



Mt. Greylock Regional School District

School Committee Open Session Minutes

Date: February 14, 2019

Start: 6:01 PM

Adjourn: 9:25 PM

Location:

MGRS Meeting Room A109

1781 Cold Spring Road Williamstown, MA 01267

In Attendance:

| Committee Members: | Also Present: |
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| Joe Bergeron, Chair Regina DiLego, Vice-Chair Steve Miller, Secretary Dan Caplinger Christina Conry Al Terranova <u>Absent:</u> Alison Carter | Kimberley Grady, Superintendent Michelle Johnson, Lanesborough Resident for Public Comment Mary MacDonald, Principal MGRS Martha Wiley, Principal LES Joelle Brookner, Principal WES Lindsey Von Holtz, Dir. Of Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities Ella Dudley, Student Representative |

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| Item | Comments | Motion | Second | Vote |
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| Call to Order | Open Session called to Order by J. Bergeron at 6:01 PM | | | |
| Public Comment | Michelle Johnson asked for a financial explanation regarding the creation of new Admin positions. Regarding school choice, she is hoping that the school choice slots opened are done equitably. M. Johnson also gave an opinion regarding the changes that took place at MGRS regarding the baseball program. | | | |
| Approval of Minutes | January 10, 2019: January 31, 2019 Motion to approve: Discussion: Typo on Jan. 31 – double ‘the’ on the second page. | Miller | DiLego | 6-0-0 |
| Athletic Director Update | L Von Holtz explained recent changes that took place to the athletics programming at MGRS. Ms. Von Holtz reviewed a complete listing of athletic opportunities at MGRS which is distributed each year in August. | | | |
| Overnight Field Trip Request | L. von Holtz gave the school committee an update on two overnight field trip requests. One is for wrestling with three students and two coaches. 1 student from Hoosac Valley and 2 students from MGRS. MOTION I to accept the request. Discussion: None. L. von Holtz gave details regarding two requests for two different overnight trip | Motion I Terranova Motion II Miller | Conry Conry | 6-0-0 6-0-0 |



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| | requests for the Lego Robotics club to take part in a tournament in Danbury, CT. MOTION II to accept Miller/Conry 6-0-0. | | | |
| Report from the Student Representative | Ella Dudley, Student Representative updated the committee. The student council has completed the hygiene kits that were discussed at a previous meeting. The student council will be holding a school-wide food drive after February break. Student Council fundraising will be taking shape in order to hold a ping pong tournament and/or Mario Kart Tournament. Recently students went to Rep Neal’s office to urge him to support the Green New Deal legislation. | | | |
| Report from the Business Manager | <p>FY19 Line Item Transfer: C. Desjardins gave the school committee updates regarding line item transfers that require school committee approval. The Finance Subcommittee has reviewed these transfers and voted to recommend all of these transfers unanimously.</p> <p>Draft FY20 Budget Review: C. Desjardins reviewed a draft FY20 budget provided in the meeting packet. J. Bergeron reviewed the draft budget in detail and outlined some of the changes that have taken place from the FY19 budget and noted some key areas that are still being worked out both, in some cases, through the business office and bookkeeping processes as well as some updates that we are waiting on regarding State budgeting in terms of Rural School and Chapter 70 funding. The school committee has been invited to present a preliminary budget to the town finance committees during the week of March 4th and the public hearing is scheduled for March 14th at 6 PM at MGRS.</p> | | | 6-0-0 |
| Reports from the Principals | The Principals from WES and LES reviewed updated Student handbooks with the school committee. The committee asked that the LES manual be updated regarding reporting suspected child abuse and neglect. The language provided in the packet stated that staff are obligated to report and that should be | <p>MOTION I Terranova</p> <p>MOTION II Miller</p> | <p>Caplinger</p> <p>DiLego</p> | <p>6-0-0</p> <p>6-0-0</p> |



