

**MARION SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Marion, Massachusetts**

September 8, 2021

BY: HYBRID FORMAT - ZOOM LINK

MEETING MINUTES

Regular meeting of the Marion School Committee was held on Wednesday – September 8, 2021 and called to order by Vice-Chairperson, April Rios, at 6:33pm.

The meeting will be conducted in hybrid format. School Committee members and Administration will have the option of meeting in person at the Superintendent’s Office Conference Room located at 135 Marion Road, Mattapoisett MA 02739, or via Zoom. Public access is available through Zoom only by the link provided.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Michelle Smith, Chairperson (Remote); April Rios, Vice-Chair (Hybrid); Mary Beauregard (Hybrid); Nichole Daniel (Hybrid); and Christine Marcolini (Hybrid)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael S. Nelson, Superintendent of Schools - Hybrid; Jannell Pearson-Campbell – Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning - Hybrid; Craig Davidson, Director of Student Services- Hybrid; Howard Barber – Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations - Hybrid; Marla Sirois, Principal, Sippican School- Hybrid; Peter Crisafulli, Assistant Principal, Sippican School - Hybrid, Toni Bailey, Recording Secretary – Hybrid; teachers; staff; parents; members of the press and public – Remote

Vice-Chairperson, April Rios, 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.

MEETING TO ORDER

RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT – NEW STAFF

Superintendent Nelson stated last year we said goodbye to many long-time staff members who retired after many incredible years of service at Sippican School. Mr. Nelson asked Dr. Pearson-Campbell to speak on behalf of our New Teacher Induction Program.

Dr. Pearson-Campbell stated on August 26th we welcomed our new teachers to the Old Rochester Regional School District. New teachers met the district staff in the central office; Mr. Davidson provided a brief synopsis of what goes on in the Special Education office; the new teachers met our technology team and they spoke about Atlas, Aimsweb and eSped. Dr. Pearson-Campbell stated the new teachers met their mentors and their building administration.

Dr. Pearson-Campbell noted new staff received a calendar, which described each month’s Professional Development.

Peter Crisafulli, Assistant Principal of Sippican School, introduced the new staff as follows:

Tracy Anthony – Special Education Teacher

Tracy has visited many countries; has taught English as a second language in Seoul and South Korea; at ORR she played Field Hockey and Softball; and, also played Rugby at UMASS. Tracy enjoys hiking and biking and is currently on 2 billiards teams.

Susan Swoish – Grade 4 Teacher

Susan is a graduate of ORR High School; has two daughters who attended Sippican School and graduated from ORR High School; and, her dad taught at ORR High School for over 30 years. Susan enjoys drawing and painting and loves to travel.

Marla Sirois, Principal of Sippican School welcomed the following Support Staff to Sippican School as follows:

Sydney Swoish, Paraprofessional - RBT
Debra Smith, Paraprofessional (Working with Grade 1)
Lucy Lizotte – Title 1 Paraprofessional (supporting Reading and Reading Recovery)
Jocelyn Ulloa - Paraprofessional
Jacqueline L'Heureux, Cafeteria Staff
Noreen Mackie, Assistant Head Cook

Superintendent Nelson introduced Peter Crisafulli – Assistant Principal at Sippican School and thanked Mr. Crisafulli for arranging his schedule to be a part of the Administration's Retreat, in order for him to become familiar with the administration and our school district, as well as us getting to know him. Mr. Nelson asked Mr. Crisafulli to speak on behalf of his past experience, as well as working his first few days at Sippican School.

Mr. Crisafulli stated he spent 18 years in the Frontier Regional School District

- Ran the substantially separate program for students with emotional and behavioral needs for 7 years
- Assistant Principal at Deerfield Elementary School for 2 years
- Principal at Whately Elementary School for 9 years

Mr. Crisafulli stated not all school districts are alike, and he is learning a lot in this district and is pleased to be a part of the team.

Ms. Sirois stated Sippican's Social Worker resigned over the summer, and they are presently looking to fill this .6 position. Ms. Sirois noted last year (FY20-21) this position was a .4 position.

Ms. Rios extended a warm welcome and a thank-you to all of the new staff members and stated the committee is very happy to have everyone join the Marion School District at Sippican School and is looking forward to working with everyone.

