

MATTAPOISETT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
16 Barstow Street – Mattapoisett, MA 02739

MEETING MINUTES

May 4, 2020

6:30 p.m.

School Committee Members Present:

James Muse, Chairman

Shannon Finning

Carol Clifford, Vice Chairman

Karin Barrows

Members Absent:

Charles Colburn Rider

ADMINISTRATORS:

Douglas White, Superintendent of Schools

Michael Nelson, Assistant Superintendent

Rosemary Bowman, Principal

Kevin Tavares, Assistant Principal

MEETING TO ORDER:

The Mattapoisett School Committee Meeting was called to order on May 4, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Muse.

APPOINT RECORDING SECRETARY:

Karin Barrows made a motion to Appoint Lori Walsh Recording Secretary for the Mattapoisett School Committee. Shannon Finning seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

BUDGET HEARING

Shannon Finning made a motion to recess at 6:40 to discuss the FY21 Budget.

Karin Barrows seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Dr. White talked about the priorities workaround for the FY2021 budget and promoting academic. He also stated that Technology is top notch regarding future enrollment projections, Educational services, social emotional wellbeing and strategic objectives. Dr. White said that 73% of the budget is contracts and contract adjustments. Enrollment is declining, 088-2 year adjustment, 100-133 – special education, lost some grant funding, changes in programming. Changes are \$118,037.

Michael Nelson stated they get a Circuit Breaker credit of \$45,000 and we own that amount. It's an increase in revenue for the year. The amount for the Budget for FY21 is \$7,357,475.00. Utilities and Transportation no change. LED lights in all the Buildings.

Mr. Nelson went on to say that the Special Education Department has a total enrollment of 436 and they have a high level of support. Mattapoisett School District Students with Disabilities has 69 Students with IEP's. Mr. Nelson would like to extend thanks to the Town of Mattapoisett. The fiscal 2021 budget for Mattapoisett School operating budget is at \$7,357,479.

Mr. Nelson also stated that the Entitlement Grant for Title 1 and Title II has additional funding in FY21. Mattapoisett awards gifts and grants for Title 1 and Title II. He also stated that there is a slight decrease in Title I.

Rose Bowman stated that in the New School year there will be a decrease in Teachers, 4 Secretary's, 6th grade to 3 and Kindergarten 54 Children, classes of 18 with 48 registered. Classes are 18-21 in sizes.

Grade 5, two classes of 22 and one of 21. Staffing reducing by one Teacher. Change from 77.16 to 76.16. Seven Special Education Teachers.

Karin Barrows made a motion to close the Budget Hearing at 7:08 p.m.

Shannon Finning seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 24, 2020:

Carole Clifford asked if the Cultural Proficiency Survey for the Teachers is still going through.

Michael Nelson answered and stated that the Social Emotional Survey for the Teachers is being done and is about 96% done at this time. He also stated that the Cultural Proficiency Survey for Students grade 6-12 is being worked on and the data for that is not in yet. Mr. Nelson stated that the Surveys the Students and the Teachers do are for the following year.

Carole Clifford made a motion to approve the minutes for February 24, 2020.

Karin Barrows seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

SCHOOL CLOSURE UPDATE:

Dr. White spoke to the Committee about the breakfast and lunch program and stated that they are serving between 675 to 850 lunches per week. They are being offset by grants and we are eligible for some funding that will come into the District and will cover some of the costs. We will end up coming up even it will not cover all the costs. Dr. White stated that the facilities has been cleaned and sanitized multiple times and deeply cleaned and if it is used it is deep cleaned again. The kitchen is cleaned every day after it has been used for making the breakfast and lunches. Would like to thank Jean Jones and his staff for helping the Town out. He has taken our equipment and cleaned them, including, Town Hall, Police cars and Stations, Ambulances and cleaned and sanitized them over and over.

LEADERSHIP UPDATE:

Rose Bowman stated that its important to address the three phases of remote learning. We began Phase I of remote learning with the children when school closed. Ms. Bowman also wanted to say that the people in the Cafeteria have done a wonderful job. She also said that they had to make sure that the children had access to a computer after the Schools closed so Chrome books were donated. Phase II was developing daily plans for each grade level. Ms. Bowman said that her and Kevin have worked together on this. Google classroom has been the majority of what the Teachers are using for their Students. Three hours of class for the children daily and, also utilizing Zoom. Phase III for asynchronous learning. Ms. Bowman also stated that they meet with the Nurses every week. She stated that we are in Phase III right now. The Commissioner has addressed how important it is for the Children for enrichment activities. Ms. Bowman stated that this has been a strong learning curve.

