

MEETING NOTICE

POSTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF MGL 30A § 20 Act relative to extending certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the state of emergency

Marblehead School Committee

Name of Board or Committee

Address: Lucretia and Joseph Brown School – Library at 40 Baldwin Road Marblehead MA 01945

OR

Zoom Conference join via the web link or Dial in

<https://marbleheadschoools-org.zoom.us/j/99975493631?pwd=Y0pHWVM2YitBZXN0U2ZyTk1OMzh4dz09>

Meeting ID: 999 7549 3631

Password: 873255

Dial in Phone #1 646 931 3860

Thursday	May	16th	2024	7:00 pm
Day of Week	Month	Date	Year	Time

Agenda or Topics to be discussed listed below (That the chair reasonably anticipates will be discussed)

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Public Hearing for School Choice for the 2024 – 2025 School Year (vote)
- II. Initial Business
 - a. Commendations
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. Student Representative
- III. District Updates – Dr Theresa McGuinness
 - a. Youth Risk Behavior Survey Presentation
 - b. Support Staff Classification Plan Proposal
 - c. FY24 budget status update
- IV. Consent Action and Agenda Items
 - a. Schedule of Bills (vote)
 - b. Approval of Minutes (vote)
- V. School Committee Communication and Discussion Items
 - a. Superintendent Search update
 - b. Communications Survey Results
 - c. Subcommittee and Liaison Updates and discussion
- VI. Closing Business
 - a. New Business- School Committee Announcements and Requests
 - b. Correspondence
- VII. Motion and vote to meet in executive session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 30A section 21(a) for the following purpose:

- Purpose (2) To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel
- Purpose (3) to discuss strategy with respect to and in preparation for collective bargaining with the Marblehead Education Association Unit A, Unit Permanent Substitutes, Unit Tutors, Unit Paraprofessionals, and Unit Custodians because an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee with intent not to return to open session.

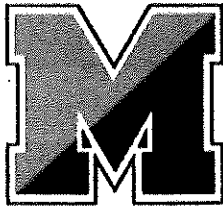
Executive Session Agenda:

- I. Conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel.
- II. Strategy discussion with respect to and in in preparation for collective bargaining with the Marblehead Education Association Unit A, Unit Permanent Substitutes, Unit Tutors, Unit Paraprofessionals, and Unit Custodians

Hybrid Meeting Notice: Members of the public are welcome to attend this in-person at 40 Baldwin Rd. Marblehead MA 01945 or by the remote zoom connection provided. Please note that the in-person meeting will not be suspended or terminated if technological problems interrupt the remote connection.

THIS AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Chairperson: Sarah Fox
 Posted by: Sarah Fox
 Date: 5/13/2024



Marblehead Public Schools

9 Widger Road
Marblehead, Massachusetts 01945
Phone: (781) 639-314

Dr. Theresa B. McGuinness
Interim Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Julia Ferreira
*Assistant Superintendent of
Teaching & Learning*

Ms. Patricia Bell
Interim Director of Student Services

School Committee Memorandum

To: Marblehead School Committee
From: Theresa McGuinness, Ed.D
Re: Public Hearing - *School Choice*
Date: May 13, 2024

Under the provisions of the Education Reform Act of 1993, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education presumes that each school committee will admit non-resident students under the School Choice Program unless there is a vote to the contrary. Under M.G.L. Chapter 76, Section 12B, the School Committee is obliged to hold a public hearing and vote on School Choice participation prior to June 1st of each school year.

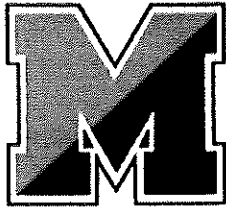
I recommend that the School Committee take action on this matter at the School Committee meeting scheduled for May 16, 2024 in order to notify the State of our decision in accordance with the deadline.

In May of 2023, given the pending override and the potential for instability with the FY24 budget, former Superintendent Dr. John Buckey recommended not to participate in School Choice for that upcoming 2023-2024 school year.

As the decision to participate relates to enrollment numbers and available classroom space, it is my recommendation not to elect to participate in School Choice due to the lack of available classroom space particularly at the elementary level. Additionally, as per the recommendation of the former Superintendent, policy JFBB should be reviewed and updated to address considerations for admissions deadlines, attendance, sibling attendance, transportation and safety that the current policy does not address prior to MPS becoming a School Choice district. It is my recommendation that the School Committee work with the new incoming Interim Superintendent and administrative team to determine appropriate policy adjustments to policy JFBB prior to electing to participate in School Choice for the 2025-2026 school year.

Proposed Motion:

Move that the Marblehead Public Schools do not participate in the School Choice program for the 2024-2025 school year.



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Dr. Theresa B. McGuinness
Interim Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Julia Ferreira
*Assistant Superintendent of
Teaching & Learning*

Ms. Patricia Bell
Interim Director of Student Services

Memorandum

To: Marblehead School Committee
From: Theresa B. McGuinness, Ed.D, Interim Superintendent
RE: Superintendent Updates
Date: May 16, 2024

Special Education Program Review

The evaluation team for the special education program review met last week to finalize its ratings of the five firms who submitted proposals. The highest ranked firm was Academic Discoveries, a Massachusetts firm that has done this type of work for a number of districts in the state. We have contacted Academic Discoveries to commence negotiations for contract terms and conditions. The proposed cost for their work with the district was \$66,000. We hope to award the final contract next week so they can begin their work in June. It would be our recommendation that the cost be allocated to the ESSER and/or IDEA grant and the special education tuition revolving fund, since funds were not allocated in the FY2025 budget.

Principal Search Updates

The **Glover School Principal Search** continues and the job posting was reopened after our finalist declined the job offer. We will review the new application packets as they come in and re-assemble the hiring committee.

The **Village School Principal Search** is moving along and the search committee completed the second round of interviews this week. We are doing reference checks and will have more information in the next few days about the finalists for that position.

Upcoming Dates - MHS Seniors

Annual Art Show @ Abbot Hall, Grades 8 - 12 - Ongoing

May 17 - Acappellooza

May 20 - Spring Instrumental Concert

May 21 - Spring Choral Concert

May 24 - Senior Project Gallery Walk

May 24 - Last Day of Classes for Seniors

May 24 - MHS Cultural Feast

May 27 - No School - Memorial Day

May 28 - Scholarship Night 6 pm

May 29 - Senior Prom- House of Blues

May 30 - Graduation Rehearsal

May 31 - Graduation - 6:00 p.m. on Piper Field (MHS Field House if inclement weather). Doors will open at 5:15 pm and seating will be on a first come, first serve basis.

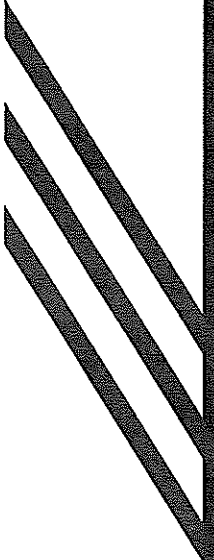
In tomorrow's newsletter:

- Please join Friends of the Marblehead Public Schools on Saturday, June 15 for their annual *Summer Soiree* and their largest fundraising event of the year.



Marblehead HS Survey of Substance Use and Related Risk Factors (SURF) 2023-2024

Gina Hart, LICSW, LADC1
Clinical Social Worker
Marblehead High School



Overview and Purpose

- All 4 grades, ages 14-18
- MGH SURF: 743 students (85% response rate), 8.3% opted out by parent/guardian
- Supplemental questions via Anonymous Google Form: 677 responses
- Oct 11 2023 during Advisory/MAGIC block
- Last year's data was shared with students via presentation before the surveys were administered
- You will see data from Marblehead 2021, 2022, 2023 and state 2021 (Youth Health Survey).
 - Please note that Marblehead did participate in state survey 2021 so our community is represented in that data.
- Risk and protective factors: things that make our students/community more vulnerable toward or protected against substance use and mental health issues
- We collect this data to share with students, staff, and community members. The data informs the need for programming and educates us on the current strength and needs of our youth and resources.
- Limit of the Study: Are students honest?
 - Looking at relative differences, trends, most useful if reviewed over time

Demographics

- **Sex**

- ☐ Male: 48.9%
- ☐ Female: 51.1%

- **Gender Identity**

- ☐ Boy/man/male: 47.8%
- ☐ Girl/woman/female: 47.8%
- ☐ Gender Diverse: 3.3%
- ☐ Not sure: 0.4%
- ☐ Don't want to say: 0.7%

- **Sexual Orientation**

- ☐ Heterosexual: 82.4%
- ☐ Sexually Diverse: 12.2%
- ☐ Not sure: 3.8%
- ☐ Don't want to say: 1.6%

- **Race**

- ☐ White: 85.4%
- ☐ Asian: 1.4%
- ☐ Haitian, Black, African American: 4.1%
- ☐ Hawaiian or Pacific Islander: 0.1%
- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native: 0.0%
- ☐ Middle Eastern North African: 5.2%
- ☐ Other: 2.7%

- **Ethnicity**

- ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino/a: 92.9%
- ☐ Hispanic or Latino/a: 7.1%

