

**Record of the Marblehead School Committee Meeting
Thursday December 16, 2021
7:00pm**

Zoom Recording ID 506 450 3898

Zoom Recording <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5064503898>

Members Present: Sarah Gold, Meagan Taylor, Sarah Fox, Emily Barron, David Harris

Also: John J. Buckey, Superintendent
Nan Murphy, Assistant Superintendent
Michelle Cresta, Director of Finance
Dan Bauer, High School Principal
Todd Bloodgood, Director of Facilities

- I. Initial Business and Public Comment
 - a. Call to Order- Sarah Gold Called the meeting to order at 7:03pm
 - b. Commendations
 - Dr. Buckey read a letter from Richard Kelleher to the leadership discussing a situation at the Brown School commending the food services staff on how they addressed the situation.
 - Sarah Gold Thanked all Faculty, Staff and Administrators for the work they have done over the past year.
 - c. Student Representative-*Yasen Colon*
 - Mr. Colon gave an update of the happenings at the High School. MHD High School Football won the championships.
 - d. Public Comment
 - Jessica Benedetto spoke about the need to increase bussing in the district. She would like to see busing for children 6th grade and beyond become part of the budget for next year.
- II. Consent Action and Agenda Items
 - a. Acceptance of Donation for Wrestling Mat Purchase
 - Sarah Gold asked for a motion to accept the donation of \$7664.48 to purchase a new wrestling mat for Marblehead High School.
Roll Call Vote
Sarah Gold - yes
David Harris- yes
Meagan Taylor- yes
Sarah Fox- yes
Emily Barron - yes
Motion passed 5-0
 - b. Approval to Declare High School Computer Tables as Surplus
 - Sarah Gold asked for a motion to declare the Marblehead High School Computer tables as surplus.
Roll Call Vote
Sarah Gold – yes
David Harris - yes
Meagan Taylor - yes
Emily Barron - year
Sarah Fox - yes
Motion passed 5-0
 - c. Approval to Declare Facilities Truck as Surplus
 - Sarah Gold asked for a motion to declare 1999 GMC Savana Van as surplus.
Roll Call Vote
Sarah Gold - yes
David Harris - yes
Meagan Taylor – yes
Sarah Fox - yes

Emily Barron - yes
Motion Passed 5-0

III. Superintendent Report

a. Marblehead High School Green House Project Presentation-Student Tyler Earp

- Tyler Ear gave a comprehensive presentation on his Eagle Scout project. The project will improve the outdoor classroom space at the High School and will include a greenhouse, replace the existing raised beds and site conservation.
- The committee was very impressed with the presentation and asked questions.
- Sarah Gold asked for a motion to approve the Greenhouse project with alterations of school grounds through the Eagle Scout program as presented by Tyle Earp.
- The committee continued with a positive discussion about the project. Dan Bauer spoke in favor of the project and how it would be able to be sustained by various programs at the High School.

Roll Call Vote

Sarah Gold- yes

David Harris - yes

Meagan Taylor – yes

Sarah Fox – yes

Emily Barron - yes

b. District Updates

- Enrollment Update. Dr. Buckey presented enrollment and how it relates to budgeting. Enrollment is trending down in both the district and in schools outside the districts.
- The committee discussed kindergarten enrollment and class size and maintaining equity among schools.
- Dr. Buckey mentioned that he sent out the Tik Tok challenge email to the district. It is deeply troubling.
- Ms. Gold asked about Masking and where the district was with the waiver. Dr. Buckey stated the waiver was approved but the leadership does not want to take on policing mask wearing. (the waiver states that if you are unvaccinated you have to wear a mask) Dr. Buckey recommends remaining masked in schools until after the holiday break. The school committee discussed the recommendation and agreed with the superintendent's recommendation. They also agree that the schools should not be policing masking. There was discussion about how the mask information was brought to the attention of the committee and why the information was brought up in a Superintendent's Advisory Leadership Team meeting SALT before bringing it to the school committee.

IV. Finance and Organizational Support

a. Monthly Finance Update- Was tabled until the first meeting in January.

b. Schedules - Ms. Gold asked for a motion to approve the schedule of bills \$2,713,759.46.

