

MASCONOMET REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

April 27, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Z. Bhujju, Chair, Topsfield T. Cooper, Vice Chair, Middleton
 T. Teleen, Boxford C. Miller, Boxford
 D. Casamassima, Middleton W. Hodges, Topsfield
 J. McLean, Boxford J. Ciampa, Middleton
 M. Ogden, Topsfield K. Prentakis, Middleton

MEMBERS ABSENT: P. Bernhart, Boxford, P. Bullard, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services

OTHERS PRESENT: M. Harvey, Superintendent
 J. Sands, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations

- A. **Call to Order** – Z. Bhujju, Chair, called the regular meeting of the School Committee of April 27, 2022, to order at 7:02pm, in the High School Library.
- B. **Remarks from the Chair** – This is Teacher Appreciation Week. The first Town Meeting and elections is next week. M. Harvey will send an email after the elections regarding sub-committee requests. This is Joe Ciampa's final school committee meeting tonight. Z. Bhujju thanked him for his service and his vision. He was presented with a jacket and certificate of recognition.
- C. **Comments from the Audience** – Trevor Currier, Middleton, presented a handout to the SC of a HS schedule with WIN block. He asked that the Pathways Program be saved and to vote no on the art requirement without a set student schedule.
Joe Ciampa, Middleton, thanked the SC for all of their time and effort put into being on the SC. He is happy other people are running for his seat and he hopes people realize the amount of time and hard work that is involved.
- D. **Student Advisory Board Update** – Stella Nagle informed the SC that Student Government was working community and connection. Students are looking forward to Prom, the school musical etc., which are boosting morale. The outdoor tent has arrived and students appreciate the option to go outside for lunch. Students are confused about the art requirement and the finals schedule and are looking for clarification.
- E. **Washington DC Field Trip** – Rebecca Calzini presented the details of the 8th grade field trip to Washington DC. The 8th grade civics class field trip will be from November 2-5, 2022. The Capital building is open and museums are at capacity again. She is switching tour companies for this field trip. The schedule will remain the same, however deposits will be refundable and payment plans available to families. Insurance is available for cancellation for any reason at a reasonable cost. M. Ogden asked what the students who are not going on this field trip would be doing. Those students will take day trips to Boston. C. Miller made a motion to approve the Washington DC field trip, it was seconded by T. Cooper and unanimously approved.

MOTION: To Approve Washington DC Field Trip
VOTE: 10-0, Motion carried.

- F. **Vision 2025 Showcase-Celebration of Math and Science Teams** – T. Faye presented the Math and Science Academic Teams. 40 students participated, this fosters their love of sciences and fosters community and competition. She reviewed the MS programs, including Life Sciences which is working with Civics class; the Art Department is working with endangered species using narratives and drawing the species. 8th grade STEM class is gathering weather data. The HS STEM is using 3D printers to help build rockets. The art component is paired with anatomy and physiology in understanding of the human body by drawing tissues. Forensics is using math and science with analyzing blood spatter. The Masco Science Team competed online; the Science Olympics were held and there were top 10 finishes. The team came in first place in the North Shore Science League.
- G. **Middle School Principal's Report** – P. McManus informed the SC that MCAS testing is continuing, however make-ups for missed MCAS are a challenge. Spirit week was held the week before vacation. 6th and 7th grade transition is underway. Spring events are scheduled including the school musical, 8th grade trip, 7th grade field day, and spring dance and moving up ceremony.
- H. **FY21 Annual Audit Report** – J. Giusti and L. Zywiak provided the results of the FY21 Annual Audit. The Table of Contents was reviewed, including the new section “Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards”. This section was added because over \$750,000 of federal expenditures occurred. T. Giusti reviewed the opinion section of the report which stated “In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Masconomet Regional School District, as of June 20, 2021 and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.”
- I. **ESSER III Grant Review** – Summary of the original proposals v revised proposals. Only 2 positions were added to the Academic Success Center because the number of students decreased in both the school year and summer academy. HS and MS Adjustment Counselors were added because training outreach was not what was expected. All 4 positions are grant funded for 2 years. The 2 operational positions MPFT and IT Tech were also grant funded for 2 years. Under the ESSER Grant we are able to use the funds to maintain pre-Covid staffing levels. J. McLean stated that people are complaining about programming not being available, but there is a decrease in numbers for the summer academy. Getting students to sign up and staff to work has been a challenge. K. Prentakis expressed his concern with now having positions for additions to future budgets. Discussion followed regarding future long terms needs and critical needs right now. C. Miller added that the cost of Chromebooks is a concern and agrees we do not want to leave money on the table. J. Sands added that the MS has 6 Chromebook carts per team and these are to replace them in 2 years. Z. Bhuju stated the academic support system has been running and there may not be as much staffing in two years as is needed now. Social-Emotional training is ongoing for staff as levels of depression are on the rise.
- J. **Vote to Set the Last Day of School for Students at June 23, 2022** – It was noted that there is no school June 20, 2022. A motion was made by T. Cooper to approve June 23, 2022 as the last day of school with a release time of 10:30am; it was seconded by T. Teleen and unanimously approved.

