

MARLBOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
Elmer Thienes-Mary Hall Elementary School - Library
Thursday, June 16, 2022
6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairperson Wes Skorski called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

BOE Members Present: Wesley Skorski, Ruth Kelly, Louise Concodello, Angela Colantonio, Susan Stolfi, Patrick Pabouet, Liz Giannelli, Kerri Barella

Administration Present: Dr. Holly Hageman, Superintendent
Dan White, Principal
Kim Kelley, Assistant Principal

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Celebrations

Kim Kelly presented a slideshow of MES student activities.

4. Public Comments

W. Skorski read a statement from Allison Mahon, Emily Rd., voiced her support for exploring enhanced security measures. States she is in favor of both a satellite office and an SRO.

Mark Merritt, Jones Hollow Rd., stated he was in favor of an armed resource officer and does not think a satellite police office is enough.

Amy Kuhrt, Deer Run, wanted to take the option of a satellite office one step further, she spoke in support of an SRO.

Jennifer Barone, Heritage, spoke in support of an SRO and a police satellite office. Satellite office is good, but a satellite office does not guarantee the officer will be on site.

Steve Barone, Heritage, feels community members should support the effort to pull resources together to fund something as instrumental as school safety. He is in support of both an SRO and a satellite office.

Ken Hjulstrom, South Main St., not speaking as a member of the BOE, stated he was in favor of a police satellite office 4 years ago, but does not think a satellite office is enough in this current climate. Spoke in support of a dedicated SRO, somebody who can have a good rapport with the kids. Suggested that if the BOE cannot get funding from the town for an SRO, that the BOE build it into their budget.

Sal Sena, Hodge Rd., spoke in support of a SRO.

Pam Farrington, Jerry Daniels Rd., not sure how she feels about an armed SRO in a school. She was in support of the satellite office 4 years ago and thought it was a nice first step but also feels there are other safety measures to consider as well.

5. Additions to the Agenda – None

6. Consent Agenda

- 6.1 Minutes of 04/28/22 Regular Business meeting (Encl. 6.1A); 5/9/22 Communications Ad Hoc Committee meeting (Encl. 6.1B); 5/17/22 Communications Ad Hoc Committee meeting (Encl. 6.1C), and; 6/7/2022 Special Meeting (Encl. 6.1D)
- 6.2 Personnel Actions – none;
- 6.3 Reports – receive and file the following documents: May (Encl. 6.3A) and June (Encl. 6.3B) monthly enrollment report;
- 6.4 Grants – none;

R. Kelley moved that the Board approve the Consent Agenda items, seconded by L. Concodello. Unanimously Approved. MOTION CARRIED.

7. Oral Reports

7.1 Advisory Groups

- SAC – Dan White: Small SAC meeting in May.
- PTO – D. White reported the PTO had a June 8th meeting. Spring Book fair was a huge success as well as the free ice cream event. APEX fundraiser was recently completed and raised approximately \$16,000. Over a 100 school supply boxes have been ordered so far. Another Yard Goats sign up reminder will go out for an August event. Melissa Jordan PTO president is stepping down and Jasmin LeBlanc is the new president. Before the APEX fund raiser, PTO account balance is about \$23,000. Looking to start up field trips again next year, Trunk or Treat and PTO movie night. PTO will continue to fund teacher reimbursements of \$125; new teachers will receive a reimbursement of \$250. MES Staff conducted a Spirit Day where they raised \$104 for the PTO.
- Operations, Wellness & Safety – Dan White: No meeting.
- Board of Finance Liaison – Louise Concodello: Attended last night's BOF meeting. The BOF held elections, Mike Nastri elected Chair, Jeff Plourd elected Vice Chair, and Robert Moraba is the secretary. The audit where BOE was discussed has been resolved. The funding for the Town Manager search was not approved.
- AHM – Sue Stolfi: On June 3rd, 120 people signed up for the Mental Health Walk.. Cookie with a Cop is scheduled June 22nd at Marlborough Bakery from 9am-11am. Sue Stolfi has resigned as chair of AHM and Kerri Barella has taken over as chair and BOE liaison. No meetings in July or August.

7.2 Subcommittees

- Policy Committee – L. Concodello reported they met tonight and reviewed 4-5 policies to bring to the Board in August for a first read. There were 2 policies that the policy committee will review again before bringing them to the Board.
- Communications Ad Hoc Committee- Sue Stolfi: S., Stolfie deferred to H. Hageman to give an update. H. Hageman stated that the Ad Hoc committee met twice in May and came up with a set of recommendations to review with the Board later tonight, item 9.3 on the agenda.

7.3 Chairperson

- Resignation of Board Member; replace vacancy on Policy Committee: W. Skorski reported that Michele Thomas has resigned due to work commitments. Notice has been sent to the Town as per Board policy. The Town Clerk is taking applications for a replacement. K. Barella has taken Michele's place on the Policy Committee.
- Communication to Board of Selectman regarding satellite office for law enforcement; W. Skorski polled the board individually to see what actions to take. Three choices were; A.) To hold a special meeting for possible action and hear community input, B.) Send a letter to the BOS requesting discussions on the satellite office. And C.) Leave discussion for today's BOE meeting. The majority of the Board selected B and C which was to send the letter and discuss the issue this evening. A meeting was scheduled but was then postponed due to BOE discussions to take place during tonight's meeting.

