



MARBLEHEAD
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Business Office
9 Widger Road,
Marblehead, MA 01945
phone: 781.639.3140
fax: 781.639.3149

MEMORANDUM

TO: Marblehead School Committee
FROM: Michelle Cresta
DATE: June 22, 2022
RE: Schedule of Bills for Approval

Included in this packet is the following Schedules of Bills for your consideration. The schedules and invoices have been uploaded to the shared drive and the required signatures have been obtained for each schedule.

Schedule	Amount
22263	\$ 4,379.25
TOTAL	\$ 4,379.25

Suggested Motion:

Motion to approve the identified schedules of bills totaling \$4,379.25.



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phone: 781.639.3140
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TO: Marblehead School Committee
FROM: Michelle Cresta, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations
DATE: June 22, 2022
RE: Service and Maintenance Contracts 2022

This is the time of year that we prepare our facilities service and maintenance contracts for the upcoming school year. Many of our contracts are held jointly with the Town. The Select Board will also need to vote to award the contracts that cover both town and school facilities. The town and school are billed separately for the respective portion of the joint contract costs.

We accepted bids for various contracts earlier this week. We are prepared to award two contracts at this time. The lowest qualified bidders for Elevator Maintenance and On-call Plumbing are being recommended to be awarded the contracts. The bid submissions for roofing repairs will require more time to determine the lowest cost qualified bidder and will be brought to you at a future date. A couple of the contracts will either be extended or be placed back out to bid as we did not receive any responses.

I am recommending that the School Committee/Select Board award the following contracts for the term of one year.

1. The low bid for the Elevator Maintenance Contract was received from Embree and White, Inc. doing business as Embree Elevator of Woburn, MA in the amount of \$69,800. This contract will include both the town and school buildings. This contractor has held this contract for the past two years.
2. The low bid for the On Call Plumbing Contract was received from E. Amanti and Sons, Inc. of Salem, MA in the amount of \$57,820. This contract will include both the town and school facilities. This contractor has not previously held this contract in recent years, but has worked on the Lucretia and Joseph Brown School Building project and comes highly recommended from other area school districts and municipalities.

The recommended motions are as follows:

1. *Motion to award a one-year contract for Elevator Maintenance to Embree and White, Inc. doing business as Embree Elevator in the amount of \$69,800 and to authorize the Chair to sign the contract on behalf of the Committee.*
2. *Motion to award a one-year contract for on-Call Plumbing Services to E. Amanti and Sons, Inc. in the amount of \$57,820 and to authorize the Chair to sign the contract on behalf of the Committee.*

If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time

MEMORIALS

~~The School Committee recognizes that the death of a student, member of the staff, or prominent community member is deeply felt by the school community. As places designed primarily to support learning, school sites should not serve as the main venue for permanent memorials.~~

~~Permanent memorials within the schools shall be limited in form to perpetual awards or scholarships.~~

As of this date, the policy for memorials in the event of a death may be permanent in nature but should abide by these rules:

- No picture will be attached to the memorial
- Information on the nameplate on the memorial shall be limited to "Donated by _____ in Memory of _____ and the date."
- The memorial must serve a useful purpose for current students
- No hanging plaques or pictures of a permanent nature within school facilities.

All requests should be addressed to the administrator of the building who, in consultation with the Superintendent, will determine appropriateness. Gifts, donations, and bequests can be made to the district. Shrubs, trees and plantings are discouraged in school facilities as are stones and other permanent memorials. Memorials in the form of scholarships, purchase of library books, ~~educational CD-ROMS,~~ school supplies and equipment, as well as funds designated for a particular school activity or department are deemed appropriate.

Any addition or removal of a permanent memorials shall require ~~in existence before the adoption of this policy can only be removed~~ by a vote of the School Committee.

SOURCE: MASC August 2016

Marblehead Public Schools - Approved 10/18/18

School committee operating protocols

The Marblehead school committee values and views as our top priority the academic, social and emotional success of all students in our district. We agree to thoughtfully seek and support solutions that will provide the greatest benefit to students.