- **Place of Birth**

- ☐ United States or U.S. Territory: 91.0%
- ☐ Not in the United States: 9.0%

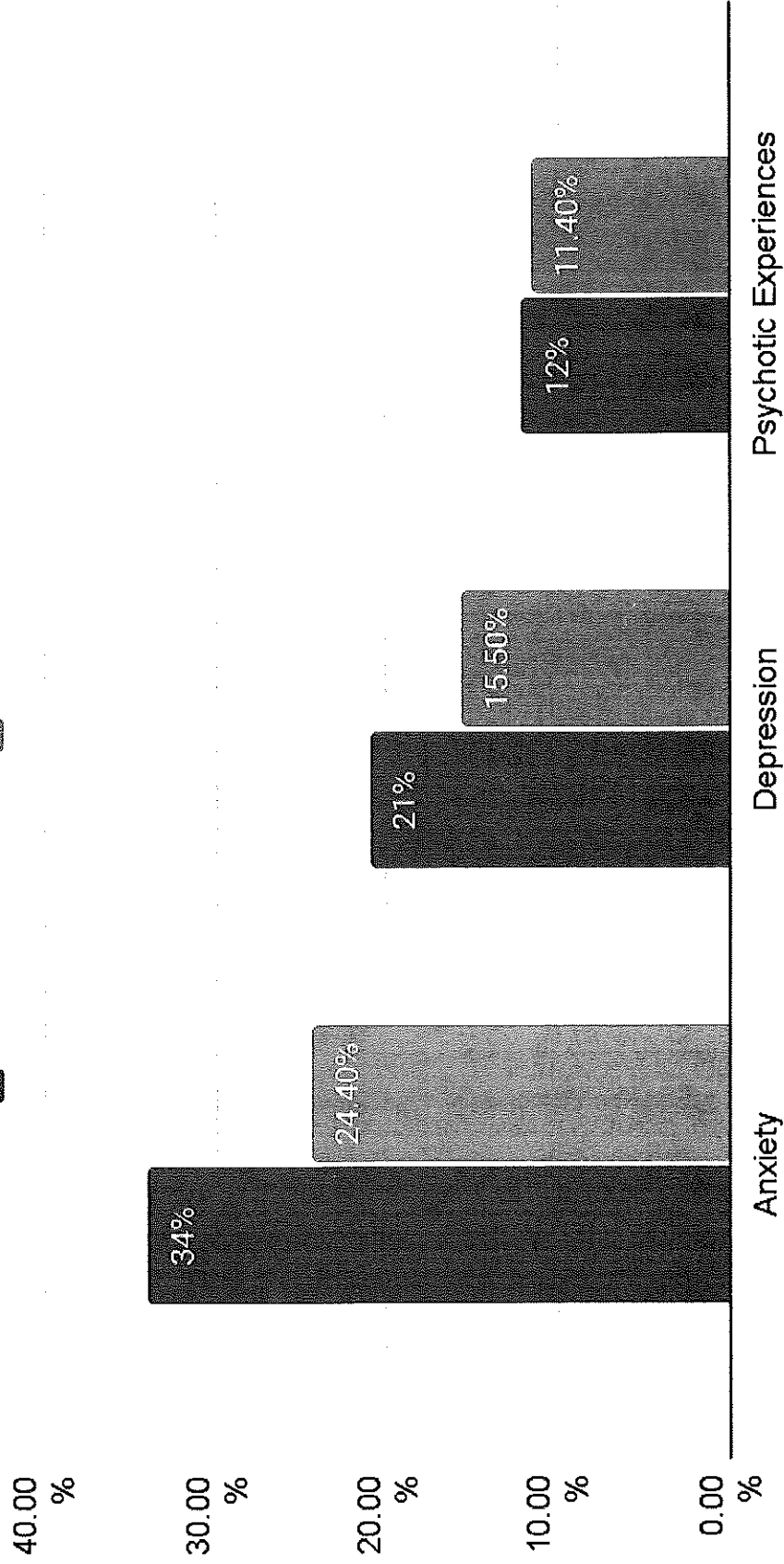
Protective and Risk Factors: the basics

Marblehead 2023:

- 95.5 % of students reported positive connections with peers
- 62.8% feel connected to a staff member at the school
- 89.6% report engaging in extracurricular activities
 - 10.9% Music
 - 82.2% Sports
 - 62.7% Clubs
- 30.3 % of students report getting 8 hours of sleep or more (risk but up from last year: 14%)

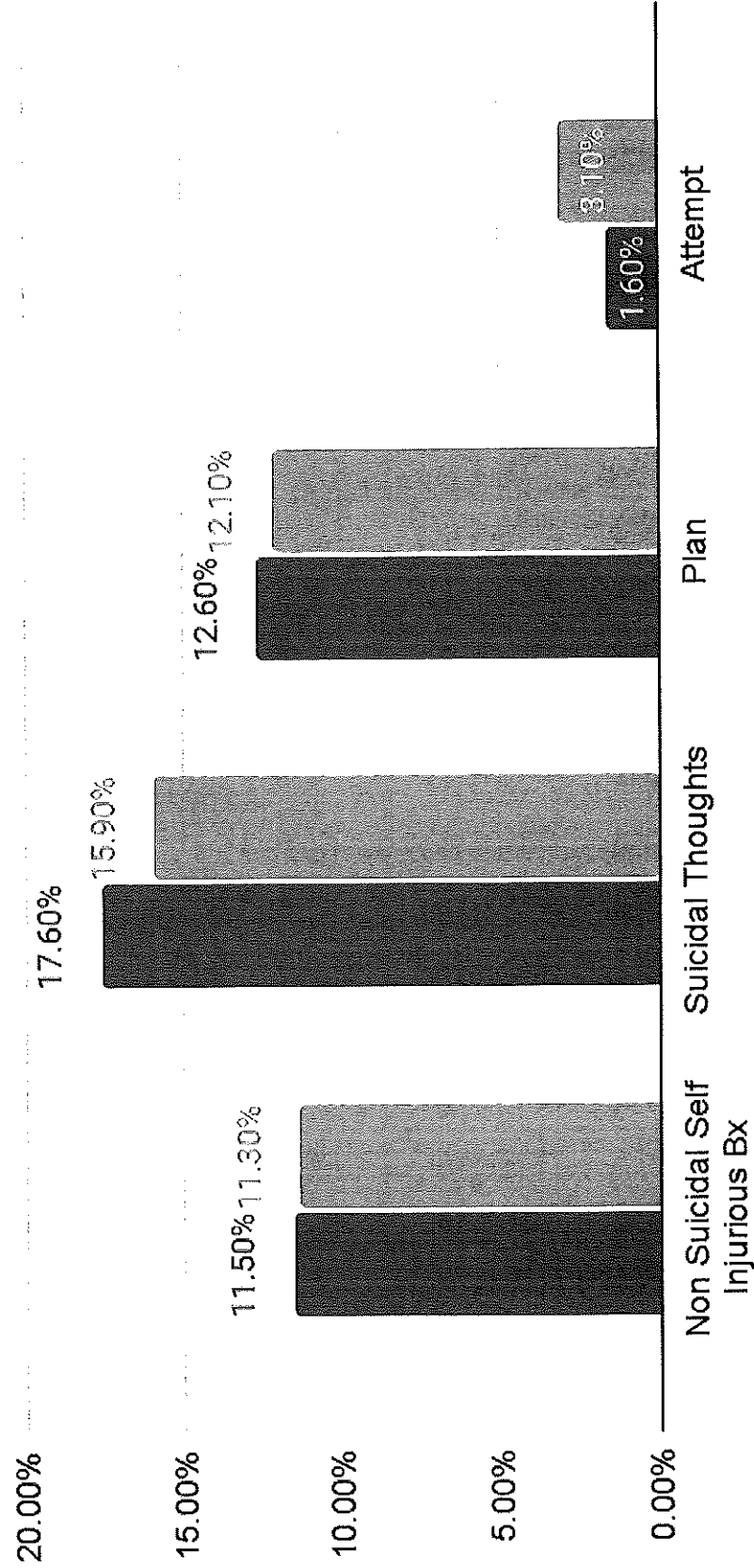
Mental Health: Above the Risk Threshold

■ Marblehead 2022 ■ Marblehead 2023



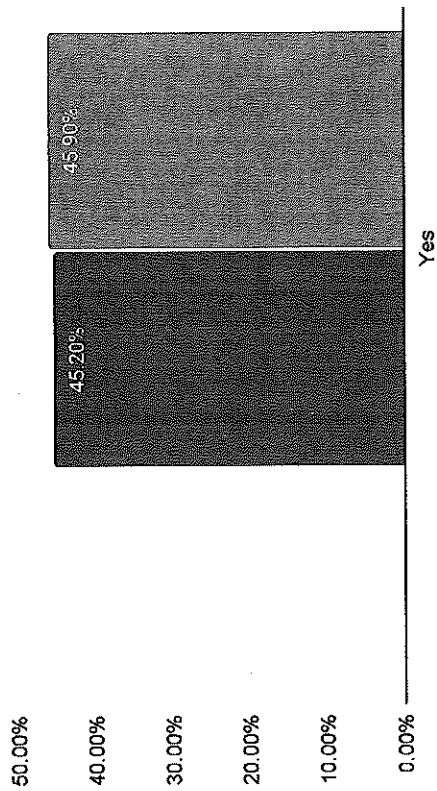
Self Injury and Suicidality

■ Marblehead 2022 ■ Marblehead 2023



Do you struggle regularly with body image or a negative perception of how you look?

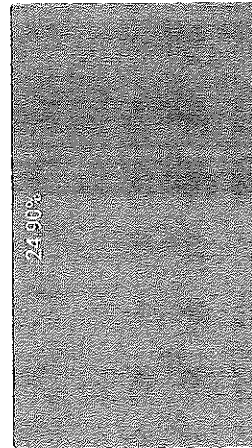
■ Marblehead 2022 ■ Marblehead 2023



Body Image and Disordered Eating

Has thinking about shape or weight made it very difficult to concentrate on things you are interested in (for example, working, following a conversation, or reading)?

