

MARLBOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Business Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 19, 2024

Elmer Thienes-Mary Hall Elementary School - Library @ 6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call by Chairperson:

Kerri Barella, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

BOE Members Present: Kerri Barella, Sue Stolfi, Amy Kuhrt, Chip Morris, and Angela Colantonio

Jean Wilson, joined remotely.

Administration Present: Dr. Holly Hageman, Superintendent
 Paula Graef, Principal
 Kristen Trahan, Principal

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Celebrations:

Dr. Holly Hageman honored four teachers who have announced their retirement at the end of this school year as noted in the monthly Staff Vacancy Summary.

4. Public Comments: None

5. Election of Officers:

S. Stolfi made a motion that the Superintendent chair the meeting for the sole purpose of electing a Chairperson, seconded by A. Colantonio. J. Wilson voted YES remotely, unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Dr. Holly Hageman asked for nominations from the Board for Chairperson.

S. Stolfi made a motion to nominate Kerri Barella for Chairperson.

A.Kuhrt made a motion that the Board elect Kerri Barella as Chairperson in accordance with Board policy, seconded by A. Colantonio. J. Wilson voted YES remotely, unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Dr. Holly Hageman officially handed the meeting back to Kerri Barella, who resumed her role as Chair to continue with the elections for Vice Chair and Secretary.

Kerri Barella made a motion to nominate and elect Sue Stolfi as Vice Chairperson, seconded by A. Colantonio. J. Wilson voted YES remotely, unanimously approved.

MOTION CARRIED.

S. Stolfi nominated Linda Earley for the position of Secretary, A. Colantonio seconded the nomination.

Dr. Holly informed the group that Linda Earley was not present to accept or decline the nomination. As a result, K. Barella decided to postpone the nomination and election of Secretary until the January 23, 2025 meeting.

6. Appointment of Board members to the Policy, Personnel, and Communications Committees, and liaisons to the School Safety Committee, the Board of Finance, AHM, and SAC:

K. Barella asked if any Board member wished to step down from their appointed position as a committee member or liaison. No Board member indicated a desire to change their current role, so the committees and liaisons will remain the same as they have been for the past year.

7. Additions to the Agenda: None

8. Consent Agenda

- 8.1 Minutes of 10/24/24 Regular Business Meeting; 10/24/24 Communications Committee Meeting and 11/07/2024 Community Conversation Meeting ;
- 8.2 Personnel Actions – none;
- 8.3 Reports – receive and file the following document: monthly enrollment report for December ;
- 8.4 Approval of Policy Revisions
(REFERENCE: October 24, 2024 Agenda, Encl. 9.1)

C. Morris noted a correction to the Regular Business Meeting Minutes, stating that the presenter's name under his AHM report should be listed as Stephen Hill, not Matthew Hill.

S. Stioffi made a motion that the Board approve the Consent Agenda items 8.1-8.4 with C. Morris' correction in the minutes under 8.1.

A. Kuhrt, made a motion to approve Consent Agenda items 8.1-8.3 with the correction to the minutes and also modify 8.4 by removing policy 0521 for further discussion, seconded by S. Stolfi. J. Wilson voted YES remotely, unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

9. Oral Reports

9.1 Advisory Groups

- PTO – Paula Graef shared these PTO event updates: Trunk or Treat and the 6th Grade Haunted House, Election Day Bake Sale; Parent Teacher Conference Dinner for staff; CCMC PJ Day; Holiday Whoot Whoot Wagon with Hot Cocoa and goodies for MES staff; and the upcoming Bingo Night to be held on January 24, 2025.

- SAC – Kristen Trahan reported that SAC meetings are held bimonthly, with the next meeting scheduled for January 21, 2025. At the November meeting they reviewed the results of the Open House survey and discussed possible next steps.
- Operations, Wellness & Safety – Dr. Holly Hageman noted that the school has experienced some gaps in custodial coverage, with Mr. Mercier stepping in to handle additional tasks and a substitute custodian covering some shifts.
- Board of Finance Liaison – None
- AHM – Chip Morris reported that Pendleton and AHM participated in the Marlborough Tree Lighting event. He also shared that AHM’s Winter and Spring Services Brochure is now available online, featuring a variety of classes for Marlborough residents to register for. Additionally, he advised to be on the lookout for the launch of a new parent support group.

9.2 **Subcommittees**

- Policy - Kerri Barilla recapped that the committee met earlier in the evening and will reconvene in January to review combining policy 0521 and policy 5145.53 to bring back to the Board for a first read.
- Personnel - None
- Communications - No report, however Chip Morris commented upon being happy to see the school district Facebook page up and running.

9.3 **Chairperson**

- Process for Superintendent Mid-Year Evaluation - Kerri Barella noted that an email was sent earlier in the day regarding Mid-Year Evaluation Guidelines and encouraged the Board to start considering them. The Superintendent evaluation will be discussed in January, with feedback to be shared with the Superintendent as part of the February meeting agenda.

9.4 **Superintendent and Administrative Team**

- STEAM Program for 2025-26 -Dr. Holly Hageman reported that the team has been conceptually planning for the implementation of a STEAM program for the upcoming school year. On Election Day, Dr. Hageman and MES hosted a “STEAMposium”, which included grade level and specials representatives from MES, colleagues from other districts with established STEAM programs, and an owner of an aerospace company. Many new ideas were shared at the STEAMposium, and the program will continue to be developed throughout the year. It will be structured as a guaranteed curriculum for all students, offered as a special, in addition to the re-launched after school Future Problem Solvers and Invention Convention clubs.

10. **Unfinished Business:** None

11. **New Business:**

11.1 **Approval of Board Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2025**

S. Stolfi made a motion that the Board approve the meeting dates for January - December, 2025 as presented in Enclosure 11.1, seconded by A. Kuhrt. J. Wilson voted YES remotely, unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

11.2 **Review December Financial Report:** Submitted

11.3 Review, Discuss and Take Action Re: Proposed FY 2025-26 Academic Calendar

A. Kuhrt made a motion that the Board approve the proposed FY 2025-26 academic calendar as presented in Enclosure 11.3, seconded by C. Morris. J. Wilson voted YES remotely, unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

11.4 Asset Disposal Request

S. Stolfi made a motion that the Board approve the disposal of items as requested, seconded by C. Morris. J. Wilson voted YES remotely, unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

12. Public Comments:

Louise Concodello - 70 Millstone Dr: Louise stated she is very excited and happy to hear about the STEAM program. She also wished everyone a happy holiday.

13. Communications:

13.1 Staff Vacancy Summary: Submitted

14. Future Meetings & Topics:

- Special Meeting: School Facilities Study Presentation, Thursday, January 9, 2025 at 7:00pm in the MES cafeteria
- Next Policy Subcommittee Meeting, Thursday, January 23, 2025 at 6:00pm
- Next Regular Business Meeting, Thursday, January 23, 2025, 6:30 p.m.
 - ❖ Superintendent's Budget Presentation
- Next Regular Business Meeting, Thursday, January 30, 2025, 6:30 p.m.
 - ❖ BOE Budget Analysis and Potential Adoption of BOE FY26 Budget.

14. Adjournment:

A. Colantonio made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm, seconded by A. Kuhrt. J. Wilson voted yes remotely, unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carmela Monte