MOTION: by April Rios to enter into Executive Session at 6:44pm for purpose of exception #3 – to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining, only to return to the regular session of the Marion School Committee meeting

OPPOSED: None

MOTION PASSED: 5:0

Roll Call: Nichole Daniel – yes; Mary Beauregard – yes; Christine Marcolini – yes; April Rios – yes; Michelle Smith – yes

Superintendent Nelson asked the school committee members if Mr. Barber could join the Executive Session meeting – agreed by all.

XII. Executive Session

Regular Session of the Marion School Committee reconvened at 7:05pm

IV. General

A. Opening Day Update

Recommendation:

That the School Committee hear an update from administration.

Superintendent Nelson stated the following:

“Greetings everyone –today we finished our fourth day of school! It is great having our students and staff members back at Sippican.

It feels funny calling this our first official Marion School Committee meeting of the school year, knowing most, if not all of you joined the Joint School Committee meeting that was held prior to school reopening to discuss our schools’ Back to School Plan 2021-2022 school year.

Before I discuss opening day, I want to briefly report out on the work that the leadership council completed this past summer. During a multi-day retreat, we prioritized our efforts as we started to plan for the upcoming school year. First, we worked with an agency called Calmer Choice to reflect on our own leadership styles as administrators in light of last school year and to explore the ideology of crisis leadership and how to lead others while making sure you are taking care of yourself.

Next, we dove into very important work - we re-evaluated our progress on the school system’s Vision 2023 Strategic Plan and mapped out year four’s priorities as we move closer to achieving the outcomes we set out to achieve in 2018. We will share more of this information at our next Joint School Committee in terms of work around the Strategic Plan.

We discussed the importance of shifting our lens from Covid-19 management to the important conversation of teaching and learning. Our team talked about how to utilize learning walks in our buildings and how to use informal and formal data to drive decision-making around programming in our classrooms moving forward.

Building off of this work, our building administrators discussed the importance of creating School Improvement Plans for our schools that link not only to the Strategic Plan, but also School Improvement Plans that meet the local needs of students in their buildings. We will be bringing our proposed School Improvement Plan to upcoming school committee meetings for review and approval.

Dr. Alex Hirshberg (from James Levine & Associates Mental Health Services) presented to our team his impressions, findings, and recommendations regarding a social emotional learning review that he conducted this past school year in our schools. The team looked at our strengths and began the process of identifying areas to build upon this year and next year as we move away from the pandemic and refocus on teaching and learning and supporting the whole child. Our schools will continue to partner with Dr. Hirshberg this upcoming year to design action plans to enhance our social emotional supports for all students and to partner with our families.

Time was also spent discussing how to use professional development strategically this school year in light of all the important work we need to do to bridge the gaps from the pandemic. We talked about where we have been

and where we want to go in relation to our approved professional development plan that was approved at the end of last year by the Joint School Committee. We are in the process of looking at our first ½ day PD day in September.

We spent time training with the school's attorney regarding current laws and regulations related to civil rights, special education, and anti-bullying requirements.

Other work included examining where we were at with our equity and anti-racism commitment and unpacking the Acceleration Roadmap released by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education late last spring. In coming weeks, we will share more specifics regarding the Acceleration Roadmap's implementation and utilization in our schools.

Shifting topics -the opening day of school for staff was an overall success. Specifically, we started the day by connecting with colleagues under our outside tents over coffee and breakfast foods. Then, staff members reported to one of three locations to hear opening remarks from the superintendent, welcome new teachers and staff members, and recognize the many employees that have served our schools for many years - 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 years and we even had one member serve 42 years! We closed our district-wide event with hearing a motivational speech from Mr. Keith Davis of the Say Yes Institute. Mr. Davis pushed our staff to recognize that all students have the ability to be winners, to achieve their goals, and need teachers like all of ours to be there for them - day in and day out. He stressed the importance of doing our jobs to the best of our abilities, to fill the gaps for all students, and always be willing to give a student another chance to succeed.

After closing our opening day events - teachers reported back to their school buildings for teacher planning time and building specific discussions.

I want to thank the many hands that made these opportunities possible. We needed everyone's help to offer the opening day event that we were able to."

Mr. Nelson asked Ms. Sirois to share how the first several days of school have gone at Sippican School since re-opening?

