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The Second Regular Meeting of the Medford School Committee


January 27, 2025

Executive Session: 5:30 pm

Regular Meeting: 6:30 PM

*Please be advised that there will be a Meeting of the Medford School Committee held at the Howard Alden Memorial Chambers, Medford City Hall and via remote participation. **This meeting is being recorded.***

The meeting can be viewed live on the Medford Public Schools [YouTube channel](#) through Medford Community Media on your local cable channel (Comcast Channel 9, 8 or 22 and Verizon Channel 43, 45 or 47). Participants can log or call in by using the following:

Medford Public Schools invites you to a meeting with a remote participation option.		
Virtual Link	Zoom Link	
Meeting ID	Meeting ID: 919 0963 2899	
Dial by Location	Dial by Location	

Agenda

- I. Roll Call for Attendance of Members and Student Representatives
- II. Salute the Flag
- III. Executive Session

Upon a Motion to enter into executive session pursuant to M. G.L. c. 30A §21(a)(3).

Executive session pursuant to Chapter 30A section 21 (2) to conduct strategy in preparation with nonunion personnel or contract negotiations with nonunion Personnel (Assistant Superintendent of Operations, Enrichment and Innovation, Director of Student Services and Director of Finance).

The Medford School Committee will convene in public session immediately following the conclusion of the executive session, approximately 6:30pm.

IV. Consent Agenda

- Approval of Bills and Payrolls
- Approval of Capital Purchases
- Approval of Donations
 - **Sanofi Pharmaceuticals of Framingham** - Biological Safety Cabinet to the CTE Biotechnology Program
- Approval of Grants
 - **Massachusetts Cultural Council - \$5,000**
 - **State Grant for Proficiency-Based Outcomes in Languages Other than English - \$10,000**
- Approval of Field Trips
- Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - **Regular Meeting - January 13, 2025**

V. Report of Subcommittees

VI. Report of the Superintendent

1. **Interim Superintendent's Transition Plan** - Dr. Suzanne B. Galusi, Interim Superintendent
2. **Summer Fun Program** - Dr. Peter J. Cushing, Assistant Superintendent

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

“Regular Meetings of the School Committee include this ‘Presentations of the Public’ agenda item to give any resident the opportunity to place a presentation before the School Committee. A resident may only present once at any meeting.

These presentations are an opportunity for the public to make a presentation to the Committee but are not opportunities for dialog with the Committee. If one or more members of the Committee wishes to have a conversation about the topic presented, a member may request that the item be added to a subsequent Regular Meeting.

The details for submitting a presentation can be found within the policy BEDH, Public Comment and Presentations of the Public”

Pursuant to policy BEDH, Public Comment and Presentations of the Public - any resident in the audience may be given permission to speak once on any item on the agenda for up to three (3) minutes. The speaker is expected to keep their comments to the item on the agenda. The speaker must begin their comments by providing their full name and full Medford street address where they reside. A welcoming, inclusive community is both a

value of the School Committee and an aspirational goal. We ask for your help in achieving this goal and value your perspective. Employees of the Medford Public Schools are exempt from the residency requirement of this policy. The voice of our employees is welcomed on all matters before this body. When a non-Medford-resident employee is participating in public comment or submitting a presentation of the public they will include their home address and identify themselves as an employee of the Medford Public Schools.

VII. Continued Business

VIII. New Business

2025-1 Offered by Member Ruseau

The Medford School Committee appoints Paul Ruseau as the representative to the Shore Educational Collaborative's board of directors.

Date Submitted: January 14, 2025

Date Requested to be on Agenda: January 27, 2025

2025-2 Offered by Member Ruseau, Member Olapade and Member Reinfeld

ACH - IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT POLICY (First Reading)

The Medford Public Schools does not request immigration status as part of its registration process. MPS is committed to serving all children whose principal domicile is in Medford. The district is committed to maintaining a safe and productive learning environment for its students. To provide a public education, regardless of child or family immigration status, absent any applicable federal, state, or local law, regulation, ordinance, or court decision, and in the absence of proof of criminal proceedings as determined by a law enforcement agency, the District shall abide by the following practices and procedures:

Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying

In accordance with the District's Nondiscrimination and Bullying Prevention Policies:

1. Any allegations of bullying or harassment of students based on their race, ethnicity, color, national origin, or immigration status shall be promptly investigated and handled in accordance with District policy.
2. Student residency determinations will not be based, in whole or in part, on the student's immigration status.

