

MATTAPOISETT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Mattapoisett, Massachusetts

BY: HYBRID FORMAT

MEETING MINUTES
June 7, 2021

Regular meeting of the Mattapoisett School Committee was held on Monday – June 7, 2021, and called to order by Chairperson James Muse at 6:30pm.

Chairperson Muse stated the meeting is being conducted in a hybrid format – with committee members and administrators having the option to attend in person at the Old Rochester Regional Junior High School Media Room, 133 Marion Road, Mattapoisett MA, and the public has the ability to participate remotely through zoom.

MEMBERS PRESENT: James Muse, Chairperson- by: Remote; Carly Lavin, Vice-Chair- by: Hybrid; Tiffini Reedy- by: Hybrid; Shannon Finning by: Hybrid; and Karin Barrows – by: Hybrid

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; Kevin Tavares, Associate Principal – Mattapoisett Public Schools by: Hybrid; teachers; staff; parents; members of the press and public; and, Toni Bailey, Recording Secretary all participated via zoom.

MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairperson, James Muse 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.

OPEN COMMENTS

None

RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT – RETIREES

Chairperson Muse recognized the following staff members for their dedication to the Mattapoisett School District:

Lisa Hill – Paraprofessional - Mrs. Hill is recognized for significantly contributing to teaching and learning at Center School and served as a Paraprofessional for 16 years mostly in the Project Grow classroom. The book dedicated in her name “The 50 States” will be placed in the Center School Library.

Diane LeRoy – Teacher – Mrs. LeRoy is recognized for significantly contributing to teaching and learning at Center School and served the Mattapoisett School District for 36 years. The book dedicated in her name “Little Dreamers” will be placed in the Center School Library. Mr. Muse stated 36 years is great ethic and he tremendously and personally thanks Mrs. LeRoy for all of her years of service.

Suzanne Powers – Principal’s Secretary – Mrs. Powers is recognized for significantly supporting the educational system to ensure that all students were successful learners. Mrs. Powers served as the Principal’s Secretary at Old Hammondtown School for 13 years. The book dedicated in her

name “Trees, Leaves, Flowers and Seeds” will be placed in the Old Hammondtown School Library.

Mr. Muse concluded that we greatly appreciate all of the years of service from these three, fantastic people and wished them all well in their future endeavors.

I. Approval of Minutes:

A. Minutes

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review and approve the minutes of May 3, 2021

1. Regular Meeting Minutes – May 3, 2021

Mr. Muse asked if there were any changes to the meeting minutes of May 3, 2021

MOTION: by Carly Lavin to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of May 3, 2021 as presented

SECONDED: Karin Barrows

OPPOSED: None

MOTION PASSED – 4:0

ABSTAINED: 1

Roll Call: Carly Lavin - Yes; - Yes; Shannon Finning -Yes; Karin Barrows - Yes; Tiffini Reedy – Abstained; James Muse - Yes

2. Executive Session Minutes – May 3, 2021

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review and approve the minutes of May 3, 2021

Mr. Muse stated these minutes will be addressed during Executive Session

IV. General

A. Approval of Leases

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review and approve the lease for SMEC for the 2021-2022 school year.

Superintendent Nelson noted SMEC has leased classroom space at Old Hammondtown School for one of their programs that serves students with disabilities, and they are looking to renew the lease for two (2) full-size classrooms and a small office space, which would be used for nursing purposes. Mr. Nelson stated the fee for the lease is voted on and approved by the Board (SMEC) and School Committee members. Mr. Nelson stated he included a clause in the Lease, recognizing the unique school year we had this past year, meaning if we require additional space for our students, a conversation would take place with SMEC in terms of what would make most sense for all students involved.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS by School Committee members:

Carly Lavin:

On the additional language for COVID that was placed on the Lease, has that language already been approved by our legal team?

Mr. Barber responded yes.

MOTION: by Carly Lavin to approve the lease for SMEC for the 2021-2022 school year as presented

SECONDED: Shannon Finning

OPPOSED: None

MOTION PASSED – 5:0

Roll Call: Carly Lavin - Yes; - Yes; Shannon Finning -Yes; Karin Barrows - Yes; Tiffini Reedy – Yes; James Muse - Yes

B: Approval of School Committee Dates for FY21-22

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review and approve the dates for the next school year as follows:

Superintendent Nelson stated the proposed FY22 School Year calendar, as well as the Proposed School Committee dates have been given to the School Committee members and noted typically the Mattapoissett School Committee meets on Monday evenings with the first proposed meeting date scheduled for Monday, September 27, 2021.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS by School Committee Members:

Carly Lavin:

Ms. Lavin has concerns with the first meeting being held on September 27, given the circumstances that we went through last year and feels as though there is a large gap between meeting dates.