Ms. Sirois thanked Gilly Leonardo who worked tirelessly all summer to make sure the building was prepared including making the gym a gym again - bringing it back on line for our PE programming and potentially for the town's programming that has gone on at Sippican in the past. Ms. Sirois stated teachers and many of the staff members were in the building over the summer reimagining their workspaces. Ms. Sirois stated even though we are out of the "Covid" error from last year, we will still be socially distancing and staff had to rethink what their rooms will look like.

Ms. Sirois stated they will be using their cafeteria and multi-purpose room for lunches, so students will be eating six feet apart. Ms. Sirois stated in the classrooms, desks will be three feet apart and the outdoor spaces will continue to be utilized as much as possible.

Ms. Sirois noted arrival and dismissal has had slight changes to ensure social distancing and the first few days of school has gone smoothly and she is grateful to the staff, students and families for all of their support.

Mr. Crisafulli stated his first few days has been a world wind and a lot to learn, but he is getting to know the staff and it has been a pleasure being at the school.

Superintendent Nelson stated central office staff did their best to be at every school on opening day to welcome back staff members and students and he is very happy to see the students in school and to see the many steps that we have made forward from where we were last year.

Comments/Questions by School Committee Members:

Ms. Marcolini extended a thank-you to Ms. Sirois and her staff noting that Sippican staff has done a nice job finding the balance this year of still having social distancing while trying to make our school still feel a little bit less like it did last year – Ms. Marcolini stated she thinks it was difficult for a lot of schools to do that and she feels that Sippican did it well.

Ms. Daniel stated it takes a village to do all of this and people do not realize how much goes into the beginning of a school year (as well as the entire school year) from the custodians setting up the classrooms, to the teachers trying to figure out where everything is going to go especially at a time like this, as well as the administration trying to figure out all of the logistics. Ms. Daniel noted everyone has to do their part.

Ms. Marcolini stated a lot of schools have not continued to put in the effort to continue social distancing this year and noted she works in a district with that philosophy. Ms. Marcolini stated it is going to be interesting to see how this all plays out – with schools completely in the other direction versus ones like Sippican, who is able to find a balance that will hopefully keep us healthy.

B. Donation Approval

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review and approve a donation from STAPLES. Principal Sirois received an email from Michael DeMello, General Manager at the Staples in Wareham, letting her know they have 50 student kits to donate to Marion Public Schools. The student kits consist of a pack of tissues, 1 medium sized hand sanitizer bottle, and 2 small sized hand sanitizer bottles. Mr. DeMello expressed that these are donated by Staples customers.

Mr. Crisafulli stated Staples in Wareham made a very generous offer to Sippican School with boxes of school supplies filled with pencils/pens, markers, backpacks, disinfecting wipes and hand sanitizers.

Ms. Sirois stated in total there are 120 school supply boxes (each box had pencils/pens, markers, etc.) and there were 50 packages of the sanitizers with tissues and wipes.

MOTION: by Michelle Smith to accept the donation from Staples of Wareham as presented.
SECONDED: Nichole Daniel
OPPOSED: None
MOTION PASSED - 5:0

Roll Call: Nichole Daniel – yes; Mary Beauregard – yes; Christine Marcolini – yes; April Rios – yes; Michelle Smith – yes

C. Memorandum of Agreement Approval (Educators)

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review and approve the Memorandum of Agreement.

Superintendent Nelson stated tonight we are looking for approval from the school committee members to approve the MOA with our teachers/teaching staff for a 2-year contract for the school years 21-22 and 22-23.

Mr. Nelson reminded the committee that last year school committee and the teachers' association entered into a one-year contract based off of the COVID-19 pandemic and the uncertainties that surrounded that. Mr. Nelson extended a thank you to April Rios, Nichole Daniel and Michelle Smith who represented the school committee.

MOTION: by Michelle Smith to accept the Memorandum of Agreement for the 2021-2022/2022-2023 school years with the teachers as presented
SECONDED: Mary Beauregard
OPPOSED: None
MOTION PASSED - 5:0

Roll Call: Nichole Daniel – yes; Mary Beauregard – yes; Christine Marcolini – yes; April Rios – yes; Michelle Smith – yes

D. Memorandum of Agreement Approval (Support Staff)

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review and approve the Memorandum of Agreement

Superintendent stated tonight we are looking for approval from the school committee members to approve the MOA for our support staff (paraprofessionals, school secretaries, cafeteria staff). Mr. Nelson extended a thank you to Mary Beauregard who represented the school committee. Mr. Nelson stated at this time, they are looking for a 3-year contract for the school years 21-22, 22-23 and 23-24.

