

Monomoy MLPAC Minutes
January 27, 2025, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Monomoy Regional High School Library



1. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Paige Sullivan and Monica Montoya-Quintero (Nauset MLPAC), Robin Millen, Scott Carpenter, Patty Obee (EL teacher/coordinator at Nauset), Joy Jordan, Bambi Thompson, Eric Thompson, Carolina Rey, Claudia Berbeo, Enrique Virgil (and wife, didn't get her name)
2. MLPAC objectives, MLPAC By-law review and officer election
 - a. The state of Massachusetts has specific guidance for MLPACs, at the same time, the key is making sure everyone feels that they belong, which is a core value for MRSD.
 - b. The group also serves as an advisory board for the district, especially related to language programming.
 - c. Robin reviewed the bylaws briefly, noting there are certain procedural guidelines that must be followed (posting meeting times, taking minutes)
 - d. Robin asked that people review the mission/purpose (Article II) and provide feedback
 - e. Emphasized the request to bring a friend next time
 - f. Reminded attendees that the Monomoy website can be translated into a wide variety of languages
3. Successes & challenges establishing an MLPAC (Nauset MLPAC: Monica Montoya-Quintero, Paige Sullivan)
 - a. What was successful for them? In the beginning they had challenges with getting people to attend - initially it was a circle of friends who got together. When Brewster lost their Spanish teacher, it led them to connect with more people. They also held a very successful festival that got a lot of attention and helped show families how welcome they were. Members note that it is helpful to realize they are not the only one and find that sense of belonging.
 - b. Nauset MLPAC waited until this year (2+ years in) to create bylaws and took a more relaxed approach, just trying to engage families. Met at Snowy Owl, which is owned by an ML family in their district.
 - c. They'd like to work on improving access by offering childcare and food when they hold meetings, based on feedback from families
 - d. They've also added a virtual option for families who can't attend in person
 - e. Make sure the location of meetings feels safe to families, especially in current environment
 - f. The meetings are an opportunity to address concerns of families as they come up
 - g. It's also an opportunity for families to learn how school works here, bc it can be very different from their previous experience
 - h. They started a feature to spotlight faces of multilingualism in their community (both those whose first language is not english and those whose first language is english and they speak other languages)
 - i. It's also a draw for families when they learn about the seal of biliteracy for graduation and understand that they have mastered at least two languages
 - j. Communication tools may need to be adjusted - use WhatsApp, for example, and the power of the personal connection, inviting friends, etc.
4. Monomoy Schools Equity Audit
 - a. Dr. Carpenter reviewed the equity audit and explained that the goal is to understand how the districts serving all of its students and identify any barriers that exist

- b. Building principals will be assembling teams to review the equity audit tool, which will be made up of existing groups like the school councils and PTOs, with the addition of other individuals to round out the teams for fuller representation.
 - c. Families, students, and staff will be asked to take a climate survey
 - d. Additional focus groups may be put together to dig deeper into particular areas
 - e. It's important that the school-based teams are reflective of our school community
 - f. School based teams give an hour for training and three hours for consensus building
5. [Monomoy Multilingual Community video](#) (thank you Claudia)
6. Brainstorm MRSD MLPAC goals and Community Time
- a. Robin's request of attendees is their input on how to get more people involved
 - b. Does the group have ideas about where to have meetings
 - c. One on one invitations, hand delivered invitations both help
 - d. Children are welcome, older students can help watch younger students
 - e. Families love to share their food and culture in an informal setting
 - f. Consensus is that meeting at the school is fine - cafeteria and have lots of food, and work in the "business" talk, children welcome and perhaps have NHS offer childcare (kids in gym)
 - g. Classes for adults english learners - we do try to offer it sometimes and are currently trying to schedule it. There are programs in Eastham and Dennis right now
7. Next meeting: May 19, 2025, 5:30-6:30 p.m.; Location and Agenda Topics to be determined based on feedback