Chairperson Muse stated historically the School Committee does not meet during the summer months and school committee members have the ability to call for an additional meeting prior to September 27 if they feel it is necessary.

Superintendent Nelson stated if ever there were a reason for the school committee to call an additional meeting, we would work with the school committee members to schedule a meeting in addition to the proposed dates.

Shannon Finning:

Dr. Finning stated given the fact that we still do not have guidance from DESE particularly around masks for elementary school, it would be advisable for this body to plan to meet in August in advance of the start of this school year.

Mr. Nelson suggested scheduling a tentative school committee meeting on Monday, August 30, 2021.

Tiffini Reedy:

Ms. Reedy asked why Rochester School Committee meets 10 times and Mattapoissett and Marion School Committee only meet 8 times given the circumstances surrounding this year? Ms. Reedy feels it would be prudent to meet either an equal number or much more frequently.

Superintending Nelson stated the way the meetings are scheduled are sorted by the preferences of each of the school committees - typically three of the four school committees meet every six weeks and as needed with the exception of Rochester who meets every five weeks. Mr. Nelson noted typically Rochester cancels one of the meetings in the fall.

Carly Lavin:

Ms. Lavin noted that Marion and Rochester are meeting prior to the ORR School Committee meeting, and she feels as though the Mattapoissett School Committee should be meeting prior to the ORR School Committee meeting as well, since we talk about the same stuff.

Chairperson Muse noted this is not uncommon and that there are many times the “town” school committee meetings do not take place prior to the ORR School Committee meeting and stated if

there are any questions or concerns that come up at an ORR School Committee meeting that needs to be shared with Marion, Mattapoisett or Rochester School Committee members, they are shared with the Chairperson of each Committee, and if an additional meeting needs to be held for an individual town, a conversation can be held with Superintendent Nelson to schedule an extra meeting.

Carly Lavin:

Ms. Lavin proposed the following dates for the Mattapoisett School Committee:

August 30; September 27; November 1; December 6; January 10; February 28; April 4; May 9 and June 13.

MOTION: by Karin Barrows to accept the FY21-22 School Committee meetings as proposed/revised above by Ms. Lavin.

SECONDED: Carly Lavin

OPPOSED: None

MOTION PASSED – 5:0

Roll Call: Carly Lavin - Yes; - Yes; Shannon Finning -Yes; Karin Barrows - Yes; Tiffini Reedy – Yes; James Muse - Yes

C. School Improvement Plan Process

Recommendation:

That the School Committee receive an update regarding the School Improvement Plan
Superintending Nelson stated the plan and process for next year will follow a more traditional non-pandemic school year. The Administration’s plan in moving forward as we move into year four, is to work with the building Administration to align their School Improvement Plan goals with the work of the school systems as a whole, while tailored to the needs of Center School and Old Hammondtown School.

Mr. Nelson noted the School Improvement Plans are driven by the building Administration but they work predominantly with the School Council and other key stakeholders, such as soliciting feedback from staff members, etc.

Mr. Tavares gave an update to the school committee members as follows:

- Professional Development training was used to look at the results of the progress monitoring trials – classroom teachers and interventionists took a look at the data and they were able to put things in to place in preparation of the winter trials.
- In March, PD was used to dive into the results of both the fall and winter progress monitoring trials to compare the two – surprisingly enough we did not see the gaps that we thought we might see.
- Regarding technology in the classrooms – many teachers had technology goals written into their goal settings and we were able to see teacher websites, classroom observations, class projects, etc.
- We used Panorama Survey results to look at what families and students are reporting and we will continue to look at that data to see what we are going to work on next year
- Global Citizenship (Goal #3) – in our November PD we focused on Cultural Proficiency & Equity and that information was shared out data in our staff meetings.

Superintendent Nelson thanked Mr. Tavares in his increased role this past year, in the absence of Mrs. Bowman.

