



# Mt. Greylock Regional School District

## School Committee Open Session Minutes

**Date:** Thursday, June 10th, 2021

**Start:** 6:00 PM

**Adjourn:** 10:28 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:**

<b>Committee Members:</b>	<b>Also Present:</b>
Julia Bowen Christina Conry José Constantine Curtis Elfenbein Carrie Greene Steven Miller  <b><u>Absent:</u></b> Ursula Maloy	Dr. Jason P. McCandless, Superintendent Andrea Malone, MG School Council Nolan Pratt, Principal of LES Cindy Sheehy, Principal of WES Patrick Priester, Acting Director of Pupil Services Joe Bergeron, Business Administrator

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<b>Item</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Motion</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Vote</b>
<b>I. Call to Order</b>	Meeting called to order by C. Conry at 6:00 PM			
<b>II. Mission</b>	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.			
<b>III. Public Comment</b>	No public comment was submitted.			



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<b>IV. Student Spotlight - Charlie McWeeny (MGRS)</b>	Charlie thanked the school committee for their support by listening to the student body at Mt. Greylock. He presented some thoughts about next year and shared a quote about the importance of public education in the town. Molly Sullivan, the student liaison for next year, introduced herself to the committee and shared some facts about herself.			
<b>V. Approval of Minutes (VOTE)</b>	<b>A. May 13, 2021 - Motion to approve the minutes from May 13, 2021 by C. Elfenbein, seconded by J. Bowen.</b>  J. Bowen clarified that the cell tower was adjacent to the school grounds, not on them.  C. Greene corrected the spelling of two students.  C. Conry clarified that her suggestion was to include the references to documents and not the full documents.  <b>Bowen, AYE; Conry, AYE; Constantine, AYE; Elfenbein, AYE; Greene, AYE; Miller, AYE</b>	Elfenbein	Bowen	6-0-0
	<b>B. May 21, 2021 - Motion to approve the minutes from May 21, 2021 by J. Bowen, seconded by C. Elfenbein</b>  J. Bowen was wondering about the structure of the minutes for this meeting and C. Conry suggested bringing this issue into play later in the meeting.  <b>Bowen, AYE; Conry, AYE; Constantine, AYE; Elfenbein, AYE; Greene, AYE; Miller, AYE</b>	Bowen	Elfenbein	6-0-0
<b>VI. Principal Updates</b>	<b>A. MGRS -</b> Andrea Malone of the Mt. Greylock School Council presented five goals for next year at Mt. Greylock. These goals included hiring a school social worker, expanding data analysis, academics, DEI goals, and the arts.			



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	<p><b>B. LES</b> - Nolan Pratt presented three goals for the Lanesborough Elementary school. The first is to create more access to social-emotional and DEI learning, then implement a multi-tiered support system for loss-of-learning, and finally develop community partnership.</p>			
	<p><b>C. WES</b> - Cindy Sheehy gave shoutouts to the staff who <del>made</del> helped the school survive in positive ways. She explained about Kindergarten registration, and the next-year goals: creating an <del>all</del>-inclusive, diverse school community, curriculum and assessment, and technology.</p>			
<p><b>VII. Acting Director of Pupil Services update regarding state report on Tiered Focus Monitoring Review</b></p>	<p>Dr. McCandless thanked Patrick Priester and Suzy Gigliotti for their organization and preparedness for DESE and this Review. Patrick Priester presented the findings which noted no corrective actions required and were found in compliance. Steven Miller asked several questions including data from past years and how the community gets communication.</p>			
<p><b>VIII. Policy Subcommittee Update (VOTE)</b></p>	<p><b>A. Policy EBCFA - Face Coverings</b> - José Constantine introduced the five items from the agenda. Joe Bergeron shared DESE's guidelines re: face coverings for adults outdoors and to update our policy to reflect the change.</p> <p><b>MOTION to approve suggested amendments to the policy by J. Bowen, seconded by S. Miller.</b></p> <p><b>Bowen, AYE; Conry, AYE; Constantine, AYE; Elfenbein, AYE; Greene, AYE; Miller, AYE</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Bowen</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Miller</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6-0-0</p>
	<p><b>B. Policy BEDB - Agenda Format <i>first read</i></b> - José Constantine did a first read of amendments to the Agenda Format. A discussion commenced regarding adding agenda items and the appropriate persons and steps to allow items to come forward.</p>			
	<p><b>C. Policy BEDG - Minutes <i>first read</i></b> - Curtis Elfenbein shared a first read of amendments to the Minutes policy which focused on the subcommittees. The discussion following focused on how to present minutes so <del>it</del> they ensure detail but keeping <del>it</del> them straight forward. Recording subcommittee meetings was addressed and <del>tabled</del> postponed for a later date.</p>			
	<p><b>D. Policy BHE - Use of Electronic Messaging by School Committee Members <i>first read</i></b> - Julia Bowen read an updated policy with a proposed change in copying the District Office on all communications.</p>			