Who we represent

1. We represent the educational and developmental needs and interests of all students in the district. We place their interests above all others in the decisions we make.
-

How we govern

1. We acknowledge that a school committee meeting is a meeting of the school committee that is held in public – not a public meeting.
2. We shall conduct business through a set agenda that should be connected to district goals. Emerging items shall be addressed in subsequent meetings through planned agenda items unless it is determined by the school committee chairperson that it would be detrimental to delay the issue until a subsequent meeting.
3. Requests to add items to an agenda by members shall be made to the superintendent or the school committee chairperson in accordance with the law.
4. We shall strive to make each meeting effective and efficient giving each member an equal opportunity to express their views and opinions and to relay their input in a concise and topic-focused manner. All remarks must be directed through the chair. Remarks must be courteous in language and deportment.

5. We shall make decisions after considering data, the superintendent's recommendations, proposals, and suggestions. We will engage in open-minded, respectful debate, vote our convictions, avoid bias, and uphold and support the decision of the majority of the committee once a decision is made. We will explain the reasons for our votes.
6. We shall exhibit professional conduct and behavior.
7. We shall attend meetings well-prepared to discuss issues on the agenda and to participate in efficient decision-making.
8. When we are in committee we will remain in our committee member role throughout the meeting.
9. We shall ensure that we do not breach the open meeting laws by deliberating outside of duly convened meetings of the committee.
10. The school committee welcomes respectful, thoughtful input from the public in shaping committee decisions. Public input at meetings may be made on items on the agenda, or otherwise at the discretion of the chairperson.
11. We acknowledge the importance of subcommittees, and the superintendent agrees to utilize them to focus on a specific topic in-depth and to prepare for presentation, deliberation and possible action by the full school committee. We will agree on the appropriate school committee participation on subcommittees.
12. School committee members will maintain privileged information and respect the confidentiality of executive session.

13. Our actions shall be consistent with the core values of the district, and be consistent with our vision of a high class organization.
 14. School committee meetings will be guided by the open meeting law and roberts rules of order.
 15. The superintendent of schools and such staff as are needed to advise the committee shall be seated at the committee table.
 16. School committee members will familiarize themselves with and uphold all district policies. Specifically policies relating to governance (bhc, bbaa, bia, bhe, bca, bdd).
-

How we treat each other

1. We shall debate the issues keeping an open mind to other member's opinions and/or positions.
 2. We shall work to build trust between and among school committee members, the superintendent and the administration by treating everyone with dignity and respect, even in times of disagreement.
-

How we communicate

1. It is the school committee's responsibility to set a positive tone for the district.
2. The superintendent and the school committee recognize the importance of proactive communication. If school committee members have questions or concerns, they agree to contact the superintendent well in advance of a meeting. They agree that there will be no surprises.
3. We shall channel requests for information through the superintendent rather than directly to district staff or

town officials. Town officials shall channel requests for information through the superintendent for consideration by the school committee.

4. We shall provide full disclosure of information and not withhold information from other members.
5. We shall advocate for the public schools and public education as ambassadors of the school system by promoting support for public education and spreading the news of our success. We shall always strive to project a positive image.
6. We recognize the chairperson, or her/his designee, as the official spokesperson of the school committee, including, but not limited to, legal counsel and official media requests.
7. The superintendent and the school committee recognize the importance of working collaboratively with the community to improve our schools and we shall actively seek ways to enlist community support for our efforts.
8. School committee members acknowledge the importance of working collaboratively with town officials, but recognize when they attend meetings of other committees and boards they speak and act as individuals not for the committee as a whole and will disclose as such.
9. We will adhere to the masc social media guidelines.

How we will improve

1. All new school committee members will attend the masc orientation session as soon as practicable, but within one year of being elected.

2. All members will be open to continued personal growth through participating in training opportunities in order to advance the work of our public schools.
 3. We shall review and revise operating protocols annually through an annual workshop.
 4. We shall develop and maintain a district new member orientation program.
 5. We shall develop annual school committee performance objectives, or goals, and appraise progress through regular self-evaluation.
-

What are our limits of authority?

