

MASCONOMET REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 11, 2023 – 6:30-7:30 P.M. HS Library **Community Relations Subcommittee Meeting: Meeting Minutes**

- A. Open Community Reflection/Discussion - TOPIC: Community Partnerships - working together to support our schools and our students
 - a. One guest from the community joined the CR meeting, Kathleena Scarpato. Question posed: would CR subcommittee consider holding meetings via Zoom to open up more access to broader community. It can be more convenient for those with busy work schedules or for those who are not feeling well but wanting to be involved from a distance. Kosta - felt in-person is more conducive to topics that require a back and forth dialogue. Subcommittee will consider moving back to zoom or alternating between in-person and zoom meetings. Zille - another thought was to offer a brief 6:15 pm - 6:45 pm CR subcommittee community reflection session (not full business meetings) prior to some of the upcoming larger SC meetings, given that this subcommittee is not scheduled to meet until after budget season.
 - b. Zillie - asked what the status of the Umbrella Mtgs was; Kathleena - Meetings are once per month via Zoom; next mtg 1/26/23; Kathleena reports people are active and engaged, TTC very active, PAC fully involved and actively engaging with faculty advisors. Teacher Appreciation week (May 8-12) - Zillie asked if PAC was involved in this event; Kathleena said PAC had been somewhat less involved in past couple of years, but wanted to get re-involved this year. PAC has been focused upon student activities to help support them in their efforts (social events, senior activities, etc).
- B. Approve [Minutes from 12/07/22](#) - approved by CR subcommittee
- C. Vehicle for identifying trending community topics
 - a. Process for collecting community questions/comments
 - i. Joe - Slido - link for public to submit questions, during mtg voting on which questions they want answered from most popular to least popular; can submit questions to suggest for CR agenda to discuss during sessions before larger meetings, etc.; plans are available that are free for schools, Joe will look further into this; Kosta - what would be the need for that specific platform vs. creating a shared document that community could ask their questions or suggest topics for CR agenda; is the traditional process of sending emails to subcommittee chair sufficient?
 - ii. Timeframe for submitting items to be put on agenda was discussed; Issue raised by Kosta, why does it take 8 days to plan an agenda? Can't we finalize an agenda the Th or F before (not T or W) for the following week?
 - b. Timing in advance of regular SC meetings; committee likes idea of scheduling ½ hour CR subcommittee dialogue/discussion with community members in months of February/March (when we have heavy schedule of other larger SC meetings) (suggested 6:15 -6:45pm); Kathleena suggested we have it in-person but also via

Zoom; 2/15/23 - CR ½ hour mtg before SC mtg to open dialogue about budget; should we schedule a topic focused on Turfs Up project with community?; should we create a regular survey from the committee to solicit public feedback? If so, how often? Quarterly? Once or twice per year? Other potential topics for CR subcommittee community reflection/dialogue: quality and selection of food at Masco - students are complaining, miss options prior to pandemic; M block - should we prioritize soliciting feedback from parents as to how it's going this year, to complement feedback obtained by admin from students?

D. Updates:

- a. Monthly Snacks for PD - luncheon on Dec 20th coordinated by admin for staff development went well; 1/23 no school, admin to coordinate bagels/coffee for staff is being proposed
- b. Holiday Concert - went very well; lunch was brought in, approximately 100 senior citizens attended; student council and Ben Hanchett did great job coordinating this event.
- c. Student Council Collaborations (i.e. Small-Town-Hero-Awards; St. Patrick's Day w COAs); Patti to continue to connect with Ben Hanchett to support this event, which occurs later in spring.
- d. Town communications and/or "coffee" with superintendent (rep from each town) have been initiated; next mtg in Middleton at Richardson's with Mike and reps from Middleton on SC; town reps have also been invited; this is set to occur next Tuesday 1/17/23.

- E. Check in on Community liaisons (e.g. SEPAC, Tri-town Council, Parent Advisory Council, Masco Education Foundation, Councils on Aging); CR invited to 1/26/23 TTC program (review of Behavior At Risk Survey) to be held in small cafe at Masco; will be posted to SC blog tomorrow night.