

**Record of the Marblehead School Committee Meeting  
Thursday February 3, 2022  
7:00pm**

Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88430715530?pwd=S0x2Z1R6aG43dm95U1lrWW8zQ0RVZz09>  
Zoom Recording ID 884 3071 5530

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

**Also:** John J. Buckey, Superintendent  
Dan Bauer, High School Principal  
Stephen Kwiatek, Director of Technology  
Michelle Cresta, Director of Finance

**I. Initial Business**

a. Call to Order

Ms. Gold called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

b. Commendations

- Ms. Barron commended the Superintendents for handling the recent incidences of hate at the Village School. She also acknowledged the students who spoke out.
- Ms. Fox recognized community member, Elizabeth Peterson who shoveled the streets and sidewalks around the Village School after a recent storm.
- The facilities department was also commended for working through the blizzard
- Following the weather related conversation, Dr. Buckey shared that due to the nature of the impending storm, school will be canceled the following day.

c. Student Representative-Yasen Colon

- The Rotary Club was acknowledged for helping to shovel during the snow storm
- Student, Tim Clay was acknowledged for his acceptance in All National Mixed Choir
- On 1/26 Essex Tech After Dark presented to the sophomore class to discuss dual enrollment options
- On 1/27 there was an 8<sup>th</sup> grade open house
- Food for the food pantry was collected through the 28<sup>th</sup> and winter coats, hats and gloves were also collected for the MIAA.
- The Community Outreach Club is currently collecting food and supplies for Life Bridge
- Team Harmony presented to the Village School about discrimination
- The freshmen are holding their Valentine's Day fundraiser with Stowaway Sweets until the 28<sup>th</sup>.
- The National Honor Society is holding a fundraiser next Wednesday at Chipotle.
- A math meet took place earlier that day
- Senior Night was held on January 25<sup>th</sup> for swimming

- Junior Parent Night is currently ongoing
  - A sports update was provided
- d. Public Comment
- Ms. Nicole Cohen raised concerns regarding parental consent about the Team Harmony and DEI presentation topics.
  - Ms. Catherine Martin spoke about the budget process and inquired about consideration for an override and revisiting potential adjustments to budget asks and priorities.
  - Luba Greneder discussed masking and requested that the school committee consider the social and developmental harm associated with masking. Luba's son who is a senior at the high school spoke against mask wearing sharing the social hurdles and anxiety students were experiencing.
  - Ms. Emily DeWitt encouraged community members to attend the Superintendent's monthly coffees sharing how informative they are.
  - Ms. Kim Day thanked the crossing guards for all that they do. She also noted her agreement with Ms. Martin's comments regarding the budget.

## II. Consent Action and Agenda Items

### a. Minutes-6/17/2021, 7/8/2021 and 8/3/2021

Prior to asking for a motion to accept the minutes, Ms. Fox noted some typos for 6/17 and requested that the minutes from the 8/3 retreat minutes reflect that the assigned members of the facilities subcommittee would serve as liaisons to the light department.

Ms. Gold made a motion to approve the minutes from 6/17, 7/8 and 8/3/2021. The motion was moved by Ms. Fox and seconded by Ms. Taylor. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passes, 5-0.

Ms. Gold, Mr. Harris, Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor, Ms. Barron-all yes

### b. Distributive Education Clubs of America DECA Overnight field trip

Ms. Gold made a motion to approve the MHS overnight trip to attend the DECA competition in Boston from March 10-March 12th. The motion was moved by Ms. Taylor and seconded by Ms. Fox. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passes, 5-0.

Ms. Gold, Mr. Harris, Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor and Ms. Barron-all yes

## III. Superintendent Report

### a. District Registration Update-Technology Director, Stephen Kwiatek

Mr. Kwiatek shared that a new registration process implementing the existing Aspen system would be rolled out this year. It was mentioned that the process would serve as a single source for data transfer and decrease the steps required for registration. The rollout process, once finalized, would be shared with the committee.

### b. District Updates

#### i) Budget update

Superintendent Buckey provided a budget update focusing on the iterative process and highlighting the changes to the tracking sheet and budget priorities based on leadership team feedback. The categories of the individual priorities was discussed and it was mentioned how alternative ways to fund certain items, such as leasing equipment, would be considered through the process. It was noted that a DEI position had been added and it was clarified which asks may qualify to be grant funded.

ii) Face covering Update

Superintendent Buckey shared that he was pleased to announce that DESE has shared updated guidance from January 10<sup>th</sup> to highly recommend mask wearing once the mandate has expired. He informed the committee that the Board of Health confirmed that the schools operate as an entity under DESE and not under the Town mask mandate.

Given the new guidance and confirmation from the Board of Health, Superintendent Buckey recommended that the High School, Veterans and Village School, having met the 80% vaccination status, go mask optional on Monday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. He noted the importance of respecting individual choice going forward. It was mentioned that to avoid a spike in cases, all students should return after February break masked. Pool testing is anticipated to continue until the new at home testing program is up and running.

iii) Town Report Submission Update

The Town Report is being worked on and will be submitted with input from the leadership team and it will be shared with the committee.

Parent and faculty representatives have been selected to join the search committee for a Glover School Principal.

An Executive Session for an MEA grievance will need to be scheduled to hear the grievance.

#### **IV. Finance and Organizational Support**

a. Schedules

Ms. Gold asked for a motion to approve the Schedule of bills totaling \$2,333,612.12. The motion was moved by Ms. Taylor and seconded by Ms. Barron. Prior to a roll call vote, Mr. Harris inquired about the utility bills for the closed buildings and confirmed that the line for Valley Communication is related to the payment for the high school sign. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passes, 5-0.

Ms. Gold, Mr. Harris, Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor and Ms. Barron-all yes

#### **V. School Committee Communication and/or Discussion Items**

a. Subcommittee and Liaisons Updates

- Policy is in the process of reviewing the "I" policies and will be revisiting tabled policies.

- METCO is including “best practices” at the bottom of their weekly newsletters and one newsletter recently included information for including a non-voting METCO representative on the school committee, which Ms. Barron recommended the committee consider.
- School Advisory Council Updates were provided
  - The Brown School discussed allied arts positions
  - The High School is reviewing handbooks and how to hotlink information to the website.
- SEPAC survey results from parents have come back and Ms. Taylor recommended that a SEPAC representative come to present to the committee soon

## **VI. Closing Business**

### a. New Business

Ms. Fox asked for clarification regarding the pink sheets in the budget books for the next meeting.

Ms. Gold would like to further discuss returning to in-person meetings at the next meeting.

### b. Correspondence

None

### c. Adjournment

Ms. Gold adjourned the meeting at 9:14pm.

### *Materials Included:*

*Overnight DECA Competition Memo*

*Online Registration Memo Update*

*Superintendent's Updates Memo*

*Budget Tracking and Priorities*

*Schedule of Bills*

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Lisa Dimier, Secretary*

*Marblehead School Committee*

*Approved April 7, 2022*