MOTION: by Christine Marcolini to approve the Memorandum of Agreement for support staff as presented.
SECONDED: Nichole Daniel
OPPOSED: None
MOTION PASSED - 5:0

Roll Call: Nichole Daniel – yes; Mary Beauregard – yes; Christine Marcolini – yes; April Rios – yes; Michelle Smith – yes

E. Student Handbook Approval

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review and approve the Student Handbook for the 2021-2022 School Year.

Superintendent Nelson stated the elementary school administrators worked together to have a more consistent handbook for the elementary schools in the Tri-town. Mr. Nelson noted the administrators also recognize that each individual elementary school handbook needs to meet the needs of each local school.

Mr. Nelson stated there may be additional changes throughout the school year, based off of the drastic changes relating to COVID-19.

Ms. Sirois explained the handbook is supposed to be the “rules” and “laws” that govern us as a school community. Ms. Sirois noted that Sippican’s handbook was in a good place and there were not many changes, other than items that were outdated, i.e.: culture of the school. Ms. Sirois noted there were a couple updates in policies and procedures – specifically where COVID was involved.

Mr. Nelson asked if there were any questions/comments by school committee members, and stated Mattapoisett School Committee has met and they approved the revised handbook for Center School/Old Hammondtown School with the understanding there may be additional changes throughout the school year based off of COVID-19 changes.

Questions/Comments by School Committee members:

Nichole Daniel:

Under “Bus Discipline Policy” – 3rd Offense – 5-day bus suspension. How often is there a 3rd Offense?

Ms. Sirois stated she has not had one, but noted there are many bus policies that have complete expulsions, and she does not believe in that. Ms. Sirois stated after a 3rd offense, as an elementary principal, she has a real problem with that because our children are learning how to behave and she feels they need to be given as many chances as possible.

Ms. Daniel noted with the 1st Offense (just a warning); the 2nd Offense (assigned seat at the front of the bus); to a 5-day suspension for a 3rd Offense is a big jump.

Ms. Sirois stated this was not an item that was changed and remains from the old policy and noted she has not suspended anyone from the bus since she has been principal. Ms. Sirois stated Sippican students are very well behaved on the buses.

Christine Marcolini:

Ms. Marcolini asked if the COVID-19 language is the same in all of the handbooks in the Tri-town – Superintendent Nelson responded yes.

April Rios:

Ms. Rios extending a thank you to all of the elementary administration to come up with a unified handbook for the elementary schools and noted it is important since we are a Tri-town to have the same message.

MOTION: by Mary Beauregard to accept the Student Handbook for the 2021-2022 School Year as presented.

SECONDED: Christine Marcolini

OPPOSED: None

MOTION PASSED – 5:0

Roll Call: Nichole Daniel – yes; Mary Beauregard – yes; Christine Marcolini – yes; April Rios – yes; Michelle Smith – yes

V. New Business

C. Business

1. Financial Report

a. Revolving Account Balances

That the School Committee hear a report from Mr. Barber

Mr. Barber stated from a financial reporting perspective, since we are at the year-end close still, we are making sure that FY21 is clean making sure everything is properly posted and closed out. Mr. Barber noted this will be completed by the first week in October and he will have a financial report at the next school committee meeting.

Mr. Barber reported on the Food Service Director’s Report dated Aug/Sept, 2021 (By: Jill Henesey) as follows for Sippican School:

Mr. Barber stated our meal count has already gone up significantly this year and staff will be charged for meals this year.

- DESE provided all Directors an update on the USDA School Meal Flexibilities:**
 - USDA has granted us the ability to provide ALL students with a Free Reimbursable Breakfast & Free Reimbursable Lunch for this academic year.**

Extra items will be available for purchase this year (limited snacks, beverages and second entrees)

- New Point of Sale System, Titan – cloud based technology that has live data and transactions, id/barcode scanners to eliminate pin pad touchpoints. Temporary student id's will be provided by Lifetouch Portraits, permanent id's to follow
- Lower parent transaction fee \$1.95 per family transaction, parents can monitor child's account purchases, add funds, set up automatic payments, transfer money from one child's account to another, apply for Meal Benefits and reprint important letters they have received
- Food and Nutrition Website – featuring an interactive Menu, Menu Mobile App, Online Meals Application, Nutrition Education for parents, students and staff and more. Very important to check often for updates
- Nation-wide supply chain disruptions and price increases are having an impact on our program. Changes to posted menus may happen without notice. Please have patience and understanding. We will ensure that all students are provided a well-balanced, nutritious meal.
- District-wide, all of our cafeteria staff will be engaging in professional development training prior to student's arrival. Training will consist of updated meal patterns, new point of sale training, bar code scanning and more.

