

MARLBOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Business Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 24, 2023
Elmer Thienes-Mary Hall Elementary School –Library
6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Ruth Kelly, BOE Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

BOE Members Present: Ruth Kelly, Louise Concodello, Patrick Pabouet, Sue Stolfi, Kerri Barella, Angela Colantonio, Anna Holden, Linda Earley.

Administration Present: Dr. Holly Hageman, Superintendent - Remote
Dan White, Principal
Kim Kelley, Assistant Principal
John Mercier, Director of Operations
Jason Lathrop, Finance

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Hageman recommended the board move item 9.4, Election of Board Officer(s) to the beginning of the meeting.

9.4 Election of Board Officer(s):

L. Concodello made a motion that the Superintendent chair the meeting for the sole purpose of electing an interim Chairperson, seconded by R. Kelly. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

L. Concodello made a motion to nominate Ruth Kelly as the Interim Chairperson, seconded by A. Colantonio. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Dr. Hageman announced Ruth Kelly as the Interim Chair and she turned the board meeting over to Ruth Kelly to conduct the remainder of the meeting.

R. Kelly asked the Board if there were any nominations for the Interim Vice Chair position.

S. Stolfi nominated Kerri Barella as Interim Vice Chairperson, seconded by A. Colantonio.

Vote 6-0-2. MOTION CARRIED:

Yes - Ruth Kelly, Sue Stolfi, Kerri Barella, Angela Colantonio, Anna Holden, Linda Earley.
Abstain - Louise Concodello, Patrick Pabouet

3. Celebrations:

Dr. Hageman welcomed back the board and recognized administration, office staff and the custodial team for their hard work in getting the school ready for reopening. She also thanked the staff that worked over the summer in the ESY program serving students as well as the teachers who worked on

curriculum. In addition, she congratulated all the teachers who continued professional development during the summer months including those who completed LETRS training. Dr. Hageman also thanked Wes Skorski for his service on the Board. Finally, Dr. Hageman introduced the new School Resource Officer, Victor Otero.

4. Public Comment - None

5. Additions to the Agenda:

A. Holden made a motion to add the discussion of Enrichment Activities to the agenda, seconded by S. Stolfi. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

The board discussed adding the discussion of Enrichment Activities to New Business, 9.5.

6. Consent Agenda

- 6.1 Minutes of 6/14/23 Regular Business meeting
- 6.2 Personnel Actions – none;
- 6.3 Monthly Enrollment Report
- 6.4 Grants – none

L. Concodello made a motion that the Board approve Consent Agenda items 6.1 – 6.4, seconded by A. Colantonio. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

7. Oral Reports

7.1 Advisory Groups

- **PTO** – D. White stated they have not held a PTO meeting yet but he and Kim met with PTO leadership to discuss scheduling dates of upcoming events and activities.
- **SAC** – D. White informed the Board that the first SAC meeting of the new school year will be held in September
- **Operations, Wellness & Safety** – D. White mentioned the next meeting will be held in September as well.
- **Board of Finance Liaison** – L. Concodello conveyed that the BOF met on August 17th and they passed the elevator funds transfer of \$45,000 from the roof account to the elevator account.
- **AHM** – K. Barella stated nothing to report this month and the next meeting will be held in September.

7.2 Subcommittees

- **Policy** – L. Concodello confirmed the Policy Committee met earlier in the evening at 5:30pm. They discussed two policies: Orienting New Board Members and Preparation of the Agenda.

7.3 Chairperson- R. Kelly thanked the Board for supporting her as Chair and said it will be a nice way to end her service to the Board after 16 years.