MOTION: Vote to approve last day of school

VOTE: 10-0, Motion carried

- K. **Policy Revisions and Review** – Melissa Ogden presented Policy IKF Graduation Requirements adding visual or performing arts requirement beginning with Class of 2026 and students will be required to take 5 credits. K. Prentakis stated the art requirement doesn't make sense when WIN block can be used as a student break and there is less need for a study. W. Hodges asked if other schools have this requirement and asked if this will impact the ranking of Masco. Most other schools similar to Masco do have an art requirement. J. McLean added that students who are in the school musical and drama club cannot get the art credit because there is a fee involved.

A motion was made by W. Hodges to approve Policy IKF; it was seconded by M. Ogden and approved by a 8-2 vote with K. Prentakis and D. Casamassima opposed.

MOTION: Approve Policy IKF
VOTE: 8-2, Motion carried.

Section B -Policy BGB Policy Adoption. Change majority vote at 2 consecutive meetings or unanimous vote. The MASC version changed to 1 majority vote at 1 meeting. SC discussed keeping it the way it was.

A motion was made by C. Miller to reject that amendment for Policy BGB and delete last paragraph; it was seconded by W. Hodges and unanimously approved.

MOTION: Reject Amendment for Policy BGB
VOTE: 10-0, Motion carried.

Policy BEDD and Policy BEDH both reference Chairman, not Chair. Make changes in both policies as housekeeping. A motion was made by T. Cooper to accept the Policies not excluded with the changes from Chairman to Chair; it was seconded by C. Miller and approved with J. McLean and W. Hodges abstaining.

MOTION: Approve Policies not excluded and change Chairman to Chair
VOTE: 8-0, Motion carried. J. McLean and W. Hodges abstaining

- L. **Superintendent's Update** – M. Harvey asked residents to get out to their Town Meeting and vote.

- M. **Approve School Resource Officer Intermunicipal Agreement** – J. Sands reviewed the partial funding for the SRO. He drafted a one year agreement for FY22 and FY23 and the liaisons helped distribute the agreement. All 3 towns have signed it. A motion was made by C. Miller to approve the FY22 and 23 SRO IMA and the Chair to sign on behalf of the School Committee; it was seconded by M. Ogden and unanimously approved.

MOTION: Approve FY22 and 23 SRO IMA
VOTE: 10-0, Motion carried

- N. **Sub-Committee Reports**

Community Relations- Nothing new.

Budget – Nothing new.

Anti-Racism – Nothing new

Policy – Nothing new.

Negotiations – Nothing new.

Liaison – K. Prentakis informed the SC that Middleton Warrant was sent out and Town Meeting is scheduled for May 10th.

C. Miller informed the SC that the Boxford Warrant is also out.

O. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of April 6, 2022 Meeting Minutes
2. Warrants of \$1,657,861.92 (12) signed since April 6, 2022.

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda by T. Cooper, seconded by T. Teleen and unanimously approved.

MOTION: Approve Consent Agenda

VOTE: 10-0, Motion Carried

Meeting was adjourned at 9:53pm by Z. Bhuj

Submitted By: _____
Lynn Viselli, Recording Secretary

Approved _____
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
2. Washington DC Field Trip Packet
3. Vision 2025 Showcase- Science
4. MS Principal's Report
5. FY21 Annual Audit Report
6. ESSER Grant Review
7. Policy Updates
8. Superintendent Update
9. SRO IMA
10. Consent Agenda