1. We shall exercise leadership in vision, planning, policy, budgeting, evaluation of the superintendent of schools, and advocacy of the district, consistent with the law and district policies.
2. It is the superintendent's responsibility to oversee personnel issues and to manage the Day-to-day operations of the district. It is the school committee's responsibility to evaluate the superintendent's effectiveness in these matters.
3. We shall recognize that authority rests only with the majority decision of the school committee and we shall not make any independent commitments or take any independent actions that may compromise the school committee as a whole.
4. We shall follow the chain of command (teacher, principal, superintendent) and direct others to do the same.
5. Complaints and concerns regarding personnel will be directed to the superintendent.

6. We shall not use our positions for personal or partisan gain.
 7. We shall refer any important questions or concerns received from members of the community to the superintendent. The superintendent, not any school committee member has the authority to investigate. The superintendent shall provide committee members with his/her response. It is not the role of the school committee to resolve issues.
-

What happens when things go wrong?

1. We shall work together to clarify and restate discussions in order to strive for full understanding.
2. We recognize the importance of honoring our agreed upon operating protocols and we agree to take responsibility for reminding one another when we get off track.
3. We shall maintain fidelity to these commitments and will be held accountable by our fellow school committee members should any of us fail to live up to these commitments. If a school committee member or superintendent violates any of the operating protocols, he/she will be referred to the chairperson or in the case of the chairperson to the vice chairperson.



Massachusetts Association of School Committees
Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents



TO: Massachusetts School Committee Members and Superintendents

FROM: Glenn Koocher, Executive Director, MA Association of School Committees
Tom Scott, Executive Director, MA Association of School Superintendents

RE: Special "Early Bird" Conference Savings

Along with our Boards of Directors, we hope that many of you will be able to join us at the 2022 MASC/MASS Joint Conference in Hyannis (November 2-5, 2022). After the past two years of pandemic-related cancellations/reconfigurations, we are working to bring back a full-service, reinvigorated conference event. We are also designing our program to allow for contingencies, should we need to make accommodations for attendee safety in November.

As in the past, we are once again offering you an opportunity to register for the Joint Conference on/before July 15, 2022, at a very special "End-of-Year Reduced Rate" of \$450.00 per registration. (Standard registration rate is \$545.00).

You can register easily—online (www.masc.org), or by fax (617-702-4111) or return the enclosed form via US mail.

Our theme this year is Promoting Equity, Diversity and Inclusion: Constructing the Narrative to Define the Message. We have planned an important and timely program that includes sessions to help you do your work more effectively, address equity issues, expand the diversity of your faculty, promote skill building, and learn about what may lie ahead economically and politically. Our web sites will provide regular updates on programming and speakers.

Information about registering for the host hotel is included with this conference registration information. PLEASE NOTE: hotel registrations must be made directly with the hotel.

This early bird registration rate is NONREFUNDABLE, but we will allow you to transfer the registration should you or your colleagues not be able to attend.

So sign up now to take advantage of this special end-of-year opportunity that includes more than 50 workshops and sessions and an expanded Saturday program.

REGISTER BEFORE July 15 at www.masc.org or complete the registration form and fax them to us at 617-702-4111.

WHO WANTS Special "End of the Year" Conference Savings?

MASC/MASS JOINT CONFERENCE 2022



NOVEMBER 2-5
Resort & Conference
Center, Hyannis

**SAVE NOW
BEFORE JULY 15**

REGISTER BEFORE JULY 15: \$450.00 Full conference: Wednesday-Saturday (after July 15: \$545.00)

ACCOMMODATIONS: Must be made with the hotel; see separate information form enclosed.

MEALS: Must be purchased through MASC. (Deadline for meal purchase: October 14, 2022)

<input type="checkbox"/> Keynote Dinner	Wednesday, November 2	7:00pm	# of tickets ____ @ \$65/each
<input type="checkbox"/> Network/Bufferet Lunch	Thursday, November 3	12:15pm	# of tickets ____ @ \$40/each
<input type="checkbox"/> Presidents' Reception Dinner	Thursday, November 3	6:30pm	# of tickets ____ @ \$60/each
<input type="checkbox"/> Leadership Lunch	Friday, November 4	12:00pm	# of tickets ____ @ \$45/each
<input type="checkbox"/> Awards/Life Member Banquet	Friday, November 4	6:30pm	# of tickets ____ @ \$65/each
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Voices Lunch	Saturday November 5	Noon	# of tickets ____ @ \$30/each

PAYMENT METHOD:

Payment enclosed Bill school district Purchase order # _____

(make check payable to MASC) Please note that a \$15.00 charge may be assessed for excessive changes.