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| | <p>changed to mandated to report. J. Brookner reviewed edits to the WES handbook which includes language regarding attendance procedures, pregnant students, restrictions on vaping and e-cigarettes and the appendix on residency. The WES language will also be updated to change obligated to mandated in regards to reporting suspected child abuse and neglect. R. DiLegio asked that the residency appendix included in the WES handbook also be added to the LES handbook. MOTION I to accept the handbook as presented with the amendments discussed.</p> <p>School Choice Discussion: The committee was presented with the 10/1 SIMS enrollment data as a guide to whether or not to open the District to school choice and, if so, which grade level slots to open. M. MacDonald reviewed projected enrollment numbers for AY2020. Based on those projected numbers, the Principal does not recommend opening choice slots at MGRS. M. Wiley is also not recommending any slots at LES based on current projected enrollment for AY2020. J. Brookner stated that if the committee opens the District to choice, she would recommend choice slots in 1st, 6th, and K. March 5th and 6th both elementary schools will hold Kindergarten registration in order to better determine class size in K – as the number always grows higher than what is on the reported town census reports.</p> <p>Introduction of new elective courses (MGRS): M. MacDonald reviewed the program of studies that will be updated for MGRS within 2-3 weeks and gave information regarding the following elective courses: Shakespeare, Mosaics, and Glass Fusing. M. MacDonald gave information regarding the rationale for making</p> | | | |
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| | <p>the changes to the MGRS program of studies. MOTION II to approve the introduction of the three new electives. Miller/DiLego 7-0-0 Review of Puppets in Education Workshop at LES sponsored by Bedard Bros. Chevrolet: M. Wiley outlined a program entitled Puppets in Education that recently took place at LES and was sponsored by Bedard Bros. ExxonMobil Educational Alliance \$500 to LES to support STEM Education: M. Wiley reviewed a recent grant that was gifted to LES in support of STEM programming from the ExxonMobil Education Alliance in the amount of \$500.00</p> | | | |
| <p>Report from the Superintendent</p> | <p>Strategic Planning Update: K. Grady reviewed the Strategic Planning process thus far for the first Regional Strategic Plan. The Committee has had two meetings. Data is being reviewed from strategic planning surveys. Currently the group is reviewing budgeting information and working on SWOT analyses (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats). Long Term Sub Rate: K. Grady brought a recommendation to the committee for a new regional long term sub rate of \$220 per day for long term teacher substitutes that complete assignments of 10 days or more. MOTION: to approve a long term teacher substitute rate of \$220 per day across the entire District. Discussion: K. Grady explained that the long-term sub rate would apply to long-term substitute teachers who are assigned to cover classes for a particular teacher for a period of ten days or more. S. Miller asked if the pay would be made retroactive if a sub became a long-term sub even if the initial assignment didn't call for it to be long-term. In those, cases retro pay would apply once ten days</p> | <p>Miller</p> | <p>Caplinger</p> | <p>6-0-0</p> |



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| | <p>the District was operating with shared services and the positions was funded for approximately three years; the job description has been updated and modified to take on additional responsibilities than the previous iteration of this position. MOTION: to approve the modified title and job description from Curriculum Instruction and Assessment Coordinator to Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Technology and approve the associated job description. DiLego/Caplinger. Discussion: R. DiLego asked for the newly modified and created positions to be incorporated into the budget planning processes and within that discussion to bring up the ‘trade offs’ and potential restructuring that would need to take place. 6-0-0.</p> <hr/> <p>Organizational Flow Chart: This topic was put on hold.</p> <hr/> <p>Department of Environmental Protection Report: K. Grady reviewed a report from the Department of Environmental Protection regarding a missed water test that took place at MGRS. There is a remedy plan in place. No tests before or after the missed testing date were irregular in regards to the test results. Public notice will be given via iberkshires, the MGRS website and will be e-blasted out to appropriate families.</p> | | | |
| <p>Subcommittee Updates</p> | <p>Policy: Attendance Policy and Procedure: The attendance policy and procedure were brought forward as a point of reference due to the handbooks being an item of discussion this evening. Discussion regarding inconsistencies in the second paragraph in policy JH versus what is listed in the handbooks for what is</p> | | | |



