



Mt. Greylock Regional School District

School Committee Open Session Minutes

Date: Thursday, February 11th, 2021

Start: 6:00 PM

Adjourn: 9:22 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:
Julia Bowen Christina Conry José Constantine Curtis Elfenbein Carrie Greene Michelle Johnson Steven Miller <u>Absent:</u>	Dr. Jason P. McCandless, Superintendent Joe Bergeron, Business Administrator Charlie McWeeny, MGRS School Council Lindsey von Holtz, MGRS Athletic Director Jake Schutz, Principal MGRS Nolan Pratt, Principal LES Kristen Thompson, Principal WES Stephanie Boyd, Williamstown Planning Board

Item	Comments	Motion	Second	Vote
I. Call to Order	Meeting called to order by C. Conry at 6:00 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. Public Comment	<p>A. C. Conry read an email from the Mt. Greylock Multicultural Student Union. The letter urged the school district to take immediate, swift action regarding the racist Zoom incident at Mt. Greylock Regional School and stated that acts of racial hate will not be tolerated in the community.</p> <p>B. J. Bowen read an email from Carrie Waara of Williamstown expressing sadness and dismay about the Zoom racist incident and her hopes that diversity and inclusion will begin at the high school level.</p>			



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	<p>C. C. Conry read an email from Hugh Guilderson and Arlene Kirsch of Williamstown. They shared their support as allies in preventing racism and acts of hatred in the community. They asked the district to hire an employee with experience in DEI.</p> <p>D. C. Elfenbein read an email from Molly Polk and Peter Low of Williamstown. They wrote in support of the GMSU and asked for training for staff to avoid future incidents.</p> <p>E. A. Skinner joined the meeting to speak on the marijuana cultivation bylaws and the effects at the high school. He noted the early-fall smell and security are issues that should be taken into account and had a detailed information packet available to be read.</p>			
<p>IV. Approval of Minutes (VOTE)</p>	<p>A. January 14th, 2021 - MOTION to approve January 14th, 2021 minutes by C. Elfenbein, seconded by M. Johnson</p> <p>Bowen, AYE; Conry, AYE; Constantine, AYE; Elfenbein, AYE; Greene, AYE; Johnson, AYE; Miller, AYE</p> <p>C. Greene updated the Finance Subcommittee portion indicating that the Motion was passed in the subcommittee meeting that day and therefore wasn't indicated in the full meeting.</p>	<p>Elfenbein</p>	<p>Johnson</p>	<p>7-0-0</p>
	<p>B. January 16th, 2021: MASC Workshop - MOTION to approve January 16th, 2021 minutes by J. Bowen, seconded by J. Constantine</p> <p>Bowen, AYE; Conry, AYE; Constantine, AYE; Elfenbein, AYE; Greene, AYE; Johnson, AYE; Miller, AYE</p>	<p>Bowen</p>	<p>Constantine</p>	<p>7-0-0</p>
	<p>C. January 28th, 2021 - MOTION to approve January 28th, 2021 minutes by J. Bowen, seconded by C. Elfenbein</p> <p>Bowen, AYE; Conry, AYE; Constantine, AYE; Elfenbein, AYE; Greene, AYE; Johnson, AYE; Miller, AYE</p>	<p>Bowen</p>	<p>Elfenbein</p>	<p>7-0-0</p>



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	M. Johnson noted that the minutes should reflect a roll-call vote.			
V. Student Update: Charlie McWeeny, MGRS School Council	Mt. Greylock student Charlie McWeeny presented a message from the Student Council regarding the racist Zoom incident that occurred at the high school. He spoke on how the Council is addressing ways to combat racism in the area through various meetings and methods. He updated the committee about other things the Council is currently doing and thanked the administration for their continued support and handling of the incident and school year so far.			
VI. Athletic Director Updates (VOTE)	Lindsey von Holtz shared updates on various athletic happenings, which included the fall sports practice-only model and the current nordic ski and basketball seasons. She presented information on the Fall II sports as well as the spring sports. Concern was presented about how sports must be seen as safe activities that follow the COVID guidelines and protocols. MOTION to pre-approve Fall II sports with the understanding that discretion will be used to maintain safety by C. Greene, seconded by S. Miller Bowen, AYE; Conry, AYE; Constantine, AYE; Elfenbein, AYE; Greene, AYE; Johnson, AYE; Miller, AYE	Greene	Miller	7-0-0
VII. Principal Updates	J. Schutz gave updates regarding the start of the second semester, continuing interventions for students, the development of the anticipated course of study for next year, and addressed the racist Zoom bomb incident. Discussions were held about new resources for all schools in the field of diversity and combating racial incidents and commendations about the handling of this specific incident were given to the MGRS administration. Questions were asked regarding the support of the victim and a follow-up with the committee. A. MGRS Engineering Class Presentation - The MGRS Engineering class presented a slideshow solar proposal for the school. The detailed presentation included research, data, and costs. The committee asked several questions of the students and offered advice.			
VIII. Business Administrator Updates	A. Lanesborough Elementary School Council FY22 Budget Priorities - Nolan Pratt of LES presented the budget priorities for FY22, which included maintaining class sections, tech management, hiring a social worker, ELA curriculum, and instructional tech.			



