MARLBOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Elmer Thienes-Mary Hall Elementary School - Library
Thursday, May 29, 2025 @ 6:30 p.m.

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call by Chairperson:**
   Kerri Barella, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm

   BOE Members Present: Kerri Barella, Angela Colantonio, Amy Kuhrt, Chip Morris, and Linda Earley. Attending remotely: Josh Bruhn.

   Administration Present: Dr. Holly Hageman, Superintendent
   Paula Graef, Principal
   Kristen Trahan, Principal
   John Mercier, Director of Operations

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Celebrations:** None

4. **Public Comments:** None

5. **Consent Agenda:**
   5.1 Minutes of 04/24/25 Regular Business Meeting and 5/16/25 Personnel Subcommittee Meeting;
   5.2 Personnel Actions – none;
   5.3 Reports – receive and file the following document: monthly enrollment report,
   Note: There was not a May Financial Report. Given the timing of the May meeting and the June meeting, one week apart, there will be a report at the June 5th BOE meeting.

A.Colantonio made a motion that the Board approve the following Consent Agenda items 5.1-5.3, seconded by L. Earley. J. Bruhn voted yes remotely. Unanimously approved by all present. MOTION CARRIED.

6. **Oral Reports:**
   6.1 Advisory Groups
   - PTO - Kristen Trahan and Paula Graef provided an overview of PTO events held in May, including Staff Appreciation Week events, the annual Art Show, a Glow Party for meeting Fun Run goals, Yard Goats event, the Math & Science Assembly, and the Book Fair and Ice Cream Social.
   - SAC - Kristen Trahan reported that the committee convened to review and discuss current homework practices across all grade levels.
   - Operations, Wellness & Safety - John Mercier informed the Board that two grant-funded EV Chargers were installed this past month and will be operational soon. He also stated that the Food Services merger with RHAM is nearing completion.

- Board of Finance Liaison – Linda Earley reported that the BOF Vice Chair was resigning. She also stated that the BOF will submit the mill rate letter to the Town Clerk; the rate for the upcoming fiscal year is set at 37.74 mills. The FY 23 audit has been completed.
- AHM - Chip Morris reported that AHM is getting ready for Project Grad which will be held at Revolutions on Friday June 13 from 10pm - 5am; volunteers are still needed. Summer programs brochure has been published; programming is open to all ages and all towns. The Annual Golf Tournament will be held on July 18th at Blackledge Country Club; more players and more sponsors are being sought. End of year celebrations are under way.

6.2 **Subcommittees:**

- Policy: No report
- Personnel: Meeting was held May 16th
- Communications: No report

6.3 **Chairperson**: Kerri Barella informed the Board that she will be stepping down from her role as Chair on June 5th and a new Chair will be elected at that same meeting. She plans to resign from the Board of Education on June 13th.

6.4 **Superintendent and Administrative Team**: Dr. Holly Hageman thanked administration, staff and families for their work during this very busy time of year. Hiring has been completed for certified positions for the 2025-26 school year.

7. **Unfinished Business:**

7.1 **Adopt Line Item Budget Approved at Referendum on May 6, 2025**

A.Kuhrt made a motion that the Board adopt the FY 2025-26 line-item budget as voted on at the May 6, 2025 referendum, seconded by C. Morris. J. Bruhn voted yes remotely. Unanimously approved by all present. MOTION CARRIED.

7.2 **Discussion regarding engaging with the Town for the MES Building Project**: Dr. Holly Hageman informed the Board that the MES Building Project will be a standing agenda item moving forward. She noted that David Porter has offered to attend BOE meetings when the project is discussed to address any questions from the Town's perspective. An updated *"MES Educational Facility Study and Project Options – What's Next?"* document was distributed to the Board and will be posted on the website under the Building Project tab.

8. **New Business:**

8.1 **Review Process and Timeline for Annual Superintendent Evaluation** - Reviewed by K. Barella

8.2 **Review Process and Timeline for Annual Board Self-Evaluation** - Reviewed by K. Barella

8.3 **Discussion and Possible Action Re: School Lunch Pricing** - Dr. Holly Hageman and the Board discussed the adjustments to school breakfast and lunch prices for the 2025–2026 school year. The discussion considered compliance with the Equity in School Lunch Pricing formula, as well as a comparison of meal pricing in surrounding towns.

L. Earley made a motion that the Board approve adjusting the price of school breakfast from $1.75 to $2.00 and lunches from $3.25 to $3.35 for the 2025-26 school year, seconded by A. Colantonio. J. Bruhn voted yes remotely. Unanimously approved by all present. MOTION CARRIED.

9. **Communications**

9.1 **May Staff Vacancy Summary:** Submitted. It was agreed that beginning next school year, the report will present staff changes as month-to-month updates, rather than as a continuously updated (rolling) document.

10. Future Meetings & Topics

- Next Special Meeting, Thursday, June 5, 2025, 6:30 p.m.
- Grade 6 Promotion Ceremony, Thursday, June 12, 2025, 10:00 a.m.
- Last day of school for students and staff, Friday, June 13, 2025, 1:00 p.m. dismissal

11. Public Comments: None

12. Executive Session:

A.Colantonio made a motion that the Board of Education enter into Executive Session to review the Superintendent's self-evaluation and compilation of evaluation forms, seconded by K. Barella. J. Bruhn voted yes remotely. Unanimously approved by all present. MOTION CARRIED.

Entered Executive Session: 7:31 p.m.

A.Colantonio made a motion to exit the executive session and adjourn the meeting at 8:47pm, seconded by A. Kuhrt. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Exit Executive Session: 8:47 p.m.

13. Adjournment: 8:47pm

Respectfully submitted,

Carmela Monte
Board Clerk