

Monomoy Regional School District - Monomoy Regional School Committee
Meeting Minutes for Thursday, October 10, 2024 at 5:30 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: Betty Gray, Chair; Tina Games, Vice Chair; Brad Schiff; Bre Rose; Jackie Zibrat-Long; Meredith Henderson; Ryan Clarke

Members not present: Jessica Rogers

Administrators present: Dr. Scott Carpenter, Superintendent; Dr. Robin Millen; Michael MacMillan; Joy Jordan

A. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:32PM by Chair Betty Gray.

B. Adjourn to Executive Session Roll Call Vote to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, sec. 21(a)(4) to discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices, or strategies with respect thereto. Regular Open Session to resume at approximately 6:30 PM.

MOTION: Tina Games moved to adjourn to Executive Session, seconded by Meredith Henderson.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Bre Rose: aye; Brad Schiff: aye; Ryan Clarke: aye; Jackie Zibrat-Long: aye; Meredith Henderson: aye; Tina Games: aye; Betty Gray: aye.

UNANIMOUS the meeting adjourns to Executive Session at 5:33 PM.

Regular Open Session resumes at 6:31 PM.

C. Approval of Minutes: September 26, 2024 MRSC Meeting

MOTION: Meredith Henderson moved to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2024 MRSC meeting, seconded by Jackie Zibrat-Long.

The motion passes with 6 ayes and Ryan Clarke abstaining from the vote.

D. Public Comment: None

E. Reports and Discussions

i. SHORE Food Pantry - Shana Grogan

MRHS students Reese Labinski and Adam Manna introduced the SHORE Food Pantry to the school committee. Ms. Labinski and Mr. Manna took turns talking about the collaboration with Stop & Shop in East Harwich to establish a food pantry for Monomoy district families and described the weekly food distribution, including the preparation of boxes and snack trays for students. They also highlighted the skills students are learning, such as customer service, stocking, data entry, packing, and delivery. They noted that over 100 students visit the food pantry daily, especially on Fridays and before long weekends. Lastly, they explained the sign-up process for the food pantry, including curbside pickup and delivery for families without transportation.

ii. First Reading: 2024-2025 Superintendent Goals

On behalf of the Superintendent Evaluation Subcommittee, Jackie Zibrat-Long shared the finalized goals for the Superintendent, emphasizing the importance of measurable outcomes, the recruitment and mentorship process as well as the Y Achievers program and the collaboration with the YMCA as a key goal for the next school year. These goals will come back for a second reading and approval vote at the October 24, 2024 MRSC meeting. The full version of the goals can be seen [HERE](#).

iii. Preliminary FY26 Budget Process and Timeline

MRSD Business Manager Michael MacMillan outlined the early start for the FY26 budget process and the importance of understanding the budget timeline. He explained the budget breakdown by town assessments and state funding, highlighting the impact of enrollment figures. He also discussed the challenges of managing budget reductions despite declining enrollment and the importance of critical mass for cost-saving measures. Lastly, Mr. MacMillan mentioned the ongoing needs such as school choice revenue, capital needs, and state funding, which will influence the budget.

iv. MRHS Debt Reissuance

MRSD Business Manager Michael MacMillan provided an update on the high school debt refinancing, aiming to secure a better interest rate and explained the process of working with financial advisors and the potential savings of \$40,000 to \$50,000 annually. Mr. MacMillan also mentioned the upcoming meeting for a vote on the new debt agreement and the involvement of the treasurer, Paul Donlan.

F. Subcommittee, Representative, Liaison Reports

i. Legislative Liaison Report - MASC Statement on Ballot Question 2 on MCAS Requirement

MRSC Legislative Liaison Tina Games reported on the Massachusetts Association of School Committees' (MASC) position in favor of Ballot Question 2. Ms. Games explained the joint committee process for hearing testimony and the final position taken by MASC and encouraged the school committee to be informed and prepared to address questions from the public about the ballot question.

G. Superintendent's Report

i. Recognition of Donations, Grants, and other Acknowledgments

Dr. Carpenter shared the following recognitions with committee members:

Many thanks to Katie Green of the Cape and Islands District Attorney's Office for coming to the high school last week to speak to 8th graders about cybersafety, digital citizenship, and how to safely and smartly engage online.

Monomoy Regional High School recently received numerous honors from the College Board for its excellence in educating students and providing all students with access to advanced coursework. Monomoy Regional High School has earned a place on the College Board's AP School Honor Roll for the 2023-2024 school year, meeting the criteria for Gold Status. The AP School Honor Roll recognizes schools that have done outstanding work to welcome more students into AP courses and support them on the path to college success, with criteria including College Culture, College Credit, and College Optimization. Monomoy achieved Gold Status for College Culture and College Credit and Platinum Status for College Optimization. MRHS is being further recognized with the AP Access Award, which honors schools that encourage more low-income and underrepresented minority students to take AP courses.

The students of Monomoy Regional High School's Political Action Club, a nonpartisan group, is once again hosting a forum with the candidates for election to the Massachusetts State Senate for the Cape and Islands District, Sen. Julian Cyr and Christopher Lauzon. The event will be organized by the student members of the club – the candidates will answer questions from a panel of students overseen by a student moderator. All other aspects of the debate will also be run by Monomoy students, including timing, lighting, and sound operations. The candidates forum will be held Thursday, October 24, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Monomoy Regional High School Auditorium. The public and the press are welcome to attend this event.

ii. October 1 Reporting

Dr. Carpenter continued his report with the October 1 enrollment numbers. Enrollment at the high school is up by 2.9% from FY24 but down by 4.5% at the middle school, and overall enrollment is down by a total of 15 students or .86%.

H. Action Items - Vote Required: None

I. Presentation of the Warrants

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

J. Adjournment

MOTON: Meredith Henderson moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jackie Zibrat-Long.

UNANIMOUS the meeting adjourns at 7:13 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leah Tambolleo
Recording Secretary