50.00%
40.00%
30.00%
20.00%
10.00%
0.00%



Experiences of Discrimination Based on Race or Ethnicity

(students who identified as other than white)

Others your age did not include you in their activities: 16.3%

People assumed your English was poor: 21.4%

You were called racially insulting names: 35.7%

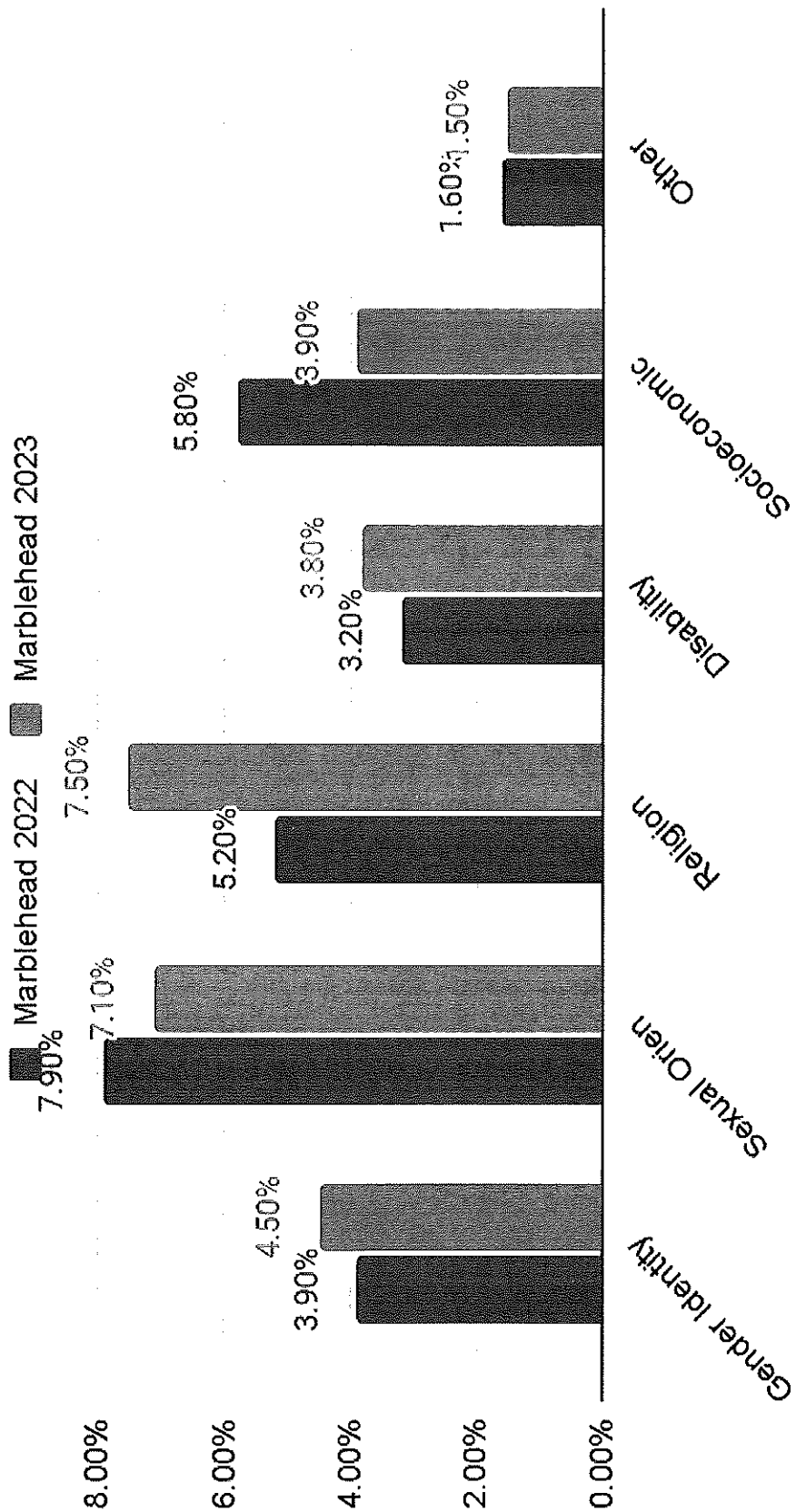
Discouraged from joining an advanced level class: 13.3%

Discouraged from joining a club: 10.2%

People acted as if they thought you were not smart: 17.3%

People acted as if they were afraid of you: 18.8%

Experiences of discrimination based on personal identities

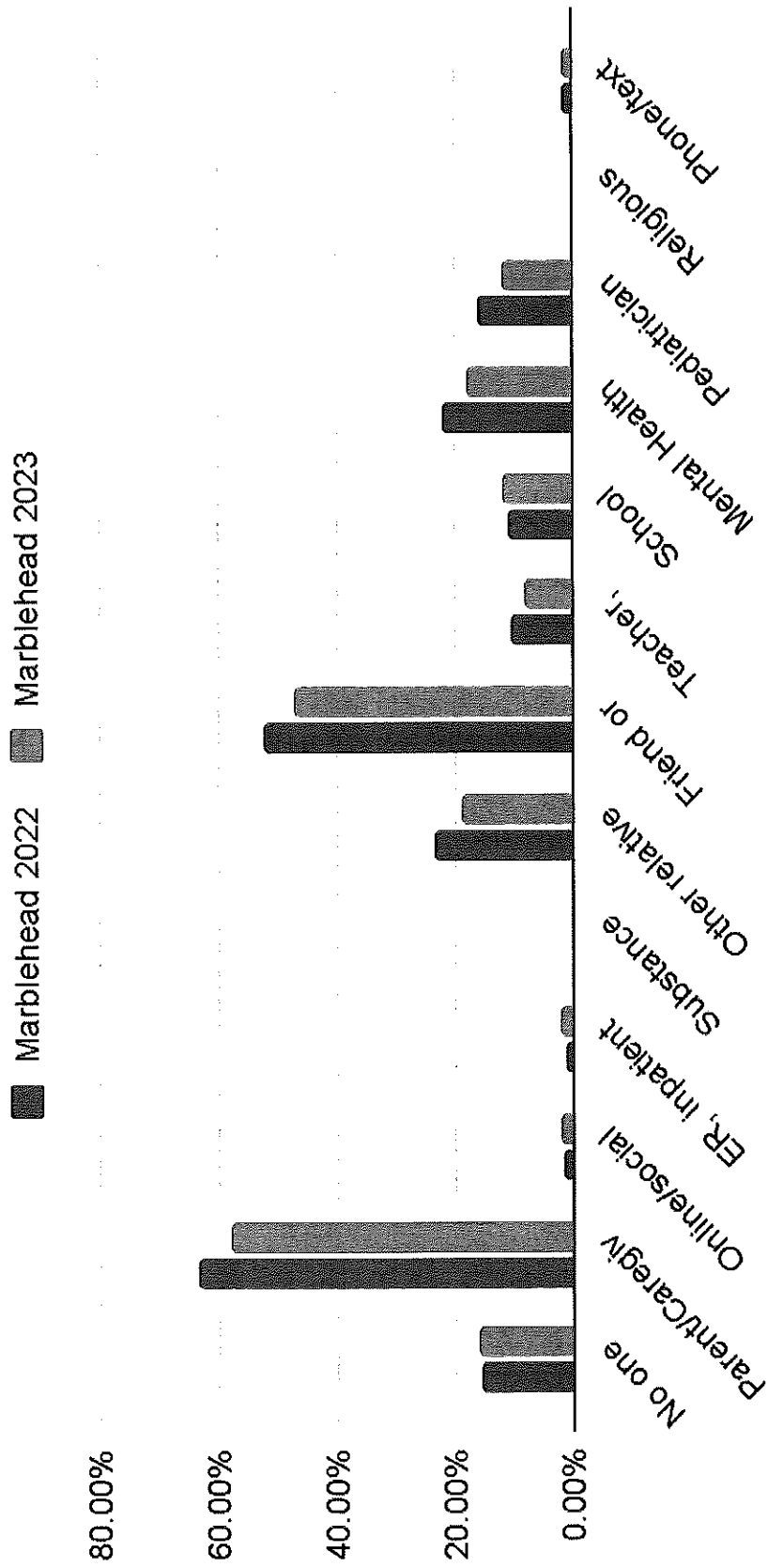


MHS mental Health Data 2023, cont.

Above Risk Threshold for anxiety/depression

- 64% of students who identified as Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Queer, Asexual, Pansexual,
- 79.2% of students who identified as Transgender, non binary, another gender
- 30% of students who identified as Asian
- 23% of students who identified as Haitian, Black, African American
- 40% of students who identified as Hispanic/Latino(a)
- 34.2% of students who identified as multiracial
- 47.8% of Seniors

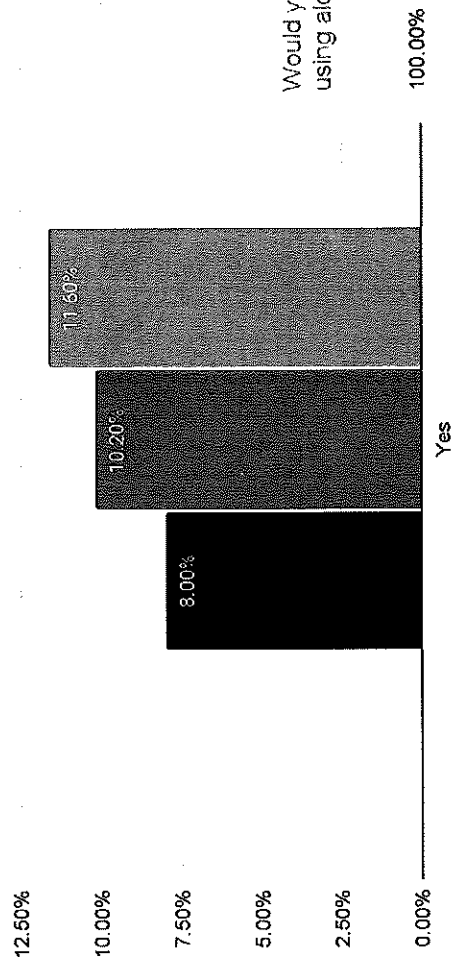
Who have you talked with about your mental or emotional health?



Currently or previously, have any adults that you lived with used substances in front of you in a way that made you concerned?

