

**MATTAPOISETT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES**

March 13, 2025

Hybrid Meeting at Superintendent's Conference Room

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Carly Lavin (remote) and James Muse (in-person).

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Michael S. Nelson, Superintendent of Schools (in-person); Howard Barber, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations (in-person), Shari Fedorowicz, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning (in-person); Jaime Curley, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services (in-person); Linda Ashley, Principal –Center School (in-person); and Stephanie Wells, Principal – Old Hammondtown School (in-person).

Ms. Lavin called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:

Superintendent Nelson explained that the administration has been reviewing the budget after having informal conversations with the town regarding available funding.

Superintendent Nelson continued that at the last meeting the FY2026 budget was proposed at 7.689%. Feedback from the town has been for a proposed budget under 7%, and he has worked with Mr. Barber, Dr. Ashley and Ms. Wells to determine options for reductions. Based on the discussions with the town, he believes there is support to provide separate funding of \$70,000 for a three-year license for new math curriculum. He discussed Kindergarten enrollment numbers are being monitored but at this time enrollment does not support three sections. Furthermore, the projected enrollment numbers for the rising 2nd grade were discussed in relation to the needed number of sections. The subcommittee members discussed enrollment of each grade level currently and what the projections were for next year.

School Committee Feedback:

Ms. Lavin and Mr. Muse agreed that it is important to be fiscally responsible and the school committee had already been monitoring enrollment at all grades at Center School. Moreover, the subcommittee members discussed providing notice to association leaders regarding possible reductions based on projected enrollment and/or fiscal constraints. Ms. Lavin expressed that it is difficult to have these discussions and difficult to agree to reductions.

Motion by Mr. Muse to endorse the recommendations as discussed to present a budget under 7% to the school committee at the budget public hearing.

Motion Seconded by Ms. Lavin

Motion Passed 2-0.

Motion to adjourn 5:39 p.m.

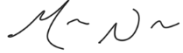
Motion by Mr. Muse

Motion Seconded by Ms. Lavin

Motion Passed 2-0.

The virtual zoom meeting option ended abruptly because of a 'zoom bomb' incident with inappropriate images and videos being shared on zoom by online guests (not local) of the public meeting. There were no zoom participants that were community members of Mattapoisett or surrounding towns and all other local meeting participants were in-person, including both school committee members.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M~N~".

Michael S. Nelson
Superintendent