Name: _____ Nickname for badge: _____

School district/company: _____ Email: _____

Billing address: _____

Special accommodation needs: _____

school committee member superintendent other _____ (please specify)

SAVE TIME - REGISTER ONLINE AT: www.masc.org

This special rate is nonrefundable but we will allow you to substitute one of your colleagues on the registration should you be unable to attend. To take advantage of this special low rate, you must register before July 15, 2022.

MASC/MASS 2022 JOINT CONFERENCE PROGRAM AND PANEL SESSIONS

KEYNOTE/FEATURED SESSIONS

- Issues that Divide Us: How Do We Respond and Move Forward
- Achieving Social Justice: Moving Diversity, Equity and Inclusion from Theory to Practice
- Recognition of Current Recovery Conditions: Raising Awareness of Resistance and Pushback

PROGRAM AND PANEL SESSIONS (additional sessions to be announced)

- English Language Learners Update
 - Basics of Policy
- Tier I Mental Health Literacy Approach
 - Systems Approach to Equity
 - What's Next for Free Speech
- Building a Sustainable Leadership Model for Culturally Responsive Schools
 - Tools for Increasing Educational Equity
 - Shared Service Approach to Anti-Racist Practices
 - When to Mediate. When to Arbitrate.
- Leveraging a Building Project to Increase Equity and Student Well-Being
 - LGBTQ Inclusion for Administrative Leadership
 - Team Building
- Administering Medication: Legal and Clinical Considerations
 - Labor Relations Update
- Creating and Promoting Equitable Conditions in Schools
- Wraparound Services to Promote Student/Family Well-being
 - Vocational/Technical Education Update
 - Entry Planning for Equity-Focused Leaders
 - School Committee/Superintendent Relations
 - Grow Your Own Leadership Programs
- Small/Rural Districts: What Can we Learn from the Berkshire County Experience
 - Looking for a Leader
- Communications Strategies: Avoiding Misunderstandings and Meltdowns
 - Student Empowerment through Integration Learning
- What School Business Officers want School Committee Members to Know
 - Special Education Update
- Building an Inclusive and Equitable Culture in Your District
 - Preserving the Arts in Education

OTHER EVENTS OF NOTE

COSCAP Friday Program • MASC Delegate Assembly: THIS YEAR ON WEDNESDAY • Keynote Dinner • Exhibit Hall and Reception with Exhibitors • Sponsor-Partner Showcase • MASS Business Meeting • MASC Division Meetings • Awards/Life Member Banquet • Friday-Saturday New Member Orientation

Hotel Reservations

A block of guest rooms has been reserved **November 1 - 5, 2022** at the Group rate of \$113 plus tax, at The Resort & Conference Center at Hyannis for MASC/MASS Joint Conference 2022 attendees.

The Resort & Conference Center at Hyannis
35 Scudder Ave
Hyannis, MA 02601

PLEASE NOTE IN ORDER TO BOOK YOUR RESERVATION ONLINE:

(Please be sure to use the website below, and NOT a 3rd party like Expedia/Orbitz.)