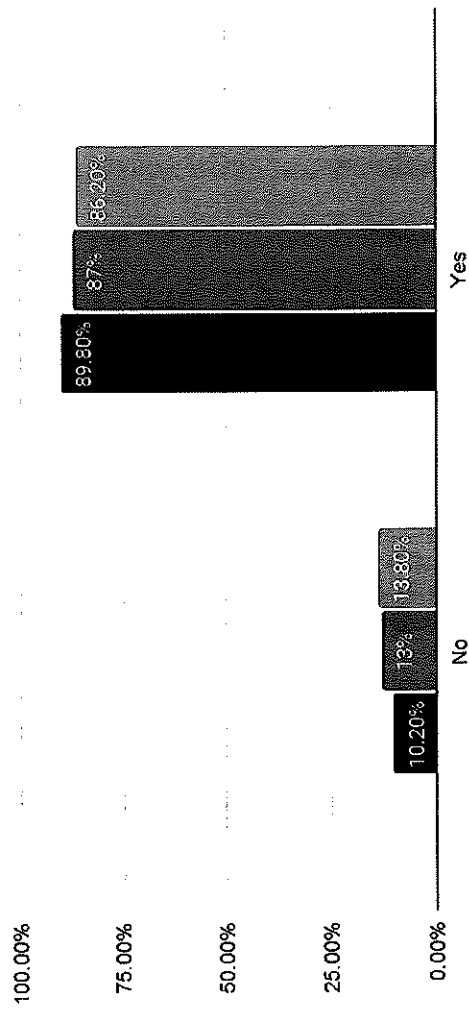
■ Marblehead 2021 ■ Marblehead 2022 ■ Marblehead 2023

Parental Attitudes



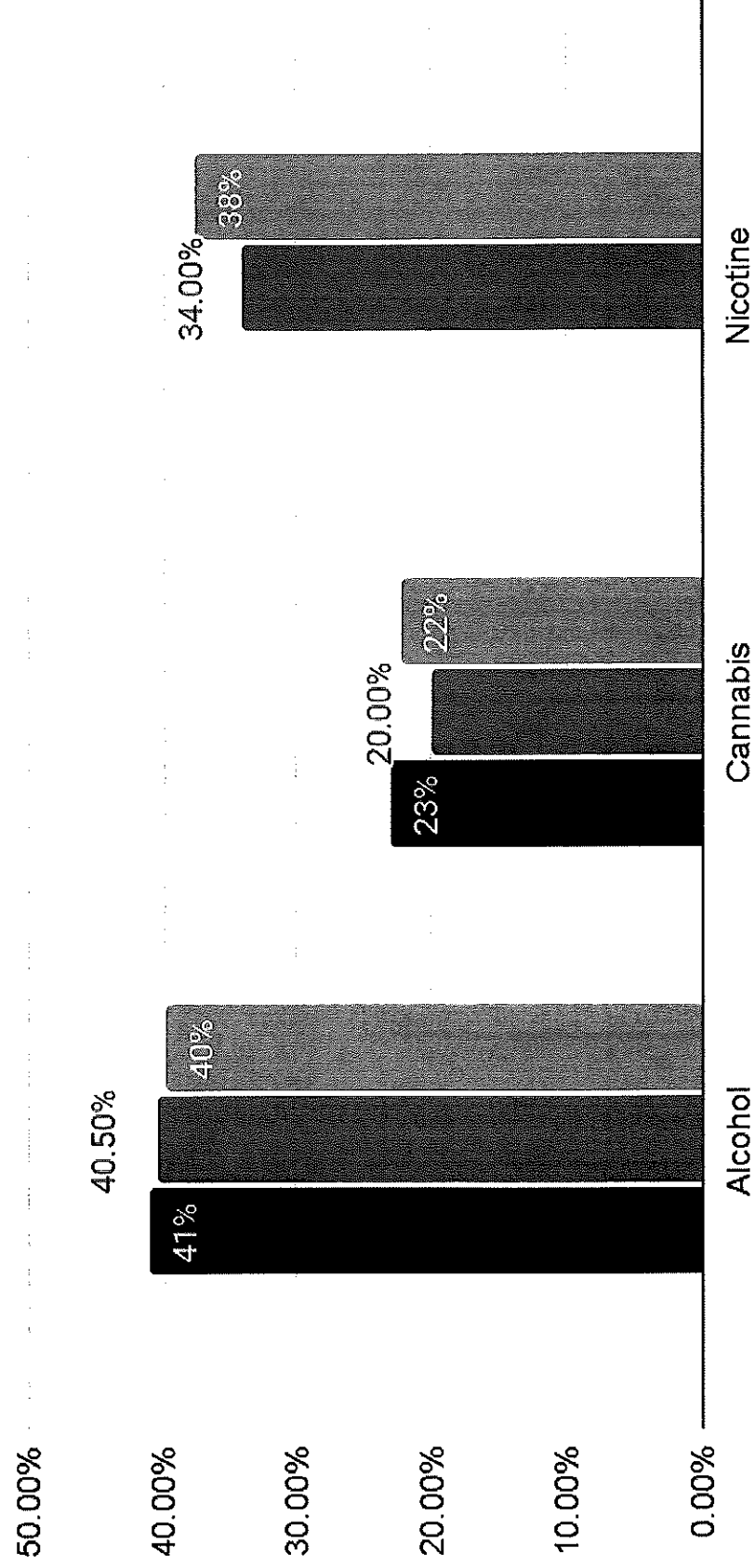
Would your parents/guardians be upset or give you a consequence if they knew you were using alcohol or marijuana on a regular basis?

■ Marblehead 2021 ■ Marblehead 2022 ■ Marblehead 2023



Lifetime Use

■ Marblehead 2021 ■ Marblehead 2022 ■ Marblehead 2023



Age of first use

■ Alcohol ■ Cannabis ■ Nicotine

40.00%

32%

28.10%

30.00%

27.10%

24%

18.50%

20.00%

18.10%

13.80%

11.60%

10.20%

10.00%

9%

3.30%

4.30%

4.30%

3%

1.10%

0.00%

12 or younger

13

14

15

16

17

18

Impaired Driving

■ Marblehead 2022 ■ Marblehead 2023

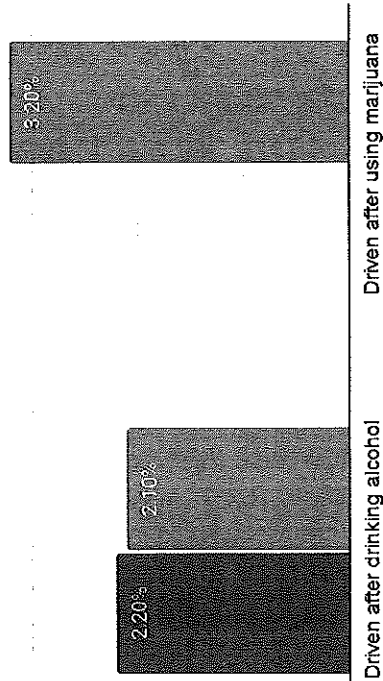
4.00%

3.00%

2.00%

1.00%

0.00%



Impaired driving

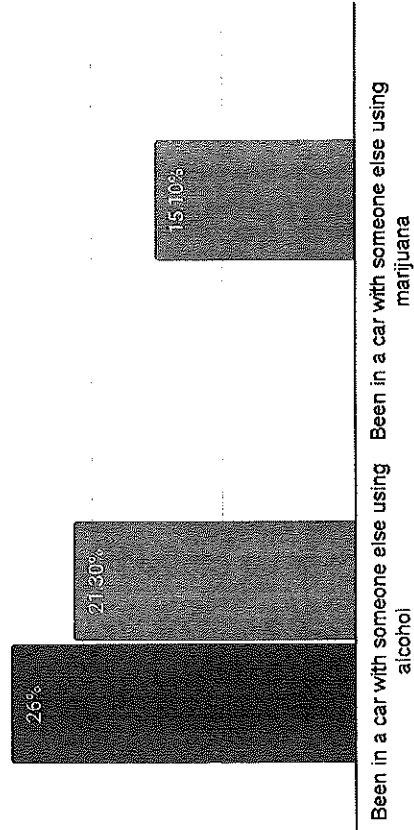
■ Marblehead 2022 ■ Marblehead 2023

30.00%

20.00%

10.00%

0.00%



How often do you text while driving?

80.00%

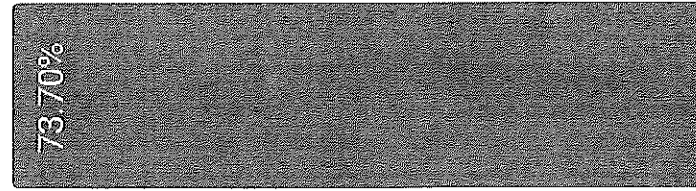
60.00%

40.00%

20.00%

0.00%

Marblehead 2023



16.40%

3.70%

1.30%

4.90%

Never

Only when
necessary

2-3 times a moth

2-3 times a week

Every time I drive

Substance Use Data, cont.

Marblehead 2023

- 68.2% of students who use nicotine vape products are planning to reduce or quit in the next month
- Students who used nicotine in past 30 days
 - 34.1% report they have a craving within the first hour of waking up
- Marijuana Use: Felt anxious or paranoid 7.5 %
 - Seen, felt, or heard things that were not really there (i.e., hallucinations) 4.5%
- Prescription: 3.27%
- Hallucinogens/Psychedelics: 3.7%
- Cocaine: 1.1%
- Methamphetamine (speed, crystal meth, crank): 0.85%
- Heroin: 0.85%
- Inhalants: 1.5%
- Steroids: 0.85%
- Club Drugs (ecstasy, Molly, MDMA): 0.85%

Qualitative data

Themes from focus group meetings

- Students recognize the important intersection between substance use and mental health
- Harm reduction in substance use education is important, “scare tactics” or expecting youth to never experiment is unreasonable
- Parents are more accepting of alcohol than other substances
- Current education in the HS around substance use is helpful, suggestions on learning things at younger ages
- About half of the students who participated had felt they had been peer pressured in some way to use substances

Current Programming at MHS

- **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:** Educators working to create systems, programs, and curriculum that promote an inclusive community for all
- **Peer Mentor Program:** Transition Support for incoming students
- **Everyday Health:** Course is designed to assist students with understanding the importance of whole health with a focus on the connectivity between one's physical, emotional, and social health
- **GSA:** Student-run organizations that unite LGBTQ+ and allied youth to build community and organize around issues impacting them in their schools and communities
- **Connections Local and Global:** Helping exchange students, transfers, and students trying to adjust to MHS form stronger bonds with classmates, teachers, and the school (Chloe Slux and Lindsay Stafford, students)
- **Team Harmony,** Engaging youth against hate
- **Science is For you,** Data collection and projects that include SEL curriculum
- **Substance Use Programming:**
 - 1 annual community Community/Parent Guardian event -
 - iDecide program - diversion program for substance use infractions and students that need more support
 - 1 annual student assembly
 - YRBS: data collection
 - Health Class presentations: Substance Use Disorder and Speaker in Recovery
- **Health Curriculum:** Curriculum driven by skilled based concepts around physical and emotional health: includes mental health, decision making, substance use, communication skills, etc. (substance use, depression awareness, dating violence, eating disorders)
 - Edventi Substance Abuse Prevention that we are rolling out now which includes, Addiction, Tobacco/Vaping, marijuana, Alcohol, and Opioids.

