

**Monomoy Regional School District - Monomoy Regional School Committee
Meeting Minutes for Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 6:00 PM
Monomoy Regional High School Library - 75 Oak Street, Harwich, MA 02645**

This meeting was broadcast to Channel 22 as well as live-streamed/recorded to the [MRSC YOUTUBE CHANNEL](#)

Members present: Jackie Zibrat-Long, Chair; Meredith Henderson, Vice Chair; Terry Russell; Betty Gray; Tina Games; Jessica Rogers; Scotti Finnegan

Members attending remotely via Zoom: Sharon Stout

Administrators present: Scott Carpenter, Superintendent; Michael MacMillan; Melissa Maguire; Marc Smith; Joy Jordan

A. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM

B. Adjournment to Executive Session Roll Call Vote to adjourn to Executive session pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, sec. 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares.

MOTION: Meredith Henderson moved to adjourn to Executive Session, seconded by Betty Gray.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Scotti Finnegan: aye; Tina Games: aye; Betty Gray: aye; Jessica Rogers: aye; Terry Russell: aye; Meredith Henderson: aye; Jackie Zibrat-Long: aye.

UNANIMOUS the meeting adjourns to Executive Session at 6:02 PM.

Regular Open Session resuming at approximately 6:30 PM.

ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE: Sharon Stout: present; Scotti Finnegan: present; Tina Games: present; Betty Gray: present; Jessica Rogers: present; Terry Russell: present; Meredith Henderson: present; Jackie Zibrat-Long: present.

C. Reporting out from Executive Session

Chair Zibrat-Long reported that on both February 16th and March 9th, the school committee met in executive session to discuss the evaluation process review, as recommended by the evaluation process review committee.

D. Superintendent's Award for Academic Excellence

Superintendent Scott Carpenter awarded MRHS Senior Christie Beckley with the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents Award for Academic Excellence. These awards are given to high school students who have distinguished themselves in the pursuit of excellence during their high school careers. Criteria for the award looks at the three-year cumulative average, rank in class and selection by the Superintendent from the top 5%.

E. Approval of Minutes: February 16, 2023

MOTION: Meredith Henderson moved to approve the minutes from the February 16, 2023 MRSC meeting, seconded by Betty Gray.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Sharon Stout (1): aye; Scotti Finnegan (.5): abstain; Tina Games(1): aye; Betty Gray(.5): aye; Jessica Rogers(.5): abstain; Terry Russell(1): aye; Meredith Henderson(1): aye; Jackie Zibrat-Long (.5): aye.
The motion passes with 6 ayes and 2 abstentions.

F. Public Comment: Harwich resident Charles Gruzka addressed the school committee speaking in favor of FY24 budget scenario 3.

G. Reports and Discussions

i. Welcome new School Committee member

Chair Jackie Zibrat-Long welcomed new school committee member Joanne ‘Scotti’ Finnegan. Ms. Finnegan joins the committee as the newest Chatham member, who fills the vacancy from Danielle Tolley’s departure.

ii. Open Campus Pilot Program update

MRHS Principal Jen Police was asked to return to the school committee to provide an update on the newly launched open campus pilot program. The program, which has now happened 5 times, has proven to be successful. When surveyed, parents appear to agree that they feel comfortable with their students leaving and returning campus, that students are following the rules of the program, find it beneficial to senior students, and understand that academics and discipline have been considered for their childrens’ participation.

iii. Middle / High School Best Buddies Program - Melissa Maguire

Director of Student Services Melissa Maguire introduced MRMS Teacher and Best Buddies advisor Amanda Rice and grade 7 student Gigi Paravisini to speak about the MRMS Best Buddies program. The Best Buddies program is offered at the Middle School as a seminar to allow for more student participation. From that seminar, the group created a showcase - a series of interviews with Best Buddies students- that asks what inclusion means to them, which was shared with school committee members.

iv. Montreal and Quebec City Student Trip proposal - Pauline Linnell

MRHS French teacher Pauline Linnell shared her proposal to take a group of students to Montreal and Quebec City in April 2024. The trip aims to provide a cultural experience to students for a fraction of the cost of a trip to Europe. If approved, the group will travel from April 15-19, 2024 for an estimated cost of \$894 for 4 nights/days, and intends to have a teacher/student ratio of 4:10.

The school committee will vote to approve at the next meeting.

v. Second Reading: 2023-2024 MRSD School Calendar

Potential Vote

The school committee was presented with the 2023-2024 MRSC School Calendar for a second reading. The only change to the calendar from the first reading was the addition of Good Friday (March 29, 2024) as a day that the district will be closed. The new last day of school will now be June 17, 2024 - not including potential snow days.

