



Mt. Greylock Regional School District

School Committee Open Session Minutes

Date: October 22nd, 2020

Start: 6:03 PM

Adjourn: 8:14 PM

Location:

Remote via Zoom

*Per Governor Baker's order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A sec. 20, the public will not be allowed to physically access this School Committee meeting.

In Attendance:

Committee Members:	Also Present:
C. Conry, Chair J. Art C. Greene S. Miller A. Terranova A. Carter <u>Absent:</u>	Robert Putnam, Interim Superintendent Jason McCandless, Incoming Superintendent Joe Bergeron, Business Administrator Nolan Pratt, Principal - LES Jake Schutz, Principal - MGRS Kristen Thompson, Principal - WES Joelle Brookner, Director of Curriculum & Instruction Elea Kaatz, Director of Academic Technology Patrick Priester, Acting Director of Pupil Services

Item	Comments	Motion	Second	Vote
I. Call to Order	Meeting called to order by C. Conry at 6:03 PM			
II. Mission	MISSION: At Mount Greylock Regional School District, our mission is to create a community of learners working together in a safe and challenging learning environment that encourages restorative based processes, respect, inclusive diversity, courtesy, integrity and responsibility through high expectations and cooperation resulting in life-long learning and personal growth.			
III. Principal Updates	A. School Improvement Plans - LES - Principal Pratt shared a slideshow of LES' four current goals: I - Continue to improve technological curriculum and pedagogy; II - Social emotional curriculum related to COVID-19; III - Anti-racist curriculum; IV - Data driven goal.			



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	<p>WES - Principal Thompson shared a draft of WES' current goals for the year, drafted from last year's committee: I - Student support; II - Creating a respectful, inclusive community; III - Curriculum; IV - Technology in the classroom.</p> <p>MGRS - Principal Schutz shared the goals for MGRS: I - Ensuring 9th grade meets math standards; II - Ensure a respectful, inclusive school environment; III - Explore potential new opportunities for arts education; IV - Expand social emotional wellness; V - Develop skills to better utilize data.</p> <p>B. Homeschool Numbers - Dr. Putnam shared the current homeschool numbers for the district, which has LES at 13, WES at 27, and MGRS at 19. He compared the numbers to previous years.</p>			
<p>IV. Special Education / ELL / Title I Updates by Director of Pupil Services</p>	<p>Patrick Priester shared his presentation which included special education enrollment numbers and percentages. He also presented data on ELL services, Title 1, and special education staffing for the district. C. Greene asked about the impact of COVID-19. Mr. Priester said that finding substitutes and the cohort model has made it difficult this year.</p>			
<p>V. School Reopening Report</p>	<p>Joelle Brookner and Elea Kaatz co-presented preliminary results from a community survey regarding our school year opening, which polled students, parents, and faculty/staff. The results appeared to be mostly positive for the district.</p>			
<p>VI. Public Comment</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. C. Conry read an email from Judith Reichert of Williamstown, related to the turf field debate, which urged the committee not to rush to a decision and that real grass would probably be safer to the environment. 2. C. Conry read an email from Wendy Penner of Williamstown which expressed her concerns of a rushed vote to move forward with a turf field bid and no plan to advance a natural grass field bid in play, especially when a new school committee will need to continue this process shortly. 3. C. Conry read an email from Marc McDermott of Williamstown. He supported any type of field progressing and expressed concerns that the continuous delays prevent any usage of a field for the community. 			
<p>VII. MGRS MSBA Building Project signing authority (VOTE)</p>	<p>J. Bergeron explained that with Regina DiLego's committee resignation, they will need to reassign a signing authority for the District. He recommended having the Superintendent take over the signing authority for the time being.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Greene</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Art</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6-0-0</p>



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	<p>MOTION to approve the recommendation of the Business Administrator to appoint the Superintendent as the signing authority by C. Greene, seconded by J. Art</p>			
<p>VIII. MGRS Capital Gift Use</p>	<p>A. Report and discussion on field-related value engineering and bid options -</p> <p>J. Bergeron presented updates from Perkins Eastman and Travers on potential bids to the district. C. Greene suggested a possible survey on the turf field. J. Art supported waiting on a decision instead of pushing something through. A. Terranova disagreed and said it is the job of the committee to make these decisions and go forward, with artificial turf. C. Conry thought a climate survey would be valuable to let many people have a voice. C. Greene said percentages of community support should be incorporated. A. Carter didn't feel like "rushed" was the right word for the situation, but that a decision should be made with the committee who had done the research. She worried that a survey may be based on incorrect information floating around the community. S. Miller reiterated all the work and research the committee has done for the past years on the issue and urged a vote for next week. The committee also discussed differences of community perception regarding public trust and how there are various opinions of the committee's handling of the turf issue. Dr. Putnam explained the copious amounts work that Mr. Bergeron has been currently putting into the project.</p> <p>B. Discussion and possible vote on reserving a portion of the gift for MGRS renewal fund -</p> <p>C. Conry said there was a recommendation to set aside 1.5 million dollars of the Capital Gift for infrastructure, but it's never been voted by the committee. S. Miller said some of the money has already been used for different projects, one being the MGRS boiler. A. Terranova explained where the 1.5 million figure came from, and suggested putting this to rest. C. Greene thought it would be helpful to take a vote on what portion they should set aside. J. Art suggested letting this issue roll over to the new committee. A. Terranova said he was not in favor of a limit to the endowment. No vote will occur at this time.</p> <p>C. Discussion and possible vote to move field project to detailed design -</p> <p>As there is no design yet, a vote will not happen at this time.</p>			
<p>IX. Other Business not anticipated by the Chair within 48 hours of meeting</p>	<p>C. Greene offered thanks to A. Terranova, J. Art, and A. Carter for their years of service on the committee and their hard work. She also thanked Dr. Putnam for stepping in and guiding the schools and for Dr. McCandless for joining some meetings. S. Miller expressed his thanks as well.</p>			
<p>X. Motion to Adjourn</p>	<p>MOTION to adjourn by A. Terranova, seconded by S. Miller</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM</p>	<p>Terranova</p>	<p>Miller</p>	<p>6-0-0</p>



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Respectfully Submitted,
Eli Phillips
Mount Greylock RSD Minutes Recorder

Approved 12.08.20