Mr. Barber reiterated the first breakfast and the first lunch is free for a student on a daily basis, noting if a child were to engage in a second breakfast or second lunch, that would be charged to their student ID. Mr. Barber also reiterated there are additional snacks that can be purchased (they are not part of the free breakfast or the free lunch), and those snacks would be charged to the child's ID.

Mr. Barber stated parents will receive notification if there are deficits on student's accounts.

Questions/Comments by School Committee members:

April Rios:

Ms. Rios asked if there is a way for parents to put a limit or a max for snacks (so students are not able to purchase snacks for all their friends)?

Mr. Barber stated he would have to table this question and get back to the school committee. Mr. Barber stated parents will still have access to look at their child's account, so they will see how much their child is spending.

Michelle Smith:

Ms. Smith stated she believes they have the ability to place a hold on an account that a student is unable to purchase snacks.

Ms. Sirois will give notice to parents as well as contact Ms. Henesey to see if food services has the ability to note on accounts that snacks are not able to be purchased, as well as their ability to see if accounts are in a deficit.

Ms. Rios questioned Mr. Barber regarding students having ID's now. Ms. Rios asked if students have to present the ID card in order to purchase breakfast/lunch noting she has never seen this ID card for her child.

Ms. Sirois explained the process of how the cards are used by the students. Ms. Sirois stated the students are given their ID prior to going through the lunch line and then

they drop off the card in a box once they have purchased their lunch. Ms. Sirois noted this process has been working.

Mr. Barber reported on the Facilities Director's Report prepared by Gene Jones, Director, as of September 2021 as follows:

- All firefighting systems have been inspected and tested including the ANSUL (kitchen fire suppression system), fire sprinkler, kitchen hoods and stationary fire extinguishers
- Conducted annual air quality testing of facility
- Front playground completed, fully ADA compliant
- HVAC assessment scheduled for the 9th of September – (will be rescheduled for next week)
- Covid-19 protocols set for HVAC, Cleaning and Sanitizing
- Conducted routine maintenance on all facility systems

D. Personnel

The following new staff have been hired for the 2021-2022 School Year

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Peter Crisafulli	Asst. Principal	7/1/2021
Tracy Anthony	Special Education Teacher	8/30/2021
Jocelyn Ulloa	Paraprofessional	8/30/2021
Lucy Lizotte	Paraprofessional	8/30/2021
Sydney Swoish	Paraprofessional –RBT	8/30/2021
Paula White	Cafeteria Manager	8/30/2021
Noreen Mackie	Asst. Head Cook	8/30/2021
Jacqueline L'Heureux	Cafeteria Worker	8/30/2021

The following staff resigned or retired

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	
Sean Persico	Asst. Principal	(1 year position)
Elizabeth Machado	Special Education Teacher	(1 year position)
Cathy Sinnott	Classroom Teacher	retirement
Barbara Bandarra	Paraprofessional	retirement
Michelle Wicker	Paraprofessional	retirement
Shannon Ahern	Social Worker	resignation
Janet Reynolds	Cafeteria Worker	retirement
Donna Blanchard	Asst. Head Cook	resignation
Erika Sullivan	Cafeteria Worker	resignation

The following staff changed positions

<u>Name</u>	<u>Old Position</u>	<u>New Position</u>
Susan Swoish	Paraprofessional	Classroom Teacher

VI. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

Vice-Chairperson, April Rios, extended a thank-you to all of the teachers, support staff, administrators, and everyone in the building – we can't thank everyone enough for all of their hard work and dedication. Ms. Rios stated everything that has been done to get us where we are at – making Sippican a happy place again - seeing students laughing in the halls and seeing students having fun once again – this is a huge kudos to everyone who made this happen. Ms. Rios stated she is not only speaking as a member of the Marion School Committee, but as a parent.

CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Superintendent Nelson echoed Ms. Rios' statements in terms of everyone – school committee members, parents, students, staff members (no matter what position they fill), - all of us were constantly doing our best, being as flexible as possible and we will make sure we make school as memorable and fun to the best of our ability.

Mr. Nelson stated we had students during the summer from all age levels, participate not only in our regular six week S.A.I.L. program, but we also provided a Connections Camp (under a grant opportunity), which involved some of our older students as peer models to our younger students, as well as our clinical staff who ran social skill groups.

Mr. Nelson noted in regard to the Acceleration Roadmap, the Department of Education offered a specific summer grant to run an Acceleration Academy. Mr. Nelson stated we applied for and obtained the grant funding, which allowed us to run a five-day, full day (breakfast/lunch included) opportunity for rising Kindergarten students, Grade 1 and Grade 2 students, who participated in an early literacy academy; and, a math academy was offered to rising students in Grades 3, 4, 8 and 10. Mr. Nelson extended a thank you to everyone who was involved in this program, from writing the grant, to the administrators who jumped in to put the program in place, as well as “bulldog” staff members who were the teachers. Mr. Nelson stated data was used to initiate which students would benefit from these academy's, and we were also able to use some of the different grant opportunities to offer a spot to anyone who showed interest in participating in the Acceleration Academy. Mr. Nelson stated it was just north of 150 to 160 students, which was also the number of students we bring in for the S.A.I.L. program. Mr. Nelson stated there was so much extra teaching and learning that took place this summer, and noted this symbolizes our commitment to teaching and learning.

Dr. Jannell Pearson-Campbell – Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning – reported as follows:

Dr. Pearson-Campbell stated although school was over in June, our teachers wanted additional opportunities in July. Dr. Pearson-Campbell stated through our teacher collaboration, on-line classes from June 2021 through June 2022 was offered, allowing teachers a full year to complete their PDP's and keep up with licensure. The three courses that were offered were: Mental Health, English Language Learners and Differentiated Instruction. Dr. Pearson-Campbell noted teachers also had the opportunity to use Atlas Curriculum Mapping.

Dr. Pearson-Campbell stated her focus this year is on Teacher Leadership in our schools and to focus on our three initiatives from the Strategic Plan – 1) 21st Century Learning, 2) Global Citizenship, and 3) Project-Based Learning.

Dr. Pearson-Campbell stated during PD on September 22 teachers will have/be able to: 1) access to experts in project based learning focusing on writing across content areas; 2) reflect on student performance using data across grade levels; 3) have opportunities to learn new strategies to support reading in early literacy grades; and, 4) continue learning about strategies for Global Citizenship and Social Emotional Learning.

Dr. Pearson-Campbell concluded she is working towards building consistency between all four school districts.

Mr. Craig Davidson – Director of Student Services reported on the Early Childhood Enrollment for FY22 noting there are still a few slots open at Sippican for Typically Developmental students and there are 8 students with IEP's. Mr. Davidson stated there was a press release sent out last week to update families of the openings at Sippican, and on October 1st, we will be able to offer open up slots to Mattapoissett and Rochester.

Mr. Davidson stated Pre-School screenings will be held in Rochester in October; Mattapoissett in January; and, Sippican in March.

Mr. Davidson stated there will be three playgroups offered and will begin the week of September 13th. Mr. Davidson stated the playgroups will be offered in-person, outdoors and if there is inclement weather, these playgroups will be held virtually.

Mr. Davidson stated the first Tri-town Early Childhood Council meeting is scheduled to take place on October 19th at 6:00pm.

Mr. Davidson stated Dr. Pearson-Campbell and he worked along with the Department of Education, the Pre-School teachers in the district; Doreen Lopes (Early Childhood Coordinator); and, Sarah Goerges of Sippican School, regarding “Building Equitable Support for Children with Disabilities” – the entire TEAM is very proud of the work done relating to this topic and noted the following:

- The Early Childhood Team utilized 298 Grant Funds to support instruction around Equitable Supports and Anti-Bias Practices
- Each pre-school classroom through the tri-town district will receive library books for their classroom, as well as home/lending reading library books for families
- Supplies will be given to each of the pre-school tri-town classrooms

Link to some of the Supplies – <https://photos.app.goo.gl/q9HPHednTv2s8Mg57>

Mr. Davidson provided additional information pertaining to the Acceleration Academy called “Community Connections”. Mr. Davidson stated this camp ran for four weeks and was directed by Melissa Cieto, Special Education Teacher from Sippican School. Mr. Davidson stated the program ran in four different segments from 12:15pm to 3:15pm: Week 1 – Kindergarten and Grade 1; Week 2 – Grades 3, 4 & 5; Week 3 – Grades 5 & 6; and Week 4 – Grades 7 & 8.

