

Medway School Committee  
Minutes  
Medway, MA  
Thursday, May 6, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

The School Committee of the Medway Public Schools held a meeting on Thursday, May 6, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., in the Presentation Room at Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway, MA. School Committee members in attendance included Ms. Dietrich, Ms. Sullivan, Ms. Nassiff and Dr. Fagerson. Also in attendance were Superintendent Armand Pires and Assistant Superintendent Gabrielle Abrams. The meeting was video-taped.

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, and the Governor's March 15, 2020, Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, limited attendance of members of the public will be permitted at this meeting.

A. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Ms. Dietrich called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

There is a need for the School Committee to adjourn to Executive Session in accordance with M.G.L., Chapter 30A, Section 21:exemption 2 to conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel, specifically the Superintendent.

**It was moved by Ms Sullivan, seconded by Ms. Nassiff that the school committee adjourn to executive session, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21: exemption 2, to conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel, specifically the Superintendent, with the understanding that the School Committee will return to public session. A roll call vote was taken and voting in favor was, Dr. Fagerson, Ms. Nassiff, Ms. Sullivan and the chair, Ms. Dietrich. The committee adjourned to executive session at 6:02 p.m.**

The school committee returned to open session at 6:11 p.m.

C. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Warrant
- b. Grant MA Dept of Mental Health - Supporting SEL \$16,000
- c. Minutes
  - i. April 15, 2021 Regular Meeting

The minutes of April 15, 2021 were removed from the consent agenda.

**It was moved by Ms. Sullivan, seconded by Ms. Nassiff that the school committee approve the consent agenda, as recommended by the Superintendent. Motion passed 4-0.**

Ms. Sullivan noted that the minutes of the April 15 meeting reported that at the end of the minutes the committee adjourned, when they should have reported that the committee adjourned to executive session.

**It was moved by Ms. Sullivan, seconded by Ms. Nassiff that the school committee approve the amended minutes from the April 15, 2021 meeting, as recommended by the Superintendent. Motion passed 4-0.**

#### D. PUBLIC COMMENT

#### E. DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

- a. First Reading- Curriculum and Instruction Leader/Department Head Job Description

Dr. Pires noted that this job description represents two job descriptions combined to make one. Ms. Sullivan asked for a redlined copy to be shared with the committee. Dr. Pires confirmed that they would be sent to the committee.

- b. School Reopening

Dr. Pires reported that students in grades 6-12 returned to 4 days per week right before the April break and returned 5 days per week after vacation. The close contacts will increase due to the distance being within 6 feet in school and on the bus. New guidance does not require close contacts to quarantine if everyone is wearing a mask, but close contacts will be notified. The district reached out to the families that have remained in full virtual school to invite them to participate in full in person learning for the remainder of the year.

Dr. Pires noted that the district is working with staff to identify the needs of students now that all are back. PK-2 has adjusted well, 3-5 is showing a bit of a lag and Middle and High school just returned on April 12. Dr. Pires reported that at a June meeting he will bring to the committee a report requesting the use of funds from the Esser II and Esser III to support summer and bridge programs. The district is working on plans to reach out to families and staff to find out what went well and what has the pandemic taught us. One example is parent conferences via ZOOM were well received as it allowed parents to attend when previously they wouldn't be able to make the in person conference due to work schedules. The platform ThoughtExchange is the product that the district is looking to engage with for this work.

- c. Other: *This time is being reserved for topics that the chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed.*

Dr. Pires left the meeting at this point.

#### F. PRESENTATIONS

Standard Based Report Card - Elementary Allied Arts

Amy McDonald, Principal McGovern Elementary School and John Kelley, Principal, Memorial Elementary School presented to the committee the Standard Based Report Card. Ms. McDonald reviewed the Standards Based Grading system which focuses on student learning and grades based on understanding of specific concepts. Ms.

McDonald went on to discuss the rationale for the change. Mr. Kelley discussed the proposed changes for the coming fall and will focus on 4 areas or clusters. Mr. Kelly expanded on the clusters for grades K-4 for Art, Music, Wellness and others. Ms. McDonald reviewed the Science/Technology and Engineering standards for K-1 and 2-4. Mr. Kelley reviewed the next steps stating they will finalize the assessment tools used to track progress and work on refinements to reporting standards for History/Social Sciences for the Spring of 2022. Ms. Dietrich said she appreciates the work and asked how this data will be captured. Ms. McDonald stated that the teachers are very skilled in assessing and capturing this data. The committee thanked Ms. McDonald and Mr. Kelley for their presentation.