Roll Call Vote

Sarah Gold - yes

Meagan Taylor - yes

David Harris - yes

Sarah Fox- yes

Emily Barron - yes

c. Resolution for School Purchase Card

Director of Finance Ms. Cresta discussed the benefits of using a purchasing card program instead of a town credit card to assist with spending account management while also reducing the number of employee reimbursements. It was shared that the card would provide more control with 1) activating and deactivating authorized users, 2) setting spending limits, 3) monitoring individual building/department accounts. Ms. Cresta further explained there was a cashback benefits and no annual fee. The Bank of Montreal offers the program and the program is widely used by other Massachusetts districts and nationwide.

Ms. Gold made a motion to enter into an agreement with the Bank of Montreal for purchasing cards and to allow the Chairperson to sign the resolution on the Committee's behalf. The motion was moved by Ms. Fox and seconded by Mr. Harris. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passes 5-0.

Ms. Gold-yes

Mr. Harris-yes

Ms. Taylor-yes

Ms. Fox-yes

Ms. Barron-yes

Committee members Harris and Ms. Taylor spoke in favor of the purchase card and how using one would allow for more efficient financial processes.

V. School Committee Communication and/or Discussion Items

- a. Facilities Capitals Request Presentation- The Facilities subcommittee presented the Capital Requests for FY23. The items came out of the facilities audit that was conducted by an outside firm. Each item was declared critical in the audit. The biggest number on the list is the High School roof. The facilities subcommittee recommends going for a capital needs debt exclusion override for the capital needs.
 - The School Committee asked questions and discussed the recommended request. There was discussion about Solar Panels for the High School Roof. The high school roof can be made uv ready in the renovation and the light department would cover the cost.
 - The committee discussed how the facilities subcommittee is organized. The facilities subcommittee will research and clarify how the subcommittee should be organized.
- b. School Children's Bill, H.926 Resolution Discussion
 - Ms. Gold asked the committee if they were interested in signing the resolution. The committee agreed that they were interested. Ms. Gold asked for a motion to support the Resolution that is stated as such regarding the support of H.926 providing pesticide protection for Massachusetts School Children.
 - The committee discussed the motion. It was stated that the herbicide is on the approved list in Marblehead and the resolution will not change that. The resolution will be sent to the state legislator showing the School Committee's support.

Roll Call Vote
Sarah Gold - yes
David Harris – yes
Meagan Taylor - yes
Sarah Fox - yes
Emily Barron – yes
motion passed 5-0
- c. Park and Recreation Memorandum of Understanding Discussion
 - Ms. Gold brought the MOU to the attention of the committee to make sure that discussions with Park and Rec continue.
- d. Subcommittee and Liaisons Update
 - Ms. Barron gave a METCO update. The Family Partner Program has been reinstated and updated. METCO is doing their live programs again and the district can get discounted tickets to the performance.
 - Ms. Taylor gave a SEPAC update. Dr. Paula Donnelly is doing monthly listening sessions. They will be the third Wednesday of the month at lunch time.
 - Ms. Fox gave a Facilities Update. Ms. Fox attended a presentation by Highland busing. They offered to come out to the district again and discuss electric busing and fleet management.
 - Dr. Harris gave a Building Committee update- The committee will meet in January. There are less than thirty items left on the punch list. The bottom section of the mural will start in January.

VI. Closing Business

- a. New Business
- b. Correspondence

The final decision from the Attorney General for the open meeting complaint from last year was sent to the Committee. They found that the committee did not break open meeting law and the complaint was resolved.

The meeting adjourned 9:15 pm.

Materials Included:

Acknowledging Excellence Memorandum
Acceptance of Donation for Wrestling Mat Memo
Computer Tables Surplus Memo-High School
Truck Surplus Memo
Eagle Scout Project Presentation

Schedule of Bills
Purchase Card Resolution Memo
Pesticide Protection for Children Resolution
Memorandum of Understanding-Park and Recreation
Open Meeting Law Complaint Correspondence

Respectfully Submitted
Emily Barron, Secretary
Marblehead School Committee