

**MARION SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**March 27, 2019**  
**MINUTES**

Regular meeting of the Marion School Committee held on Wednesday, March 27, 2019, at 6:30 p.m., at Sippican School, 16 Spring Street, Marion, Massachusetts.

**PRESENT:** Christine Marcolini, Chair; Michelle Smith, Vice Chair; Dr. Ronald Gerhart; April Rios

**ABSENT:** Kate Houdelette; Dr. Elise Frangos, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Doug White, Superintendent; Michael Nelson M.Ed., Director of Student Services; Paul Kitchen, School Business Manager; Lyn Rivet, Principal; Sarah Goerges, Vice Principal; Deborah Carlino, Recording Secretary; members of the press and public

**MEETING TO ORDER:** Chair Marcolini opened the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.

It was unanimously voted to open the Public Hearing – FY20 Budget.

**PUBLIC HEARING: FY20 BUDGET**

Dr. White provided an overview of the FY20 budget. (see handout “Marion Public School District FY2020 Appropriate Operating Budget Details, Public Hearing March 27, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. Multipurpose Room, Sippican Elementary School”. Dr White explained that the District was requesting a 1.48% increase to its budget based on the following factors:

FY2019 Appropriated Budget		\$6,058,909
	FY19 to FY20 Increase	
Professional Staff Salaries	\$79,125	
Clerical Staff Paraprofessionals	\$71,854	
Other Salaries	\$15.00	
Contracted Services (Utilities)	(\$8,983)	
Supplies/Text/Computers	\$4,473	
Transportation/Out of District	(\$56,691)	
Total Recommended Increases	\$89,792	1.48%
FY2020 Requested Budget		\$6,148,701

A parent asked about the “coming down the road” need and if more funds are needed what is the process.

Dr. White explained that if need be the towns would have to go back to town meeting in the fall to request more funding. That is worse case scenario.

Chair Marcolini also noted that this was one of the toughest budgets they have had to deal with in many years. She thanked Staff and Administrations for their long hours and hard work in drafting

this budget.

There were a few comments about the class size numbers and they reminded everyone it's about the kids, not the numbers.

Chair Marcolini also reminded everyone that the Board is trying to work within the piece that the town gives them. She also noted that when they have needed more from the town in prior years, they have received support and funding. However, this year, the town does not have anything extra to give.

Ms. Smith also stated that they are thankful for the support they receive and they know what that there are needs and that this budget is not the best, but it's what we have to work with and we are doing the best we can for the student. We need the community to speak out and support us at town meeting.

Ms. Rios thanked everyone here at the meeting and all the teachers for their hard work and dedication. They know it's hard and this budget stinks, but it's what we have to work with.

It was unanimously voted to close the public hearing on the FY2020 Budget.

RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT: None at this time.

## **I. General**

### **A. Project Grow Tuition**

Mr. Nelson and Doreen Lopes provided a presentation to the Project Grow Fee Increase. Mr. Nelson noted that the current 4-hour program fee is \$25 with 177 days of service with 24 participants; totaling \$106,200 per year. They are proposing an increase to \$35 with 177 days of service for 27 participants for a total of \$148,680. The increase income across three towns would be \$42,480; with an increase income of \$14,160 per town.

MOTION: by Ms. Rios to increase the Project Grow Tuition to \$35 as recommended  
SECOND: by Ms. Smith  
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

## **II. Approval of Minutes**

- 1. Regular Minutes: February 13, 2019**
2. Executive Session Minutes: None
- 3. Budget Subcommittee: March 5, 2019**
4. Negotiations Executive Session Minutes: None

MOTION: by Ms. Smith to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of February 13, 2019  
SECOND: by Ms. Rios  
VOTE: 3:0:1 (abstaining; Dr. Gerhart)

MOTION: by Ms. Smith to approve the Budget Subcommittee minutes of March 5, 2019  
SECOND: by Ms. Rios

VOTE: 1:0:3 (abstaining; Ms. Smith; Ms. Rios; Dr. Gerhart)

- III. Consent Agenda
- IV. Agenda Items Pending

**V. General**

**B. Acceptance of Donations**

Chair Marcolini noted that she heard from the Recreation Department about some handicap swings that would be donated to the school. However, there was no one present from the Recreation Dept. and Chair Marcolini stated that she would reach out to them again and perhaps invite them to attend the next meeting.

