Monomoy Regional School District - Monomoy Regional School Committee
Meeting Minutes for Thursday, November 21, 2024 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: Betty Gray, Chair; Tina Games, Vice Chair; Brad Schiff; Bre Rose; Jackie Zibrat-Long; Ryan Clarke; Jessica Rogers.

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

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

B. Adjourn to Executive Session Roll Call Vote to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, sec. 21(a)(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel. Regular Open Session to resume at approximately 6:30 PM.
MOTION: Tina Games moved to adjourn to Executive Session, seconded by Jackie Zibrat-Long.
ROLL CALL VOTE: Brad Schiff: aye; Jackie Zibrat-Long: aye; Meredith Henderson: aye; Jessica Rogers: aye; Tina Games: aye; Betty Gray: aye.
UNANIMOUS the meeting adjourns to Executive Session at 6:01 PM.

Regular Opens session resumes at 6:30PM with Bre Rose and Ryan Clarke present.

C. MRHS Student Representative
MRSC Chair Betty Gray welcomed Maggie Powers, MRHS Student Representative on the Monomoy Regional School Committee, to the meeting.

MRHS Student Representative Jason Elhilow reported on the most recent events at the High School since his last visit in October. Some highlights include the launch of the school's newspaper and creative writing magazine, and the student-faculty kickball game for breast cancer awareness. Mr. Elhilow noted the annual visits to elementary schools to read stories and illustrations, emphasizing the importance of this tradition. He also shared that seniors participated in the "Credit for Life" event, aimed at teaching financial literacy. Mr. Elhilow also shared the Interact Club's winter clothing drive for Street Reach, emphasizing the importance of volunteering and community involvement.

D. Approval of Minutes:

i. November 7, 2024 MRSC Meeting
MOTION: Brad Schiff moved to approve the minutes of the November 7, 2024 MRSC meeting, seconded by Meredith Henderson.
UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

ii. November 14, 2024 FY26 Budget Workshop
MOTION: Tina Games moved to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2024 FY26 Budget Workshop, seconded by Meredith Henderson.
UNANIMOUS the motion passes with Bre Rose abstaining from the vote.

E. Public Comment: None

F. Reports and Discussions

i. MRHS Greenhouse Startup Check-in - Aubrie Schneeberger

At the end of the last school year, MRHS student Aubrie Schneeberger introduced her idea for a greenhouse project to School Committee members. Miss Schneebeger returned this evening for an update on the project, explaining the decision to use a hoop house for a test run. The benefits of a hoop house, including cost, ease of assembly, and maintenance, were discussed. Miss Schneeberger outlined the potential locations for the greenhouse and the associated costs, including shipping and installation. The next steps, including determining funding sources and collaborative partners, were also shared in her presentation.

ii. MRHS Student Trip to Italy - February 2026

MRHS Latin Teacher Sara Peters presented her proposal for a trip to Italy in February 2026, highlighting the educational and cultural experiences planned. The trip includes visits to Pompeii, Capri, Rome, and Milan, with a focus on historical and artistic sites. The cost of the trip is approximately $5,200 per student, including all expenses and a comprehensive insurance plan. Ms. Peters emphasized the benefits of the trip for students, including language learning and cultural immersion. School Committee members will vote to approve the proposal at the next meeting on December 12, 2024.

iii. Relations with Non-Public Schools - Cape Cod Christian Academy

Dr. Tracy Waters presented an overview of Cape Cod Christian Academy, detailing its accreditation and curriculum, as well as the school's academic program - aligned with state standards - and its professional staff and parental involvement. The university model of education was explained, emphasizing its flexibility and cost-effectiveness. The school's mission to develop well-rounded students with strong academic and character skills was also noted.

School Committee members asked questions of Dr. Waters throughout her presentation and will vote to approve the school at an upcoming meeting.

iv. **Sabbatical Request** **Potential Vote**

At the November 7, 2024 MRSC meeting, HES Teacher Erin Hofmann made a formal request of the School Committee to approve her proposal to take a Sabbatical Leave in the 2025-2026 school year. This evening, School Committee members continued the conversation and discussed the timeline and process for handling sabbatical requests, noting the challenges of making a decision without budget certainty. Concerns were also raised about the potential impact on the budget and the need for a policy to guide future requests. The committee members expressed their support for professional development but struggled with the financial implications of the request.

MOTION: Ryan Clarke moved to deny the request for Sabbatical Leave as presented at the November 7, 2024 MRSC. The motion was seconded by Meredith Henderson.

UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

v. FY26 Budget Workshop Recap

MRSC Business Manager Michael MacMillan shared a brief recap of the FY26 Budget Workshop where the committee heard from principals as they presented their needs for the FY26 budget. Next steps will be coming back in December to present the first draft of the budget, which will include a summary of the requests from the principals and a number of other items that are in consideration for next year's budget.

vi. First Reading of Policy Files: BHE- Use of Electronic Messaging by School Committee Members; IJND - Access to Digital Resources

On behalf of the Policy Subcommittee, Brad Schiff presented policy files BHE- Use of Electronic Messaging by School Committee Members; IJND - Access to Digital Resources. No edits or modifications were made to either

policy therefore both will be presented for a Second Reading and Approval Vote at the December 12, 2024 MRSC meeting.

Presented as one motion, read individually:
MOTION: Jackie Zibrat-Long moved to approve the following:

vii. Approval of MRHS Young Woman's Club Donation to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation
'To approve the donation of one hundred and ten dollars from the Monomoy Regional High School Student Young Women's Club Account to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation.'

viii. Approval of MRHS Spirit Club Donation to Cape Cod Healthcare
'To approve the donation of two hundred and seventy-nine dollars from the Monomoy Regional High School Student Activity Spirit Club Account to Cape Cod Healthcare Foundation to support breast cancer patients and survivors.'

ix. Approval of MRHS Animal Welfare Club Donation to the Animal Victory Disaster & Abuse Fund
'To approve the donation of two hundred dollars from the Monomoy Regional High School Student Activity Animal Welfare Club Account to the Animal Victory Charity.'

x. Approval of the MRHS Class of 2024 Donation to the Lighthouse Fund
'To approve the donation of six thousand five hundred and sixteen dollars and fifty one cents from the Monomoy Regional High School Class of 2024 Student Account to the Monomoy Regional High School Lighthouse Fund Activity Account.'

The motions were seconded by Tina Games.
UNANIMOUS the above motion pass.

G. Subcommittee, Representative, Liaison Reports: None

H. Superintendent's Report

i. Recognition of Donations, Grants, and other Acknowledgments

Dr. Carpenter shared the following recognitions:

Many thanks to Chatham Bars Inn for hosting our Chatham Elementary students for a Thanksgiving luncheon this week, a tradition dating back to the days when the school didn't have the ability to offer hot lunch to its students.

Congratulations to Nancy Gifford, who was honored with the David Byron Award by the Massachusetts Association of Science Teachers, an award given to MAST board members for outstanding service to science education.
Also congratulations to the Middle School Robotics Team, which competed in the Cape Cod Fall League VEX Robotics competition. MRMS sent two teams to compete against a field dominated by high school teams. The novice team finished in 15th place for skills and 20th overall, and the other team finished in first place among the middle school teams and in 8th place overall. They earned 5th place in the Skills Competition, beating all of the middle school teams. The teams will compete again later in the season.

Congratulations to our field hockey team, which once again advanced to the state finals, losing to reigning champion Uxbridge 3-1.

Yesterday was Education Support Professionals Day, a time to recognize the hard work and contributions of those who keep our schools running smoothly, including administrative assistants, instructional assistants, custodians, technical staff, school security officers, school bus drivers and transportation staff, food service workers, and health and student service employees.

I. Action Items - Vote Required

i. **Sabbatical Request** **Potential Vote**

MOTION: Ryan Clarke moved to deny the request for Sabbatical Leave as presented at the November 7, 2024 MRSC. The motion was seconded by Meredith Henderson.
UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

Presented as one motion:
MOTION: Jackie Zibrat-Long moved to approve the following:

ii. **Approval of MRHS Young Woman's Club Donation to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation**
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'To approve the donation of two hundred dollars from the Monomoy Regional High School Student Activity Animal Welfare Club Account to the Animal Victory Charity.'

v. **Approval of the MRHS Class of 2024 Donation to the Lighthouse Fund**
'To approve the donation of six thousand five hundred and sixteen dollars and fifty one cents from the Monomoy Regional High School Class of 2024 Student Account to the Monomoy Regional High School Lighthouse Fund Activity Account.'

The motions were seconded by Tina Games.
UNANIMOUS the above motion pass.

vi. **Approval of Previous Year Invoice**
MOTION: Jackie Zibrat-Long moved to approve the payment of three thousand two hundred and nine dollars and seventy cents toward an FY21 invoice from Whalley Computer Associates, as presented to the School Committee. The motion was seconded by Ryan Clarke.
UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

J. **Presentation of the Warrants** Accounts Payable and Payroll warrants were presented for School Committee member signatures.

K. **Adjournment**
MOTION: Meredith Henderson moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jackie Zibrat-Long.
UNANIMOUS the meeting adjourns at 8:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leah Tambolleo
Recording Secretary