7.4 Superintendent and Administrative Team:

- H. Hageman wanted to acknowledge and thank staff, administration of MES, BOE and parents of the MES community for an outstanding year. Teachers and staff kept everything moving and kids were happy coming to school every day, transitioned into mask optional smoothly and got back to a relatively normal routine. Big credit goes to staff, Dan and Kim for their leadership, and the support of our Board and families. It was a hard but positive year.
- D. White: Community room floor project update. It is moving forward. Two parts to the project; the walls are being painted and then the existing floor will be replaced with a multi-purpose floor. Funding was appropriated through the CIP.
- D. white reported that the ESY summer program is scheduled for 15 days total to begin Tuesday, July 5th through Thursday, July 28th, no Fridays. 15 - 16 students total and fully staffed by staff from our own building except the speech/language pathologist. Type 2 vehicle will transport the students.
- Dan reported that the floors are being stripped and waxed as an annual summer process; the Gym floor will be refinished and the building's exterior bricks are being sealed as an ongoing project.

8. Unfinished Business

8.1 Adopt Line Item Budget Approved at Referendum on May 3, 2022

Louise Concodello moved that the Board adopt the FY 2022-23 line-item budget as voted at the May 3, 2022 referendum in the amount of \$8,046,932., seconded by A. Colantonio. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

9. New Business

9.1 Discussion and Possible Action Re: Food Service Management Contract: H. Hageman stated that we are seeking the approval of our second renewal representing the 3rd year of a 5 year contract with Chartwells. The guaranteed profit has been reduced from \$5000 to \$500 based upon reduced free and reduced participation, increasing food prices, and increased staffing costs.

R. Kelley moved that the Board approve the Year Two amendment of the agreement with Chartwells to provide food management services for the 2022-2023 school year, motion second by K. Barella. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

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Discussion: L. Concodello asked if the meals were free next year. H. Hageman stated that at this time, the free meals are set to expire June 30th, and we have not received any indication from the federal government that the free meals will continue. Free and reduced meal applications will go out at the beginning of the year.

9.2 Review June Financial Report (Encl. 9.2): H. Hageman distributed an updated version of the June financial report and explained the error in the cells on the original report but also explained that the bottom line did not change. H. Hageman explained the reason for the projected surplus of \$45,089.09 was largely due to receiving more money from the state than expected through the excess cost grant reimbursement. At the close of the fiscal year, BOE will request surplus to be deposited into the 2% non-lapsing account.

9.3 Report and Recommendations from Communications Ad Hoc Committee: Copies of the Ad Hoc Communications Committee recommendations were distributed. H. Hageman stated that the Ad Hoc Communications Committee met twice in May 5/9 & 5/17, she reviewed the Communications Committee recommendations: Reestablish the existence of a community form to meet in November, submit Superintendent's Corner in the Rivereast, Update MES Website with budget information, Budget Communications, potentially consider a Facebook/social media page, Create a yearly schedule of typical agenda items by month for BOE members, Remind Board Members the value of CABE workshops and events. Ad Hoc Committee will meet again in September, date to be announced in the August BOE meeting.

K. Barella moved that the Board approve the recommendations of the Communications Ad Hoc Committee as presented, seconded by L Concodello. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

9.4 Discussion regarding school safety and security -

W. Skorski moved that the Marlborough BOE direct the Superintendent to investigate the viability of a satellite office and/or an SRO at school and come back with the results of the study. Seconded by R. Kelly.

Discussion; S. Stolfi asked when is H. Hageman to get back to the Board with the results. H. Hageman suggested by the September meeting, and will try for August, depending upon representative stakeholders' summer availability. Some reporting can be discussed publicly and other aspects may be reported in executive session. H. Hageman reported that BOE would need to enter an MOU with the Town if an SRO were to be assigned to the school.

Amended motion: W. Skorski moved that the Marlborough BOE directs the Superintendent to investigate the viability of a satellite office and/or an SRO at school and to report back results at the September meeting at the latest. Seconded by R. Kelly. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

10. Public Comments

Ken Hjulstrom, South Main St, not speaking as a member of the BOF, clarification regarding BOF not approving \$25,000 for the town manager search, couple of reasons: members felt it was premature as a search committee is not in place yet and there are open questions regarding the Charter as to what the duties are between various positions.

Allison Mahon, Emily Rd, stated she is full support of a dedicated full time SRO and a satellite office, but more importantly an SRO.

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Heather Dierburger, Caffyn Dr, She stated that she would like to see an SRO in the school, but if not possible, would want a satellite office in the school.

Pam Farrington – wanted to thank Holly for her first year. Stated that it has been a pleasure working with her and thanked Dan and Kim for their endless hours, energy and dedication to the children, staff and families.

11. Communications

11.1 Staff Vacancy Summary - submitted

12. Future Meetings & Topics

- Next policy subcommittee meeting, Thursday, August 25, 2022, 5:30 p.m.
- Next regular business meeting, Thursday, August 25, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

13. Executive Session – Personnel – Superintendent’s Evaluation/Contract Negotiation –

R. Kelly moved that the Board of Education enter into executive session for the purpose of Superintendent’s Evaluation and Contract Negotiation. Seconded by P. Pabouet. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

Entered Executive Session: 7:33 PM

Exited Executive Session: 9:40 PM

14. Possible Action Re: Superintendent’s Contract

W. Skorski moved that the Board of Education approve of the contract for the Superintendent for the term of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025; and increase Dr. Hageman’s salary for 7/1/22 to 6/30/23 by 4.5%; and that the Board compensate the Superintendent for the extra days worked during the 2021-22 school year in the amount of \$5000. Seconded by A. Colantonio. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

15. Adjournment

A. Colantonio made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m., seconded by R. Kelly. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carmela Monte