MOTION: Meredith Henderson moved to approve the 2023-2024 MRSD School Calendar as presented, seconded by Betty Gray.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Sharon Stout (1): aye; Scotti Finnegan (.5): aye; Tina Games(1): aye; Betty Gray(.5): aye; Jessica Rogers(.5): aye; Terry Russell(1): aye; Meredith Henderson(1): aye; Jackie Zibrat-Long (.5): aye.

UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

vi. ARC and Elementary Data presentation - Christie Cutone & Jennifer Kelly

Chatham Elementary School Principal Jen Kelly approached the podium first to present data captured in her reporting, which focused primarily on Foundational Skills, Multi-Tiered Systems of Support and Community Involvement and Engagement. The comparative data shared reading progress from September 2021 to the middle of this current school year with proficient levels increasing and emergency levels decreasing. It also spoke to the continued work needed to complete the ongoing progress seen in reading levels in the school.

Harwich Elementary School Principal Christie Cutone then came to the podium to present her information related to the ARC program and Math MAP and MCAS percentages and the Multi-tiered systems of support. Both presentations emphasized the importance of bringing differentiated math teaching techniques to both Chatham and Harwich Elementary School and plans for next steps of needed implementation and support.

vii. FY24 Budget discussion and vote

MRSD Superintendent Scott Carpenter, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Marc Smith and Business Manager Michael MacMillan presented four budget scenarios for the school committee to consider.

Scenario 1 proposes:

Scenario 1 - Updated budget with state budget numbers no additional items from 'unfunded' list. Includes the two district curriculum positions.

Scenario 1	Updated Amount	Change from FY23 (\$)	Change from FY23 (%)
Budget	\$44,155,532	\$1,354,129	3.16%
Harwich Assessment	\$28,346,094	\$1,044,636	3.83%
Chatham Assessment	\$9,607,351	\$93,764	0.99%

Scenario 2 proposes:

Scenario 2- Scenario 1 plus the Chatham Elementary School's unfunded requests - interventionist and admin support.

Scenario 2	Updated Amount	Change from FY23 (\$)	Change from FY23 (%)
Budget	\$44,258,631	\$1,457,228	3.40%
Harwich Assessment	\$28,346,094	\$1,044,636	3.83%
Chatham Assessment	\$9,710,450	\$196,863	2.07%

Scenario 3 proposes:

Scenario 3 - Scenario 1 plus all the remaining unfunded requests, including those in Scenario 2, the SPED & intervention positions at HES, and furniture at MRHS.

Scenario 3	Updated Amount	Change from FY23 (\$)	Change from FY23 (%)
Budget	\$44,447,003	\$1,645,600	3.84%
Harwich Assessment	\$28,519,107	\$1,217,649	4.46%
Chatham Assessment	\$9,725,809	\$212,222	2.23%

Scenario 4 proposes:

Scenario 4 - Scenario 1 with all the remaining unfunded requests, as in Scenario 3, however, excluding the two district curriculum positions.

Scenario 4	Updated Amount	Change from FY23 (\$)	Change from FY23 (%)
Budget	\$44,195,812	\$1,394,409	3.26%
Harwich Assessment	\$28,327,271	\$1,025,813	3.76%
Chatham Assessment	\$9,666,454	\$152,867	1.61%

While the Administration supports the approval for budget scenario 1, Chair Zibrat-Long offered each school committee member opportunities to share their thoughts and recommendations on the most appropriate budget to approve for FY24. After much deliberation, Tina Games offered the following motion:

MOTION: Tina Games moved to approve FY24 Budget Scenario 3 minus the furniture at the MRHS. The motion was seconded by Betty Gray.

DISCUSSION: In discussion, it was recommended that the motion should include the dollar amounts and percentages being forwarded for approval.

AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION: Tina Games moved to approve the FY24 budget as follows:

	Updated Amount	Change from FY23 (\$)	Change from FY23 (%)
Budget	\$44,382,003	\$1,580,600	3.69%
Harwich Assessment	\$28,469,466	\$9,710,449	4.28%
Chatham Assessment	\$9,710,449	\$196,862	2.07%

The amendment was seconded by Betty Gray.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Sharon Stout (1): aye; Scotti Finnegan (.5): aye; Tina Games(1): aye; Betty Gray(.5): aye; Jessica Rogers(.5): aye; Terry Russell(1): aye; Meredith Henderson(1): aye; Jackie Zibrat-Long (.5): aye.

UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

G. Subcommittee, Representatives, Liaison Report

Chair Zibrat-Long shared that in packets there is an updated 2022-2023 school committee member list that includes Ms. Finnegan's information as well as an updated Subcommittee, Representative and Liaisons assignment list that has Ms. Finnegan placed on the Negotiations and Superintendent Evaluation subcommittees.

