

Record of the Marblehead School Committee Meeting
Thursday, August 15, 2019
Veterans Middle School Library

Members Present: Sarah Gold, Meagan Taylor, Jennifer Schaeffner, David Harris, Sarah Fox

Also: William, H. McAlduff Jr., Interim Superintendent
Daniel Bauer, High School Principal
Michele Carlson, High School Assistant Principal
Lynsey Page, High School Assistant Principal

Members Absent:

I. Initial Business

A. Call to Order

Ms. Gold called the meeting to order at 4:35pm

II. Consent Agenda & Action Items

A. Schedule of Bills

Ms. Gold made a motion to vote to close out FY19 schedule of bills totaling \$16,062.27. The motion was seconded by Ms. Taylor and then also Mr. Harris. The committee VOTED unanimously, 5-0 in favor.

Ms. Gold made a motion to also vote to accept the transfer of funds to cover: Student lunch expenses in the amount of \$8,343.47, Title I Support Staff salaries in the amount of \$12,098.94 and the Bell School faculty salaries in the amount of \$31,461.19. Ms. Taylor agreed with the motion and the motion was seconded by David Harris. The committee voted unanimously, 5-0 in favor.

III. Retreat Agenda

A. Transition Program Presentation

Marblehead High School Principal Dan Bauer provided a brief introduction and background information for the -eight (8) week long BRYT Program (Bridge for Resilient Youth in Transition) presentation Assistant Principals, Michele Carlson and Lynsey Page presented. Principal Dan Bauer informed the School Committee that Marblehead High School was awarded a grant managed by DESE in the amount of \$105,000 to improve student access to behavioral and mental health services. Principal Bauer noted that the grant in coordination with the BRYT Program model should help reduce the number and length of long-term absences due to bereavement, injury from concussions or other serious medical injuries and serious mental health challenges.

Ms. Carlson and Ms. Page presented a power point slideshow discussing the model of the BRYT Program and the research they completed during the 2018 school year relating to its success in other districts such as improved attendance rates and lowered out of district costs due to fewer out of district placements. It was noted that the BRYT Program is an individualized program focusing on the reintegration of students after a long-term absence, fourteen (14) plus school days. A series of questions and answers followed pertaining to what supports would be in place for the student(s) and how the success of the program would be tracked. Ms. Schaeffner noted that all new grants should be mentioned as early as possible to the school committee so that there is advance notice when considering building newly funded programs into future budgets.

Mr. Harris made a motion to vote to accept the \$105,000 grant awarded to the Marblehead High School to be used to fund the new BRYT Program. Ms. Taylor seconded the motion and the committee VOTED unanimously, 5-0 in favor.

Ms. Gold noted that the School Committee would enter into the originally planned executive session at the end of the meeting and not before interviewing Ms. Michelle Cresta, finalist for the Director of Finance position.

B. Director of Finance Finalist Interview

A finalist interview was held for the Director of Finance position with candidate, Michelle Cresta. Ms. Gold introduced Ms. Cresta to the committee members and the committee members began the final round of the interview process with a series of questions.

C. Subcommittee and Liaison Assignments

Ms. Taylor discussed the subcommittee and liaison assignments for the 2019-2020 school year. Ms. Schaeffner mentioned that it would be nice to rotate assignments and that she felt there should be two (2) committee members on the facilities committee instead of having it alternate like the prior school year. An open discussion followed regarding merging Eveleth and Coffin into one school advisory council, S.A.C. The subcommittees and liaison assignments decided were:

Budget Committee

Sarah Fox/Meagan Taylor

Policy Committee

Jennifer Schaeffner/Meagan Taylor

Safety Committee

Sarah Gold/Sarah Fox

B.C.G Building Committee

Sarah Fox/David Harris

Facilities Committee

Sarah Fox/Jennifer Schaeffner

Health/Wellness Committee

Sarah Gold/Jennifer Schaeffner

SEPAC

Sarah Gold

Liaisons to School Advisory Councils:

Eveleth/Coffin- Sarah Fox and Jennifer Schaeffner

Glover- Jennifer Schaeffner

Village- Meagan Taylor

Veterans- Sarah Fox

High School- Sarah Gold

D. Superintendent Search Creation of Request for Services

Superintendent McAlduff discussed the packets he presented the school committee which highlighted the reputable search firms that have been known to provide search services for Massachusetts based school committees.

The five (5) consulting firms included amongst the packets were:

MASC-Massachusetts Association of School Committees

NESDEC- New England School Development Council

HYA-Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates (HYA)

FMS-Future Management Systems

UMASS-Boston Collins Center for Public Management

An open discussion took place regarding deadline dates for sending the request for services letter, receiving responses back and potential dates to hold an open meeting for presentations. It was determined that Tuesday, September 10th would be held for consultant search firm presentations.

E. Appointment of Director of Finance

A discussion regarding the appointment of Ms. Cresta as the Director of Business and Finance began. Superintendent McAlduff recommended appointing Ms. Cresta as the Director of Business and Finance due to her experience in both school and municipal finance and her positive reference reviews. Mr. Harris extended his gratitude to Superintendent McAlduff for the work he had completed to assist the school committee in reaching the finalist interview stages.

Ms. Gold made a motion to vote to discuss the appointment of Ms. Cresta to the Director of Finance position. Sarah Fox accepted the motion which was seconded by David Harris. The committee voted, 5-0 in favor.

After an open discussion, Ms. Schaeffner made a motion to allow the Superintendent to negotiate a contract for the Temporary Director of Finance Position as recommended by the Superintendent. The motion passes 5-0 in favor.

F. Acceptance of Temporary Director of Finance

See motion from above

G. BCG Building Project Update

Naming Process

Mr. Harris gave an update on the new elementary building project and shared that the next meeting is scheduled for September 12th

Mr. Harris mentioned that the teacher input regarding the design layout has been helpful for the architects during the designing of the classrooms and placement of the restrooms. He also noted that the architectural invoices were behind and needed to be reviewed and approved at one of the next committee meetings.

Ms. Schaeffner asked what the process for naming the school would be. She mentioned the importance of community input and a timeline for selecting a name. It was agreed upon by all committee members that the naming should be mindful of the historical importance of Marblehead and its residents. It was decided by the committee that the naming of the new elementary school would be added as an agenda item to be further discussed at a future school committee meeting.

IV. Closing Business

A. New Business

Superintendent McAlduff shared that a new METCO Director, Jasmine Boyd-Perry will begin on 8/26/2019. He also shared that a

A new S.R.O, Student Resources Officer, Andy Clark will start 9/19/19 to replace the former S.R.O, Teresa who was promoted to detective.

Ms. Taylor mentioned the use of Styrofoam lunch trays and seeking out other alternatives. Ms. Gold mentioned collaborating with Food Services Director, Richard Kelleher and Sustainable Marblehead.

B. Correspondence

C. Enter into Executive Session

At 7:43pm Ms. Gold made a motion move out of open session and enter into Executive Session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws: Chapter 30 A, section 21 exemption number (2): to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations for non-union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with non-union personnel. With the intent to return to open session. Ms. Fox accepted the motion and it was seconded by Ms. Taylor. A roll call was taken and all committee members were present. The motion carries, 5-0 all in favor.

At 8:05pm the committee moved back into open session and the meeting adjourned at 8:06pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Sarah Fox, Secretary
Marblehead School Committee

Meeting Documents:

Schedule of Bills # 18373

Transition Program Documents

BRYT Program Presentation

Director of Finance-Finalist Resume

Former Subcommittee Liaison Assignments

Request for Services

Appointment Recommendation Memo

Building Project-Naming Guidelines

Approved 10/22/2019