

MASCONOMET REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SPECIAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

February 9, 2026

MEMBERS' PRESENT: M. Alexander, Middleton, Chair A. Heaphy-Tenney, Topsfield, Vice Chair
T. Currier, Middleton K. Petrone, Middleton
M. Ogden, Topsfield L. MacInnis, Middleton
W. Hodges, Topsfield(zoom) C. Bolzan, Boxford
M. Giberson, Boxford J. McLean, Boxford
J. Horrigan, Boxford

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Heather Galante

- A. **Call to Order** – M. Alexander Chair, called the Special School Committee Meeting of February 9, 2026, to Order at 7:07pm, in the High School Library.
- B. **Superintendent Finalist Interview – Heather Galante** – A. Heaphy-Tenney introduced Heather Galante to the SC and explained the format and process for this evening's interview. Ms. Galante gave a brief introduction and synopsis of her career currently serving as Principal at Bedford High School. She has been working in education for 28 years as a teacher, counselor, dean and principal and took on additional Assistant Superintendent responsibilities in conjunction with her role as a Principal during the 2024-2025 school year. She is looking for a long-term position and Masco appeals to her for many reasons, including it being a regional school district and its commitment to both students and faculty. She reviewed her entry plan if hired.

School Committee members posed interview questions to Ms. Galante. Following is a snapshot of interview topics and responses.

Ms. Galante spoke about the strategic vision and Portrait of Learner. Both students and educators should be engaged in their work to become world learners.

HQIM will ensure alignment with curriculum, instruction, and PD. Graduation requirements across the content areas should be relatable to the real world. She spoke regarding alignment between curriculum, professional development and Strategic Plan.

Ms. Galante spoke regarding data driven instruction and its influences on decision-making. She provided an example of how data has shifted growth of students. Academic excellence is achieved by challenging students and teachers to grow and take risks.

She has had experience in a regional school district. Collaboration within the school district and the Tri-Town are important. She will be available to the different groups and get to know the different communities by attending events in those communities. She believes in operating as a team with the SC.

Ms. Galante is committed to equity and inclusion and serving underserved students. She provided an example of overcoming barriers to implement change regarding “under representation” in higher classes at her current school. She spoke regarding meeting the needs of all students through professional development and educators sharing best practices. Building culture and community is important and accomplished by being open to feedback and being visible in the community.

Budget shortfalls were discussed and how budget decisions are made to address those shortfalls. She discussed her participation in the redevelopment of the track and turf field at Bedford HS. Advocating and prioritizing projects is how she will approach capital projects.

Recruiting and retaining educators and administrators at Masco and evaluation of educators and administrators were both discussion points.

Crisis management and the importance of was discussed as this is something that is dealt with daily. Ms. Galante provided an example of crisis management at her high school.

Discussion followed regarding what success for the Superintendent looks like for each SC member.

Ms. Galante thanked the SC for the opportunity to spend the day at Masco and to speak with them.

T. Currier made a motion to adjourn at 9:05pm, seconded by C. Bolzan and unanimously approved.

MOTION: Adjourn meeting
VOTE: 11-0, Motion Passed.

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