Chairperson Muse extended his gratitude to Mr. Tavares in stepping up as well, and noted his great work under these unusual circumstances this past year have not gone unnoticed. Mr. Muse

noted not only did Mr. Tavares step up and took on additional roles, but the entire staff did as well – it is greatly appreciated!

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS by School Committee Members:

Shannon Finning:

Dr. Finning noted the school committee has heard from a number of families that they are interested in finding out ways to get more involved in their student’s education. Dr. Finning stated there are parents attending this meeting who have been at every meeting, and she would like to see a more broad-based call to parents/families so they can understand how they can become more involved and what the requirements are to be a part of the School Council.

Chairperson Muse asked Superintendent Nelson and Mr. Tavares if they can enhance how we can reach out to parents/families so that they can become more involved in School Council.

Mr. Nelson stated he would discuss this with Mr. Tavares and make it happen.

V. New Business

B. Business

1. Financial Report

Recommendation:

That the School Committee hear a report from Mr. Barber.

Mr. Barber presented a memo as of May 31, 2021 indicating the Mattapoisett School District currently has \$50,250 available of the general funds appropriated in the 2021 Fiscal Year. Mr. Barber stated we are able to identify how our funds are currently encumbered and expended and out of the \$7,357,475 million-dollar budget appropriated to the District – 81.9% is directly assigned and is spent/encumbered to student instruction.

2. Budget Transfer

Recommendation:

That the School Committee hear an update from Mr. Barber

Mr. Barber stated when this budget was approved back in March, 2020 for FY20-21 (prior to the very unique school year we had due to COVID-19), he included in his 10-page General Ledger report a “Budget Transfer” report to balance off the operational costs for the Fiscal 21 school year. (Facility Costs – custodial materials/cleaning building supplies; Substitutes Costs – increased daily rates; additional Technology needs, etc. – these lines had to be adjusted/increased from the overall approved budget from March, 2020.) The attached General Ledger report shows what the original approved operational budget lines had remaining as of June 7, 2021, and those unexpended funds were reallocated to eliminate the deficit numbers.

Mr. Barber reported on the Facilities Director’s Report (By: Gene Jones) as follows for Center School:

- Groomed fields and grounds
- COVID-19 protocols strictly adhered to for HVAC, Cleaning, and Sanitizing along with traffic control
- Nightly sanitizing all our buses with static spray sanitizing equipment, including buses
- Deployed all DESE/CDC required Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)
- Protective shields installed in all required areas
- Testing shields installed in all required areas
- Nurse and student services issued required additional safety PPE
- Conducted routine maintenance on all facility systems

- Planning for school closure – move classrooms to original rooms, move desks back, etc.

Old Hammondtown School:

- Assisted Town in conducting Town Election
- Groomed fields in support of Mattapoisett Baseball Programs
- COVID-19 protocols strictly adhered to for HVAC, Cleaning, Sanitizing and traffic control
- Nightly sanitizing all our buses with static spray sanitizing equipment, including buses
- Deployed all DESE/CDC required Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)
- Protective shields installed in all required areas
- Testing shields acquired and available on site
- Nurse and student services issued required additional safety PPE
- Conducted routine maintenance on all facility systems
- Planning for school closure – move classroom to original rooms, move desks back, etc.

Mr. Barber reported on the Food Service Director’s Report (By: Jill Henesey) as follows (for both Center School and Old Hammondtown School):

The Food Service Director’s Report dated June 2021, provides a month to month summary comparison at both schools for fiscal years 2020 and 2021:

- Meal counts are increasing
- USDA recently announced that all schools will be permitted to continue to provide Free School Breakfast and Lunch through June 2022 – waiting on further guidance from DESE
- Grab N Go meals continue to be available for the duration of the school year - every Tuesday afternoon from 4:30-5:30 at the ORR High School entrance (by the bulldog)
- June 15th will be our last Grab N Go Meal Distribution
- Grab N Go Meals will be available to those who would like to participate, at designated locations across MA. Please visit: <https://meals4kids.org/find-summer-meal-site> to find the nearest Summer Meal Site locations

Mr. Barber noted from May, Breakfast Count increased from 19% to 21% and Lunch Count increased from 41% to 45%.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS by School Committee Members:

Karin Barrows:

Has there been any word for funding for the upcoming year for food services from the State?

Mr. Barber stated it is still going to be a free breakfast and lunch meal for the 21-22 school year effective the first day of school and noted unfortunately, they would not be able to provide Grab N Go meals through the summer.