Current Programming at MHS, cont.

- **Support and Be Supported Club:** Students supporting their classmates by creating activities for mental health awareness
- **Legal Class Curriculum::** examining cases on bullying and the mental health affect, legal consequences
- **BRYT:** Supporting students as they transition from medical/mental health leave
- **Theater Production:** Participants collaborate and express themselves in their endeavor to tell a story. Sharing their work with a supportive audience can help build self-confidence and build lasting relationships.
- **World Language Curriculum:** Discusses identity, gender, well-being, self-esteem, stress, work/life balance, facing discrimination, family, positive relationship and community acceptance.
- **Summer Reading and Subscription to Teen Health and Wellness Database** Main character or a supporting character dealing with some sort of mental health issue
- **Sports Injury Program:** Counseling support for students who are missing a sport due to injury
- **Best Buddies:** Organization dedicated to ending social, physical and economic isolation for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- **Students and Seniors Club:** students go down to the Center On Aging and either scrapbook with the elderly, play volleyball, or do some curling. The integration of the generations is absolutely amazing for everyone's mental health.
- **Magic blocks:** Social/emo enrichment: Walking Club, Crochet, Origami, Weightlifting
- **Mindfulness Club:** Mindfulness activities for students
- **Staff with specialized training in SEL**
- **Morgan's Message:** Mental health awareness for student athletes

District Wide Programming

- As a District, we are focused on developing our **Multi-Tiered System of Support** framework to ensure all students meet or exceed academic and social-emotional learning expectations. Furthermore, we are working to reduce at-risk measures and outcomes for all marginalized and/or at-risk students to the point where all students feel safe, supported, and included in school.
- In addition to the programming at MHS, there are several **district-wide efforts** in effect to provide students in Kindergarten through 8th grade opportunities to develop social-emotional skills and support their mental health. For example, we integrate Responsive Classroom practices in our elementary classrooms, embed Advisory programs in our upper elementary and middle school, and work to foster a sense of belonging through school-wide initiatives at all schools. Many of our schools offer extracurricular activities, like MHS, for students to participate in outside of the school day. For the 2024-2025 school year, we are expanding our Health Education program to Village School so there will be a dedicated Health Educator who will teach an aligned curriculum designed to meet the standards and needs of our students in grades 4 through 6. The addition of the Village school Health Educator will now allow for collaboration among our Health Educators in grades 4 through 12 to offer a vertically aligned program to support our students,
- We are also continuously working to support our educators through **professional learning** to in turn **support all learners in our schools**. Professional development is offered to all educators to expand their professional learning and collaborate with fellow educators and mental health clinicians.

Takeaways and Action Steps

Our school is doing a tremendous amount of great work to support our students!

Early use issue: Evidence based prevention programming at HS but also lower level schools. Often has less to do with the dangers of substance use and more about addressing risk and protective factors

Harm Reduction: More education around reducing the risks of use as opposed to scare tactics or awareness campaigns. Unrealistic to expect students to never try things

Social/Emotional Learning and Mental Health Support: Programming at all levels that supports the needs of our students in these areas to enhance protective factors and reduce risk factors: specific focus on anxiety, depression, suicidality

LGBTQIA and DEI Programming: Enhancing current and including further trainings and programming to support our staff and students to address inequities, biases, microaggressions, etc.

Body Image and Eating Disorders: Preventative and Educational Programming: Tier 1 and Tier 2

Parent and Community Programming: Addressing Parental attitudes and beliefs around substance use and mental health and enhancing education: working together with the community and school to address substance use concerns as a 3-pronged approach

Grade 12 Programming: Thoughtful programming to support our senior class transition.

The schoolwide survey as an annual tool: the only way to assess where our community stands and analyze trends over time. Way to see if implemented programming is effective

Sources

- Massachusetts General Hospital: Survey of Substance Use and Related Risk Factors (SURF) in MA schools
- Department of Public Health (DPH): Youth Health Survey
- Education Week
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
- National Institute of Health (NIH)

MARBLEHEAD YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR DATA
Executive Summary
2023-2024

FUNDING

This report was written by Gina Hart, LICSW, LADC1, Social Worker at Marblehead High School and Julia Ferreira, Assistant Superintendent of Marblehead Public Schools. Resources for this project are provided by the Massachusetts General Hospital Center For Addiction Medicine. This is a grant-funded project. Resources include: Survey of Substance Use and Related Risk Factors in Massachusetts Schools and the Marblehead High School Survey Report.

BACKGROUND

In order to best inform members of our community about the strengths and needs of our student population, collecting data around substance use, mental health and protective and risk factors to these issues is paramount. This data will be used not only to share with students, staff and community members, but to assess the need for programming through tiered interventions. This is the third consecutive year that data has been collected at Marblehead High School and the longitudinal data will be used to view trends over time and relative differences. Since 2021, we have improved upon the survey questions based on feedback. If the questions were not exactly the same, we did not compare to 2022-2023 in order to maintain the validity of the data collection.

METHODOLOGY AND SURVEY DISTRIBUTION

Marblehead High School students were offered 2 surveys during “Magic block” on October 11, 2023. Students were notified that they could opt out at any time and emphasis was put on the anonymity and confidentiality of the survey, and watched a short video presentation of last year’s data prior to taking the surveys.

- MGH SURF: 743 students (85% response rate), 8.3% opted out by parent/guardian
 - MGH collects this data through a REDCAP link which is a HIPAA compliant platform for electronic data capture. The results are shared back with MHS identified staff (Gina Hart) via the MGH SURF survey report.
- Supplemental questions via Anonymous Google Form: 677 responses
 - These questions were created based on the state YHS/YRBS, consult between Gina Hart and central administration, and consult with other experts in the field.

LIMITS OF THE STUDY

One of the most asked questions about the survey is, *how do you know students are honest?* We can never ensure that every student is fully honest. However, when we view relative differences and trends over time we can use this data as a baseline. We also improve our delivery every year to focus on the anonymity and confidentiality of the study and evidence is shown by the increase in participation: up from 75% last year to 85% this year.

RESULTS

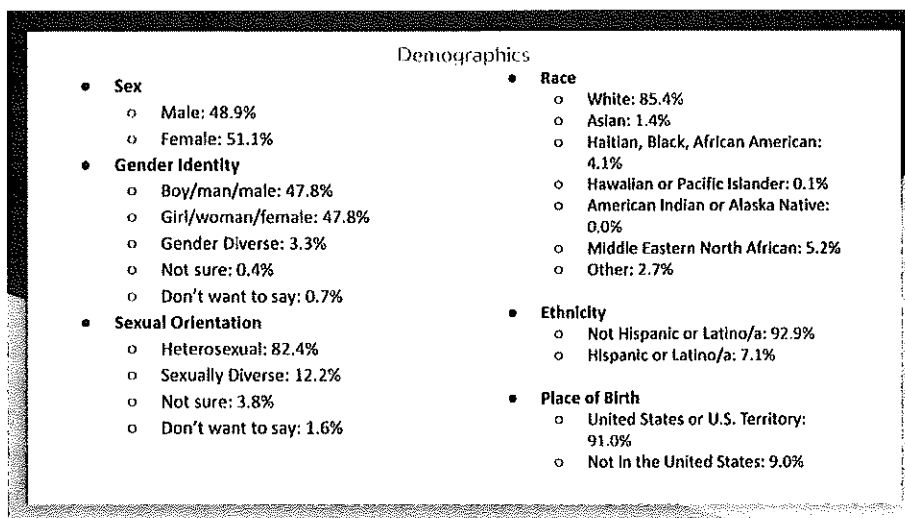
To see the full data presentation use the following link: [Youth Risk Behavior Data 23/24](#)

SECTION 1: DEMOGRAPHICS

MHS is more racially diverse than last year, with 85.4% of students identifying as white in 2023 as opposed to 91.4% in 2022. Gender Diversity (about 4%) and Sexual Diversity (12%) remain about the same.

SECTION 2: BASIC PROTECTIVE AND RISK FACTORS

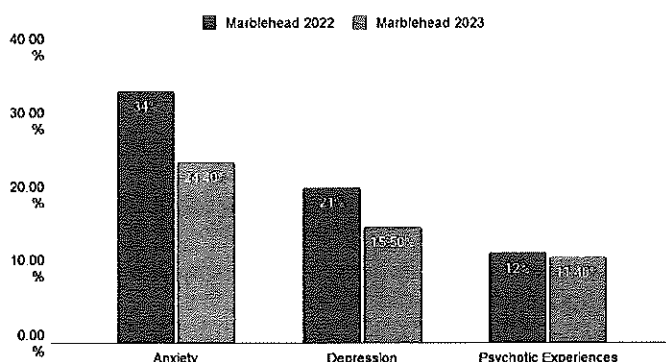
Students are connected to their teachers and peers, and this is a protective factor for mental health and substance use. Students are highly engaged in extracurricular activities which is also a protective factor. Students are getting more sleep than they did last year, but it still remains a risk factor for their overall health.



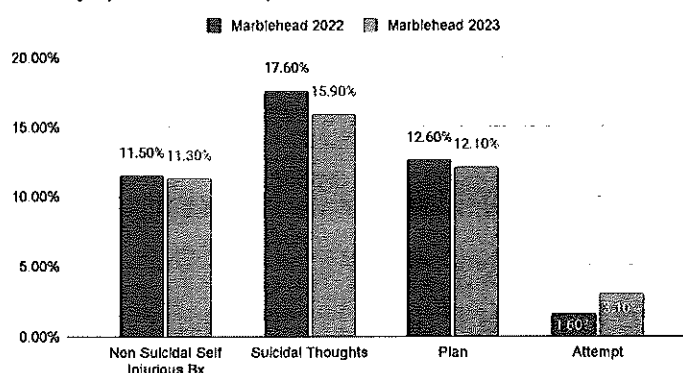
SECTION 3: EXPERIENCES WITH MENTAL HEALTH

Students have lower rates of anxiety, depression, and psychotic experiences this year. However, there has been a slight increase in attempted suicides. The charts below outline the changes from 2022 to 2023.