3. District personnel will not inquire about a student's immigration status, or require documentation of a student's legal status, such as asking for a green card or citizenship papers, at initial registration or at any other time.
4. District personnel will not make unreasonable inquiries of a student or his/her parents/guardians to expose the child's or his/her family's immigration status.
5. District personnel shall be attentive to school curricula to ensure that it is inclusive and nondiscriminatory. All District curricula shall encourage respect for the civil rights of all individuals regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin or sexual orientation.
6. District personnel will not require students to apply for Social Security numbers.
7. District personnel shall promptly report any potential or alleged hate crime to the local law enforcement agency.

Access to Records

In accordance with Medford Public Schools Student Record Policy and state laws and regulations (603 CMR [23.00](#) *et seq.*):

1. Unless directed by the Superintendent and under a signed judicial court order, District personnel shall not share student record information, including immigration status, with any immigration law enforcement official or agent.
2. All requests for student records or student record information documents by ICE or INS should be forwarded to the Superintendent, who may consult with the District's legal counsel to determine if the documents can be released.
3. Principals may remind families of their right to opt out of disclosure of student directory information, which includes the student's name, address, and date and place of birth.

Access to School Premises

Because an ICE or INS visit may severely disrupt the educational setting, requests by ICE/INS to visit a school site will be denied unless the Superintendent is presented with a signed judicial court order. The Superintendent's Office will review the order with legal counsel before a decision is made to allow access to the site.

If immigration law enforcement agents arrive at your school building, Principals shall take the following steps:

1. Do not allow the agents into the school building until instructed to do so;

2. Request identification from the agents and a copy of any judicial warrant;
3. Immediately contact the Superintendent's office for further instructions.

Dismissal of Students

1. Students may **only** be dismissed to persons specified by parents/guardians in writing. Principals may remind families to update student emergency contact information to include a robust network of persons who may be called in case of an emergency.
2. Parents/guardians may be provided with a Caregiver Affidavit to designate someone to make educational and/or medical decisions for a child temporarily living with someone other than the parents/guardians.

Handling of Students Whose Parents/Guardians Have Been Detained or Taken Into Custody

If the District receives notification that parents/guardians of a student have been detained or taken into custody by immigration law enforcement officials or agents, the District should take the following steps:

1. Contact the person(s) listed on the student's emergency card to inform the person(s) of the situation and ask if they can retrieve the student;
2. Make arrangements for school counselors to be available to support the student;
3. Contact the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families if parents/guardians have not authorized a responsible adult to receive the student.
4. Consult with the District's McKinney Vento liaison if the student becomes unhoused due to their parent/guardian's detention.

Policy Information

First Adopted: TBD

Last Amended: N/A

Last Reviewed: N/A

Review Frequency: five (5) years

Next Review: TBD

Version: 1

Policy ID: ACH

Date Submitted: January 22, 2025

Date Requested to be on Agenda: January 27, 2025

IX. Reports Requested

X. Condolences

The Members of the Medford School Committee express their sincerest condolences to the family of **John R. Granara, Jr.**, who served as a member of the Medford School Committee and a number of Superintendent Search Committees. Additionally, he chaired/established The Connors Scholarship for students in Medford pursuing higher education and/or vocational training.

The Members of the Medford School Committee express their sincerest condolences to the family of **James E. Merrill**, father of Andrea Bell, a reading specialist at the McGlynn Elementary School.

The Members of the Medford School Committee express their sincerest condolences to the family of **Marie L. (Cavagnaro) Ward**, grandmother of Dr. Suzanne B. Galusi, Interim Superintendent of Schools. She passed away peacefully just days before her 100th birthday.

XI. Next Regular Meeting

February 10, 2025 - Alden Memorial Chambers, Medford City Hall in addition to zoom

XII. Adjournment