7.4 Superintendent and Administrative Team:

- J. Mercier presented to the Board a Building Projects Update which included: Elevator replacement/refurbishment, power washing and brick sealing of two faces of the building, boiler cleaning, painting HVAC vent covers, replacement of 3 external doors, replacement of cafeteria steam table, new wood chips to all playground areas, new district website, replaced and expanded WiFi access points, installed 40 TouchBoards, set up a cloud-based management system, synchronized cafeteria software, rewired/added door sensors to every exterior door.
- D. White gave a brief report on the Extended School Year (ESY) program.
- K. Kelley reviewed Late Spring/Summer Professional Development and Curriculum Work, which included: CTSEDS Expert Training, IEP Quality Training, Science of Reading Master Class, LETRS, Literacy curriculum mapping
- Dr. Hageman stated MES is ready for opening day and expressed excitement for welcoming staff, students, and families back.
- Dr. Hageman reviewed the updated BOE Business By Month Calendar.
- Dr. Hageman reviewed the 2023 Legislative Update, handed out the 2023 Education Legislative Summary booklet and touched upon the items that were most relevant to MES.
- Dr. Hageman also announced the District's new Medical Advisor: Dr. Christopher Bentley. Dr. Bentley is now the Medical Advisor for all R8 School Districts.
- Dr. Hageman reported that MES received a CSDE School Mental Health Specialist grant geared towards creating two Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs) positions for our school-based Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) program.

8. Unfinished Business:

8.1 Discuss and Review FY 2022-23 Year-End Financial Report and Financial Transfers:

Dr. Hageman informed the Board that the 2022-23 closeout ended up with a surplus of \$44,754.95. Dr. Hageman anticipates depositing the surplus into the 2% fund after a completed audit. Dr. Hageman also reviewed the FY23 line item transfers for Board approval.

K. Barella made a motion that the Board approve the 2022-23 year end financial transfers as presented in the amount of \$319,959.38, seconded by L. Concodello. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

9. New Business:

9.1 Review August Financial Report:

Dr. Hageman stated this is the first report of FY 2023-24 and is still early for projections. An early projected surplus of \$2,838.03 was reported.

9.2 Discussion and Possible Action Re: School Lunch Pricing and State Transition Assistance for Breakfast and Lunch Expenses (STABLE) Funds:

Dr. Hageman reviewed the State Transition Assistance for Breakfast and Lunch Expenses (STABLE) Funds grant. Breakfast is free for all students; students who qualify for reduced lunch will have free lunch. Students who do not qualify for reduced/free meals will pay \$3.15 for lunch, an increase of \$0.10.

Linda Early made a motion that the Board approve adjusting the price of school lunches from \$3.05 to \$3.15 for the 2023-24 school year, seconded by R. Kelly. Vote 7-0-1. MOTION CARRIED:

Yes - Ruth Kelly, Louise Concodello, Patrick Pabouet, Kerri Barella, Angela Colantonio, Anna Holden, Linda Earley.

Abstain - Sue Stolfi.

9.3 Fixed Asset Disposal Request:

Dr. Hageman reviewed the letter going out to the Town offering Chromebooks that no longer receive Auto Updates which are needed to maintain up-to-date operating systems required by the state. K. Kelly also reviewed the Journeys reading series that is no longer aligned with the Science of Reading curriculum that MES has adopted. H. Hageman mentioned that she will offer the reading materials to other districts.

A.Colantonio made a motion that the Board approve the disposal of items as presented, seconded by S. Stolfi. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

9.5 Enrichment Activities:

The board discussed enrichment activities/after school clubs. H. Hageman stated that moving forward there will be a change in the acceptance of students in afterschool clubs from a first come first serve to a lottery approach. Administration will reach out to staff for possible expansion ideas and will look into additional funding to support more opportunities to offer clubs to students. Board members expressed appreciation for the number and variety of activities that were offered last year.

10. Public Comment: None

11. Communications:

11.1 Staff Vacancy Summary:

Dr. Hageman distributed an updated version of the Staff Vacancy Summary.

11.2 2023-24 Staff Listing:

Dr. Hageman distributed an updated version of the Staff listing. MES is seeking to hire one paraprofessional.

12. Future Meetings & Topics

12.1 Policy Committee Meeting, Thursday, September 28, 2023, 5:30 p.m.

12.2 Next Regular Business Meeting, Thursday, September 28, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

13. Adjournment:

A. Colantonio made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m., seconded by K. Barella. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,

Carmela Monte