H. Superintendent's Report

i. Recognition of Donations, Grants, and other Acknowledgments

Dr. Carpenter thanked and recognized the below for their contributions to the district:

Thanks to the Cape Cod 5 for their education mini-grants to the following:

From CES: Sarah Peters, Jenna Grodzicki, and Patrick McGovern

From HES: Sarah Idman, William Weimer, Dyanna Rose, Nancy Capen, Francesca Jorgensen, and Amy Silvester

From MRMS: Zihui Zhang and Tracey Hanna

From MRHS: Richard Oldach, Stacy Yarnall, Pauline Linnell, Rachel Barnes, and Kari Flint

Thanks to Andy Matheson from MRHS and Kali Lower from MRMS and Joy Jordan for participating in the second Harwich Housing Huddle earlier this week who shared their personal stories about the struggle to find housing in our community

Dr. Carpenter also congratulated MRSD Director of Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction for successfully defending his dissertation today.

ii. Portrait of the Graduate update

Dr. Carpenter shared that he aimed to have an initial draft of the Portrait of the Graduate to present at the next meeting on March 23, 2023.

I. Action Items - Vote Required

i. FY24 Budget discussion and vote

MOTION: Tina Games moved to approve FY24 Budget Scenario 3 minus the furniture at the MRHS. The motion was seconded by Betty Gray.

DISCUSSION: In discussion, it was recommended that the motion should include the dollar amounts and percentages being forwarded for approval.

AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION: Tina Games moved to approve the FY24 budget as follows:

	Updated Amount	Change from FY23 (\$)	Change from FY23 (%)
Budget	\$44,382,003	\$1,580,600	3.69%
Harwich Assessment	\$28,469,466	\$9,710,449	4.28%
Chatham Assessment	\$9,710,449	\$196,862	2.07%

The amendment was seconded by Betty Gray.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Sharon Stout (1): aye; Scotti Finnegan (.5): aye; Tina Games(1): aye; Betty Gray(.5): aye; Jessica Rogers(.5): aye; Terry Russell(1): aye; Meredith Henderson(1): aye; Jackie Zibrat-Long (.5): aye.

UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

ii. Second Reading: 2023-2024 MRSD School Calendar

Potential Vote

MOTION: Meredith Henderson moved to approve the 2023-2024 MRSD School Calendar as presented, seconded by Betty Gray.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Sharon Stout (1): aye; Scotti Finnegan (.5): aye; Tina Games(1): aye; Betty Gray(.5): aye; Jessica Rogers(.5): aye; Terry Russell(1): aye; Meredith Henderson(1): aye; Jackie Zibrat-Long (.5): aye.

UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

iii. ESSER Budget Transfer

MOTION: Meredith Henderson moved to approve the ESSER budget transfers as follows:

Three hundred thousand, four hundred and thirty-six dollars (\$300,436) for Facilities and equipment:

One hundred and thirty-four thousand, four hundred and thirty-two dollars (\$134,432) for Health Services.

One million, two hundred and thirty-three thousand, one hundred and seventy-three dollars (\$1,233,173) for Instruction, and

Six hundred and fifty-seven thousand, nine hundred and four dollars (\$657,904) for SEL and Mental Health.

The motion was seconded by Terry Russell.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Sharon Stout (1): aye; Scotti Finnegan (.5): aye; Tina Games(1): aye; Betty Gray(.5): aye; Jessica Rogers(.5): aye; Terry Russell(1): aye; Meredith Henderson(1): aye; Jackie Zibrat-Long (.5): aye.

UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

iv. Executive Session - Unit A Contract Language

Potential Vote

MOTION: Meredith Henderson moved to approve the recommendation of the evaluation process review committee as discussed in executive session on February 16th and March 9th. The motion was seconded by Tina Games.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Sharon Stout: abstain; Scotti Finnegan (.5): aye; Tina Games(1): aye; Betty Gray(.5): aye; Jessica Rogers(.5): aye; Terry Russell(1): aye; Meredith Henderson(1): aye; Jackie Zibrat-Long (.5): aye.

The motion passes with 7 ayes and 1 abstention.

J. Presentation of the Warrants

Payroll and Accounts Payable warrants were presented for school committee member signatures.

K. Adjournment

MOTION: Meredith Henderson moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jessica Rogers.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Sharon Stout (1): aye; Scotti Finnegan (.5): aye; Tina Games(1): aye; Betty Gray(.5): aye; Jessica Rogers(.5): aye; Terry Russell(1): aye; Meredith Henderson(1): aye; Jackie Zibrat-Long (.5): aye.

UNANIMOUS the meeting adjourns at 10:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leah Tambolleo
Recording Secretary

Documents reviewed and available upon request

March 9, 2023 MRSC Meeting Agenda
February 16, 2023 MRSC Meeting Minutes
Open Campus Pilot Program data update
Middle / High School Best Buddies Program
Montreal and Quebec City Student Trip proposal
2023-2024 MRSD School Calendar
ARC and Elementary Data presentation
FY24 Budget
ESSER Budget Transfers