



Dr. Matthew C. Stahl
Principal

MALDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Ferryway School

Erin Bennett, Assistant Principal
Erika Israelson, Assistant Principal
Erin O'Brien, Assistant Principal

Ferryway School Site Council

May 12, 2026
6:00 PM, Virtual (Google Meets)

Organization: Ferryway School Site Council

Meeting Date: 5/12/2026 Time: 6:00 pm

Meeting Location: Google Meets

Requested By: Dr. Matthew C. Stahl, Ferryway School Principal

Topic: Ferryway School Site Council

Agenda

- Upcoming MCAS testing:
 - May 13th - Math MCAS (Grades 5, 6, & 7)
 - May 14th & 15th - Math MCAS (Grade 3)
 - May 19th & 20th - Math MCAS (Grade 4)
 - May 19th & 20th - STE MCAS (Grades 5 & 8)
 - May 27th & 28th - Civics MCAS (Grade 8)
 - Reviewed upcoming testing schedule and remaining preparation timelines.
 - Reinforced the importance of maintaining strong attendance and punctuality during testing windows.
 - Discussed ensuring students are comfortable with testing routines, accommodations, and Chromebook readiness.
 - Teams were reminded to continue balancing MCAS preparation with strong grade-level instruction rather than narrowing instruction exclusively toward testing.
 - Discussed maintaining calm and positive messaging with students to support confidence and reduce testing anxiety.
- Teacher Appreciation Week THANK YOU
 - Leadership expressed appreciation to staff for the positive atmosphere and participation throughout Teacher Appreciation Week.
 - Recognized PTO collaboration and support in organizing appreciation activities and staff events.
 - Discussed the importance of acknowledging staff effort during a demanding time of year that includes testing, progress monitoring, and end-of-year responsibilities.

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Strong Past...Proud Future



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- Staff contributions to school culture, instructional growth, and student support were recognized and appreciated.
 - Budget & SIP Planning
 - New Hires
 - Discussed current hiring needs and areas of staffing priority moving into next school year.
 - Reinforced the importance of hiring strong instructional staff who align with school priorities around student engagement, collaboration, intervention, and accountability.
 - Discussed maintaining consistency in expectations and onboarding supports for new staff members...the turnover rate at the school has essentially vanished in the last 3 years
 - SIP So Far:
 - Instructional:
 - 3-5: Math - Computational (specific group?)
 - Discussed student performance trends indicating continued need for strengthening computational fluency and procedural accuracy in grades 3–5.
 - Teams discussed identifying whether a specific subgroup should become the primary focus area within this work based on current data trends.
 - Discussed ensuring computational work remains connected to conceptual understanding and not solely isolated skill practice.
 - 6-8: Math - problem solving (specific group?)
 - Reviewed trends showing students in grades 6–8 continue to need support with multi-step problem solving, mathematical reasoning, and explaining thinking.
 - Discussed the importance of increasing opportunities for productive struggle and student discourse during math instruction.
 - Teams discussed identifying specific student groups or subgroups requiring targeted support within this focus area.
 - 5-8: MATH SWD (data indicates greatest need)
 - Reviewed data indicating students with disabilities remain the subgroup with the greatest need in mathematics performance at grades 5–8.
 - Discussed the need for greater consistency between core instruction, intervention support, accommodations, and modified instructional practices.
 - Leadership discussed continuing to strengthen collaboration between general education and special education staff in math planning and



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implementation.

- Discussed ensuring modifications and scaffolds maintain access to grade-level standards while appropriately supporting student needs.

■ Intervention:

● K-2 - Literacy (Foundational Reading Skills)

- Reviewed continued need to prioritize foundational literacy skills in grades K–2, including phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, fluency, and early comprehension.
- Discussed maintaining strong intervention systems and progress monitoring structures at early grade levels.
- Teams discussed ensuring intervention instruction remains aligned to core curriculum expectations and grade-level standards.
- Leadership discussed continuing to strengthen consistency across classrooms and intervention providers regarding instructional approaches and expectations.

■ Attendance

● Continue with Special Education

- Discussed progress made this year in special education programming and instructional consistency while acknowledging that additional growth is still necessary.
- Leadership discussed continued concerns regarding consistency of implementation, instructional rigor, communication, and accountability across settings.
- Reviewed the importance of maintaining focus on inclusion practices, meaningful accommodations, and student engagement in grade-level learning.
- Discussed continuing professional development, coaching support, and collaboration structures to strengthen overall special education programming moving forward.

● Focus on K-2

- Reviewed data indicating grades K–2 are all currently performing slightly below the overall school averages in multiple areas.
- Discussed the importance of strengthening early instructional systems to improve long-term student outcomes across grade levels.
- Teams discussed maintaining a strong focus on foundational literacy, attendance, student engagement, and intervention supports in the primary



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grades.

- Leadership discussed the importance of supporting teachers with instructional coaching, consistent expectations, and intervention resources to improve early grade-level outcomes.

Official SSC Members for 2025-26 (all present for this meeting)

- Michele Ferguson (Parent)
- Audrey Chee-Read (Parent)
- Katherine Agate (Parent)
- Matthew Stahl (Principal)
- Stephanie Stratford (Teacher)
- Danielle Senopoulos (Teacher)

 Date: May 12th

 Time: 6:00 PM

 Location: [Google Meets Link](#)

To join the video meeting, click this link: <https://meet.google.com/yhs-ebge-obh>