Carly Lavin:

Ms. Lavin extended a “thank you” to Mr. Barber and Mr. Jones for grooming the baseball fields at Old Hammondtown School and stated it is nice to have Mattapoisett part of the ORR baseball program again.

Shannon Finning:

Dr. Finning asked if there has been any discussion at the regional level or across the state on the daily rate for substitutes next year?

Superintendent Nelson stated there has been discussions internally around this subject, but noted an increase was not part of the approved FY22 budgets in any of the districts, so depending on how all of this plays out, it would have to be considered by the Joint School Committee. Mr. Nelson noted they are meeting on June 17th, but it may be in everyone's best interest to see what happens over the summer and have a discussion at the first Joint School Committee meeting when school resumes.

VI. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

Mr. Muse stated this was a tough year and he is internally grateful to all of the people who worked so hard in doing a great job in continuing to educate our children. This was not easy and a huge thank-you to everyone!

CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINSTRATOR'S REPORT:

Superintendent Nelson stated with this most likely being the last school committee meeting for this fiscal year, he extended a "thank you" not only to his staff members, colleagues and school committee members - he personally thanked all of the students, parents/guardians who have been equal stakeholders and partners who have also been through this very challenging school year in many ways and stated he is extremely proud of the Center School and Old Hammondtown School family, in terms of how they all managed this particular school year.

Mr. Nelson stated he is proud to serve and be a part of this community!

Mr. Nelson noted the recent guidance for next year is pretty vague, and what it is telling us right now is to plan for the restrictions to go away (i.e.: social distancing, cleaning protocols, etc.). Mr. Nelson noted there is a little bit of uncertainty around face coverings/masks. Mr. Nelson stated at this point we will continue to monitor the guidance and come back together as a school committee, as needed, to made decisions on behalf of our students, families and staff members.

Mr. Nelson noted the other piece, in terms of our business here, is the public meeting order that has been in place, that has allowed us to have either virtual or hybrid meetings. Mr. Nelson stated there is legislation that is being considered in Massachusetts to possibly extend the order that has allowed us to have virtual meetings and also to consider permanent changes, such as allowing the public to access these meetings virtually moving forward. Mr. Nelson stated as soon as a decision has been made, he would share the information with the school committee members.

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

- Today was a half-day of Professional Development for the district. Old Hammondtown School and Center School educators met as grade level teams to review student placement for the fall. They reviewed student-learning profiles and met with the next grade level to discuss students. Also, Special Education teachers finalized their plans to prepare for the end of the year.
- The English Learner Self-Audit is complete and has been submitted to DESE. The self-audit allows the district to identify any gaps and examine protocols to support students who are identified as English Language Learners. DESE will visit the district via Zoom next year to discuss our EL programming at all of our schools with EL students.
- Educators will be invited to participate in examining our curriculum with an inclusion focus, progress monitoring, literacy, and grade level expectations over the summer. It will be held by hybrid format, using our Google Classroom as a tool to share resources and communicate with fellow team members. This will be a busy summer supporting teachers and our learning community.

Mr. Craig Davidson – Director of Student Services reported the following:

- The Special Education and Civil Rights Audit is complete and filed.
- We have been recently awarded the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Grant #237 - total grant funding is \$47,589

Note: Goals of Grant 237

- Family engagement
- Work with families birth through age 3 in all three towns of the tri-town
- Act as a referral agency to support families
- Enhance referrals within the district
- Mental health
- Medically challenged
- Highly at risk for students needing interventions

Mr. Davidson stated this grant allows us to meet these goals stated above by covering salaries within the district that oversee the grant initiatives, programming opportunities for our youngest learners and resources for families - such as transition activity books for all kindergarteners in our districts. In addition, this grant oversees pre-school and K-referrals and provides pre-school and kindergarten the “Ages and Stages Developmental Questionnaire”.

- K-Screening was finalized last week – Center School had approximately 50 students participate in the screening process
- Students were excited to participate in the bus tour
- Sail Program: Spaces are still available for programming – information on this program is located on the District’s website

Superintendent Nelson extended a “thank-you” to Howie Barber, Dr. Pearson-Campbell and Craig Davidson noting they were hired over the summer and they all had to quickly “bond” and unpack a lot of guidance and create a partnership in a very quick manner. Mr. Nelson stated they are looking forward to catching their breath a little bit at the close of this school year. Mr. Nelson is excited to really get to know one another over this summer, with less pressure at hand, and review what we accomplished this year and focus on next year.

