MASCONOMET REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

August 23, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: M. Ogden, Chair, Topsfield
T. Currier, Middleton
W. Hodges, Topsfield
M. Alexander, Middleton
J. Horrigan, Boxford
E. Andrew-Clements, Boxford
J. McLean, Vice Chair, Boxford
D. Casamassima, Middleton
Z. Bhuju, Topsfield
C. Bolzan, Boxford
K. Petrone, Middleton

MEMBERS ABSENT: J. Sands, Asst. Supt. & Chief Procurement Officer
OTHERS PRESENT: M. Harvey, Superintendent, L. Bennett, Asst. Superintendent for Student Services
D. Presser, Field Director MASC, Alicia Mallon, Field Director,MASC

A. Call to Order – M. Ogden, Chair, called the Retreat meeting of the School Committee of August 23, 2023 to order at 5:00 p.m., in the Flint Public Library, Middleton MA.

B. **Introductions** – School Committee members were invited to introduced themselves to the group.

C. **School Committee Roles and Responsibilities: Dorothy Presser-MASC**

D. Presser from MASC gave a presentation to the SC on the Roles and Responsibilities of the School Committee and its' members. This was followed by a question and answer session.

B. Hodges – Inquired about a practice to improve monitoring SC goals.
Masconomet SC should consider goal progress monitoring date throughout the year.
C. Bolzan – Inquired about SC role in identifying grants for district.
Writing and deciding how to use grant steps outside the scope of SC.
M. Alexander – Inquired about how SC monitors the budget.
Encouraged district to consider (school year) quarterly updates on cost centers for any major shifts
Z. Bhuju – Who do constituents send their concerns to
If someone sends an issue which is not within the SC purview, SC does not take on the issue. Instead punt it back to the district person who can field the question.

D. **Review of Past Successes and Presentation of Administration Goals** – M. Harvey presented his Entry Plan Progress Report.

E. Development of School Committee Goals for 2023-2024

The SC broke out into focus groups to develop this years' SC goals.

Individual work	(10 min)
Group work	(23 min)
2 Large Groups	(20 min)

Group Shares
Group #1

- Come with ways to measure communications

- Improve communication with info graphics and media options
- Use senior intern
- Increase transparency with budget resources (simplify website)
- Improve budget process to increase transparency and accountability and garner support for capital plan
- Fund a project manager (as needed)
- Support funding for capital plan
- Work with new leadership to increase trust and address challenges of contract
- Achieve efficient school committee – 2-hour meeting limit
- Develop calendar with topic-based meetings

Group #2

- Improve school committee process
- Complete policy review
- Finalize capital and strategic plan
- Improve educator process
- Support leader retention via budget and policy

Final Discussion / Outcome

- Improve school committee process
- Negotiate a contract that balances accountability with compensation
- Work with MTA leadership to build trust to address challenges in the CBA
- Support the Strategic and Capital Plan through consensus building with member communities

F. Adjourn: Meeting Adjourned at 9:06 p.m.