<http://www.capecodresortandconference.com/>

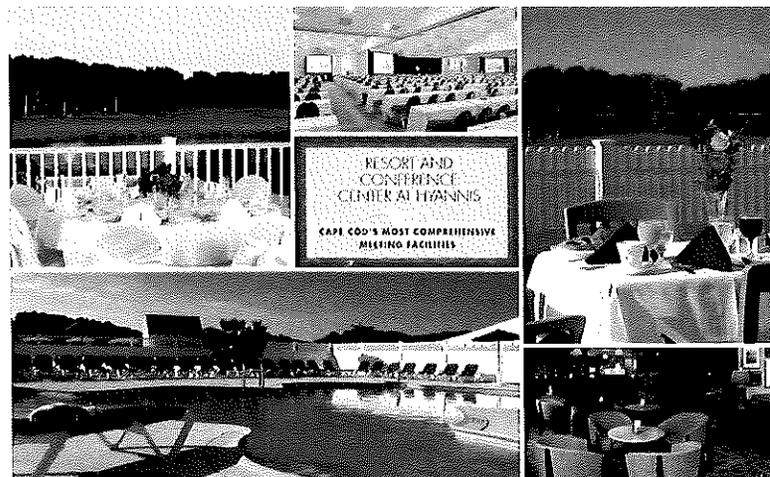
“Check Availability/Book Online”

Group Code: MM2022

All reservations must be secured by a one night deposit, plus current 14.45% Massachusetts Occupancy room tax, per room via a valid American Express, Visa or Master Card. A check is acceptable.

(We are unable to offer direct billing or Purchase Orders for guest rooms.)

The hotel will sell out and rooms are on a first come, first serve basis. We encourage you to make your reservations early. Once the hotel is sold out, we will recommend an overflow hotel.



Check the website (www.masc.org) for additional information.

Members of the Marblehead School Committee:

Congratulations to the recently elected School Committee members, Sarah Fox and Alison Taylor. As citizens within a democracy, we celebrate free elections as a privilege.

We also feel compelled to face events from the past few weeks. During the campaign, Reece Dahlberg and her family were harassed, bullied and intimidated both online and off, in ways that extended beyond the usual rough and tumble of local politics.

Unsanctioned photographs were taken of Reece, her children, and her supporters while campaigning. A previously unknown user arrived on an independently-run Facebook page to levy relentless, mean-spirited attacks, seemingly intending to distort Ms. Dahlberg's message, sway the vote and intimidate dissenting voices. Embedded within the posts was woven a thread of transphobia. Posters accused Reece and her husband of child abuse and of promoting prostitution to pay for cross sex hormones. They charged Reece and her supporters, and even the schools, with feeding children ideas about changing their sex, and pushing these decisions on children. When the profile's authenticity and tactics were challenged by vocal community members, the user and their content vanished from record.

At Village we ask students to Keep Each Other Well. At Brown we teach "Be brave, be kind, be safe, be ready to learn". As parents, community members and School Committee members, each of us bears responsibility to mitigate harm and hurt in our actions and words, online and off. This is a small town. We're neighbors, friends, co-workers, coaches and family members... but our most important roles may be models of behavior. We have to stand up to bullies. We have to call out lies and mean-spirited behavior. We wouldn't allow this sort of thing to happen in our school buildings so we should not let it stand in our community.

A new term represents a fresh start. As a community, we have an opportunity to move forward in a positive direction, with renewed commitment to fairness, kindness and tolerance.

The School Committee's code of conduct calls for members to use courteous language and professional conduct... for their behavior and language to be thoughtful, open-minded, positive, collaborative. For their actions are to be consistent with the core values of the district. In the spirit of this new term, we hereby request:

1. That the School Committee commit to **upholding anti-bullying standards** set in policy, on and offline. This is not to suggest that any sitting member participated in or had knowledge of the recent bullying during the campaign, rather, that we expect each to identify and stand up to behavior of this kind, as appropriate.
2. That the School Committee publicly reaffirm their commitment to **maintaining the strict confidentiality** required of their roles, and in doing so, maintaining and building community trust;
3. That **no School Committee member participates in or continues to serve as an administrator** on any local school-related social media sites, or participate in school-related discussions on other local sites. We suggest that while they CAN frequent these sites, they SHOULD NOT. It is simply too difficult to avoid conflict of interest and navigate community discord as an elected official, appropriately separating fact from fiction and choosing when to correct inaccuracies and when to let them stand.

The last few weeks (in particular) were upsetting for many of us, across campaigns. Let's move away from intimidation and misrepresentation, instead modeling fairness and kindness in our campaigns, in the ways in which we conduct School Committee business, and in our interpersonal relationships.

