MASCONOMET REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
20 Endicott Road, Boxford MA 01921

Budget Subcommittee Meeting
Central Office Conference Room
October 12, 2021-Minutes

Members Present: Tasha Cooper, Carolyn Miller, Melissa Ogden, Kosta Prentakis
Others Present: Zillie Bhuju, Mike Harvey

1. **Meeting called to order at 4:37**

2. **Discussion about budget process.** Tasha discussed how the overall process would be the same as last year. Kosta asked that starting point be informed by the committee's goals. Carolyn explained that the budget process with the prior superintended allowed for the budget subcommittee to hear some of the administration's ideas prior to creating the budget. Mike explained the superintendent's recommended budget, is just that, and should be unfiltered. Kosta requested that total spending from all sources also be reported; 1 page of grants, 1 page for money coming from taxation and 1 page a combo of the 2. Our goal should be to get fincom feedback earlier in the process as well as get to fincom and selectboard meetings.

3. **Athletic Fees**. Are there different ways to consider the fee calculations? Should remarket the fee calculation tool to explain it is not a budget. This year does not make sense to update the fee calculation tool as it is based on 3-year average and the pandemic has skewed the data that would result in a detriment to families. Discussed updating communications by reviewing existing materials. Discussed the easiest way to reduce fees would be to infuse money into the budget to offset fees with district picking up more cost. Hope the administration considers adding that into their budget but understand the outcome will rely on what the overall budget picture looks like.

4. **Capital planning:** The subcommittee decided that the capital planning process be deferred to next year due to the increased time demands on the administration caused by the pandemic (e.g. Covid testing, the ESSER 3 Grant process, addressing students' post-pandemic needs, etc**.).**

5. **Discussed next steps:** Next meeting proposed to be 11/8 at 5 pm. Will review budget calendar, report back on town meetings, and review athletic fee materials.

6. **Meeting Adjourned at 6:23**