In addition, Mr. Nelson stated when you hear “CFCE Grant” and hear “Early Ed”, you should think about Doreen Lopes. Mr. Nelson stated Doreen has been part of the Tri-Town community for many years in many different capacities (the YMCA in Mattapoisett and now as her role in the District) and the reason why this grant is so competitive, so important and what many people do not realize is, Doreen’s entire salary is managed outside of the operating budget. Mr. Nelson noted all of Doreen’s services (although she is only suppose to work 2-3 days a week and ends up being a lot more than that) is handled by that grant and tuitions from that program, as well as the Pre-K program located in the high school.

Mr. Nelson noted regarding self-assessment work (the “Audits”) - Mr. Davidson and Dr. Pearson-Campbell sold themselves short. Mr. Nelson stated these are “compliance” Audits, which means they are given a long list of all the different regulations and civil rights criteria regarding English Language Learners, Special Education Students and also Civil Rights. Mr. Nelson noted their job is to look at our Districts’ policies, procedures, and programming that we have in place, and show evidence of it leading up to the site visit. Mr. Nelson stated the self-assessment was to identify their strengths and weaknesses and when the site visits took place they talked about whether or not they were in compliance, what was done last year and where we are going to go moving forward. Mr. Nelson stated this was not an easy task during their first year, since they were still

learning their way around the schools and everyone's names – Mr. Nelson extended a “thank-you” to both of them for their endless time and effort they put into all of the Audits.

Mr. Nelson stated this year's summer program will follow the same guidance that just took place this past school year as far as offering full in-person learning, as well as hybrid/remote learning.

Mr. Muse asked the school committee members if they had any questions/comments at this time?

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS by the School Committee Members:

Shannon Finning:

Dr. Finning's understanding is that we are waiting for guidance from DESE regarding summer programs. Dr. Finning wants to know if DESE was to change the mask mandate, would we then follow their guidelines or are we saying we are going to go above what the guidance recommends?

Mr. Nelson stated each and every time the guidance is updated or orders are lifted, we then comply with that particular direction or movement by the Department of Education.

Carly Lavin:

As of now, we are holding the summer program both in-person and remote - If DESE were to change their guidance during mid-summer to go full in-person teaching for the remainder of the summer, would we continue to offer remote learning?

Mr. Nelson stated DESE has been pretty clear in that this summer there is a remote learning option and he does not anticipate they would make a change. Mr. Nelson noted if there were a change in guidance, we would still continue to offer remote learning for the remainder of the summer.

Mr. Barber stated Mr. Nelson was a part of the district for seven years prior in a different role (Director of Student Services) and wanted to note this year was also Mr. Nelson's first year as Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Barber stated this year was also a unique year to become a Superintendent - having so many uncertainties, and having three positions vacant for almost two months, prior to establishing an administrative team. Mr. Barber would like to recognize Mr. Nelson's time and effort as well, and more importantly knowing this is a unique district with four different school districts (technically five), and having to build relationships with all stakeholders involved – he would like to extend his appreciation to Mr. Nelson. Members of the school committee agreed with Mr. Barber's statement.

Chairperson Muse stated all of the positions at the central office are extremely difficult giving the make-up of our school district with three towns, a district, as well as a joint committee. Mr. Muse noted just looking at the monthly chart of meetings the central office administration attends is mind-boggling. Mr. Muse stated in doing this with all “new” administration not even knowing the district, has been a fantastic effort by all. Mr. Muse stated the leadership by Mr. Nelson was more than he could ever have expected – it was great – he agrees with everyone wholeheartedly!

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. Kevin Tavares, Associate Principal of Center School/Old Hammondtown School stated he shared the report with the school committee members and highlighted the following:

- Mr. Tavares thanked “everyone” (school committee members, central office, staff at both schools and the families) for the support he received this year – it has been tremendous.

