

School Council Minutes
October 22, 2018

In attendance

Mark Wilson, principal
Michael Schaffer, teacher
Michael Newby, teacher
Tara Gallagher, teacher
Cheri Armstrong, teacher
Sarah Cortese, teacher
Diane Nash, parent
Joy Jordan, parent
Kim Robbins, parent
Doreen Escher, parent
Emily Milan, parent
Nicole Moniz, parent

Unavailable

Wyatt Sullivan, teacher

The meeting opened with school council members reviewing and unanimously approving, with two abstentions, the minutes from its meeting on September 24, 2018.

The meeting continued with a tour of the MRMS facility to view recent improvements and to identify opportunities / needs that should be addressed through the building budget and/or district capital budget. School council members noted the aging condition of classroom carpeting and expressed hope that the district will replace the carpeting with environmentally-friendly tiles at a reasonable pace. The committee also recognized the need to provide lighting for the front of the auditorium stage.

On the human resources front, school council members reiterated its top priority: to add a full-time counselor to the staffing budget so the school can better address student social-emotional needs, particularly given the unfilled full-time school psychologist position and the half-time team chair position. The school council recognizes that insufficient student support staffing is negatively impacting the school's ability meet urgent student needs, and expects the budget to reflect the addition of a 1.0 counselor position, at minimum.

The meeting continued with school council members reviewing regional MCAS results and discussing how MRMS fared when compared to the ten other middle / junior high schools on the cape and the islands. Results below.

School Name	Grades	Enroll	Classification	Progress toward improvement targets	%ile	ELA	Math	ELA sgp	Math sgp
Barnstable Intermediate	6,7	737	Partially Meeting	22% partially meeting targets	27	497.1	496.7	50	46.2
Bourne Middle School	5,6,7,8	683	Partially Meeting	34% partially meeting targets	29	500	494.8	49.8	46.6
Mattacheese Middle School	6,7	447	Partially Meeting	40% partially meeting targets	19	494.7	494	45.3	49.4
Morse Pond School - Falmouth	5,6	555	Partially Meeting	40% partially meeting targets	63	506.3	501.1	50.9	54.3
Lawrence School - Falmouth	7,8	599	Partially Meeting	58% partially meeting targets	59	504.3	506.6	52.7	64.5
Mashpee Middle School	7,8	270	Partially Meeting	42% partially meeting targets	50	501.7	500	56.1	47.1
Monomoy Middle School	5,6,7	454	Meeting	83% meeting targets	69	502.1	501.5	57.6	67.2
Nauset Middle School	6,7,8	552	Partially Meeting	32% partially meeting targets	53	505.4	502.5	48.6	50.2
Sandwich STEM Academy	7,8	460	Partially Meeting	46% partially meeting targets	42	503.7	499.7	53.5	34.9
Cape Cod Lighthouse Charter	6,7,8	242	Partially Meeting	18% partially meeting targets	53	507.4	502.4	52	50.3
Cyrus Peirce - Nantucket	6,7,8	348	Partially Meeting	64% partially meeting targets	30	495.6	490.3	62.8	51.5

School council members commended MRMS for being the top-performing middle school on the Cape and Islands, and recognized that the rating is primarily the result of the school’s ability to achieve strong student growth percentiles across all subsets of students. They also recognized the school has room for improvement relative to average scaled score for both ELA and Math.

The meeting closed with a summary of events planned for the November 13th “day of safety, service, and sacrifice” in honor of Veterans Day, which will also provide a chance for many staff members to receive professional development training on Brain Frames, a set of “visual maps” that help students organize evidence and express ideas.

The meeting adjourned with school council members setting their next meeting for Monday, December 3rd from 3:30 to 4:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Wilson, MRMS principal