

**MARION SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Marion, Massachusetts**

October 13, 2021

MEETING HELD IN HYBRID FORMAT VIA ZOOM

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Regular meeting of the Marion School Committee was held on Wednesday – October 13, 2021 and called to order by Vice-Chairperson, Nichole Daniel, at 6:33pm.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Nichole Daniel, (in-person) Vice-Chair; Mary Beauregard (in-person); Michelle Smith (remote) and Christine Marcolini (in-person).

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: April Rios.

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael S. Nelson, Superintendent of Schools, (in-person); Jannell Pearson Campbell (remote), Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning, in-person; Howard Barber (remote), Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations, in-person; Marla Sirois (in-person), Principal, Sippican School, Peter Crisafulli (in-person), Asst. Principal, Sippican School; staff; parents; members of the press and public; and, Diana Russo, Recording Secretary – all Remote

Vice-Chairperson, Daniel, stated in accordance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, the agenda has been set, the meeting is being video-taped, and unless there are any emergencies that need to be added, the agenda will be followed as outlined. Ms. Daniel read the following statement:

“This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid format. School Committee and Administrators will have the option of meeting in person at the Superintendent’s Office Conference Room located at 135 Marion Road, Mattapoisett or via zoom. Public Access is available through the zoom link.” Ms. Daniel indicated that herself, Mary Beauregard and Christine Marcolini are present in person and that Michelle Smith is participating remote via zoom.

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:33 P.M.

Mr. Nelson requested that the Financial Report be moved to the beginning of the meeting to accommodate Mr. Barber’s schedule who is attending a conference on the school districts behalf. School Committee agreed.

I. Approval of Minutes:

A. Minutes

1. Regular Meeting Minutes – June 9, 2021

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review and approve the minutes of June 9 2021

MOTION: by Ms. Beauregard to accept the meeting minutes of June 9, 2021 as presented

SECONDED: Ms. Marcolini

ROLL CALL: 4:0 Daniel: yes, Beauregard: yes, Smith: yes, Marcolini: yes

Regular Meeting Minutes – September 8, 2021

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review and approve the minutes of September 8, 2021

MOTION: by Ms. Marcolini to accept the meeting minutes of September 8, 2021 as presented

SECONDED: Ms. Beauregard

ROLL CALL: 4:0 Daniel: yes, Beauregard: yes, Smith: yes, Marcolini: yes

V. New Business

C. Business

1. Financial Report

Mr. Barber presented the following documents to the school committee

- Year to date Budget Report by Department as of June 30, 2021.
- Revolving Accounts Report by Type as of June 30, 2021
- Revolving Accounts Report by Type for the Quarter Ended as of September 30, 2021.

Mr. Barber reported that as of June 30, 2021, the Marion Public Schools ended the year with \$24,811.82 of the general funds appropriated in the 2021 fiscal year. Mr. Barber reported that at the next school committee meeting he will have a report for the FY22 fiscal year.

In addition, Mr. Barber reported on the revolving accounts of Sippican School. He reported that the revolving accounts had a balance of \$53,904.68 June 30, 2021 and as of September 30, 2021 they are at \$58,575.68.

Mr. Barber also reported on Food Service and Facilities.

IV. General

A. 6th Grade Parent/Guardian Group – Fundraising Efforts

Ms. Bonney expressed that she was hoping the some of her colleagues on the committee would be able to join her at this meeting, however they could not attend. She expressed that they have a lot of new ideas both for this year and future years to raise money end of year activities. She expressed that they are trying to be creative since things are a little more expensive now.

Ms. Christina Bonney presented the following 6th fundraisers:

- Raise Craze- participants set up secure custom websites that are COPA compliant and they can use it to request donations from family and friends. During the fundraiser the students pay it forward, so any donations they receive they would complete acts of kindness for others. The school will be able to pre-populate the act of kindness the student can pick from or they can pick their own. Our organization will be able to keep about 90% of donations after fees.
- Cup Cake Charlie's has an opportunity for a fundraiser where we can take orders for cupcakes, we would sell them for \$3 each for about two weeks, once we take the orders we write Cup Cake Charlies a check for \$2 a cake therefore making \$1 on each cupcake. Once the order is put in they will package and deliver to a location of our choice.

Erin Kazen represented the following fundraiser:

- Shop with Scrip – she explained it's pretty simple you purchase a gift card and a percentage goes to your organization. She explained that they talked about doing this around the holidays since people buy a lot of gift cards. And you could also buy the gift cards throughout the year.