- Senior, Rachel Foye – researched, planned and designed a colorful sensory walk for all of the students to enjoy – thank you Rachel! The students at Center School absolutely loved it.
- On Monday, June 14 – the annual Flag Day event will take place – this is a tradition that has gone on for years – it is Mrs. Bowman’s favorite day
- On Tuesday, June 15 – Grade 3 – a family virtual tour will take place with a Q&A session to follow – Mr. Tavares will also hold small groups to come tour OHS – following the guidance
- Grade 6 will be celebrating the last few years – yearbook signing – kickball game and a trip to the town beach
- Grade 6 ceremony June 21 @ 10:30
- Conversations will take place regarding Grade 2 returning back to Center School
- Center School/OHS field days took place

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS by School Committee Members:

Carly Lavin:

Ms. Lavin thanked Mr. Tavares for having upcoming tours for Grade 3 students coming up to OHS. Ms. Lavin wanted to know what type of notice parents should expect to receive in August in order to participate in the tours.

Mr. Tavares stated he will email the parents and there will be specific times in which parents will be able to sign-up for a tour.

Ms. Lavin echoed the sensory walk was fabulous and field day was a joy to watch!

VIII. School Committee

A. Committee Reports

1. ORR District School Committee

Mr. Muse reported as follows:

- The end of year celebrations has taken place for the senior class at the high school; it has been a long journey for this graduating class and they did a fantastic job and they had great support and hopefully things will look better in the future from a health standpoint for our country.
- There was an incident at the JHS, which was quite concerning and there was an investigation into racist remarks and inappropriate language graffiti put on the walls in a bathroom at the JHS and unfortunately after extensive review, there has been no ability to identify the perpetrator(s) of this ignorant act. There has been a lot of work done within the school – further efforts have been made for Professional Development to deal with these issues. Mr. Muse noted it was a student(s) who brought this information to the Principal/Administration’s attention.

2. SMEC

No report at this time.

3. READS

Mr. Nelson reported as follows:

- The meeting took place on June 3, 2021 virtually
- Heard reports from their Special Education Program Directors

Discussion of Action Items took place as follows:

- Evaluation of the READS Treasurer
- Evaluation of the Executive Director
- Budget update

- Moved forward and talked about their E-rate process at READS
- Moved into approval of their Non-Discrimination Policy, as they are also going through their Self-Assessment process
- Discussed staffing needs in regard to new hirers, annual staff appointments and summer staff employment
- Discussions around nominations for secretary and clerk for the next school year and also appointments to the Collaborative Governing Board
- Reviewed the meeting schedule for the 21-22 school year, which was approved unanimously

4. Early Childhood Council

Karin Barrows stated the following:

- They met on May 18, 2021 and Mrs. Lopes reviewed with the members the Family Engagement Framework that Mr. Davidson reviewed for everyone.

5. MASC

Shannon Finning reported as follows:

- A mailing was sent out regarding “Save the Date for the 20-21 Conference” which is going to be held November 3-6 in Hyannis. They are providing an option to attend in-person or in hybrid format.

6. Mattapoisett Capital Needs Committee

No report at this time.

7. Tri-Town Education Foundation

Karin Barrows reported the following Grant Recipients for 20-21:

- 1st goes to DECCA the Business & Financial Education Enrichment Group led by Mr. Gonet, was awarded in the amount of \$2,763. This is already an existing group who does great things such as supporting students who are not able to afford the registration and materials
- 2nd goes to the Anchor Family Outreach group led by Lisa Horan, was awarded in the amount of \$502.59 – this group runs over the course of the school year – began 2016-2017 school year and will continue into the future – this project is a year-long family outreach program – this goes well with the Family Engagement Framework that we are supporting as a district
- 3rd goes to the Diversity Literature Library led by Courtney Aarsheim, was awarded \$806 – this grant will provide an opportunity to build a diverse classroom library and provide opportunities for diversity lessons and social/emotional lessons through mentoring skills

8. Policy Sub-Committee

Carly Lavin reported they met on May 17, 2021 and reported the following:

- We had guest speakers from the high school – they led the Gender Sexuality Alliance – Staff Member Allison Barker and two Students – Parker Simpson and Alia Cusolito. Ms. Lavin stated this was by far one of the best presentations she sat in - they came to the Policy Meeting in an effort to help educate us and enlighten us about opportunities they have independently found in our handbook and/or in our policies where there are opportunities to make changes – they were fantastic! Ms. Lavin stated the members took a lot of their feedback and we made note that we will review the policies and we will be making changes

9. Budget Sub-Committee

Mr. Muse stated they have not met.

10. Clock Committee

Mr. Muse stated he always likes to thank Mr. Andrews who continues to keep the clock going and noted the historical significance of the school of our town.

