

DISTRICT COMMITTEE OPEN MEETING MINUTES REORGANIZATION MEETING #1883 April 1, 2024

Members Present:	Thomas Hatem	Methuen Chairperson
	Zoila Disla	Lawrence
	Annemarie Faris	Andover
	Bradley Jones	Methuen
	Julio Mejia	Lawrence
	Edinson Mercedes	Lawrence
	William Tarbox	North Andover
Members Absent:		

Others Present:	John N. Lavoie	Superintendent-Director
	Susan Lally	District Recorder

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Hatem called the meeting to order at 5:50PM

Roll Call by District Recorder: Mr. Tarbox (present), Ms. Faris (present), Ms. Disla (present), Mr. Jones (present), Mr. Mejia (present), Mr. Mercedes (present), Mr. Hatem (present).

2. REORGANIZATION & ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman Hatem reported that we are meeting this evening for the purpose of reorganization. Our bylaws state that we have to meet on the first business day in April. Added to the agenda is the Student Opportunity Act (SOA) due to the deadline of April 1st. Additionally, we need to vote on adding the Aviation Building Bids to this agenda.

MOTION: Mr. Mercedes moved to add Aviation Building Bids to the agenda as presented.

2ND: Mr. Jones

Roll Call by District Recorder

Mr. Mercedes	Yes
Mr. Tarbox	Yes
Ms. Fitzgerald	Yes
Ms. Disla	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mr. Mejia	Yes
Mr. Hatem	Yes
VOTE: Unanimous	
#18603	

a.) District Recorderb.) Assistant Clerkc.) Clerk

Chairman Hatem reported that the District Recorder is Cheryl Dennis, the Assistant Clerk is Susan Lally and the Clerk is Superintendent Lavoie. He asked the Committee to vote for the three positions.

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to approve to accept the District Recorder, the Assistant Clerk and the Clerk as presented.

2ND: Mr. Tarbox

Roll Call by District Recorder

Mr. Mejia	Yes
Mr. Mercedes	Yes
Mr. Tarbox	Yes
Ms. Faris	Yes
Ms. Disla	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mr. Hatem	Yes
VOTE: Unanimous	
#18604	

d.) Assistant Treasurer

Supt. Lavoie explained that the Assistant Treasurer is a backup to the Treasurer.

Chairman Hatem opened up the floor for nominations for Assistant Treasurer. **MOTION:** Ms. Faris moved to nominate Mr. Tarbox for Assistant Treasurer. $2^{ND:}$ Mr. Mercedes Roll Call by District Recorder Mr. Jones Yes

Mr. Jones	res
Mr. Mejia	Yes
Mr. Mercedes	Yes
Mr. Tarbox	Yes
Ms. Faris	Yes
Ms. Disla	Yes
Mr. Hatem	Yes
VOTE: Unanimous	
#18606	

e.) Vice Chairman

Chairman Hatem opened up the floor for nominations for Vice Chairperson **MOTION:** Mr. Mercedes moved to nominate Julio Mejia for Vice Chairperson **2^{ND:}** Mr. Jones Roll Call by District Recorder Mr. Mercedes Yes

Yes
Yes

VOTE: Unanimous #18607

VOTE: Unanimous

f.) Chairperson

Chairman Hatem opened up the floor for nominations for Chairperson MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to nominate Mr. Hatem for Chairperson $2^{ND:}$ Mr. Tarbox Roll Call by District Recorder Ms. Disla Yes Mr. Jones Yes Mr. Mejia Yes Mr. Mercedes Yes Mr. Tarbox Yes Ms. Faris Yes Mr. Hatem Yes

#18608

MOTION: Mr. Mejia moved to nominate Ms. Disla for Chairperson 2^{ND:} Mr. Mercedes Roll Call by District Recorder

Ms. Faris No Ms. Disla No Mr. Jones No Mr. Mejia No Mr. Mercedes No Mr. Tarbox No Mr. Hatem Yes 1 yes', 6 nos' Motion does not pass #18609

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to close the nominations for Chairperson

2^{ND:} Mr. Mercedes Roll Call by District Recorder Mr. Tarbox Yes Ms. Faris Yes Ms. Disla Yes Mr. Jones Yes Mr. Mejia Yes Mr. Mercedes Yes Mr. Hatem Yes **VOTE:** Unanimous #18610

g.) Seating Chart

No seating was changed.