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	<p>B. Williamstown Elementary School Council FY22 Budget Priorities - Kristen Thompson of WES presented the budget priorities for FY22. The budget included staffing for grade 6, ELA curriculum, getting a math universal screener, a grade-level teacher leading program, and supporting social-emotional needs by fostering diversity, inclusion, and equity.</p>			
<p>IX. Superintendent Updates</p>	<p>B. Marijuana Cultivation Bylaws - Stephanie Boyd of Williamstown presented a draft of the town's marijuana cultivation bylaws in regards to the Mt. Greylock Regional School. Upon the conclusion of the detailed presentation, several committee members had questions related to the smell, the air quality, potential triggers in students and addicts, and the long-term effects and research on the issue.</p>			
	<p>A. Racist Incident via Zoom at MGRS on January 21st, 2021 - Dr. McCandless read a message he had previously written regarding the incident on Zoom and the follow-up steps the District and administration is taking upon conclusion of the incident.</p>			
	<p>C. COVID Pooled Testing Update - Joe Bergeron explained the pooled testing the district will begin at all schools for all staff or students who volunteer for the program. J. Constantine asked how pooled testing will be regarded in terms of the new committee who decides whether the district is remote or hybrid, which will be considered.</p>			
<p>X. Finance Subcommittee Update</p>	<p>C. Greene spoke about reviewing financial implications on the FY22 budget for the elementary schools. The new budget hearing will be March 11th, 2021. The subcommittee also spoke briefly on the field issue and agreed to wait until after budget season to present it to the committee.</p>			
<p>XI. Upcoming Meetings</p>	<p>A. February 25th, 2021 - Finance Subcommittee, 4 PM</p> <p>B. February 25th, 2021 - School Committee, 6 PM</p> <p>C. March 11th, 2021 - Public Budget Hearing and School Committee Meeting, 6 PM - J. Bowen asked about having the two meetings on the same night and if it would result in an extra-long meeting. C. Greene said they had always happened conjointly and the public budget hearing usually lasts no longer than an hour.</p>			
<p>XII. Other business not anticipated by the Chair within 48 hours of meeting</p>	<p>No other business to report.</p>			
<p>XIII. Motion to Adjourn</p>	<p>MOTION to Adjourn by M. Johnson, seconded by C. Elfenbein.</p> <p>Bowen, AYE; Conry, AYE; Constantine, AYE; Elfenbein, AYE; Greene, AYE; Johnson, AYE; Miller, AYE</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 9:22 PM.</p>	<p>Johnson</p>	<p>Elfenbein</p>	<p>7-0-0</p>



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Respectfully Submitted,
Eli Phillips
Mount Greylock Minutes Recorder

Meeting documents:

-  00 School Committee Agenda 02.11.21 REVISED
-  03 1. Public Comment Letter from Greylock Multicultural Student Union
-  03 2. Public Comment C. Waara
-  03 3. Public Comment A. Kirsch and H. Guilderson
-  03 4. Public Comment M. Polk and P. Low
-  04A School Committee 01.14.21 meeting minutes DRAFT
-  04B 2021_01_16 MtG MASC Workshop minutes DRAFT
-  04C 2021_01_28 MtG Special Session DRAFT
-  08A LES Preliminary Budget Presentation
-  09B Cannabis Bylaw Proposal
-  09B Williamstown Cannabis Bylaw FAQ 2021
-  09B Draft Cannabis Bylaw Presentation by S. Boyd

Approved 2.25.21