



# Mt. Greylock Regional School District

## Transition Committee Open Session Minutes

**Date:** March 1, 2018

**Start:** 6:00 PM

**Adjourn:** 7:53 PM

**Location:**

Mount Greylock Library

Williamstown, MA

**In Attendance:**

<b>Committee Members:</b>	<b>Also Present:</b>
J. Bergeron D. Caplinger A. Terranova R. DiLego S. Miller (late entry at 6:46 PM) C. Dodig C. Greene  <b>Absent:</b> None	Kim Grady, Interim Superintendent Mary MacDonald, Principal MGRS Joelle Brookner, Principal WES Martin McEvoy, Principal LES

<b>Item</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Motion</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Vote</b>
<b>Meeting Called to Order</b>	Open Session called to Order by J. Bergeron at 6:04 PM.			
<b>Public Comment</b>	None			
<b>Approval Of Minutes</b>	Motion to approve the minutes of February 21, 2018. Discussion:	A. Terranova	C. Greene	5-0-1 Dodig Abstains
<b>Transition Plan Update</b>	K. Grady gave an update to the transition committee regarding the transition plan that is in progress and will be submitted to DESE. The completed plan will be submitted to Chris Lynch at DESE by mid-April.			
<b>Building Project Update</b>	J. Bergeron reviewed the recent decision to push the "move-in" date to the new building back. Based on the new timeline, students/staff will move into the new building in September 2018.			
<b>Subcommittee Creation &amp; Appointments</b>	<b>Curriculum Subcommittee:</b> K. Grady spoke to the need for a curriculum subcommittee as the District continues to align to the prek-12 structure. C. Greene volunteered to take on a role on this subcommittee.			
	<b>MGRS Building Transition Subcommittee:</b> K. Grady gave an update on the proposed "L-shape" building that will house District office and athletic storage. This subcommittee will work to plan for and assist as offices make plans to change			



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	<p>locations. C. Dodig volunteered to take part on this subcommittee. J. Bergeron will reach out to Wendy Penner, and John Skavlem to see if they could take on a role here as well. C. Greene suggested someone from the building committee be asked to serve on this subcommittee.</p> <p>Discussion regarding the potential need to add to the negotiations subcommittee.</p> <p>Slates for these two subcommittees will be voted during the 3/15 meeting.</p>			
<p><b>Tuition Agreements</b></p>	<p>J. Bergeron updated the committee on the work that has taken place in attempting to finalize a new tuition agreement for the District. K. Grady, C. Dodig, and J. Bergeron met with Dr. Peter Dillon, and members from New Ashford and New Ashford school committee earlier in the day. Based on the tuition agreement presented the rate for grades 7-12 would be 14,477 per student for FY19, thereafter, the rate would follow the published per pupil rate from the Department of Elementary &amp; Secondary Education. For FY19, the tuition rate for K-6 shall be set at the most recent published DESE Per Pupil rate. Legal counsel had advised that there be an individual tuition agreement for each town and they also advised that three years is the average length for a tuition agreement. Discussion regarding current tuition students enrolled and specifics of each agreement to make sure that the proposed tuition agreements are identical for each town. D. Caplinger asked about the rationale for switching to a District average, rather than continuing to calculate the per pupil cost at the individual schools that tuition students will be attending. Discussion regarding why the DESE rate would be used as opposed to using a per pupil rate associated with particular schools. Discussion regarding financial impact of the currently proposed tuition agreement. The New Ashford School Committee will be meeting on Wednesday to vote on this version of the tuition agreement.</p>	<p>C. Dodig</p>	<p>S. Miller</p>	<p>7-0-0</p>



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	<p>“The District will provide the required number of seats at Lanesborough elementary for grades K-6 and at MGRS for grades 7-12” Motion to approve the tuition agreement as presented with the amendments discussed.</p>			
<p><b>Preliminary School Choice Discussion</b></p>	<p>M. MacDonald reviewed current projected enrollments for FY19 as it relates to the space available for students in the new school building. Ms. MacDonald is recommending that, while current choice students be allowed to continue, she is not recommending new choice slots be opened for grades 7-12 for FY19. Dr. McEvoy is recommending school choice slots be opened at LES for Grade 1 (4 slots) and Grade 5 (2 slots). Discussion regarding if school choice would have an impact on the number of teachers needed for FY19. Principal McEvoy and Principal Brookner work together in planning their school choice recommendations as their combined enrollment will eventually impact the total enrollment at MGRS. Principal Brookner is recommending opening school choice slots in K (4 slots), 1<sup>st</sup> grade (3 slots), 4<sup>th</sup> grade (2 slots), 6<sup>th</sup> grade (3 slots). Principal Brookner reviewed projected K enrollment as that number typically fluctuates and is currently looking like it will be around 49 students. Despite the projected enrollment going up in K, she is still able to recommend 4 slots for next year. Discussion regarding class size and the impact of accepting school choice at the elementary schools and how it relates to potentially limiting school choice slots at MGRS.</p>			
<p><b>Vote to Participate In School Choice</b></p>	<p>Motion for MGRSD to participate in school choice for FY19.</p>	<p>S. Miller</p>	<p>R. DiLego</p>	<p>7-0-0</p>
<p><b>FY19 Budget Update</b></p>	<p>K. Grady provided the committee with an FY19 Preliminary Budget update. The budget presentation overall will not change too drastically from prior year presentations. The budget itself will look very different based on the expanded region and new chart of accounts. C. Desjardins stated that the chart of accounts has been completely re-built to match the DESE chart of accounts which will allow quick identification of what kind of account you are looking for and what school that account belongs to. This will allow a much easier end of year report process as the codes will match with DESE. K. Grady and C. Desjardins reviewed the current draft of the proposed budget, reviewing each section of the current preliminary budget. On Monday, 3/5, R. DiLego, J. Bergeron, K. Grady, M. McEvoy, and M. MacDonald will be participating in the Lanesborough Finance Committee to present the format of the FY19 budget. On 3/7, key players will be participating in the Williamstown Finance Committee meeting. 3/13 at 6PM there will be a presentation and Q&amp;A style budget workshop. 3/15, Transition Committee meeting (School Choice Vote) at 6PM, 3/20 Public Hearing and Transition Committee meeting beginning at 6PM.</p>			
<p><b>Vote to approve Superintendent Search Committee Slate</b></p>	<p>S. Miller reviewed the proposed slate for a seven-member Superintendent Search committee. The members will include Dan Caplinger and Steven Miller from the Transition Committee, Joelle Brookner from WES (representing the Principals), Anna Mello (LES) will represent the Teachers, Sophie Jones will serve as the student representative (MGRS '19), Jason Hoch</p>	<p>D. Caplinger</p>	<p>R. DiLego</p>	<p>7-0-0</p>



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	(Williamstown) will be the Town representative, and John Skavlem will serve as the parent representative.			
<b>Other Business Not Reasonably Anticipated within 48 hours of meeting</b>	C. Dodig gave an update regarding the ongoing negotiations with the teachers. Both sides are working hard to find common ground and bring negotiations to a close as quickly as possible.			
<b>Motion to Adjourn</b>	Motion to adjourn at 7:53 PM	Terranova	Dodig	7-0-0

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Jonathan Nopper  
 Mount Greylock Minutes Recorder

*A digital recording of this meeting in its entirety is available on the District website.*