## G. ACTION ITEMS

- a. **For Consideration: Approval of Policy Manual** sections J. Students, K. Community Relations, L. Education Agency Relations.

Ms. Sullivan noted that the Policy Subcommittee will hold out policies, JIC and IJN-R for review.

**It was moved by Ms. Sullivan, seconded by Ms. Nassiff that the School Committee approve Policy Manual sections, J. Students, K. Community Relations, L. Education Agency Relations, with the exception of policy JIC and IKN-R to go into effect on July 1, 2021, as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee. Motion passed 4-0.**

- b. **For Consideration: Approval Responsible Use Policy IJNDB as reviewed at the April 15, 2021 meeting.**

Ms. Sullivan noted that Policy IJNDB-R is also included for annual review.

**It was moved by Ms. Sullivan, seconded by Ms. Nassiff that the School Committee approve the Responsible Use Policy, IJNDB and Responsible Use Of School Network, Internet & Equipment Administrative Procedures For Implementation, policy IJNDB-R as reviewed at the April 15, 2021 School Committee meeting and, as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee. Motion passed 4-0.**

- c. **For Consideration: To authorize the Superintendent to conduct contract negotiations with the following bargaining units:**

- **Medway Federation of Teachers, Local 3645, MFT,AFT AFL-CIO, Paraprofessionals Unit**
- **Medway Federation of Teachers, Secretaries Unit**
- **American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO-Council 93, Local 3901**
- **Medway Food Services Association**

**It was moved by Ms. Sullivan, seconded by Ms. Nassiff that the School Committee authorize the Superintendent to to engage in negotiations with the following bargaining units,**

- Medway Federation of Teachers, Local 3645, MFT,AFT AFL-CIO, Paraprofessionals Unit
- Medway Federation of Teachers, Secretaries Unit
- American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO-Council 93, Local 3901
- Medway Food Services Association

**subject to ratification and approval by the School Committee. Motion passed 4-0.**

- d. **For Consideration: Approval of the Superintendent's contract** for the period of FY22 to FY27. The contract was discussed in Executive Session and now comes before the committee for approval.

**It was moved by Ms. Sullivan, seconded by Ms. Nassiff that the School Committee approve the superintendent's contract for the period of FY22 to FY27, and authorize the chair to execute the contract, as recommended by the chair. Motion passed 4-0.**

- e. Other- *This time is being reserved for topics that the chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed.*

#### H. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

- Liaison Reports
- Chairperson Update  
Ms. Dietrich's update reminded the community that the committee is accepting nominations for the Burke-Memorial Plaque until the end of May. Ms. Dietrich attended the first meeting of the Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Advisory Committee last night. She had the opportunity to take part as the School Committee representative. The next meeting will be in 3 weeks and they will select officers. This is a 15 month long program. Ms. Dietrich also noted that the Medway Master Plan will hold a community forum on May 24 as a webinar and encouraged the community to attend. This week is Teacher appreciation week and she is grateful for all our educators.
- Superintendent Update
- Assistant Superintendent Update  
Ms. Abrams' thanked the members of the Assistant Principal search committees for their participation. The Community Education Program Coordinator will begin in the district on May 17.
- Committee Members' Update  
Dr. Fagerson attended the Athletic Advisory, noting that the wedge season went well.

I. INFORMATION ITEMS AND COMMUNICATIONS

J. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- School Committee Leadership Discussion
- Appoint School Committee Secretary
- Appoint Central Office Staff Member to Receive Copies of All School Committee Emails
- Handbook Policies
- Handbooks
- District Improvement Plan
- Elementary School Improvement Plan
- Middle School Improvement Plan
- High School Improvement Plan
- Student Activity Audit

K. NEXT MEETINGS

- Town Meeting, **May 10, 2021, 7:00 p.m.**, 88 Summer Street, Medway High School
- Town Elections, **May 18, 2021**, Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street
- Regular Meeting, **May 20, 2021, 6:00 p.m.**, in the presentation room, Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway
- Regular Meeting, **June 3, 2021, 6:00 p.m.**, in the presentation room, Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway
- Regular Meeting, **June 24, 2021, 6:00 p.m.**, in the presentation room, Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway

L. ADJOURN

At approximately 7:16 p.m., it was moved by Ms. Sullivan, seconded by Ms. Nassiff to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

*Ellen Quinn*

Ellen Quinn  
Secretary to the School Committee

Approved: May 20, 2021