Ms. Marcolini expressed that she had also heard that the group was thinking about doing a couple of restaurant nights correct? Ms. Bonney answered yes. She expressed that other parents couldn't attend the meeting to present their ideas, therefore they might have to come back to another meeting to present more fundraisers.

Ms. Daniel expressed that she doesn't see any reason why the school committee couldn't approve the restaurant night that way the group doesn't have to come back. Ms. Marcolini reported that the group was also looking at a cash calendar fundraiser similar to the one here at the high school. She suggested that they also include that in the motion since they were also exploring that option.

Ms. Bonney expressed that those fundraisers have been done at other schools just not necessarily at Sippican, she expressed that the Krispy Kreme Fundraiser was another one that was brought up which was photography sessions, she expressed that they have a parent who is a professional photographer and she would have 15 mini sessions and she would donate her time so that the money would be for the 6th grade group.

MOTION: by Ms. Marcolini to approve Raise Craze, Cup Cake Charlies, Shop with Scrip as presented and any other fundraisers that have been previously been done within our districts for this year

and going forward.

SECONDED: by Ms. Beauregard

ROLL CALL: 4:0 Daniel: yes, Beauregard: yes, Smith: yes, Marcolini: yes

Ms. Marcolini thanked Ms. Bonney for all her hard work.

B. Approval of School Improvement Plan

Superintendent Nelson read the following statement: *“As you may all recall – at our recent Joint School Committee – with the support of my team I presented an overview of the Acceleration Roadmap that our schools will use moving forward to drive teaching, learning, and student outcomes. Additionally, we presented survey data from our parents and guardians regarding how they perceived not only their child’s sense of belonging as related to school – but their general impressions on sense of safety, connection to school, and teaching and learning. Furthermore, the leadership team made a presentation to the school committees on the work that has been done to meet the strategic outcomes of Vision2023 and specific targets to hit by the end of year four of the strategic plan. Tonight – Principal Sirois will present a two-year school improvement plan that we believe aligns with the strategic plan of the school system – but is localized to Sippican School. We are asking that the school committee review the school improvement plan and approve it tonight. Principal Sirois*

Ms. Sirois presented the School Improvement Plan (please refer to Attachment A)

MOTION: by Ms. Marcolini to approve School Improvement Plan for 21-23 as presented

SECONDED: by Ms. Beauregard

ROLL CALL: 4:0 Daniel: yes, Beauregard: yes, Smith: yes, Marcolini: yes

VI. CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT: Ms. Daniel expressed that she spoke to Chairperson Rios and they just wanted to thank everyone for all their hard work and dedication to start the school year. We also wanted to thank the 6th grade parent group for all their fundraising efforts and we also wanted to acknowledge nurse Meg and all the hard work that she has done, the hard phone calls she’s had to make, while still maintaining the love and care for all our children, we truly appreciate it all.

CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINSTRATOR’S REPORT:

Mr. Nelson made the following statement:

“As I referenced earlier in this meeting – the recent presentations at the Joint School Committee regarding the Acceleration Roadmap and the Strategic Plan was important from my perspective. I say that because – we feel those two presentations refocused our school community on teaching and learning. While our teachers and staff members continue to move teaching and learning forward – ensuring COVID-19 safety remains a priority. Since the last time we met – we have received and started rolling out air purifiers to be placed in all of our learning spaces at Sippican School and our other schools – this is another important piece of the puzzle to ensure high air quality for all individuals in our school buildings. In addition, our COVID-19 testing program started on September 27th. With the support of Department of Elementary and Secondary Education resources – we have a testing team up and running to utilize as appropriate. Testing can only be conducted with staff members or students who have consented in writing. This team offers symptomatic and test and stay options as needed. To date, we have had 23 positive COVID-19 cases at Sippican School since the start of school and we currently have 13 positive individuals isolating. It is critical that we continue to follow safety and health safeguards to prevent the spread of the virus in our schools. Also, as communicated by the Department of Education and my office - the mask mandate has been extended until November 1st by the Commissioner of Education. I will continue to update the school community on any developments as they occur. Last – but not least as the Tri-Town community is aware – we are currently working in alignment with a drinking water warning and boil water advisory. I have shared relevant information with our stakeholders and will continue to do so as we manage this situation.

