

**MARION SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**February 13, 2019**  
**MINUTES**

Regular meeting of the Marion School Committee held on Wednesday, February 13, 2019, at 6:30 p.m., at Sippican School, 16 Spring Street, Marion, Massachusetts.

**PRESENT:** Michelle Smith, Vice Chair; Kate Houdelette; April Rios

**ABSENT:** Christine Marcolini, Chair; Dr. Ronald Gerhart; Michael Nelson M.Ed., Director of Student Services

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Doug White, Superintendent; Dr. Elise Frangos, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum; 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:** Vice Chair Smith opened the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.

**RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT:** None at this time.

**I. Approval of Minutes**

- 1. Regular Minutes: January 9, 2019**
2. Executive Session Minutes:
- 3. Budget Subcommittee: January 9, 2019**
4. Negotiations Executive Session Minutes: None

**MOTION:** by Ms. Houdelette to approve the minutes of January 9, 2019

**SECOND:** by Ms. Rios

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

II. Consent Agenda

III. Agenda Items Pending

**IV. General**

**A. Acceptance of Donations**

The Board was being asked to accept the following donations:

-Donation of a rocking chair worth approximately \$100 from Ms. Kathleen Welch to Ms. Sweatland

-Donation of \$1000 from the Fearing Family to VASE for the band program

-Donation of \$1000 from the Fearing Family to VASE for the enrichment program

**MOTION:** by Ms. Houdelette to accept the donations as presented

**SECOND:** by Ms. Rios

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

## **B. FY20 Budget Update**

Dr. White provided an overview of the FY20 Budget. Dr. White noted that the draft proposed budget for FY20 was \$6,165,701.00 which is an increase from FY19 which was approved in the amount of \$6,058, 908.98 which represents a 1.76% increase (+\$106,792.02).

Ms. Rios was concerned with the decreasing the number of fourth grade teachers.

Ms. Smith suggested inviting town officials into the schools to observe what the teachers have to deal with every day. Although we understand the numbers that we are limited to, we need to educate them as to the needs the schools and students have.

Ms. Houdelette appreciates what the town has given the schools; however, we do have needs and concerns based on the class sizes and number of students in our classrooms.

Dr. White noted that based on not being able to bring in the FTE and educate the town officials.

Dr. Frangos stated that the invitation being offered to the officials, would be a great asset and transformational. It's very rich. Very exciting and a great public relations step forward.

Dr. White noted that this was the first draft and he has heard the Board's concerns and will bring those concerns back to the Budget Subcommittee for further review and discussion.

## **C. Chairperson's Report**

Ms. Smith noted that Chair Marcolini was not present and will have a report available for the next meeting. She also noted that this was Chair Marcolini's last report as she will not be running for re-election.

## **D. Curriculum Positions**

Dr. White explained that this has been discussed by all Boards. He explained that at the Rochester School Committee meeting it was suggested having two members from each Board and create a subcommittee to further review the positions and funding.

It was suggested that Ms. Smith and Chair Marcolini remain on the Subcommittee as they are also on the search committee.

Dr. Frangos advised that based on the ongoing discussions, it was suggested having one Assistant Superintendent and having two Assistants report to him/her if it is fiscally able to do so. She also noted the compliance piece of this position is very important. Budgets are very important but students and their needs are very important as well.

## **IV. New Business**

### **A. Policy Review**

B. Curriculum

C. **Business**

1. **Financial Report:** Dr. White provided an update of the financials to the Board; the FY19 Budget dated 7/1/2018 thru 2/28/2019 with a budget balance of \$435,117.09 after current year encumbrances. Lastly, the Board received copies of reports of the “Marion Special Revenue/Revolving Funds, FY19 thru 1/31/2019” review.

2. Budget Transfers

D. Personnel

VI. Special Report.

VII. Unfinished Business

**CHAIRPERSONS REPORT** – None at this time.

**CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATORS REPORT:** Dr. White suggested to continue watching the Friday email news; as well as the State’s budget has been drafted. We have been moving through interviews for the Jr. High position. We have started looking at the process to replace Lyn as the Principal.

Dr. Frangos noted that they have been doing a lot in civics. A big part of social studies is the contributions of women as well as native people. She has grant money that she will be using if possible, to purchase an online text as well as books for the district to aid in the learning of social issues around the world.

Dr. White noted that Mr. Nelson had another commitment this evening; however, he has been busy working with Project Grow and the improvements of same.

### **PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

Ms. Rivet provided a report dated February 7, 2019. She thanked Lisa Dix and Lisa Horan for their work to help make the OR Celebrates Family Night a huge success. Families were treated to learning, food and activities from all over the world. It was a very special night for all who attended.

Lisa Horan noted that they had about 200 people present and had presenters from every school, local officials, VASE, etc. The language teachers at the high school ran language circles, dance lessons on dances from around the world. It was a great feeling.

The Board thanked them for a great evening.

Nicole Boussy spoke about the “Bread Winner” a book read by the 6<sup>th</sup> graders based on a school in Afghanistan. They learned that it costs about \$420 a year to educate a girl in that country. The students wanted to help in some way, so they helped raise funds to help educate a girl for a year at a cost of \$420. They held a fundraiser called “Spirit Day”, based on the Patriots being in the super bowl. They raised \$700 which will help pay to educate for one year for one girl as well as purchase coats for girls in need. It helps educate the children and as well as, helped them appreciate their ability to go to school.

## **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 January. They discussed in length TURF. The prosed \$5 million budget has been decreased to \$2 and they discussed how that was broken down. They accepted a donation. They reviewed the school calendar. They discussed the curriculum position. They approved handbook revisions.
4. SMEC: Ms. Smith noted that they met and they had three consumers who provided an overview of their living on their own and working; and they also reviewed their budget.
5. Early Childhood Council: none at this time.
6. READS: Dr. White noted that they met; they continue to discuss expanding READS or relocating. There is no action by the Board to move forward on a budget report at this time, however, they do have space concerns.
7. TriTown Education Foundation: Dr. Frangos noted that the grants are posted on line. They will be awarding grants in the amounts of \$3000, \$2000 and \$1000 depending on requirements met. Dr. Frangos also noted that there is \$1500 that VASE donated a couple of years ago with the specification that it is awarded to a Marion educator for the benefit of our community.
8. Policy Subcommittee: Dr. White noted that they have not met.
9. School Council update: Principal Rivet noted that they have not met

### **B. School Committee Re-organization**

### **C. School Committee Goals**

## **IX. Future Business**

### **A. Timeline**

### **B. Future Agenda**

## **X. Open Comments**

A resident thanked the Board and everyone who works on the budget. They recognize there is one pot of money, but she would agree with Ms. Smith’s recommendation that the town officials need to be educated on our schools for the best interest of our children.

XI. Information Items

XII. Executive Session

**NEXT MEETING:**

Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the Sippican School

Joint School Committee – Thursday, March 7, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Media Room at ORR Jr. HS

Respectfully submitted,  
Deborah Carlino, Secretary