3. STUDENT OPPORTUNITY ACT

Supt. Lavoie reported that the Student Opportunity Act is a grant that is given to the schools for the purpose of ensuring that all students get a quality education. This funding is part of our chapter 74 money. The Committee already voted and approved it in our budget. Supt. Lavoie reported that Mr. Joshua Ouellette, Coordinator of Curriculum, MTSS and Professional Learning is present tonight, has worked hard on this so that it can be submitted by April 1, 2024. Mr. Ouellette has a presentation that he would like to present to the District Committee. It can be presented tonight and again in more depth at our next District Committee Meeting. Mr. Ouellette reported that he will give a high-level overview tonight and then will present at the next meeting. The goal of SOA is to ensure that every student in Massachusetts has access to high quality public education regardless of their zip code. We have to identify which groups our data needs to focus on. We made data base conclusions which has determined we have a disproportion for students with disabilities and multi-lingual learners and suspensions as compared to across the district. The second data base conclusion was that math and ELA MCAS achievement for students with disabilities and multi-lingual learners was at a far lower percentages then those students meeting or succeeding in Math and ELA as compared to their peers. These were the two areas that had the most gaps in achievement. Mr. Jones asked what the biggest defense of suspension. Mr. Ouellette reported Marijuana. Mr. Mercedes asked why we don't have inhouse suspension. Supt. Lavoie reported that the amount of money that we allocated is about 2 million dollars that has been targeted to improve the two areas identified. Mr. Mejia reported that he would like to see the SOA for 2021-2024. It will be provided at the next meeting. Mr. Mercedes would like the head of discipline to attend the next meeting. MOTION: Mr. Mercedes moved to have the head of the Discipline office attend our next meeting. 2^{ND:} Ms. Disla

Roll Call by District Recorder Mr. Jones Yes Mr. Tarbox Yes Ms. Faris Yes Ms. Disla Yes Mr. Mejia Yes Mr. Mercedes Yes Mr. Hatem Yes **VOTE:** Unanimous #18611

MOTION: Ms. Faris moved to approve the Student Opportunity Act as presented.

2^{ND:} Ms. Disla Roll Call by District Recorder Ms. Disla Yes Mr. Mejia Yes Mr. Mercedes Yes Mr. Jones Yes Mr. Tarbox Yes Ms. Faris Yes Mr. Hatem Yes **VOTE:** Unanimous #18612

4. AVIATION ADDITION PROJECT

Supt. Lavoie reported that we got four quotes for the new Aviation Building and wanted to bring it to the District Committee tonight due to the time constraints. We need it to be finished by August because the funding source ends in August. We are behind due to the drawings and quotes taken longer than expected. We have four quotes and by law, we have to go with the lowest bidder. The District Committee has the bid documents with the bid amounts and companies.

MOTION: Mr. Tarbox moved to move forward with hiring the company with the lowest bid for the Aviation Building.

2ND: Ms. Faris Roll Call by District Recorder Ms. Faris Yes Ms. Disla Yes Mr. Mejia Yes Mr. Mercedes Yes Mr. Jones Yes Mr. Tarbox Yes Mr. Hatem Yes **VOTE:** Unanimous #18613

5. ADJOURNMENT
MOTION: Mr. Mejia moved to adjourn at 6:30PM
2^{ND:} Mr. Mercedes
VOTE: Unanimous
#18614

Respectfully Submitted:

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Susan Lally District Recorder

Minutes Reviewed:

Jahn M Caroie

John N. Lavoie Superintendent-Director