
MEETING MINUTES

The Tenth Regular Meeting of the Medford School Committee

May 20, 2024

Agenda

- I. Roll Call for Attendance of Members and Student Representatives - 7/0

Student Representatives - Noah Yurasko

- II. Salute the Flag

- III. Consent Agenda

- Bills and Payrolls
- Approval of Capital Purchases
- Public Budget Hearing Minutes, **May 6, 2024**
- Regular School Committee Minutes, **May 6, 2024**
- Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Handbook Process Minutes, **May 8, 2024**
- Behavioral Health and Special Ed Subcommittee Minutes, **May 15, 2024**
- **Recommendation to Approve \$3,000 grant** from the Massachusetts Cultural Council to fund Summer Art Workshops

Motion to sever Budget Hearing and Behavioral Health and Special Education Subcommittee Minutes by Member Ruseau, second by Member Reinfeld - 7/0 passed

Motion to Approve with adding YouTube link to Behavioral Health and Special Education Minutes by Member Reinfeld, second by Member Intoppa - 7/0 passed

Motion by Member Reinfeld to strike personal information of students in Budget Hearing Minutes, second by Member Intoppa - 7/0 passed

Motion to approve the rest of consent agenda by Member Reinfeld, second by Member Intoppa - 7/0 passed

Student Representative Darren Truong is in attendance.

- IV. Report of Subcommittees

- **Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Handbook Process - May 8, 2024**

Motion to waive the first reading by Member Ruseau, second by Member Graham - 7/0 passed

CHCA-B - HANDBOOK REVIEW AND SCHEDULE

The School Committee is required to approve school handbooks annually. Preparations for annual approval of the school handbooks will be scheduled in phases throughout the school year with attention to certain deadlines.

Phase I - Initiation of Handbook Update Process

Target Dates: August 1 to September 30

1. The Superintendent will create versions of each school handbook to become the draft for the upcoming school year;
2. The draft handbooks will be updated to incorporate changes mandated by School Committee policy, district policy, law, regulation, and legal rulings impacting the content of the handbook;
3. A memorandum will be created explaining each change and the source or reason for the change and be named "Mandatory Changes Memorandum";
4. A copy of the handbook prior to changes, the draft handbook, the memorandum explaining changes, and a copy of this policy will be sent to each school principal.

Phase II - School Council Drafting of Handbook Changes

Target dates: October 1 to January 31

1. The School Council will make updates to the draft handbook;
2. The School Council will create a memorandum explaining each change and the source or reason for the change and be named "School Council Changes Memorandum";
3. The School Council will send the recommended handbook and memorandum to the Superintendent.
4. The Superintendent will review for consistency where appropriate between handbooks across the district and create a memorandum explaining changes made to the recommended handbooks after School Council approval and provide the memorandum to the School Council and the School Committee in the approval process.

Phase III - Committee Review and Approval

Target Dates: February 1 to April 30

1. "Review and Approval of School Year XX Handbooks" will be placed on a Regular School Committee Meeting agenda;
2. The School Committee will receive copies of the handbook prior to changes, the recommended handbook, the Mandatory Changes Memorandum, and the School Council Changes Memorandum;
3. The School Committee will take action such as approval, amendment to a handbook, or postpone approval to a subsequent meeting, committee of the whole, or subcommittee meeting. Approval can only be made in whole of a handbook.

Policy Information

First Adopted: TBD

Last Amended: None

Last Reviewed: None

Review Frequency: two (2) years

Next Review: TBD

Version: 1

Policy ID: CHCA-B

Original Source: None

Legal References: M.G.L. [71:59C](#), [71:37H](#)

Motion to Approve second reading by Member Ruseau, second by Member Intoppa - 7/0 passed

- **Behavioral Health and Special Education Subcommittee** - Meeting held May 15, 2024
 - Recommendation to co-localize the Curtis-Tufts with the main Medford High School campus.