Mental Health: Above the Risk Threshold



Self Injury and Suicidality



Eating Disorders and Body Image

In 2022 and 2023, we asked new questions about this topic. In both years, about 45% of our student body endorses “struggling regularly with body image or a negative perception of how they look.” 24.9% of students were at more risk for disordered eating indicating that “thinking about shape or weight made it difficult to concentrate on things they were interested in.”

Experiences of Discrimination

Of students who identified as a race other than “white,” students responded that they have experienced discrimination based on their race.

Others your age did not include you in their activities: 16.3%

People assumed your English was poor: 21.4%

You were called racially insulting names: 35.7%

Discouraged from joining an advanced level class: 13.3%

Discouraged from joining a club: 10.2%

People acted as if they thought you were not smart: 17.3%

People acted as if they were afraid of you: 18.8%

Other experiences of discrimination are identified in several different categories, *Sexual Orientation* being the second highest and consistent with the data from 2022: 7.1%. The highest category indicated, and increase from last year was *Religion*: 5.2% in 2022 and 7.5% in 2023. Other experiences of discrimination included *Gender Identity*: 4.5%, *Disability*: 3.8%, and *Socioeconomic status* which decreased from last year: 5.8% in 2022 and 3.9% in 2023.

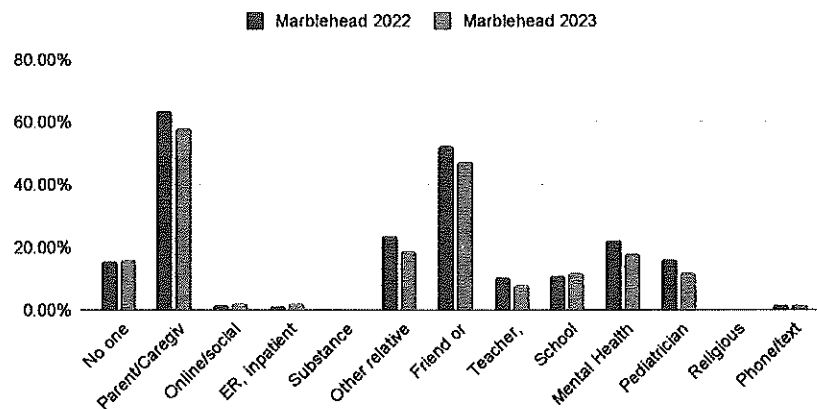
Populations more at risk for Anxiety and Depression

- 64% of students who identified as Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Queer, Asexual, Pansexual,
- 79.2% of students who identified as Transgender, non binary, another gender
- 30% of students who identified as Asian
- 23% of students who identified as Haitian, Black, African American
- 40% of students who identified as Hispanic/Latino(a)
- 34.2% of students who identified as multiracial
- 47.8% of Seniors

Accessing Support for Mental Health

In the past year there has been an overall slight decrease in the percentage of students connecting with a family member or friend about their mental health, as shown in the graph below. This is a risk factor.

Who have you talked with about your mental or emotional health?

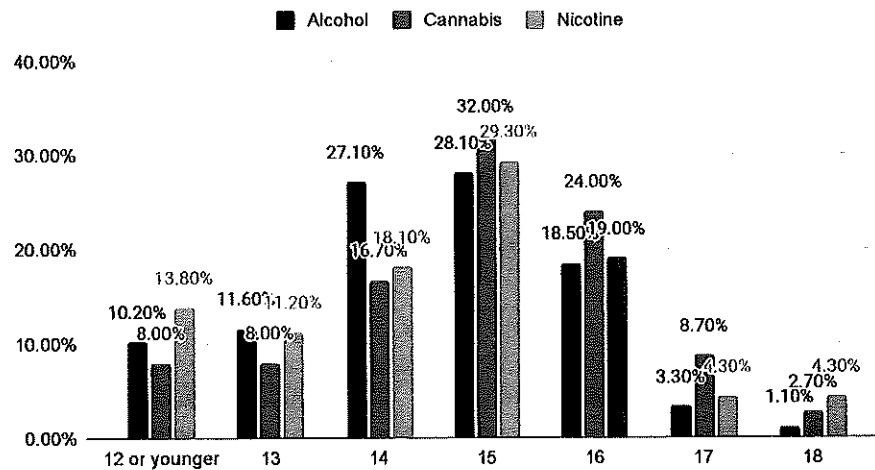


SECTION 4: SUBSTANCE USE

Parental Attitudes: Protective Factor: From 2021-2023, between 86% and 90% of students indicated that their parents/guardian would be upset or give a consequence if they knew their child was using alcohol or marijuana on a regular basis. **Risk Factor:** There has been a steady increase from 8% to 11% over the last 3 years of students concerned about their parent's substance use.

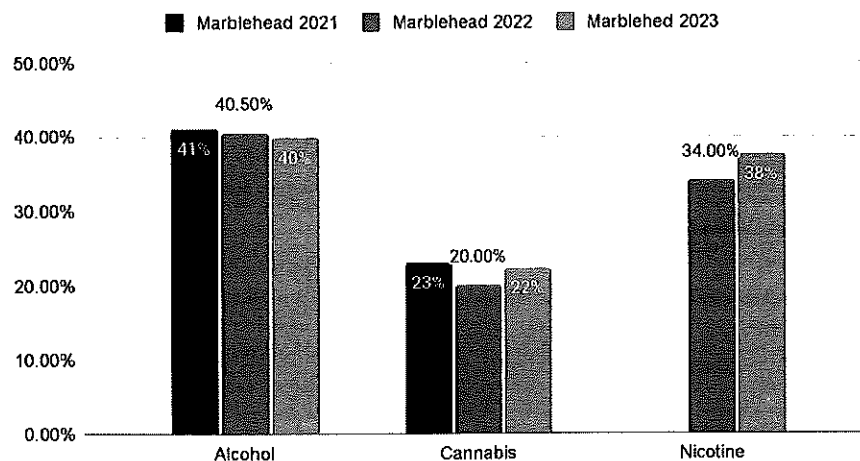
Age of First Use and Lifetime Use: There is a relative trend of students using alcohol, marijuana and nicotine at a younger age. This is a risk factor.

Age of first use



Lifetime use (have you ever tried this substance) has remained mostly consistent and is comparable with state data.

Lifetime Use



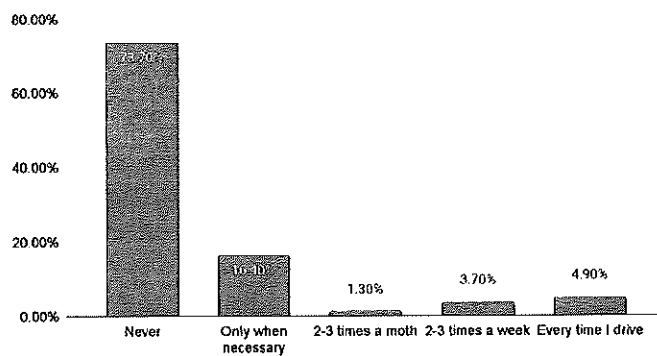
Impaired Driving

A major risk factor for safety is impaired driving. New this year, questions were separated in order to distinguish between alcohol and marijuana. For alcohol, the numbers remain consistent from 2022-2023 indicating about 2% of students had driven under the influence. 3.2% of students had driven after using marijuana. From 2022-2023, the number of students who had been in a car with someone else who was driving under the influence of alcohol has decreased from 26% to 21%. For marijuana, 15% of students had been in the car with someone who was under the influence.

Texting while Driving

This is the first year questions were asked about texting and driving. A majority report that they are not texting and driving on a regular basis which is a protective factor.

How often do you text while driving?



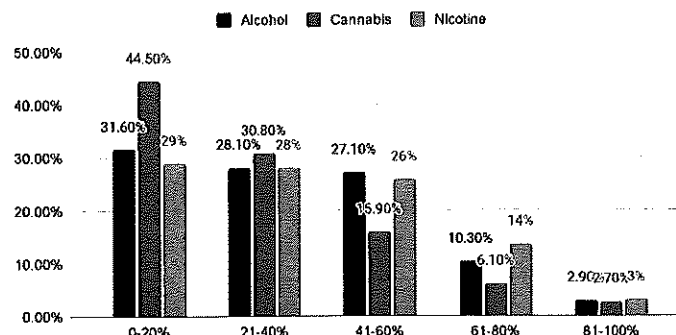
Perceptions and Peer Influences

Social Norms Theory states that if students perceive their peers are engaging in something, they will be more likely to do so as well. Thus, it is important for them to be aware of how many students are actually using substances. "Regular use" is indicated on the survey by the question around use in the "last 30 days." Of the commonly used substances the data is the following:

- 6.6% had used alcohol in the past 30 days
- 4.5% had used marijuana in the past 30 days
- 5.1% of students had used nicotine vape products *every day* in the past 30 days (the highest of the most commonly used substances)

As indicated in the chart below, most students feel that their peers are using more than is seen in the above data. However, a larger percentage of students this year did choose the appropriate percentage.

What percentage of your peers do you think use substances on a regular basis?