Ms. Rivet explained that they will holding an Easter Egg Hunt; and they have received donations for said eggs.

MOTION: by Dr. Gerhart to accept the Easter egg donations as presented  
SECOND: by Ms. Rios  
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

**C. Approval of Transportation Contract**

Mr. Kitchen noted that March 5<sup>th</sup>, the ORR School District conducted an invitation for proposals for student transportation services for school year 2020 through 2022 with two additional optional years of service on behalf of the Town of Marion and Old Rochester Regional School District. Upon review of the bid documents Amaral Bus Company Inc. of 1090 State Road, Westport, MA, has been determined to be the lowest responsible and responsive bidder for student transportation. The contract is based upon a cost per mile fee. The mileage for each route has been calculated to develop a daily cost per route. The contract is based upon a school calendar year of 180 days. For the upcoming year 2019-2020, ORR will reimburse Marion for the cost of the routes required to transport all students attending ORR's Junior and Senior High Schools (Grades 7-12) based upon the actual daily mileage driven times and cost per mile in effect \$304 for Tier 1 and \$364 for Tier 2 times 180 days. Said payments to be made semi-annually on October 1, 2019 and January 1, 2020.

MOTION: by Dr. Gerhart to award the transportation contract to Amaral Bus Company Inc. of Westport, MA as recommended  
SECOND: by Ms. Smith  
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

**D. Approval of FY20 Budget**

MOTION: by Dr. Gerhart to approve the 2020 budget in the amount of \$6,148,701 as recommended  
SECOND: by Ms. Smith  
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

**E. Principal Search Update**

Dr. White thanked those who have participated. The two finalists will be on campus next Monday and Tuesday. This will allow parents a meet and greet. Mr. Charlie West will be on April 1<sup>st</sup> and Marlo \_\_\_ will be here on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**IV. New Business**

- A. Policy Review
- B. Curriculum
- C. **Business**

**1. Financial Report:** Mr. Kitchen provided an update of the financials to the Board; the FY19 Budget dated 7/1/2018 thru 3/31/2019 with a budget balance of \$441,341.98 after current year encumbrances. Lastly, the Board received copies of reports of the “Marion Special Revenue/Revolving Funds, FY19 thru 2/28/2019” review.

**2. Budget Transfers**

Mr. Kitchen was asking for approval of transfers in the amount of \$55,091.92 to rectify negative balances for as well as \$14,327.11 to help offset special education negative balances.

MOTION: by Ms. Smith to approve of the transfers as presented  
SECOND: by Ms. Rios  
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

- D. Personnel

- VI. Special Report.
- VII. Unfinished Business

**CHAIRPERSONS REPORT** – Chair Marcolini thanked everyone who helped and participated in the long drawn out budget process.

**CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATORS REPORT:** Dr. White thanked those who sat on the committee for the future curriculum and Assistant Superintendent positions and deciding that the best direction to go with regard to this within the district is to keep it inhouse and spread the work throughout existing leaders within the district. It was further decided to reexamine the positions during the next school year.

**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

Ms. Rivet provided a report dated March, 2019. She thanked everyone for their continued dedication and hard work.

**VIII. School Committee**

**A. Committee Reports**

- 1. Budget Sub-Committee: none at this time.
- 2. Building Committee: Nothing at this time

3. ORR District School Committee: Ms. Smith noted that they met in March. They discussed solar panel canopies. They approved looking into that project. They reviewed their budget. They approved a unified spring track. Also, a trip to Italy. Then they met again last night and they approved to put on the ballot, the TURF project.

4. SMEC: None at this time.

5. Early Childhood Council: Mr. Nelson provided an update.

6. READS: Dr. White noted that they met; they continue to discuss expanding READS or relocating. They looked into bonding the project, however it was much too large of a financial commitment, so they are looking at other options.

7. TriTown Education Foundation: Dr. White noted that the grants are out and available.

8. Policy Subcommittee: None at this time.

9. School Council update: Principal Rivet noted that they have not met as it fell on the one and only snow day.

B. School Committee Re-organization

C. School Committee Goals

IX. Future Business

A. Timeline

B. Future Agenda

X. Open Comments

XI. Information Items

XII. Executive Session

**NEXT MEETING:**

Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the Sippican School

Joint School Committee – Thursday, June 4, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Media Room at ORR Jr. HS

Respectfully submitted,  
Deborah Carlino, Secretary