Mr. Davidson stated through the grant they were able to hire high school aged students as role models to be “counselors”, and Julie Taylor, ORR Jr. High Guidance Counselor, was part of the teaching staff as well. Mr. Davidson stated the entire program was based on “social skills” and one of the biggest parts of the roadmap that Dr. Pearson-Campbell speaks about is the social/emotional piece and really belonging within our district. Mr. Davidson stated we were able to connect high school students with elementary students and we were able to accommodate every student who signed up.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

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

- Mr. Crisafulli and Ms. Sirois held a parent informational session to inform the school community of changes and what to expect in the fall. (Note: the presentation is on the school website for those who may have missed it)
- On opening day for staff, they participated in the keynote speaker presentation by Mr. Keith Davis, who encouraged us all to dream BIG for ourselves and our students
- The VASE team is already at work with a fall ACE program for students which will include a Running Club, Craft Club and a Sign Language Club. VASE also provided a welcome sign with a selfie station at the open house
- Ms. Sirois extended a thank-you to all of the community members that helped decorate the bulletin boards this year and noted this is the second year that community members decorated bulletin boards and hopes this will continue in upcoming years. Ms. Sirois stated Tri-town Against Racism committee members came in and decorated two bulletin boards and on one of the boards there are “pull-off” notes that students can take off, which has a positive statement on the sticky note.

VIII. School Committee

A. Committee Reports

1. Budget Sub-Committee:

Superintendent Nelson stated they have not met – meetings will begin late October/early November

2. Building Committee

Ms. Rios stated they have not met, but noted Mr. Eugene Jones provided a breakdown with his report of September, 2021

3. ORR District School Committee

Ms. Smith stated they have not met – they have a meeting scheduled for next week.

4. SMEC

Ms. Smith stated their next meeting is scheduled for September 30th.

5. Early Childhood Council

Ms. Daniel stated they have not met

6. READS

Mr. Nelson stated READS will meet on September 16th

7. Tri-Town Education Foundation

Ms. Daniel stated they have not met.

8. Policy Sub Committee

Ms. Beauregard stated they met regarding mask mandate and the policy was not voted on due to the state level mandate.

9. School Council

Ms. Sirois stated they have not met

10. Anti-Racism Sub-Committee

Mary Beauregard stated they have not met

B. School Committee Re-Organization

Recommendation:

That the School Committee re-organize for the 2021-2022 school year.

Superintendent Nelson explained the process, noting that his position is only to ask the committee members for nominations for the Chairperson's position, and once a Chairperson is elected, he turns the meeting back over to the newly elected Chairperson who will continue the process of nominating members for the various positions available.

Superintendent Nelson entertained a nomination for Chairperson for the 21-22 school year for the Marion School Committee.

MOTION: by Nichole Daniel to nominate April Rios as Chairperson for the 21-22 school year.

SECONDED: Christine Marcolini

Mr. Nelson asked Ms. Rios if she would accept the position if appointed? Ms. Rios responded yes.

Mr. Nelson asked if there were any other nominations for Chairperson at this time – there were none.

OPPOSED: NONE

MOTION PASSED: 5:0

Roll Call: Nichole Daniel – yes; Mary Beauregard – yes; Christine Marcolini – yes; April Rios – yes; Michelle Smith – yes

Chairperson Rios entertained a nomination for Vice-Chairperson for the 2021-2022 school year for the Marion School Committee.

MOTION: by April Rios to nominate Nichole Daniel as Vice-Chairperson for the 21-22 school year.

SECONDED: Christine Marcolini

Ms. Rios asked if there were any other nominations for Vice-Chairperson – there were none.