SECTION 5: QUALITATIVE DATA

In 2022 and 2023, a Focus Group was held with students to discuss substance use and mental health. General themes collected were the following:

- Students recognize the important intersection between substance use and mental health and notice the family/genetic aspect on vulnerability
- Students are more likely to try alcohol than other substances and their perception of risk in this area is low. Parents are more accepting of alcohol
- Harm reduction in substance use education is important, “scare tactics” or expecting youth to never experiment is unreasonable
- Current education in the HS around substance use is helpful, suggestions on learning things at younger ages
- About half of the students who participated had felt they had been peer pressured in some way to use substances

SECTION 6: PROGRAMMING AND NEXT STEPS

Current Programming at Marblehead High School (MHS):

- **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:** Educators working to create systems, programs, and curriculum that promote an inclusive community for all
- **Peer Mentor Program:** Transition support for incoming students
- **Everyday Health:** Course designed to assist students with understanding the importance of whole health and connectivity between one’s physical, emotional, and social health
- **GSA:** Student-run organizations that unite LGBTQ+ and allied youth to build community and organize around issues impacting them in their schools and communities
- **Connections Local and Global:** Helping exchange students, transfers, and students trying to adjust to MHS form stronger bonds with classmates, teachers, and the school
- **Team Harmony,** Engaging youth against hate
- **Science is For you:** Data collection and projects that include SEL curriculum
- **Substance Use Programming:**
 - **1 annual community Community/Parent Guardian event -**
 - **iDecide program -** diversion program for substance use infractions
 - **1 annual student assembly**
 - **YRBS:** data collection
 - **Health Class presentations:** Substance Use Disorder and Speaker in Recovery
- **Health Curriculum:**
 - Curriculum driven by skilled based concepts around physical and emotional health: includes mental health, decision making, substance use, communication skills, etc. (depression awareness, dating violence, eating disorders)
 - Edventi Substance Abuse Prevention that we are rolling out now which includes, Addiction, Tobacco/Vaping, marijuana, Alcohol, and Opioids.
- **Support and Be Supported Club:** Students supporting their classmates by creating activities for mental health awareness
- **Legal Class Curriculum:** Examining cases on bullying, the mental health affect, and legal consequences
- **BRYT:** Supporting students as they transition from medical/mental health leave.
- **Theater Productions:** Participants collaborate and express themselves in their endeavor

to tell a story. Sharing their work with a supportive audience can help build self-confidence and build lasting relationships.

- **World Language Curriculum:** Discusses identity, gender, well-being, self-esteem, stress, work/life balance, facing discrimination, family, positive relationship and community acceptance.
- **Summer Reading and Subscription to Teen Health and Wellness Database:** Main character or a supporting character dealing with some sort of mental health issue.
- **Sports Injury Program:** Counseling support for students who are missing a sport due to injury.
- **Best Buddies:** Organization dedicated to ending social, physical and economic isolation for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- **Students and Seniors Club:** Students work with COA and either scrapbooks with the elderly, play volleyball, or do some curling. Integration of generations.
- **Magic blocks:** Social/emo enrichment: Walking Club, Crochet, Origami. Weightlifting
- **Mindfulness Club:** Mindfulness activities for students
- **Morgan's Message:** Mental Health awareness for student athletes

Current Programming District-wide:

As a District, we are focused on developing our Multi-Tiered System of Support framework to ensure all students meet or exceed academic and social-emotional learning expectations. Furthermore, we are working to reduce at-risk measures and outcomes for all marginalized and/or at-risk students to the point where all students feel safe, supported, and included in school.

In addition to the programming at MHS, there are several district-wide efforts in effect to provide students in Kindergarten through 8th grade opportunities to develop social-emotional skills and support their mental health. For example, we integrate Responsive Classroom practices in our elementary classrooms, embed Advisory programs in our upper elementary and middle school, and work to foster a sense of belonging through school-wide initiatives at all schools. Many of our schools offer extracurricular activities, like MHS, for students to participate in outside of the school day.

For the 2024-2025 school year, we are expanding our Health Education program to Village School so there will be a dedicated Health Educator who will teach a standards-based aligned curriculum designed to meet the needs of our students in grades 4 through 6. The addition of the Village school Health Educator will now allow for collaboration among our Health Educators in grades 4 through 12 to offer a vertically aligned program to support our students,

We are also continuously working to support our educators through professional learning to in turn support all learners in our schools. Professional development is offered to all educators to expand their professional learning and collaborate with fellow educators and mental health clinicians.

Recommendations for Next Steps:

Continuing to build upon and enhance the existing programming around the following topics:

Early use issue: Evidence based prevention programming at HS but also lower level schools.

Harm Reduction: Education around reducing the risks of use as opposed to scare tactics or awareness campaigns. Unrealistic to expect students to never try things.

Social/Emotional Learning and Mental Health Support: Programming at all levels that supports the needs of our students in these areas to enhance protective factors and reduce risk factors: specific focus on anxiety, depression, suicidality.

LGBTQIA and DEI Programming: Enhancing current and including further training and programming to support our staff and students to address inequities, biases, microaggressions, and inclusion.

Body Image and Eating Disorders: Integrate tiered preventative and educational programming.

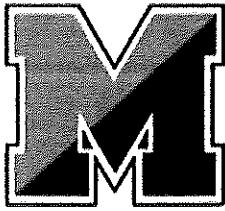
Parent and Community Programming: Addressing Parental attitudes and beliefs around substance use and mental health and enhancing education: working together with the community and school to address substance use concerns as a 3-pronged approach.

Grade 12 Programming: Thoughtful programming to support our senior class transition.

The schoolwide survey as an annual tool: the only way to assess where our community stands and analyze trends over time; serves as a way to see if implemented programming is effective.

SECTION 7: SOURCES

- Massachusetts General Hospital: Survey of Substance Use and Related Risk Factors (SURF) in MA schools
- Department of Public Health (DPH): Youth Health Survey
- Education Week
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
- National Institute of Health (NIH)



Marblehead Public Schools

9 Widger Road
Marblehead, Massachusetts 01945
Phone: (781) 639-314

Dr. Theresa B. McGuinness
Interim Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Julia Ferreira
*Assistant Superintendent of
Teaching & Learning*

Ms. Patricia Bell
Interim Director of Student Services

MEMORANDUM

TO: Marblehead School Committee
FROM: Mary C. DeLai, Interim Director of Finance & Operations
CC: Dr. Theresa McGuinness, Interim Superintendent
DATE: May 14, 2024
RE: FY2024 Budget Status Update

Below, we present the school department FY2024 budget status as of April 30, 2024. As the analysis indicates, our current unencumbered balance is \$755,419.

Salaries

Expended	26,383,538
Encumbered / Projected	9,217,830

Expenses

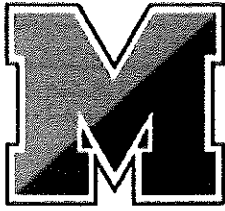
Expended	6,475,479
Encumbered / Projected	2,747,930

Total Expended, Encumbered, and Projected	44,081,854
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FY24 Budget	44,837,273
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<i>Projected EOY Surplus/(Deficit)</i>	<i>755,419</i>
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Please note that \$300,000 in technology purchases originally budgeted in FY2025 have been encumbered. The remaining balance will be used, as previously articulated, to prepay special education tuition that had been included in the FY2025 budget. We feel confident that we will end the year with a sufficient balance to allow us to fund the commitments made during the FY2025 budget process. Any additional funding available at year end will be used to prepay additional special education tuition (we have already exceeded the four “unanticipated” out of district placement slots for next year), purchase technology not funded in the FY2025 budget, and/or replenish the athletics and extracurricular revolving fund to allow for fee waivers and reductions under the newly adopted user fee schedule.



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Teaching & Learning*

Ms. Patricia Bell
Interim Director of Student Services

MEMORANDUM

TO: Marblehead School Committee
FROM: Mary DeLai, Interim Director of Finance and Operations
DATE: May 16, 2024
RE: Schedule of Bills for Approval

Included in this packet are the following Schedules of Bills for your consideration. The schedules and invoices have been uploaded to the shared drive.

Schedule	Amount
24986	\$ 70,331.59
24987	\$ 15,666.54
24992	\$ 136,140.66
25014	\$ 337,466.66
25017	\$ 29,858.30
25018	\$ 77,101.95
25022	\$ 16,510.41
25027	\$ 3,161.08
25073	\$ 67,262.65
25074	\$ 15,133.40
25068	\$ 7,522.35
25097	\$ 5,004.47
25098	\$ 139,508.86
25100	\$ 110,654.30
25101	\$ 6,852.00
25102	\$ 16,411.30
25104	\$ 45,987.98
25106	\$ 189,953.53
25112	\$ 74,897.73
TOTAL	\$ 1,365,425.76

Suggested Motion:

Motion to approve the identified schedules of bills totaling \$1,365,425.76.

Record of the Marblehead School Committee Meeting
Thursday February 01, 2024
7:01PM

Members Present: Sarah Fox, Brian Ota, Jennifer Schaeffner , Alison Taylor

Also Present: Dr. Theresa McGuinness-Interim Superintendent, Michelle Cresta-Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Julia Ferreira-Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning

I. Initial Business

a. Call to Order

Ms. Schaeffner called the meeting to order at 7:01PM

b. Commendations

- Alison Taylor commends our Teachers
 - They are amazing and show up for our students regardless of the turmoil that is occurring within the District
- Sarah Fox commends the METCO PCO
 - The turnout was almost 20% of the District's METCO parents

c. Public Comment

- Mary McCariston-46 Pinecliff Drive
 - Mary started by stating that she noticed that the Director of Finance and Operations position was posted 3 days ago
 - Mary asks if the job for an Interim or permanent Superintendent has been posted
 - She states that "the committee needs to learn to engage with their critics"

d. Student Representative-Kat Piper

- Midterms ran from 01/23-01/26
- Sophomores had a presentation about the "After Dark" program at Essex Tech which partners with Students from Construction, Craft Labor, Health Assisting and Sustainable Horticulture
- Senior project applications are now able to be submitted
- MHS Acapella is preparing for their ICHSA Competition
- Peer Mentor Program is hosting information sessions for next year
- The Freshman class of 2027 is partnering with Stowaway Sweets for a Valentines Day Fundraiser
- Juniors are holding their annual auction which is one of the most important fundraising events for the class
- Senior Show was last Sunday 01/28

II. District Updates-Dr. Theresa McGuinness

- District Offices have moved back to Widger Rd.
- MHS has a new Assistant Principal starting Monday 02/05
 - Frank Kowalski comes to us from Swampscott High School
- We have posted the position of Director of Finance and Operations
 - Julia Ferreira will be running the Search Committee

- Interviews for the Interim Director of Student Services were held today 02/01 with Brian Ota
 - Next step is an interview with Dr. McGuinness
 - A posting will be made shortly for a permanent Director of Student Services
- Dr. McGuinness shares a letter regarding an incident that occurred at the Veterans Middle School this week
 - The incident involved the drawing of a symbol of hate on the wall in the Library
- Dr. McGuinness reads a letter written by Principal Matt Fox to the community regarding the incident
- Jennifer, Alison and Brian would like to thank Dr. McGuinness and Principal Fox for their leadership during this situation and for the statements they made to the community

