Spending and Fees**

Don Aicardi, Director of Finance and Operations, Rob Pearl, Athletic Director presented the Athletic Financial overview to the committee. Mr. Aicardi explained the three funding sources for Athletics, Operating budget, athletic revolving and Turkey Trot. Mr. Aicardi discussed the fee schedule and that the last time student athletic fees were increased was 2011. Mr. Pearl discussed the Turkey Trot and that the department has requested funds to purchase new uniforms for various teams. Mr. Aicardi discussed projected year end balances. Mr. Segarra asked how fundraising fit into these three funding sources and Mr. Pearl explained that fundraising is targeted and also pays for awards. Ms. Borgatti said it looks like Turkey Trot is controlled by the school committee, however it is not and is should be presented different. Dr. Pires stated that this will be changed. Ms. Lee asked about free or reduced program and it was discussed that any student that is eligible for free/reduced lunch would also qualify for reduced athletic fees. The committee asked Mr. Pearl to provide a list of the number of athletes and the number of sports.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

F. ACTION ITEMS

- a. **For Consideration: Approval of Athletic Fees** – In accordance with school committee policy #15, each year the school committee must establish rates for athletic fees for students.

**It was moved by Ms. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Lee that the school committee approve not increasing the Athletic Fees for the 2018-2019 school year, as recommended by the superintendent. All voted in favor.**

- b. For Consideration: Set Reduced Rate for Athletic Fees** – In accordance with school committee policy #15, each year the school committee must establish reduced rates for athletic fees for students who are eligible for free or reduced lunch. The superintendent is recommending a reduction of 80%, which is consistent with free and reduced lunch guidelines and past practice.

**It was moved by Ms. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Le that the school committee set the reduced rates for athletic fees for students who are eligible for free or reduced lunch at an 80% reduction from the full cost of these programs, for the 2018-2019 school year, as recommended by the superintendent.**

- c. For Consideration: Approval of the Memorandum Agreement between the Medway School Committee and the Medway Federation of Teachers, Local 3645, MFT, AFT, AFL-CIO (Unit A) Memorandum of Agreement.** The union and the district have completed negotiations for the positions of Content Area Curriculum and Instructional Leaders.

**It was moved by Ms. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Le that the school committee accept the Memorandum of Agreement between the Medway School Committee and the Medway Federation of Teachers, Local 3645, MFT, AFT, CFL-CIO (Unit A) Memorandum of Agreement related to the positions of Content Area Curriculum and Instructional Leaders. All voted in favor.**

## G. DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

- a. First Reading: Content Area Curriculum and Instructional Leader Job Description. Ms. Dietrich asked about the similarities of this positions, and Dr. Pires responded it is very similar, however, non-evaluation and non-supervisor. They will provide feedback. Ms. Le asked about the qualifications. Dr. Pires stated that he met with the impacted teachers earlier today, they have the draft job description and he is asking the committee to vote to approve the posting internally.

**It was moved by Ms. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Le that the school committee approve the internal posting of the Content Area Curriculum and Instructional Leader job description, as recommended by the superintendent. All voted in favor.**

- b. CHNA-6 Grant Award  
Dr. Pires reported that with Dr. Sherman's help they received a grant that will help support Responsive Classroom.

- c. End-of-Year Audit Report  
Mr. Aicardi will send the report to the state and discussed the March audit.
- d. School Choice Student Enrollment Capacity for 2018-2019 School Year  
Dr. Pires presented his recommendation for School Choice for the 2018-2019 school year and will bring this recommendation to the committee for a vote at the next meeting.
- e. Set Foreign Exchange Student Enrollment Capacity for 2018-2019 School Year  
Dr. Pires presented his recommendation for Foreign Exchange Student Enrollment Capacity for the 2018-2019 school year and will bring this recommendation to the committee for a vote at the next meeting.
- f. Superintendent's Evaluation  
The committee each reviewed their evaluation of the Superintendent. The committee was asked to provide a description if their overall ratings were Exemplary, Needs Improvement or Unsatisfactory. Ms. Borgatti collected all ratings and will provide a summative review at the next meeting.
- g. Middle School Time on Learning Designation  
Dr. Pires explained that the Middle School Time on Learning Designation is an annual decision. The designation is based on the lowest number of hours and determines if the middle school is designated as elementary or secondary. This year the middle school will be designated as an elementary school. Ms. Purchase was asked to share the bell schedule with the committee.
- h. School Committee Meeting Schedule  
Dr. Pires explained that due to the retirement event planned for June 7, he asked the committee to move the school committee meeting from June 7 to June 14. As the committee also attends the event, the committee agreed to move the meeting.

## H. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- a. Public Comments  
None
- b. Liaison Reports  
None

## I. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

- a. Chairperson Update  
None
- b. Superintendent Update  
Dr. Pires updated the committee on the Middle School and McGovern School principal searches. Dr. Pires also updated the committee on the Strategic Plan Steering Committee. On Tuesday, Ms. Weene hosted an information night for incoming Kindergarten parents. Parents learned about scheduled, expectations and learning standards. Dr. Pires updated the committee on two upcoming

THRIVE events, On Wednesday, THRIVE hosted Dr. Ruth Potee who presented the Physiology of Addiction. This event was well attended and received rave reviews by parents in the audience. The second event will be held on Wednesday, May 9, with Dr. Elizabeth Englander, Raising Resilient Kids in the Age of Social Media.

c. Assistant Superintendent Update

Ms. Abrams' update included the new edition of Who Owns the Learning, a monthly faculty newsletter, as well as the program at McGovern, Weather or Not presented to Kindergarten and provided our youngest learners an opportunity to explore weather as they took a close and hands on look at wind, clouds and a tornado. The High school hosted a Book Tasting event to provide students with some agency in selecting the book that will be part of Medway High School's first one school, one book summer read.

d. Committee Members' Update

None

J. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Regular Meeting, April 5, 2018

It was moved by Ms. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Le to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of April 5, 2018, as amended. All voted in favor.

K. INFORMATION ITEMS AND COMMUNICATIONS

L. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Superintendent's Summative
- Set School Choice Enrollment Capacity for FY19
- Set Foreign Exchange Enrollment Capacity for FY19
- Middle School Time on Learning Designation
- School Committee Reorganization
- SEPAC Year in Review
- Preliminary Approval of School Improvements Plans
- Strategic Plan Mid-Cycle Review
- Community Education Data Review
- School Nutrition Update
- High School Guidance Program Update
- District Culture workshop
- 

M. NEXT MEETINGS

- **Regular Meeting, Thursday, May 3, 2018, 7:00 p.m.**, in the presentation room, Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway
- **Regular Meeting, Thursday, May 17, 2018, 7:00 p.m.**, in the presentation room, Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway
- **Annual Town Meeting, Monday, May 21, 2018, 7:00 p.m.**, in the auditorium at the Medway High School, 88 Summer Street, Medway
- **Regular Meeting, Thursday, June 14, 2018, 7:00 p.m.**, in the presentation room, Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway

- **Regular Meeting, Thursday, June 21, 2018, 7:00 p.m.**, in the presentation room, Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway

N. ADJOURNMENT

At approximately 9:47 p.m. it was moved by Mr. Segarra and seconded by Ms. Le to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Ellen Quinn*

Ellen Quinn  
Secretary to the School Committee

Approved: May 17, 2018