

Masconomet Regional School Committee
Negotiations Subcommittee Minutes
2/27/24 @ 3:30 PM

Bargaining Session #1 with the Masconomet Teachers Association

Present for the SC Negotiations Subcommittee(SC):

Bill Hodges, Chair, Topsfield
Christine Bolzan, Boxford
Joe McLean, Boxford
Melissa Ogden (via Zoom), Topsfield
Greg Pagnini, Counsel
Michael Harvey, Superintendent
Jeff Sands, Asst. Superintendent for Finance and Operations

Present for the Masconomet Teachers Association (MTA):

Nicko Tzortzis, President MTA
Melissa Stanley, PIC Chair
Lois Afrow
Christian Leblanc
Chris Malio
Brian Mintz
Jared Scarpaci
Eric Blanchet, Massachusetts Teachers Association

After introductions, the SC presented a draft set of ground rules and a Memorandum of Agreement releasing the parties from a previous commitment to submit to training prior to conducting collective bargaining for discussion.

The MTA requested a caucus at 3:50 to discuss the draft ground rules and MOA. The parties returned at 4:21.

The School Committee proposed adding broadcasting the bargaining sessions via Zoom to the ground rules. The MTA proposed the development of an agenda prior to each meeting.

The parties agreed to sign the proposed MOA.

The SC stated its concern that the MTA's proposals were not received in time with the requirements that are stated in the current CBA. The MTA delivered a set of proposals to the SC on February 1st. The CBA requires they are submitted by October 30. The MTA took the position that the SC could seek redress through following the grievance procedures that are outlined in the CBA.

The MTA stated they did not feel items #2-6 were necessary for a set of ground rules and that they would only agree to these items if the SC agreed to honor the February 1 proposal document. The SC asked to caucus at 4:42.

The parties returned from caucus at 4:52. The SC agreed to accept the MTA's February 1 proposals, and to sign the ground rules document with the inclusion of the development of an agenda in advance of each meeting.

The parties agreed to meet again on March 15 @ 2:45 PM, March 26 @ 3:30, and April 30 @ 3:30 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 5:09 PM.