MASCONOMET REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Budget Sub-Committee Meeting
January 26, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: T. Cooper, Chair, K. Prentakis, D. Casamassima, M Ogden, and Z. Bhuju

MEMBERS ABSENT: C. Miller

OTHERS PRESENT: M. Harvey, Superintendent
J. Sands, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations
P. Bullard, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services

A. **Call to Order** –T. Cooper, Chair, called the Regular Meeting of the Budget Sub -Committee of January 26, 2022 to Order at 5:02pm, in the High School Library. T. Cooper thanked the Department Chairs for attending the meeting and all of their hard work.

B. **Presentation from Department Heads Regarding FY23 Budget** – The following individuals were present: Mary Jo Carabatsos, HS Principal, Stacy Mannheim, John Daileanes, Walter O'Keefe, Irene Duros, Meg Hildebrand, Jill Story, Tammy Fay, Ben Hodges, Sarah Smith, and Jeanne O'Hearn.

Jeanne O'Hearn, World Language Department Chair and ELL Coordinator presented the answers to the questions posed by the SC to the Dept. Chairs.
Answers to Question 1: Advocate for opportunities for students to have a variety of learning experiences; Support for opportunities that help us work towards achieving Vision 2025 by creating interdisciplinary courses, schedule that promotes a culture of learning for everyone at Masco, and consistent common planning time for teachers.

Answers to Question 2: Building relationships requires time to get to know each other and to spend time checking in with each other and large classes make this difficult; Paraprofessionals are needed to allow teachers to spend time focused on individual students and their needs. SEL is important and difficult to do remote or hybrid. Field trips are beneficial team time in the MS and students are happy field trips are coming back.

Answers to Question 4: Grad Alliance is when a student needs to recover credits and this is now being used more frequently for more circumstances. Guided learning is used when students are out for an extended period with a medical reason and want to come back to school but need to catch up to return. These students are pulled out during the school day to get caught up and are reviewed every 2 weeks for progress. Masco has outgrown these, and staff is now researching the next steps. There is a necessity for alternative learning programs for students who are not successful in traditional learning programs.
Z. Bhuju added that the budget for FY23 is trying to address some of these issues.
M. Carabatsos stated that having a bigger variety will only be beneficial as there are more students where traditional learning is not working. There is an increasing need for co-teaching classes especially between content teachers and special education teachers. They need time, thoughtfulness and targeted professional development devoted to these

pairings and to provide students with the support they need. Bodies and time are needed to be successful with increase in number of students who need co-teaching classes. We were moving in this direction prior to the pandemic with Interdisciplinary Teaching and Learning Opportunities.

Answer to Question 3: Co-teaching support and scheduled common planning time; more Paraprofessionals; continuation of digital subscriptions that were added and used by the departments; English needs writing tutors and Math needs tutors as well as the Delta Math Subscription for the HS and IXL in the HS and MS.

SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING

- Funding to support generous MEF grant items
- Examination of freshmen science programming
- Things are starting to need to be replaced in future budgets
- 3d printers will need filament and students are excited about using them.

SOCIAL STUDIES

- Ongoing support for Newsela and online subscriptions once ESSER funding expires
- Continuing to support funding for field trips and transportation costs so as many students can attend as possible.

WORLD LANGUAGE/ELL

- Funding for STAMP proficiency assessments of all 8th graders and all Seniors (senior testing funded by ESSR)
- More SEI PD for core academic teachers
- Scheduled meeting time for ESL teacher and core academic teachers

BUSINESS/COMPUTER SCIENCE

- Credit for Life opportunities for students to take on the life of a 25-year-old professional (balancing a budget, dealing with unexpected events, and everyday expenses)
- DECA has 140 students registered this year with 71 students qualified for state competition after placing in the district competition
- Code.org grades 8-12 are enrolled. This provides consistent programming experience from 8th grade coding up to AP Computer Science Principles and there is no cost currently for students to enroll

ATHLETICS/WELLNESS

- New skills based on lesson plans for mental health
- Headphones for grade 8 health class which is Chromebook dependent
- First aid supplies for grade 7 health
- Coaches' education classes available and memberships for coaches associations

PERFORMING ARTS/VISUAL ARTS

- Maintain digital subscriptions funded through ESSER
- Supporting a Fine Arts graduation requirement and funding to allow students to take a variety of classes

SCHOOL COUNSELING/HEALTH SERVICES

- Mental health is most important
- Grant funded initiatives for current initiatives
- Comprehensive system to have a role in SEL supporting out staff to support students with Tier 2 supports
- Some training for students as well as staff
- PD to identify comprehensive mental health universal screening and how to implement it
- Ruler Program is an SEL foundational event

Support for all of these will result in a systemic change at Masco. Discussion followed regarding SEL and how to implement it in the core classes.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2022, at 6:30pm.

A motion was made by K. Prentakis to approve the 11/15/21 Minutes; it was seconded by M. Ogden and unanimously approved.

MOTION: Approve Minutes
VOTE: 3-0, Motion passed

The Meeting was adjourned by T. Cooper at 7:15pm.

Submitted By: _____ Approved_____
Lynn Viselli, Recording Secretary Date

Per the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, the list of documents that were either distributed to the Masconomet School Committee before the meeting in the packet or at the meeting.

1. Agenda