Dr. Jannell Pearson-Campbell – Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning – reported the following:

- Overview of September 22nd half day professional development. She reported that

educators worked on IXL Foundations Skills Training, an Atlas Curriculum PD offering, early childhood educators, reviewed google classroom and parent communication applications and school nurses reviewed DESE updates pertaining to COVID-19 protocols.

- She reported that they held the first Instructional Council meeting of the year to examine instruction throughout the 4 school districts.
- She reported that the full day professional development day will be on November 12th and the focus will be on Project Based Learning, Responsive Classroom, Literacy, and Grade Level meetings that concentrate on standards and instructional tools to support student achievement.

Mr. Nelson also gave a report on the Sippican School emergency exit egress project. He reported that the project has begun and the date of completion is December 31st.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Ms. Sirois, Principal of Sippican School reported the following:

- The school year is in full swing. It is exciting to be part of all that is happening with teaching and learning this fall.
- Acceleration roadmap: a few of our goals for September were to support families related to attendance as well as to ensure that we are fostering a sense of belonging. The SWO provided information about ways to help students be prepared for school daily. There was also information about the importance of eating breakfast. Our overall daily attendance for the month of September was 95%, and grades 4 and 6 were above at 97%.
- Students have also begun their Second Step social emotional programming. Home link activities will be going home shortly. Teachers have also begun anti-bullying lessons with their classes. As part of these lessons students are recognizing two trusted adults in the building.
- VASE was able to meet in person for the first time in over a year! It was wonderful to see so many people willing to be part of supporting the Sippican School Community. We are also grateful for the beautiful bulletin board at Sippican thanking each and every one of our staff members. We are feeling the love.
- VASE sponsored the first field trip of the 2021-2022 school year. Buttonwood Zoo came to Sippican to teach first graders about animals. The children enjoyed learning about many different species.
- Literacy Professional Development: On our first half professional development day, we welcomed (virtually) our presenter from Lesley University who spent time guiding teachers through Interactive Read Alouds and the importance of integrating speaking and listening standards with literacy instruction. Teachers now have access to Literacy Continuums and mini lesson books to support instruction during their ELA blocks. Ms. Sirois reported that Lesley University will come on November 12th for the full day.
- Our kindergarten classes have been hard at work learning about community helpers and FALL.
- Project Grow students have been working on recognizing the letters in their names. Some of our students are even learning to write their names.
- Mrs. Kirk is back and she worked with second grade students on a variety of skills including watercolor, reflecting and clean up.

For more information please refer to “MSC 10132021 Principal Report”.

VIII. School Committee

A. Committee Reports

1. Budget Sub-Committee: NONE

2. Building Committee NONE

3. ORR District School Committee- Ms. Smith reported that they covered opening day, they review and approved a request to use the multi purpose field and they approved the MOA for the regional agreement.

4. SMEC – Ms. Smith reported that they reviewed the budget however they did not approve due to

lack of quorum, they reorganized, update on new hires and update on COVID.

5. Early Childhood Council- NONE

6. READS - Mr. Nelson reported that they reorganized, approved minutes, heard reports from administrators, heard about the reopening plans.

7. Tri-Town Education Foundation - NONE

8. Policy Sub Committee – NONE

9. School Council – NONE – there are two openings in School Council

10. Anti-Racism Sub-Committee- NONE

IX. Future Business

A. Timeline

The next meeting(s) of Committee will be held as follows:

<u>Marion School Committee</u>	<u>Joint School Committee</u>
December 1, 2021 @ 6:30pm	January 20, 2022 @ 6:30pm

X. Open Comments – NONE

MOTION: by Ms. Marcolini to go in to Executive Session at 7:21 p.m. for the Purpose of #3 and #7 – to return only to adjourn

SECONDED: Ms. Beaugard

ROLL CALL: 4:0 Daniel: yes, Beaugard: yes, Smith: yes, Marcolini: yes

MOTION: by Ms. Beaugard to come out of Executive Session at 7:26 p.m. only to adjourn

SECONDED: Ms. Smith

ROLL CALL: 4:0 Daniel: yes, Beaugard: yes, Smith: yes, Marcolini: yes

MOTION: by Ms. Marcolini to adjourn at 7:27

SECONDED: Ms. Smith

ROLL CALL: 4:0 Daniel: yes, Beaugard: yes, Smith: yes, Marcolini: yes

Respectfully Submitted,
Diana Russo