11. Anti-Racism Committee

Shannon Finning stated they met on May 4 and June 1 and reported the following:

- May 4 – spent time looking at the District’s Inclusive Calendars – we were provided examples from other districts and colleges to look at how we might begin to create a more inclusive calendar; one of the things we talked about significantly was the importance of not only to look at dates but also to tie-in with the curriculum
 - We learned that students who are involved with the Cultural Clubs of America were ahead of us in getting started on this topic; and we are looking to have student leadership around the school
 - We received an update from the Cultural Proficiency Groups at each of the schools and the way that the data from our survey was being shared and worked with at both the school level and grade level classrooms
- June 1 – we were provided an update about some of those earlier conversations from the Panorama Survey
 - We talked about the District’s hiring processes and recruitment strategies – we want to not only recruit but also retain more diverse members of our school district community
 - We have participated in two National Job Fairs, which is a change from what we have done in the past
 - We talked through working with our consultant the guidebook that she has about comprehensively addressing equity and inclusion in our schools and continued the conversation about the vision for the District’s Inclusion Calendar

Dr. Pearson-Campbell noted she reached out to building Administrators to invite and give teachers the opportunity to attend Professional Development this summer regarding Cultural Proficiency.

Mr. Davidson stated he and Dr. Pearson-Campbell worked with the Jr. High School staff this week regarding the incident that took place, and they brought in a guest speaker, Dr. Taylor, from Teachers’ 21 – Dr. Taylor was a great resource and she came highly recommended from multiple school districts as well as from the state level. Mr. Davidson stated we will be continuing our relationship with Dr. Taylor moving forward into the new school year.

Mr. Davidson stated over the summer they will be talking about the structure of the sub-committee and the cultural proficiency teams throughout the buildings and how we can focus and continue moving forward.

Mr. Davidson noted, as Dr. Finning mentioned earlier, one of the best things that happened this year was bringing student voices into our community work. Mr. Davidson stated we talked at our last meeting about identifying student leaders at the Jr. High and High School levels who live in a specific town could become members of the Cultural Proficiency Teams at that specific elementary school. we will be working on bringing student voices in

Dr. Finning stated the sub-committee met seven times this year. Dr. Finning stated regarding the incident that took place at the JHS, the student came forward to the Administration, as well as to Tri-Town Against Racism and having that organization tied into the sub-committee is incredibly

important. Dr. Finning stated one of the things they talked about was embracing restorative justice practice in the work that we are doing in the schools and sharing out universal praise for Mr. Nelson's leadership and how he communicated about the incidents that have happened this year.

B. School Committee Reorganization

Superintendent Nelson explained that every spring elections take place and he explained the process of how the Chairperson is elected – noting that out of the five school committee members, three votes of the committee need to agree to elect one Chairperson. Mr. Nelson stated at this time he is looking for nomination(s) for the position of Chairperson for the 21-22 School Year.

MOTION: by Karin Barrows to nominate James Muse as Chairperson of the Mattapoisett School Committee for the 21-22 School Year

SECONDED: Carly Lavin

Mr. Nelson asked Mr. Muse if he would accept the position of Chairperson for the 21-22 School Year if the vote supported the election

Mr. Muse stated if elected, he would accept.

Mr. Nelson asked if there were any other nominations for the position of Chairperson for the 21-22 School Year?

MOTION: by Shannon Finning to nominate Carly Lavin as Chairperson of the Mattapoisett School Committee for the 21-22 School Year

SECONDED: Tiffini Reedy

Mr. Nelson asked Ms. Lavin if she would accept the position of Chairperson for the 21-22 School Year if the vote supported the election

Ms. Lavin stated she honored to be nominated, but would not be able to accept the position of Chairperson at this time if elected

Roll Call for the nomination of James Muse to become elected as Chairperson for the 21-22 School Year:

Carly Lavin – Yes; Karin Barrows – Yes; Shannon Finning – No; Tiffini Reedy – No; James Muse – Yes

IN FAVOR: Carly Lavin, Karin Barrows, James Muse

OPPOSED: Shannon Finning, Tiffini Reedy

MOTION PASSED: 3:2

Chairperson Muse recognizes a nomination for Vice-Chairperson

Chairperson Muse nominated that Carly Lavin continue as Vice-Chairperson.