OPPOSED: NONE

MOTION PASSED: 5:0

Roll Call: Nichole Daniel – yes; Mary Beauregard – yes; Christine Marcolini – yes; April Rios – yes; Michelle Smith – yes

MOTION: by Christine Marcolini to nominate Diana Russo as School Committee Secretary for the 2021-2022 school year.

SECONDED: Nichole Daniel

OPPOSED: NONE

MOTION PASSED: 5:0

Roll Call: Nichole Daniel – yes; Mary Beauregard – yes; Christine Marcolini – yes; April Rios – yes; Michelle Smith – yes

**Chairperson
Vice-Chairperson
School Committee Secretary
Recording Secretary**

**April Rios
Nichole Daniel
Diana Russo
TBD**

Marion School Committee Subcommittee List 2021-2022

Chairperson Rios stated the following will be addressed as one slate and voted on in its entirety at the end.

ORR District School Committee

**Michelle Smith
Mary Beauregard (alternate)**

Mass. School Supt. Union No. 55

**Nichole Daniel
April Rios
Christine Marcolini (alternate)**

Building Committee

**Christine Marcolini
April Rios**

READS

Michael S. Nelson

Sick Leave Bank

**Mary Beauregard
Michelle Smith**

SMEC

Michelle Smith

Early Childhood Council	Nichole Daniel
Sole Signatory	April Rios Nichole Daniel
MASC Delegate/Legislative Liaison	Mary Beauregard
Budget Subcommittee	Michelle Smith Christine Marcolini
School Physician	Dr. Mendes Dr. Reynolds
Policy Review Subcommittee	Mary Beauregard
Tri-Town Education Foundation	Nichole Daniel
Town Liaison	April Rios
Superintendent's Goals Subcommittee	Michelle Smith Nichole Daniel
Anti-Racism Subcommittee	Mary Beauregard

MOTION: by Nichole Daniel to approve the above committee slate as revised/presented above for FY21/22 school year
SECONDED: Mary Beauregard
OPPOSED: NONE
MOTION PASSED: 5:0

Roll Call: Nichole Daniel – yes; Mary Beauregard – yes; Christine Marcolini – yes; April Rios – yes; Michelle Smith – yes

IX. Future Business

A. Timeline

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

Marion School Committee
 October 13, 2021 @ 6:30pm
 Hybrid

Joint School Committee
 September 23, 2021 @ 6:30pm
 Remote via zoom

B. Future Agenda Items

- Approval of Chairperson's Annual Report (December)
- Initial Budget Review (January)
- Budget Public Hearing (April)
- Budget Approval (April)
- School Committee Goals – assess progress and set goals for following year (May)
- School Committee Reorganization (May/June – depending on election date)
- School Choice Public Hearing (May)
- Administrator Contracts (May)
- School Improvement Plan Approval (May/June)
- Approval of Leases (June)
- Approval of School Committee Goals for the following year (June)

X. Open Comments

Superintendent Nelson stated the Joint School Committee developed a policy for “Open Comments”, noting Open Comments section will be limited to twenty (20) minutes and individuals are given three (3) minutes to speak. Mr. Nelson stated each individual needs to put their names into the comment section with their full name and address, and the Chairperson will recognize them. Mr. Nelson stated the school committee members takes the comment(s)/question(s) very seriously and they will go on record and it is not necessary for the school committee members to respond to any questions/comments. Mr. Nelson noted if someone wants to speak more than once, they need to be recognized by the Chairperson. Mr. Nelson stated for the public’s knowledge, any questions or comments that are added to the chat will not be answered or responded to or be part of the minutes because they have not been recognized by the Chairperson per the approved policy that governs Open Comment.

Chairperson Rios asked if there were any Open Comments – there were none.

XI. Information Items

LIST OF DOCUMENTS USED AT THE MEETING

Marion School Committee Meeting Agenda – September 8, 2021

Food Service Director’s Report – Aug/Sept, 2021

Facilities Director’s Report – September, 2021

Principal’s Report – September, 2021

Meeting of the Regular Marion School Committee meeting ended at 8:20pm

MOTION: by Michelle Smith to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm.
SECONDED: Christine Marcolini
IN FAVOR: All
OPPOSED: None
MOTION PASSED – 5:0

Roll Call: Nichole Daniel – yes; Mary Beauregard – yes; Christine Marcolini – yes; April Rios – yes; Michelle Smith – yes

Respectfully Submitted,

Toni M. Bailey, Recording Secretary