Motion to Approve by Member Ruseau, second by Member Olapade - 7/0 passed

V. Report of the Superintendent

1. **Superintendent's Updates and Comments** - Dr. Marice Edouard-Vincent, Superintendent
2. **CCSR Update and Student Recognition** - Mr. Richard Trotta, Director of CCSR accompanied by Brooks Elementary School students Savannah McLaughlin and Adam Costello
 - Jonah Siegel, Student and CCSR program Member - River Clean Ups
3. **Humanities Student Recognition** - Dr. Nicole Chiesa, Director of Humanities
4. **Medford High School Update and Survey Results** - Ms. Marta Cabral, Principal

Motion to support Ms. Cabral with survey results and programming regardless of budget constraints by Member Graham, second by Member Branley - 7/0 passed

- Darren Truong and Noah Yurasko, Student Representatives speak on student experience improving overall this year at Medford High School/Medford Vocational Technical High School, in particular student well-being and involvement.
- Chris Bennett, 19 Martin Street, Community Member
- 5. **Medford Career Technical Education (CTE) Update** - Mr. Chad Fallon, Principal/Director of Medford Vocational Technical High School and Dr. Peter J. Cushing, Assistant Superintendent
- Member Graham requested Report/proposal next year of space and expansion constraints in CTE

Motion by Member Graham for the School Building Committee explore the program expansions and new programs outlined in feasibility study, second by Member Reinfeld - 7/0 passed

Budget Portion of this meeting started at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Lungo-Koehn abstained from voting and requested Member Graham to Chair this portion of the meeting.

Motion by Member Reinfeld for a five minute recess, second by Member Branley - 7/0 passed

6. **Budget Update** - Mr. Gerry McCue, Director of Finance (*estimated start time 6:30 p.m.*)

Motion by Member Ruseau that the Medford School Committee budget request in the amount of \$79,399,774 for the responsible operations of the Medford Public Schools in 2024-2025 be submitted in writing to the Medford City Council and the Mayor of Medford within 48 hours of this motion, second by Member Olapade - 7/0 passed

[Petition](#) on behalf of students and faculty of Medford High School submitted by Student Representatives to the Mayor and School Committee.

Many students voiced opinions on various aspects of the budget and showed support for the Coordinator of Performing Arts position. *For confidentiality and safety of our students we do not publish names and addresses.*

Dave Crowley, parent
Kristen Turner, Arlington, MHS staff member
Jennifer Silva, 49 Winthrop Street, MHS School Nurse
Stephanie Ogonoski, 37 Hicks Avenue, Missituk
Paula Burke, 37 Hicks Avenue, Missituk
Alison Guilimette, 37 Hicks Avenue, Missituk
Kathy Feitor, School Adjustment Counselor Missituk
Julia Murphy, Missituk
Kathy Kay, Principal Missituk
Tara Hennessey, Missituk Parent
Jessica White, 138 Mitchell Avenue, Missituk
Christina McGourdy
Anthony Geehan, MTA President and MHS teacher
Lilly Scott, 30 College Avenue
Michelle, Pembroke Street
Rick McLaughlin - parent of band alumni
Jerry Hershkowitz - parent of Missituk, PTO
Sharon Hays, 69 Ripley Road, former SC member
Michelle Hardy, 59 Fourth Street, Vice President of MESA
Mary Petrone, President of MESA
Jim Kang
Colby Robbins, Missituk Librarian

Jessica Bruno
Chris Bennett via zoom
Jessica Healey via zoom
Amanda Gass, via zoom, Roberts Elementary teacher
Lucille Mello, East Border Circle

7. Budget Vote of the Medford School Committee

Restated Motion by Member Ruseau that the Medford School Committee budget request in the amount of \$79,399,774 for the responsible operations of the Medford Public Schools in 2024-2025 be submitted in writing to the Medford City Council and the Mayor of Medford within 48 hours of this motion, second by Member Olapade - 7/0 passed

Presentations of the Public (not to begin before 7:00 pm)

VII. Continued Business

- **MSBA / MCHSBC Update** - Presented by Jenny Graham, Chair
 - SBC Meeting May 13, 2024

Motion to table by Member Ruseau, second by Member Olapade - 6/0/1 passed

VIII. New Business

IX. Reports Requested

X. Condolences

The Members of the Medford School Committee express their sincerest condolences to the family of **Daniel F. "Danny D" DiGiacomo Jr.** father of Denise Grieco, McGlynn paraprofessional and After School program assistant.

The Members of the Medford School Committee express their sincerest condolences to the family of **Robert J. Brophy**, brother of Medford High School History teacher Matthew Brophy.

The Members of the Medford School Committee express their sincerest condolences to the family of **Paul Arnold Pellini**, father of Emily Pellini, EL Assessment Specialist and Lead Teacher.

XI. Next Regular Meeting

June 3, 2024 - Alden Memorial Chambers, Medford City Hall in addition to zoom

XII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Member Ruseau, second Member Olapade - 6/0/1
Meeting adjourned at 10:14 pm.