MOTION: by Mr. Muse to elect Carly Lavin to serve as Vice-Chairperson of the Mattapoisett School Committee for the 21-22 School Year

SECONDED: Karin Barrows

Chairperson Muse asked if there were any other nominations for the position of Vice-Chairperson – there were none

Mr. Muse asked Ms. Lavin if she would accept the position of Vice-Chairperson for the 21-22 School Year if the vote supported the election

Ms. Lavin stated she would accept if elected

Roll Call: Karin Barrows – Yes; Shannon Finning – Yes; Tiffini Reedy– Yes; James Muse – Yes; Carly Lavin - Yes

IN FAVOR: All
OPPOSED: None
MOTION PASSED: 5:0

MOTION: by Carly Lavin to nominate Diana Russo as Secretary for the Mattapoissett School Committee.

SECONDED: Karin Barrows
IN FAVOR: All
OPPOSED: None
MOTION PASSED: 5:0

Roll Call: Carly Lavin – yes; Karin Barrows – yes; Shannon Finning – yes; Tiffini Reedy – yes; James Muse – yes

Recording Secretary: To be determined

The following positions were discussed as one slate:

ORR District School Committee: James Muse

Mass. School Supt. Union No. 55: Carly Lavin
Shannon Finning
Tiffini Reedy

READS: Michael S. Nelson

Sick Leave Bank: James Muse
Karin Barrows – Alternate: Shannon Finning

SMEC: Tiffini Reedy

Early Childhood Advisory Council: Karin Barrows

Sole Signatory: James Muse

MASC Delegate/Legislative Liaison: Shannon Finning

School Physician: Dr. Reynolds and Dr. Mendes

Health & Safety Committee:	Tiffini Reedy
Collective Bargaining (Board of Selectman):	Michael Lorenc
Capital Planning Committee:	Carly Lavin
Policy Subcommittee:	Carly Lavin
Warrant Review Committee:	Table this item
ORR Foundation Committee:	Karin Barrows
Budget Subcommittee:	James Muse Shannon Finning
Clock Committee:	James Muse
Town Liaison:	James Muse
Superintendent's Goals Subcommittee:	Karin Barrows
Anti-Racism Subcommittee:	Shannon Finning

MOTION: by Carly Lavin to vote on all of the Sub-Committee positions listed above

SECONDED: Karin Barrows

IN FAVOR: All

OPPOSED: None

MOTION PASSED: 5:0

Roll Call: Carly Lavin – Yes; Shannon Finning – Yes; Tiffini Reedy – Yes; Karin Barrows – Yes; James Muse - Yes

IX. Future Business

A. Timeline

Mattapoisett School Committee will be held on Monday, August 30, 2021 @ 6:30pm – Format to be determined

Joint School Committee is scheduled for June 17, 2021 @ 6:30pm – Remotely via zoom

B. Future Agenda Items

- MCAS Results Report (November/December – depending upon receipt of results)
- Initial Budget Review (January)
- School Lunch Statement (January/May)
- Approval of Chairperson's Annual Report (February)
- Interim report on School Committee progress toward goals (February)
- Budget Approval (public hearings) (February)
- School Committee Reorganization (May/June – depending on election date)
- School Choice Public Hearing (May)
- Administrator Contract (May)
- Approval of new School Council goals (June)

XI. Information Items

LIST OF DOCUMENTS USED AT THE MEETING

- Mattapoissett School Committee Meeting Agenda – June 7, 2021
- Regular Session – Meeting Minutes – May 3, 2021
- Financial Report dated June 7, 2021
- Food Service Director Report – June, 2021
- Facilities Director Report – June, 2021
- Principal’s Report – June 7, 2021

Meeting of the Regular Mattapoissett School Committee meeting ended at 8:25pm

Chairperson Muse requested at 8:25pm a Motion to go in to Executive Session for the Purpose of #3 - for negotiations with non-union personnel and #7 – to comply with the provisions of any general or special law

MOTION: by Carly Lavin to go into Executive Session for the Purpose of #3 and #7, to return only to adjourn

SECONDED: Karin Barrows

OPPOSED: None

MOTION PASSED – 5:0

Roll Call: Carly Lavin – Yes; Karin Barrows – Yes; Shannon Finning – Yes; Tiffini Reedy – Yes; James Muse - Yes

Respectfully Submitted,

Toni M. Bailey, Recording Secretary