Sincerely,

Christopher Dahlberg, Fieldbrook Rd
Reece Dahlberg, Fieldbrook Rd
Cindy Elesinmogun, Bubier Rd
Stacey Faris, Pitman Rd
Graham Faris, Pitman Rd
Paul Baker, Overlook Rd
Beth Baron, Vassar Rd
Emily Belfbecker, Ida Rd
Nicole Parkman, Beach St
Rob Parkman, Beach St
Dennis Kelly, Clifton Ave

Linda Kelly, Clifton Ave
Kerry Frances Bourne, Bubier Rd
John Gilberg, Sheldon Rd
Melissa Kaplowitch, Camille Terr
Kate Lipsitz, Alden Rd
Lisa Nagel, Westminster Rd
Julie Peach, Calthrope Rd
Renee Sidman, Village St
Jodi Smith, Robert Rd
Vanessa Quick, Hawthorne Rd
Josh Baron, Vassar Rd

Ryan Quick, Hawthorne Rd
Kate Thomson, Bubier Rd
Mark Thomson, Bubier Rd
Sarah Luck, Pitman Rd
Sarah Timm, Hawthorne Rd
Heather Watson, Auburndale Rd
Chris Watson, Auburndale Rd
Mimi Lemay, Spray Ave
Kate Whorf, Schooner Ln
Kathy Wilder, Waldron Ct

Cindy Loewen

Thu, Jun 23, 5:01
PM (15 hours
ago)

to Sarah, Meagan, Emily, fox.sarah, John, me

Dear Sarah and Members of the SC,

As I am not sure if this email will be seen by all this evening prior to the meeting, I still felt that I as an active community member and stackholder, I wanted to address my concern.

Personally and professionally, I am very concerned about what is on social media and happening on the election of the chair and vice chair. It is my opinion that these positions are not meant to be decided by the stackholders, rather the committee. The stackholders vote for the members to be on the board, not the board officers. Having letters directed to the SC and Dr Buckey calling for a specific person is like witnessing a witch hunt against the current chair and/or an insurrection. Neither of which should be part of the SC.

The SC is a new committee as of Tuesday nite/Wednesday morn. I implore this committee to come together and work together, and not bring a personal agenda to the table. I also ask you to do the best you can and get the funding for our schools approved.

Whatever transpires this eve with the SC board, I want to say that Sarah Gold has consistently been prepared, committed and has been a leader, even when it became harder with covid and now without covid.

I wish to thank those who step up and take on a thankless job and I hope that this is a good chapter of a new TEAM.

Sincerely,
Cindy Tower-Loewen

Xhazzie Kindle

11:15 AM (2
minutes
ago)

to Gold.sarah, fox.sarah, taylor.meagan, buckey.john, taylor.alison, barron.emily, schoolcommittee

Dr. Buckey and the Marblehead Public School Committee,

One of the hallmarks of a good leader is knowing when it is time to step back and give someone else the opportunity to lead; to give them a chance to show their quality.

At tonight's school committee meeting you will be asked to select a chair and I urge Sarah Gold to step back and for you to select Sarah Fox.

As was evidenced by the show of support Sarah Fox received in Tuesday's election, Sarah Fox has the trust and respect of our community. Having Sarah Fox as the chair will give stakeholders a much needed boost of confidence in the school committee at a time when confidence has been lacking.

This is also the ideal time for Sarah Fox to take the reins. She is just beginning a three year term while the current chair is ending one. Having a past chair available to mentor and coach a new one will be of benefit to the committee as a whole.

I look forward to seeing this matter discussed at tonight's meeting and I ask that my letter be entered into public record.