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| | <p>defined as an excused vs. and unexcused absence at MGRS. D. Caplinger will email S. Miller with thoughts on this item and next steps will be taken to address</p> <hr/> <p>Concussion Policy: The procedure that corresponds to the concussion policy needs to be updated and will be brought forward at a future meeting.</p> <p>Finance Committee: Warrants available for review.</p> <p>Capital Gift Phase I: Perkins Eastman is working diligently to get items completed and out to bid.</p> <p>Capital Gift Phase II: D. Caplinger reported that Capital Gift Phase II has had several meetings that have included extensive conversations with landscaping architects with the goal to make changes to the athletic fields and facilities to make a maximum impact for the largest amount of students within a prioritized and phased approach in order to accomplish all goals. The subcommittee would request the full committee to hold a special session to review the work that the subcommittee has done thus far and fully review the options available. J. Bergeron recommended coordinating the meeting to coincide with the budget workshop. Discussion regarding the need to involve and communicate with the town in order to make sure that all potential capital project plans are properly planned out and permitted by the Town.</p> | | | |
| <p>Upcoming Events of Interest</p> | <p>Charting the Course Certificate of Occupancy walkthroughs will take place over February break. Essential staff only will be on site Monday-Wednesday.</p> | | | |



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| <p>Executive Session with Intent to Return to Open Session</p> | <p>Motion to move to Executive Session with intent to return to open session per MGL Chapter 30A Section 21 (a) (2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel. And per Chapter 30A Section 21 (a) (3) to discuss strategy with respect to litigation (Maintenance/Facilities Coordinator) and to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining regarding all units as an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the school committee and the Chair so declares.</p> <p>Unanimous Roll Call Vote. The committee entered Executive Session at 9:01 PM</p> <p>Returned to Open Session at 9:21 PM</p> <p>Potential / tentative settlement agreement regarding Teachers Contract between Mount Greylock Educators Association Teachers and Mount Greylock Regional School Committee: The following was read by S. Miller:</p> <p><i>The (Committee/Association) hereby votes to ratify the terms of the document titled "Agreement Between the Mt. Greylock Regional School Committee and the Mt. Grey lock Regional School District Educators Association for the term of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021 ", as part of this vote to adopt the following:</i></p> <p><i>For the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year, all current terms and conditions from the former Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs) shall remain in full force and effect, with the exception of Article VII - Grievance Procedure which shall be instituted across all schools in the event of a grievance, as well as the salary schedules found in Appendix A and the Mt. Greylock middle/high school stipends found in Appendix B, which shall be retroactively paid to July 1, 2018. Effective July 1, 2019 all terms contained with "Agreement between the Mt. Greylock</i></p> | <p>DiLego</p> | <p>Miller</p> | <p>6-0-0</p> |
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| | <p><i>Regional School Committee and the Mt. Greylock Regional School District Educators Association for the term of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021" shall be in full force and effect. Placement on the Salary Schedules in Appendix A and retroactive payment (which shall apply from day 1 of the 2018-2019 school year), will be in accordance with the document titled "Placement of Mt. Greylock Regional School District Educators Association Bargaining Unit Members for the 2018-2019 school year". Also included as part of this ratification vote is the Memorandum of Agreement concerning retiree health insurance, the terms of which shall be in full force and effect, but shall not be incorporated into the terms of the "Agreement Between the Mt. Greylock Regional School Committee and the Mt. Greylock Regional School District Educators Association for the term of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021". The Parties further agree to continue collective bargaining in good faith regarding all Phase II items (Addendum the TA list), with a mutual goal of the Parties to complete negotiations on these items prior to the end of the 2018-2019 school year. Miller/Terranova Discussion: 6-0-0.</i></p> <p>Motion to adjourn: Terranova/DiLego 6-0-0 9:25 PM</p> | | | |
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Respectfully Submitted,
Jonathan Nopper
Mount Greylock Minutes Recorder