

Record of the Marblehead School Committee Meeting

December 3, 2020 7:00pm

Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/92631079825?pwd=czg5OFIHbWVhU0pzeXFOUGZjZnBJQT09>

Meeting ID: 926 3107 9825

Password: 084783

Members Present: Sarah Gold, Emily Barron, Sarah Fox and David Harris

Members Not Present: Meagan Taylor

Also: Dr. John J. Buckey-Superintendent
Nan Murphy-Assistant Superintendent
Michelle Cresta-Director of Finance
Jason Silva, Town Administrator

I. Initial Business and Public Involvement

1. Call to Order

Ms. Gold called the meeting to order at 7:04pm

2. Commendations

a. Building Based Commendations-Principal Sean Satterfield-Eveleth & Coffin Schools

- Teachers were commended for their hard work in planning and implementing remote lessons
- Staff members were recognized for creating virtual weekly meetings to bring students together
- Tutors were commended for teaching additional remote support service classes
- The building secretaries were thanked for keeping the daily operations of the buildings going noting that “they were truly the heart of the buildings.”

b. S.C Commendations

- Ms. Fox spoke about the positive experience her remote first grader was having. She also commended the Student Service Department for all their efforts providing services for students on IEP’s.
- Ms. Gold thanked Food Services Director, Richard Kelleher for all the work he has done for the meals program.
- The teachers were commended for all of their work preparing and attending parent/teacher conferences during a difficult year.
- Dr. Buckey recognized Student Services Director, Eric Oxford for completing his doctoral dissertation.
- Ms. Gold noted before moving forward with the next agenda item that committee member, Meagan Taylor was not in attendance.

3. Student Representative – Dan Howells

It was confirmed that Mr. Howells was also not in attendance and would join the committee at the next regularly scheduled December meeting.

4. Public Comment

None

II. Consent Agenda and Action Items

1. Minutes:

9/17/2020

Ms. Gold made a motion to approve minutes from September 17th 2020. The motion was moved by Mr. Harris and seconded by Ms. Fox. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Gold-yes
Ms. Barron-yes
Ms. Fox-yes
Mr. Harris-yes

The motion passes 4-0

2. Acceptance of Bench Donation

Mr. Harris shared that he had been contacted by community member, Mr. Bob Till's family regarding donating a bench in memory of his name. Mr. Harris shared that Mr. Till was a regular sports spectator and community supporter.

Ms. Gold made a motion to approve acceptance of a donation of a bench in memory of Mr. Bob Till for placement at Piper Field. The motion was moved by Mr. Harris and seconded by Ms. Fox. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Gold-yes
Ms. Barron-yes
Ms. Fox-yes
Mr. Harris –yes

The motion passes, 4-0.

Ms. Gold thanked both the Dumais and Till families for the thoughtful donation.

III.

Superintendent Report

Dr. Buckey addressed the community stating that December would be a hard month due to the holidays and the pandemic which would make fears, anxiety and frustrations already in place even higher. He asked that staff and students continue to lean into their work doing the best they can while also continuing to abide by quarantine travel guidelines. He asked that all educators and families come together to work hard and do the right thing so that in-person learning could continue on for as long as possible.

1. Superintendent's Goals Update

Dr. Buckey updated the committee on his goals sharing that he was part of a new Superintendents Induction-Program and that the group held monthly meetings that were very informative. He also shared that his mentor Ms. Chris McGrath attends the leadership team meetings and provides additional coaching sessions.

He further reported that that he had completed close to twenty five (25) entry meetings with school personnel and that he would be scheduling with Town members next. It was mentioned that regularly scheduled meetings are held with the Director of Finance and the Town Administrator.

Dr. Buckey mentioned that the Leadership Team was reading a book "Lead like a Pirate" and that he would be meeting with the principals in the coming weeks to discuss the needs of each of their buildings. It was also mentioned that Teach Point, the new system for evaluating educators had been launched.

Dr. Buckey introduced and welcomed the new Director of Technology, Stephen Kwiatek to Marblehead sharing that he had been with Manchester Essex as their Network Administrator for the last 20 years. He shared that Mr. Kwiatek has been involved with two school building projects and that he was very familiar with Aspen.

Mr. Kwiatek shared that he enjoyed his time in Manchester and was excited to join Marblehead while bringing their technology to new levels. His official start date would be December 14th.

IV. Finance Organizational Support

1. Schedule of Bills

Ms. Gold made a motion to approve the schedule of bills totaling \$2,394,070.10 .The motion was moved by Ms. Fox and seconded by Ms. Barron. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Gold-yes

Ms. Barron-yes

Ms. Fox-yes

Mr. Harris-yes

The motion passes, 4-0

V. School Committee Communications and/or Discussion Items

1. Town Administrator-Jason Silva

Town Administrator Jason Silva joined the school committee to discuss the collective bargaining process and to inform the committee of the ideas that have been mentioned regarding the use of the school properties that will be vacant once the new elementary school is complete.

a. Collective Bargaining Process

Mr. Silva explained that he had been selected by the Board of Selectmen to be part of the Collective Bargaining Subcommittee. He shared that he had already been part of one meeting to start the conversation. It was noted that the process would be unique during a unique year.

b. School Properties Discussion

Mr. Silva shared that planning efforts were underway to discuss the use of school owned properties after the new elementary school was built. He explained that major efforts involved with the school owned properties would include:

- A hearing scheduled later in December to propose that the Gerry School property that was transferred to Town house eight (8) new condo units which would provide access to more affordable housing in Town.
- The Coffin School property being assessed as a planning exercise to uncover the potential development opportunities. It would be an inclusive experience with school committee members, stakeholder and neighborhood involvement.
- The Eveleth School being considered as a site for a new community ice rink. Mr. Silva shared that the Town had received over two million dollars from the Lars Anderson Trust which expressly stated that the funding be used for winter sports.
- The School Administration Offices located at 9 Widger Rd. being selected as the site for a new archive facility. It was mentioned that this would likely be passed at the annual meeting the next year and not during the 2021 school year.

It was noted that further conversation with the school department and the Town should occur to discuss options and taking advantage of planning exercises to determine optimal use of the properties.

It was mentioned that the next step may be to set up an advisory committee and Ms. Fox shared that she would have an interest in serving on such committee. Ms. Gold thanked Town Administrator, Jason Silva for his partnership and support.

2. Committee and Liaison Updates

Ms. Gold shared that there was a full update at the last November meeting since all subcommittee meetings take place during the second week of the month. She noted that the committee would be more mindful of the flow of the updates moving forward.

3. Building Project Update

Ms. Gold shared a Power Point from Mr. Harris displaying photos of the entryway and inside of the building project. Mr. Harris shared that mock-ups of classrooms were being completed for wiring layout and door placement. He noted that great traffic flow was to be expected with the placement of the parking lot location.

Mr. Harris informed the committee that there would be a meeting Monday to confirm the guaranteed maximum price of the project. It was noted that eighty five percent of the project had been bought out and that landscaping and windows needed to be finalized. Mr. Harris was happy to report that the project continued to be on time and within budget.

VI. Closing Business

1. New Business Correspondence

Ms. Gold mentioned that the discussion for an MCAS resolution would be added to the agenda on the 17th.

Before adjourning the meeting Dr. Buckey congratulated Technology Director Kathleen Hennessey on her retirement and thanked her for the extra hours she worked since COVID started sharing she deserved a break from her many years of service with the Marblehead Public Schools.

2. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

*Respectfully Submitted
Sarah Fox, Secretary
Marblehead School Committee*

Approved January 7, 2021