Sincerely,

Xhazzie and Harry Kindle

On Friday, June 17, 2022, 11:32:56 AM EDT, Andrew Kramer <akramer_2@yahoo.com> wrote:

Dear Marblehead School Committee

I am emailing you to express my profound disappointment on two different issues: 1) the treatment of Sarah Fox by other members of the School Committee; and 2) a May 25th tweet from Sarah Gold, chair of the Marblehead School Committee (<https://twitter.com/marbleheadSgold/status/1529395091399393280?s=20&t=Bb9I7DnSiy7gGIGnvIRpA>)

As it relates to the treatment of Ms. Fox, it has been appalling to see the thinly veiled contempt that the chair and other members of the committee have for Ms. Fox. While I definitely do not agree with Ms. Fox on certain issues, she brings an important perspective to any issue she elects to participate on. While her comments almost always reflect far greater diligence than most others on the Committee, her views are generally dismissed. It is clear that the four other members of the committee do not like her and that personal grievances have relegated Ms. Fox to sub-committees that will not benefit as much from her experience, acumen and interests. While liking somebody personally is not a requirement to serve on any elected board, treating your colleagues with respect should be. The fact that the chair of the committee allowed a citizen to publicly share personal information about Ms. Fox and her children was unacceptable. In responding to this matter at the next school committee, the chair stated that the committee "would strive to do better." Doing better would be for each member of the Committee who sat silently while Ms. Fox was smeared to publicly apologize for allowing such commentary to occur in the first place.

In addition, I am bothered by Ms. Gold's tweet on May 25th. The cartoon itself is divisive and hurtful by indicating that those parents who have advocated for mask optionality do not understand the mental or physical trauma created by senseless gun violence in our schools nationwide (or the drills used to prepare for such violence) or that those parents who advocated for the elimination of a mask mandate care more about that issue than they do about school shootings (or the psychological impact of school shooting drills). These perspectives are not mutually exclusive. As a parent, I certainly understand the impact that active shooter drills have on our children while also acknowledging that mandating masks in schools has greatly impacted the learning and socio-emotional development of children locally and nationwide. I do not understand why the Chair opted to use that cartoon or to caption it with "Make It Stop." Does Ms. Gold want to end gun violence (that makes sense), school shooter drills (only if gun violence ends does this message have merit) or the advocacy of parents on topics like masks or all of the above? An explanation from Ms. Gold would be appreciated as well as whether each of you as active members of the School Committee agree with the message in the cartoon or the entirety of the tweet itself.

Thank you,

Andrew Kramer
7 Clifton Avenue
Marblehead, MA 01945

MEMORANDUM

Date: 6.23.22

To: **Marblehead School Committee**
Chairman Gold, Superintendent Buckey, School Committee members

From: Catherine R. Martin, RLA
29 W. Shore Drive
Marblehead, MA 01945

Re: Election of School Committee Chair

Dear Dr. Buckey, Members of SC, New Member: Alison Taylor (please fwd to or place in the dropbox).

Every year at the league of women voters, the moderator says, Elections have consequences. This week's election had two outcomes, a no vote for a much-needed override and the re-election of Sarah Fox. Sarah was the top vote-getter of all individuals running on Tuesday. It is time for this committee to recognize her contributions and the leadership she brings and elect her the chair.

While number 2 failed, number 1 passed, bringing together many years of Sarah's work as the chair of the facilities sub-committee. The year Sarah was on the budget committee, she successfully negotiated a pre-payment of our special education tuition to ease our budget going into the pandemic year. Sarah was also a building committee member who worked non-stop to get that building approved, funded, and built on time and budget. Sarah brought understanding and explanations to the rest of the board regarding pool testing and why it not only didn't need to cost 50k, but it could facilitate getting our students back in the classroom. Sarah has pushed for a five-year strategic plan and has worked hard to do more than just the starting point of planning for success.

Sarah has weathered personal attacks on her family; when Josh Barron spoke about her children's accommodations, it took no more than 5 minutes to go around on social media to see the people behind the cold, calculated attack on her family.

The current chair allowed this attack to happen, and while I don't believe you should believe everything you see on social media, the connections between Barron, Gold, and the losing candidate were clear. The game backfired and cost you an override.

Next year is a critical year for our schools. We desperately need to fund our schools in a student-focused way that relies on the advice of our building-level leaders, guidance, and special education support staff.

Marblehead School Committee

23 June 2022

page 2

Sarah can help get us there as chair. It is time to put your pettiness aside and elect Sarah Fox to the position she has rightfully earned.

Please vote Sarah Fox, Chair of the School Committee.

Please enter this letter into correspondence.

Thank you,
Catherine Martin

Thank You,

Catherine Martin, RLA