Kevin showed a slide show of the programs the children are using at home. Grade level Teachers work together.

Shannon Finning stated that when we move into the next phase, families should have a clear understanding and have a clear outcome. Shannon Finning suggested to have someone to go in and better navigate this would be helpful.

Dr. White stated that they meet with the Union presidents regularly to get feedback from their membership about what thing they are looking for assistance with. There's been a strong collaboration and if we all stick together we will compete to try to make this a great experience for everyone.

Michael Nelson stated that google classroom has been the favorite and screen and we're leaning towards using that as our staple asynchronous tool and it works well with google classroom.

Mr. Nelson also stated that the Special Education Teachers have been giving out weekly remote plans – a communication tool for the liaison or the parent or guardian. Our special Education Team has begun scheduling Team meetings and 504's.

Karin asked how we are utilizing our paraprofessionals.

Mr. Nelson stated that they are working with their grade level liaisons remotely. Online professional development and they are assigned five classes per week. We are using them in as many ways as possible.

Carol Clifford stated that we need to keep in mind the parents that may not be able to help with this kind of work. They may be at work or there are other reasons.

APPROVAL OF THE FY21 BUDGET:

Carole Clifford made a motion to approve the budget for FY21 in the amount of \$7,357,479.

Karin Barrows seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Shannon Finning abstained from voting.

SCHOOL CHOICE VOTE FOR 2020 – 2021

Carol Clifford made a motion to continue the School Choice Vote for 2020-2021.

Karin Barrows seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Carole Clifford made a motion to accept the School Choice placement for 2020-2021.

Karin Barrows seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE DATES FOR 2020 – 2021

Karin Barrows made a motion to accept the School Committee dates for 2020-2021.

Shannon Finning seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS

Shannon Finning made a motion to accept the donation of \$4,187.31.

Karin Barrows seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

MASTER PLAN PROJECT TEAM

Shannon Finning made a motion to nominate Carol Clifford as a planning Member.

Karin Barrows seconded motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

KINDERGARTEN ENTRY PROCESS

Michael Nelson stated that they are collecting information and planning what is best for the children but it is on hold for now.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Dr. White stated that our budget is in good shape and we have savings in utilities and it will be encumbered for FY21 in case it is needed.

CHAIRPERSON REPORT

James Muse spoke to the Committee about how difficult these few months have been and that he is grateful to all that has made this happen.

CENTRAL OFFICE REPORT

Dr. White spoke about the Commissioners report about making sure the kids are ready if and when the kids come back to School. Also, we may need to come back to this if the pandemic gets worse again.

Yearend reports will be collected. Districts are doing different things around Graduation and he said to do what is best for your District. Dr. White stated that we need to wait for what the Governor is going to determine in early June. Title I Dollars can be used all the way back to March when this started to September. Guidance around grading in the next couple of weeks is coming.

Michael Nelson stated that we will be closing out our Teacher induction program. Summer programming will be either a Hybrid model, remote learning or in person learning. Elementary school are holding transition meetings for Students on 504's and held a zoom transition meeting for Sippican and the Junior High School.

PRINCIPALS REPORT

Rose Bowman spoke to the Committee about a virtual tour to walk through old Hammond Town. Making plans for an end of year celebration. 6th grade Teachers are working with them on an award ceremony. Mrs. Bowman would like to acknowledge with great regard the work that Kevin had done. Will address the parents of the 6th grade and we will make sure that these students are recognized.

ORR DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

SMEC

Carole Clifford stated they had the reading of the budget. Provide services to the Students. Fall River will be joining the SMEC collaboration.

READS

Providing services for the Students remotely. Meeting later this week.

EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL

Nothing to report

MASC

Nothing to report

MATTAPOISETT CAPITAL NEEDS COMMITTEE

Carol Clifford stated that they are saving money on LED and needed some money on Phone upgrading so moved some money around on the budget.

TRI-TOWN EDUCATION FOUNDATION

A Few applications have come in.

Shannon Finning spoke to the Committee about an email that was forwarded to Diana from Michael Duval about a racist video that came out. Mrs. Finny has been addressed by some parents about some situations and would like to raise this as a concern. Also, about graduation coming up in August and was wondering if there could be a car parade or something like that.

Rose Bowman stated that right now we cannot do that we are working with the police to see what can and cannot be done.

Melissa Hughes stated that village signs was nice enough to donate the signs for the Seniors that you see in people's yards and would like to thank Tony Tripania for donating them.

ADJOURNMENT

Carol Clifford made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

Shannon Finning seconded the motion. All were favor. Motion passed.