

Record of the Marblehead School Committee Meeting
Thursday May 20, 2021
7:00pm

Zoom Recording ID 933 4367 9340 & Password 678117

<https://zoom.us/j/93343679340?pwd=WDFHZng5SGlXN0lrUWh2RIY5VTVudz09>

Members Present: Sarah Gold, Meagan Taylor, Sarah Fox, Emily Barron, David Harris

Also: John J. Buckey, Superintendent
Dan Bauer, Principal
Michelle Cresta, Director of Finance

I. Initial Business and Public Involvement

1. Call to Order

Ms. Gold called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

2. Commendations

a. Building Based Commendations-Coffin Elementary School Principal, Sean Satterfield

Ms. Gold shared that Principal, Sean Satterfield was unable to be in attendance for the evening and would join the committee at one of the next meetings.

b. School Committee Commendations

Ms. Taylor commended the seniors who organized the Cultural Feast last Friday

3. Student Representative – Dan Howells

Students were taking the changing COVID and masking guidelines in stride

MCAS for 10th graders will begin the following week

Powder Puff will play next Tuesday but only two spectators per participants will be allowed

This coming weekend the high school drama club will host the 25th annual production of the Putnam County Spelling Bee, which will take place under the tents at the high school

4. Public Comment

Catherine Martin of West Shore Drive requested a look ahead presentation for the Planning for Success Initiative

II. Superintendent Report

1. Graduation Update-High School Principal, Daniel Bauer

Principal Bauer shared that masks would no longer be required for outdoor graduation. He also shared that the total number of guests per student could not exceed six and that attendees will be required to sign up in advance and fill out an attestation form. It was mentioned that the music department will perform while still adhering to social distancing guidelines. The graduation event will be live streamed for those family members that are unable to attend.

2. Mask Guidance Update

Dr. Buckey shared that revisions from legal to policy EBCFA Face Coverings were provided to the committee that afternoon. He noted that a revision to the section of the policy which references delegating the Superintendent to make changes to the mask policy per DESE guidance was requested by Ms. Fox after the document had already been input into the Dropbox. He shared that the sentences referencing the delegation of the Superintendent would no longer end, yet continue on to read “, and provided that a quorum of the school committee cannot be available within such time that the updated guidance can be promptly implemented.”

Ms. Gold noted other slight language adjustments to the face coverings policy that were recommended from the changes that were voted the previous night.

Mr. Harris made a motion to reconsider the policy for Face coverings for EBCFA to which Ms. Taylor seconded.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion to discuss the new suggested edits passed 5-0.

Ms. Gold-yes
Mr. Harris-yes
Ms. Fox-yes
Ms. Taylor-yes
Ms. Barron-yes

Mr. Harris made another motion to approve the Face covering policy EBCFA as presented this evening with the changes brought forth by Sarah Fox and Dr. Buckey. After a brief discussion, the committee agreed to vote the motion and further ratify the policy as necessary. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passes 5-0.

Ms. Gold-yes
Ms. Fox-yes
Mr. Harris-yes
Ms. Taylor-yes
Ms. Barron-yes

Ms. Fox asked Dr. Buckey to confirm the final day of school to which he responded was June 15th.

3. District Updates

Dr. Buckey shared the first Planning for Success meeting went well with the facilitator. He shared that he and Assistant Superintendent, Nan Murphy will host a forum to involve community members in the process. The Leadership Team will be meeting next week to identify needs. It was shared that the five-year plan is anticipated to be complete for the fall of the 2021-2022 school year.

Ms. Fox shared how impressed she is with the student representatives on the committee.

III. Finance Organizational Support

1. Schedule of Bills

Ms. Gold made a motion to approve the schedules totaling \$225,574.23. It was moved by Ms. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Harris. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passes 4-0-1

Ms. Gold-yes
Ms. Fox-yes
Mr. Harris-yes
Ms. Taylor-yes
Ms. Barron-yes

IV. School Committee Communications and/or Discussion Items

1. Sustainability Discussion

Ms. Taylor suggested expanding a composting pilot program at Veterans and the Village schools for the fall.

Ms. Fox inquired about the use of reusable plates for the new Brown School to which Mr. Harris explained that there was no current plan to utilize reusable dishes and silverware for students. He did note that the district would not be using Styrofoam plates. Dr. Buckey offered to work offline with the Food Services Director to further to conversation.

Ms. Harris shared that the Brown School will be the first LEED certified school in the district.

2. Superintendent Evaluation Process Update

Ms. Gold reminded the committee that individual evaluations were due that day. Ms. Gold offered an extension to submissions until the following Monday or Tuesday.

Ms. Gold explained her thought process for compiling the summative report sharing that herself and the Superintendent's Assistant would work together for the final compilation. Ms. Fox requested that every committee member voice be heard in the compilation to which Ms. Gold agreed.

3. Subcommittee and Liaison Updates

a. Facilities Capital Update

Ms. Fox mentioned that the individual facilities assessment documents are posted to the committee website. Ms. Fox shared that the assessments were broken up by critical and long-term need over a twenty-year period. Ms. Fox pointed out that there is \$1.5 million dollars of critical need anticipated for infrastructure alone. She also noted that the assessment did not account for the new Brown School as the assessment only covered existing buildings.

Ms. Fox shared that Sustainable Marblehead will join the next facilities subcommittee meeting to help offer some insight into sustainable practices and grant ideas.

Ms. Fox also mentioned that a memorandum of understanding with the parks and recreation department would be beneficial in maintaining the grounds.

Mr. Harris inquired if there are additional funds available for the scope of work assessments if the committee sought additional information. Ms. Fox could not confirm an exact number but did confirm that the assessment was very thorough with few questions to be left to answer.

Ms. Taylor mentioned that the Unsung Hero Award information should be coming out in June and to be on the lookout for it.

Ms. Barron mentioned that the Cultural Feast raised money for scholarships for one METCO and one Marblehead student and commended the success of the event.

4. Building Project Update

Mr. Harris shared a video update from the progress of the new Brown School sharing that the sidewalks are poured, skylights are in. He did mention that a playground vendor experienced a fire in one of their factories which will create a two to three week delay for certain pieces.

V. Closing Business

1. New Business

None

2. Correspondence

None

3. Public Comment

Erin Noonan of 15 Beverly Avenue shared her disappointment with not being able to provide reusable plates for the Brown School.

Scott Solberg of 1 Ramsy Rd. shared that he is honored to be part of the Planning for Success initiative and commended the committee on a productive meeting. He also commended the Director of Student Services, Dr. Oxford for his recent presentation to SEPAC earlier in the month where he shared his vision to put the district on a new level for inclusive services.

Jean Skaane of 16 Foster Street and leader of Sustainable Marblehead's educational working group shared her excitement over the Brown School being LEED certified. She mentioned utilizing refillable water bottle stations in the building and beginning composting. Ms. Skaane also spoke in favor of the school being polystyrene free by opening day.

Catherine Martin of West Shore drive spoke in favor of opening the Brown School polystyrene free noting her disappointment if it did not.

4. Adjournment

Ms. Gold adjourned the meeting at 8:25pm.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Dimier, Secretary
Marblehead School Committee*

Approved January 6, 2022