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	<p><b>E. Policy BCA - Member Ethics / Protocols Update discussion</b> - A proposed retreat was spoken of in order to discuss ethics and protocols for the School Committee.</p>			
<p><b>IX. Finance Subcommittee Update</b></p>	<p>Carrie Greene gave updates on the finance subcommittee including long-range campus planning for the district.</p>			
<p><b>X. Business Administrator Update</b></p>	<p><b>A. Bid process update for ADA/safety/Title IX fields project</b> - Joe Bergeron stated that they have finalized the project documents and timeline for the project and explained the steps going forward.</p> <p><b>B. Financial Assistant Update</b> - Mr. Bergeron gave updates on staffing in the district regarding the retiring of Brenda Rondeau, who will be replaced by Reena Sharma as the payroll and benefits administrator, and a returning employee, Anne Donati, who will take over as the payables administrator.</p>			
<p><b>XI. Appoint District Treasurer/Assistant Treasurer (VOTE)</b></p>	<p><b>MOTION to appoint Donna Narey as the District Treasurer and Reena Sharma as the Assistant Treasurer by C. Conry, seconded by J. Bowen</b></p> <p><b>Bowen, AYE; Conry, AYE; Constantine, AYE; Elfenbein, AYE; Greene, AYE; Miller, AYE</b></p>	<p>Conry</p>	<p>Bowen</p>	<p>6-0-0</p>
<p><b>XII. Authorization to Borrow (VOTE)</b></p>	<p><b>MOTION to authorize the District Treasurer and/or the Assistant Treasurer under the provisions of the General Laws, Chapter 70(1), Section 16(g) as amended by Chapter 134 of the Acts of 1972 with the approval of the Chair of the School Committee to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of revenue for the fiscal year beginning July 1st, 2021 and to issue a note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with the general law by C. Conry, seconded by C. Greene</b></p> <p><b>Bowen, AYE; Conry, AYE; Constantine, AYE; Elfenbein, AYE; Greene, AYE; Miller, AYE</b></p>	<p>Conry</p>	<p>Greene</p>	<p>6-0-0</p>



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<b>XIII. Superintendent Report</b>	<b>School Choice &amp; Enrollment (not on agenda)</b> - Dr. McCandless presented his slideshow detailing enrollment numbers for the 2021-2022 school year as well as the number of School Choice slots that will be open and how these decisions were made.			
	<b>B. FY22 Staffing Update</b> - Dr. McCandless gave updates regarding the Director of Pupil Services position and the interview process. Dr. McCandless thanked the towns for the approval of the budgets. He thanked Joe Bergeron and his team for their efforts. He thanked many other folks in the school community for all the work completed this year.			
	<b>A. Recognition of Retirees</b> - Dr. McCandless recognized several retirees in the District at the conclusion of the current school year.			
<b>XIV. Motion to move into Executive Session</b>	<b>Motion to move into Executive Session with intent to return to Open Session pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2) and 21(a)(3) to conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel and to conduct a strategy session with respect to collective bargaining (MGEA, all units) by C. Greene, seconded by J. Bowen</b>  <b>Bowen, AYE; Conry, AYE; Constantine, AYE; Elfenbein, AYE; Miller, AYE; Greene, AYE</b>  The Committee moved into executive session at 9:29 PM. The Committee returned to Open Session at 10:13 PM.	Greene	Bowen	6-0-0
<b>XV. Nonunion Personnel Unused Vacation Discussion</b>	<b>MOTION to authorize the Superintendent to work with nonunion personnel to resolve the unused vacation time for the period of 2020-2021 school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic by C. Conry, seconded by C. Greene</b>  J. Bowen wanted to thank the employees for the sacrifices they made for the benefit of the children this year.	Conry	Greene	6-0-0



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	<b>Bowen, AYE; Conry, AYE; Constantine, AYE; Elfenbein, AYE; Greene, AYE; Miller, AYE</b>			
<b>XVI. Upcoming Meetings</b>	<b>A. Finance Subcommittee Meeting, June 17th, 2021 at 4 PM</b>			
	<b>B. Tentative School Committee Meeting, July 15, 2021 at 6 PM</b> - Special Session may occur on July 1st for the field documents. There may be a second Special Session added as well in the future.			
	<b>C. Anticipated August School Committee Meeting, August 12, 2021 at 6 PM</b>			
	<b>D. Discussion of Dates for Potential August Workshops</b> - The committee discussed plans for potential workshops and what they should entail. The committee decided to schedule just one workshop for now during the third week in August.			
<b>XVII. Other business not anticipated by the Chair within 48 hours of meeting</b>	A discussion about gifts for the school committee commenced and the appropriate policies for receiving them.			
<b>XVIII. Motion to Adjourn</b>	<b>MOTION to adjourn by C. Elfenbein, seconded by J. Bowen</b>  <b>Bowen, AYE; Conry, AYE; Constantine, AYE; Elfenbein, AYE; Greene, AYE; Miller, AYE</b>  The meeting was adjourned at 10:28 PM.	Elfenbein	Bowen	6-0-0

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Eli Phillips  
 Mount Greylock Minutes Recorder

Approved with edits 7.15.21