

Monomoy Regional School District - Monomoy Regional School Committee
Meeting Minutes for Thursday, March 27, 2025 at 6:30 PM
Monomoy Regional High School Library, 75 Oak Street, Harwich, MA 02645

This meeting was broadcast to Channel 22 as well as live-streamed/recorded to the [MRSC YOUTUBE CHANNEL](#)

Members present: Betty Gray, Chair; Bre Rose; Brad Schiff; Ryan Clarke; Jackie Zibrat-Long; Meredith Henderson; Tina Games

Members not present: Jessica Rogers

Administrators present: Dr. Scott Carpenter, Superintendent; Dr. Robin Millen; Michael MacMillan; Melissa Maguire; Joy Jordan.

A. Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chair Betty Gray.

B. MRHS Student Report Representative MRHS Student Representative Jason Elhilow shared an update with school committee members regarding recent and upcoming events occurring at the High School. Some highlights include the MRHS Spring Musical Mamma Mia, MRHS students attending Women's Advocacy Day at the Massachusetts State House, and noted the art on display at the High School which is part of the *Through Young Eyes* exhibit at the Cape Cod Museum of Art.

C. Public Comment: None

D. Reports and Discussions

- i. Cape Cod Collaborative Articles of Agreement – Hope Hanscom presenting** **Vote Required**
Hope Hanscom, Executive Director of the Cape Cod Collaborative, was welcomed to the podium to ask that the Monomoy Regional School District School Committee support and vote to approve the Amended Articles of Agreement and admit Plymouth Public Schools to the Cape Cod Collaborative.
MOTION: Brad Schiff moved to approve that the Monomoy Regional School District admit Plymouth Public Schools to the Cape Cod Collaborative. The motion was seconded by Tina Games.
UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

ii. FY26 Budget Conversation with Harwich Select Board

Jeff Handler, Chair of the Harwich Select Board, addressed the school committee regarding budget concerns and the overall relationship between the Harwich Select Board and Monomoy Regional School Committee. He invited the administration and committee members to a stakeholders meeting on April 8. During this time, Meredith Henderson of the MR Finance Subcommittee shared that they had reduced the school budget by \$400,418, resulting in a 5.87% increase, down from 6.73%. The committee and Mr. Handler continued to discuss the need for better communication and collaboration on the regional assessment formula and shared their thoughts about having regular liaison meetings. They also noted the importance of finding ways the two member towns and the school district can work together to address issues like housing and keeping young families in the community.

iii. Revised FY26 Budget

Possible Vote

MRSD Business Manager Michael MacMillan presented the new budget scenario with a \$400,418 reduction, which results in a 5.87% increase, down from the previous 6.73%. Mr. MacMillan explains the impact of budget cuts on Harwich and Chatham assessments, noting slight differences due to the regional agreement. The MRSC Finance Subcommittee vetted and approved the new budget, and it is now presented to the school committee for review.

MOTION 1: Meredith Henderson moved to approve the reduction of the FY26 Budget by \$400,418.00 - a .86% reduction from the previously approved budget. The motion was seconded by Tina Games.

UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

MOTION 2: Tina Games moved to approve the new assessment of \$31,142,031 to the Town of Harwich and \$11,118,811 to the Town of Chatham. The motion was seconded by Meredith Henderson.

UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

iv. Participation in School Choice Program for FY26

Vote Required

As required every year, the school committee must take a formal vote to participate in school choice for the following school year.

MOTION: Ryan Clarke moved that the Monomoy Regional School District participate in the School Choice program for the 2025-2026 school year. The motion was seconded by Meredith Henderson.

UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

v. Approval of new Student Activities Account: Class of 2030

Vote Required

MOTION: Jackie Zibrat-Long moved to approve the creation of a new student activities account for the Class of 2030. The motion was seconded by Meredith Henderson.

UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

vi. Approval of new Student Activities Account: Hope Squad

Vote Required

Tina Games moved to approve the creation of a new student activities account for The Hope Squad. The motion was seconded by Meredith Henderson.

UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

E. Subcommittee, Representative, Liaison Reports

i. MRMS Restoration Project Update

The MRMS building restoration committee discussed the siding options for the project, including mock-ups for community feedback. The committee plans to mount mock-ups at the middle school and Harwich Elementary School for public viewing. An online platform will be created to allow community members to see the mock-ups and provide feedback. The goal is to select siding materials that are durable and aesthetically pleasing, while also considering the project budget.

ii. Finance Subcommittee Update

Presented / Discussed during FY26 Budget Conversion.

F. Superintendent's Report

i. Recognition of Donations, Grants, and other Acknowledgments

Dr. Carpenter shared the following recognitions with the School Committee:

Opening night of Shrek Junior at the middle school was Wednesday night, and you can catch the final performance of this great show tomorrow night,

More than 40 students from the high school visited the Massachusetts State House to take part in Women's Advocacy Day with the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women, where they met with a number of local officials.

The Empty Bowls, Full Hearts fundraiser at the high school last week was a big success and featured performances by both the middle school and high school chorus, pottery created by high school students, and placemats designed by elementary school students. The event raised funds for the Family Table Collaborative.

Artwork by students from across the district will be on display as part of the Through Young Eyes exhibit at the Cape Cod Museum of Art through May 18, with an opening reception on Saturday.

The Cape Media Center invited some of our fifth-grade students to come to the student to record poems they had written -- those poems and many more are on display in businesses and organizations around the community.

G. Action Items - Vote Required

i. Cape Cod Collaborative Articles of Agreement – Hope Hanscom presenting

MOTION: Brad Schiff moved to approve that the Monomoy Regional School District admit Plymouth Public Schools to the Cape Cod Collaborative. The motion was seconded by Tina Games.

UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

ii. Revised FY26 Budget

Possible Vote

MOTION 1: Meredith Henderson moved to approve the reduction of the FY26 Budget by \$400,418.00 - a .86% reduction from the previously approved budget. The motion was seconded by Tina Games.

UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

MOTION 2: Tina Games moved to approve the new assessment of \$31,142,031 to the Town of Harwich and \$11,118,811 to the Town of Chatham. The motion was seconded by Meredith Henderson.

UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

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UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

iv. Approval of new Student Activities Account: Class of 2030

MOTION: Jackie Zibrat-Long moved to approve the creation of a new student activities account for the Class of 2030. The motion was seconded by Meredith Henderson.

UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

v. Approval of new Student Activities Account: Hope Squad

Tina Games moved to approve the creation of a new student activities account for The Hoe Squad. The motion was seconded by Meredith Henderson.

UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

vi. November 2025 Visual Arts Department NYC Trip

MOTION: Tina Games moved to approve the 2025 Visual Arts Department trip to New York City as presented at the March 13, 2025 MRSC meeting. The motion was seconded by Brad Schiff.

UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

vii. Second Reading: 2025-2026 MRSD Calendar

MOTION: Meredith Henderson moved to approve the 2025-2026 MRSD Calendar as presented. The motion was seconded by Tina Games,
UNANIMOUS the motion passes.

H. Presentation of the Warrants

Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants were presented for School Committee member signatures.

I. Adjournment

MOTION: Meredith Henderson moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Brad Schiff.

UNANIMOUS the meeting adjourns at 7:49 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leah Tambolleo
Recording Secretary