Sarah Fox makes a motion for the School Committee to co-sign the letter with Dr. McGuinness

Moved by Sarah Fox, Seconded by Ms. Schaeffner

Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Ota and Ms. Schaeffner -All Yes

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passes 4-0

- School Calendar 2024-2025
 - Julia Ferreira presents a draft of the 2024/2025 School Year Calendar
 - The MEA will be providing input on this draft prior to bringing it back to the School Committee for final approval at the next School Committee Meeting
 - FY25 Budget Status Update-Dr. McGuinness and Michelle Cresta
 - There will be a “Finance Forum” that will include the Town, School and the Community on 02/27
 - This will be a chance for the community to get their questions answered surrounding the budget
 - Michelle Cresta shares an updated presentation on the three presented budgets
 - Level Services-No New Changes
 - Updated Estimate \$47,935,000
 - Needs Based
 - Level Services plus specially identified needs
 - Reduced Services Budgets
 - Close or equal to the current funding level
 - Opened up for Discussion
 - Brian Ota requests more information in regard to the basis for the budget and any potential cuts that may come up
 - He requests a projection of the student population for school years 24/25, 25/26 and 26/27 and a staffing breakdown
 - Sarah Fox asks if our Transportation costs are included in the current budget projections and about our tuition increases and if that data was included

III. Consent Action and Agenda Items

a. Schedule of Bills (vote)

Motion to approve the identified schedule of bills totaling \$762,430.73

Moved by Ms. Taylor, Seconded by Ms. Fox

Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Ota and Ms. Schaeffner, All Yes

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passes 4-0

b. Approval of Minutes (vote)

Motion to approve the minutes as presented for 11/16/2023

Moved by Mr. Ota, Seconded by Ms. Taylor

Opened for Discussion

- Sarah Fox points out a few edits that she will work with Allison to make before posting them

Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Ota and Ms. Schaeffner, All Yes

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passes 4-0 with the requested edits

IV. School Committee Communication and Discussion Items

a. Marblehead High School Turf Replacement-Piper Field MHS (vote)

- Athletic Director Greg Ceglarski is joined by two members of the Marblehead Boosters, Muffy Paquette and Meg Budzinski (Civil Engineer)
- Meg discusses the current condition of Piper Field and what needs to be replaced
- Meg goes through the “Project Scope” as well as the cost associated with making the replacements needed
- Muffy discusses the funding we currently have and how much is needed to complete the project
 - \$792,193 has been raised towards the cost of the replacement
 - \$161,807 is still needed to complete the project
- The intent is to go out to bid in the end of February to get the bids back by the third or fourth week of March
- The project would then begin after school finishes up in mid-June to be completed by mid August
- Opened up to the School Committee for questions
 - Sarah Fox would like to go to the town with the Marblehead Boosters to request the additional funds needed to complete the project
 - Sarah asks how confident they are in the timeline presented with the start date of the Fall sports season
 - Sustainable Marblehead requested that we not use a Turf
 - Research has been done on the safety of the turf versus the natural field and it shows that you can not get the same level of safety on a natural field as you can on a turf
 - Sarah asks if there is a more sustainable Turf option and a rough cost that may be associated with that option
 - Jennifer Schaeffner cites an additional question from Sustainable Marblehead regarding the Turf’s “Off Gassing”
 - Meg cites an EPA study into the rubber infill and during that study they “didn’t find anything of concern”
 - Meg states that she does feel comfortable recommending sand and rubber

- The presentation is attached to these minutes

Motion to approve the boosters to fundraise for the replacement of the turf at Piper Field

Moved by Ms. Fox, Seconded by Mr. Ota

Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Ota and Ms. Schaeffner, All Yes

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passes 4-0

b. Marblehead High School Overnight Field Trip Approvals (Greece and DECA Club) (vote)

- Jennifer Billings and Rebecca Blomberg – Greece
 - Rebecca proposes an English Department trip during April Vacation of 2025 to Greece
 - The students will read an Ancient Greek Tragedy and then be able to visit the locations from the play while learning about Ancient Greek Culture
 - The trip will be offered to Grades 10-12

Motion to approve the Marblehead High School trip to Greece for April of 2025

Moved by Ms. Taylor, Seconded by Mr. Ota

Opened for Discussion

- Sarah Fox asks how the students would be eligible to attend the trip as well as what would happen should a 9th grader request to attend
 - Ms. Billings clarifies that it is the current 9th graders, or rising 10th graders, that will be able to attend the trip
 - The current 8th graders, or rising 9th graders will not have the option to attend
 - The students will read the text and they will be able to discuss it during Magic Block with the students would are interested in going on the trip
- Jennifer Schaeffner requests a more detailed breakdown of the trip
 - Specifically the price point of \$4200 per student
 - It may become exclusionary for those students who are unable to afford it
 - Ms. Blomberg references the opportunities that they have for fundraising and financial aid
 - They are working with EF Tours which provides each student with their own fundraising page for the trip
 - The Students are able to break the payments down into monthly payments over the course of a year
 - EF also offers scholarships to students
 - Sarah Fox points out the differences in laws in other countries specifically referencing drinking age as an example and asks what they are doing to mitigate this liability
 - The Students sign a “Behavior Contract” as well as the Town “Release of liability” prior to the trip
 - They will also be held to the rules of the Marblehead High School Handbook while on the trip

Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Ota and Ms. Schaeffner, All Yes

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passes 4-0

- DECA Club - Ms. Skalaban
 - Ms. Skalaban oversees the DECA Club (International Business Club)
 - Students from the Club will be moving on to the DECA Career Conference and Competition in Boston
 - The Conference will take place between 03/07/24 and 03/09/24
 - 30 Students are competing this year

Motion to approve the DECA overnight field trip for the dates of 03/07/24-03/09/24

Moved by Mr. Ota Seconded by Ms. Taylor

Opened for Discussion

- Sarah Fox asks what assistance is available to students if they can't afford to attend
- Alison Taylor asks about the sleeping arrangements during overnight trips

Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Ota and Ms. Schaeffner, All Yes

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passes 4-0

c. Marblehead High School Program of Studies Changes (vote)

- This agenda item has been postponed to a future School Committee Meeting

d. Director of Finance and Operations Position Approval (vote)

- Dr. McGuinness recommends position title change from "Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations" to "Director of Finance and Operations"
- Due to Michelle's additional licensures the position was modified to an Assistant Superintendent Position
 - Michelle points out that we will likely be able to attract more candidates for the position if it is changed back to a "Director" role
- Alison asks where the additional roles Michelle was taking on as the Assistant Superintendent of Operations and finance will be delegated if we are modifying the role to a Director role
- Sarah Fox asks who will be overseeing the roles of Director of Facilities and Transportation and HR when we change the role
 - Michelle states that the HR Manager will report directly to the Superintendent and Facilities and Transportation will still report to the Director of Operations and Finance
- Sarah asks why if the HR is a manager position it would not fall under the Director of Finance and Operations
- Dr. McGuinness answers that she would also like to turn the HR Manager position into an HR Director position who then would report directly to the Superintendent

Motion to approve the position title of the Director of Finance and Operations

Moved by Mr. Ota Seconded by Ms. Taylor

Opened for Discussion

- Sarah Fox asks what the Salary range will be so they are able to include it in the vote
- Michelle recommends a range of \$120,000-\$150,000

The motion is amended to include approving the Director and Finance Operations position with an associated Salary Range of \$120,000-\$150,000

Moved by Ms. Taylor Seconded by Ms. Fox

Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Ota and Ms. Schaeffner, All Yes

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passes 4-0

e. School Committee Vacancy Update

- Sarah Fox shared that the Selectman voted a little over a week ago to accept the proposal to ask for submittals
- The School Committee has put out a press release
- All Submittals are due by 3:00PM Monday
- They have received 3 submittals so far
- Interviews will be held at Abbott Hall on 02/07/24 a 6:00PM

f. Superintendent Search Process Discussion (vote)

- The School Committee needs to determine which members will sit on the screening committee

Alison Taylor asks for a motion to have Jen Schaeffner and Brian Ota be the School Committee representatives for the Superintendent Search

This motion is not seconded

- Sarah Fox reiterates the policy discussed at the last school committee meeting that states that the School Committee Chair makes the recommendation to them be approved by the Committee
- Sarah Fox recommends that the members should be the School Committee Chair and Vice Chair which is subject to the approval of the School Committee

Sarah Fox asks for a motion to approve the recommendation by the Chair

- Sarah Fox references the portion of the policy that states if they are unable to get a second they will need to wait until they have a fifth member of the School Committee

Seconded by Ms. Schaeffner

Opened up for Discussion

Ms. Fox, Ms. Schaeffner-Yes

Ms. Taylor, Mr. Ota-No

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion does not pass 2-2

g. Subcommittee and Liaison Updates and discussion

- Brian Ota-Safety Committee
 - Brian attended the Superintendent Safety Committee Meeting and it went well
- Sarah Fox-METCO PCO
 - Sarah and Jen attended
 - Caja Johnson, METCO Director, was “excited to come to school today knowing that she finally had engagement from the School Committee
 - The Flag Policy was discussed
- Jennifer Schaeffner-Policy Subcommittee
 - There will be a meeting tomorrow to debrief on the meeting that was had with the students at MHS regarding the Flag and Banner Policy
- Sarah Fox-Director of Finance and Operations Interview Committee
 - Julia Ferreira will be leading the search for the Director of Finance and Operations
 - The Committee is set to convene 02/17/24
 - Sarah Fox would like a representative from Finance and a Representative from Budget to be on the committee and two School Committee members

V. Closing Business

a. New Business-School Committee Announcements and Requests

- Brian Ota asks what is the status of the Special Education RFP
 - Michelle Cresta will be presenting the draft to the School Committee in the next week
- Sarah asks what is the status of the Special Education independent investigation
 - The final report will be completed prior to February Vacation

b. Correspondence

- None

c. Adjournment

Jennifer Schaeffner asks for a motion to adjourn

Moved by Mr. Ota Seconded by Ms. Taylor

Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Ota and Ms. Schaeffner, All Yes

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passes 4-0

Meeting is adjourned at 9:21PM by Ms. Schaeffner

Respectfully Submitted,
Allison McMahon, Secretary
Marblehead School Committee