

Medway School Committee
Minutes
Medway, MA
November 15, 2018

The School Committee of the Medway Public Schools held a meeting on Thursday, November 15, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., in the presentation room at Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway, MA. School Committee members in attendance included Ms. Borgatti, Ms. Dietrich, Mr. Segarra, Ms. Sullivan and Ms. Nassiff. Also in attendance were Superintendent Armand Pires and Assistant Superintendent Gabrielle Abrams. The meeting was video-taped.

Earlier this evening, the School Committee recognized student Mark Lannigan, recipient of the Superintendent's Award of Academic Excellence. Mark's accomplishments include a rigorous program of Honors and AP classes and his participation in the S.H.O.P program. Mark has received numerous academic awards and achievements including President of the National Honor Society, MHS Class President and many others. Alexandra Cervantes and Nolan Donohue were recognized for the NESDEC Award. Alexandra challenged herself each year with a rigorous program including Honors and AP classes and is highly involved in both student activities and community service. Nolan is taking four AP classes in his areas of interest which include AP Statistics, AP Calculus, AP Physics and both Macro and Micro Economics. Nolan is also involved in student activities and has earned a Brown Belt in Karate.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Borgatti called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m., noting all the members were present.

B. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Warrants were signed by committee members

C. REPORT OF STUDENTS

Kaitlyn Calnan reported for the Middle School that picture retake day was last week. The high school put on a production of *A Mid Summer Night's Dream*. The football team played in semi-finals against Ashland they played a great game, but lost to Ashland. On Tuesday, 55 students were inducted into the National Honor Society.

D. PRESENTATIONS

a. **Math Curriculum Review Update**

Gabrielle Abrams, Assistant Superintendent, Mary Evans, K-5 Math Curriculum Instructional Leader and Kelly Bliss, 6-12 Math Curriculum Instructional Leader presented to the committee the Math Curriculum Review Update. Ms. Abrams gave an overview of the review starting with the self-study conducted from January 2017 to April 2018, which was followed by the visiting team in May of 2018. Ms. Abrams recognized all the staff that contributed to this work. Mary Evans gave highlights of the PK-5 Commendations which included the curriculum being aligned to the content of the Massachusetts Frameworks with ongoing revisions, the use of PLCs to discuss student progress and to share best practices and the use of iReady to target instruction and share data across teams and with families. Kelly Bliss reviewed highlights of the 6-12 commendations which included that the educators sent a strong message that Medway cares about its students, they are enthusiastic and have the desire to improve. The program was commended for how it integrates the appropriate use of technology and its aim to focus on the use of mathematical practice standards. Ms. Evans highlighted the recommendations and next steps for grades PK-5 while Ms. Bliss highlighted the recommendations and next steps for grades 6-12. Ms. Abrams discussed the changes and opportunities for the math program. Ms. Borgatti asked based on this report, what the spring will look like. Ms. Abrams responded that they will look at products and teachers will have the opportunity to work with 2 resources. When asked how the new resource would work with the current iReady, Ms. Abrams responded that it would work well together as iReady is not tied to any other product but a universal screener.

E. ACTION ITEMS

- a. **For Consideration: Approval of a donation from Medway Cable, in the amount \$6,000 in equipment, to the Mustang Learning Lounge, at the Medway Middle School.**

It was moved by Ms. Dietrich, seconded by Mr. Segarra that the school committee accept the donation from Medway Cable in the amount of \$6,000 in equipment, to the Mustang Learning Lounge, at the Medway Middle School. All voted in favor.

- b. **For Consideration: Final approval of the Boys Hockey Team Overnight Trip to Maine.** – High School Coaches, Derek Harrington, JP Gaspparrini and Kyle Dwyer, have submitted the final logistical details for students to attend a hockey tournament in Auburn, Maine, December 26-28, 2018, per the committee’s preliminary trip approval at the meeting held October 4, 2018, and as outlined in School Committee Policy #59. Final approval for the trip now comes before the committee.

It was moved by Ms. Dietrich, seconded by Mr. Segarra that the school committee approve the student overnight trip to Auburn, Maine for the purpose of participating in a hockey tournament, December 26-28, 2018, as recommended by the superintendent. All voted in favor.

A. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. First Reading: Superintendent's Goals
Dr. Pires gave an overview of his goals, noting that he scaled back the number of goals based on feedback from the school committee. Dr. Pires reported that his goals align with the strategic plan.
- b. First Reading: 2019-2020 School Calendar
Dr. Pires noted that the 2019-2020 school year will begin after Labor Day as contractually Unit A members cannot start before August 28, which is a Wednesday and leading into the Labor Day weekend.
- c. Fuel Efficient Policy (#83)
This packet of information included the vehicle inventory.
- d. Elementary Playgrounds
It was noted that both Choate Park and Oakland Park had ribbon cutting ceremonies over the last few weekends. Dr. Pires gave an update of the elementary playground projects. He noted the total renovation cost is around \$540,000, and have received donations from organizations such as MEPTO, MEDI and Exelon bringing the balance to approximately \$480,000. Dr. Pires reported that this may be presented to Town Meeting in the spring as a warrant article to request funding.
- e. Strategic Plan Goals and Strategies
Ms. Abrams gave a brief overview of the framework of the Strategic Plan highlighting sections that are new to the document. Ms. Abrams is hoping to finalize the framework document by the end of November.
- f. FY20 Budget Priorities
Ms. Borgatti asked the committee to think about any concerns they have around budget priorities. Ms. Dietrich is looking forward to the great feedback.
The committee confirmed that January 26, 2019 would be a budget workshop.
- g. Other- *This time is being reserved for topics that the chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed.*

H. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- a. Public Comments
None
- b. Liaison Reports
None

I. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

a. Chairperson Update

Ms. Borgatti noted that School Committee will hold office hours on November 19, 2018 prior to the Town Meeting, at the Medway High School library, starting at 6:30 p.m. A second November office hour will take place on Thursday, November 29, 2018, at the Medway High School Guidance area. Ms. Borgatti congratulated the students who participated in the third annual Veterans project.

b. Superintendent Update

Dr. Pires' update included the recent induction ceremony for the National Honor Society where 55 students were inducted. Also this week more than 40 students were the recipients of the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship. Dr. Pires reported on the major upgrades to the audio and video systems at the Medway High School Auditorium. This upgrade will greatly improve all events held within the space. Dr. Pires gave an update on the Athletic Director interview process and stated they are pleased to have received a great deal of interest and excited by the caliber of candidates.

c. Assistant Superintendent Update

Ms. Abrams' update began with the recent trip to Nashville, TN, to take a tour of career academies. Ms. Abrams along with Dr. Murray, Joan Hallett and Kristy Macedo, toured two Nashville high schools that have been transformed into Career Academies. The tour was sparked by the implementation of a STEM based curriculum resource, Project Lead the Way, (PLTW), a hands-on, project and problem based learning program that the district has been implementing for several years. Ms. Abrams also updated the committee on the progress of the library redesign

d. Committee Members' Update

J. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Regular Meeting, November 1, 2018

It was moved by Ms. Dietrich, seconded by Mr. Segarra to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2018 regular meeting. All voted in favor.

K. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Strategic Plan presentation
- Approval of Superintendent Contract
- Office Hours for School Committee
- Budget Process Timeline
- Student Activities Fee Report
- Approval of the 2019-2020 School Year Calendar
- Athletic Expenses and Fees Report
- Superintendent Conference with School Committee members for mid-cycle evaluation check-in

L. NEXT MEETINGS

- **Office Hours, Monday, November 19, 2018 6:30 p.m.**, Medway High School Library, 88 Summer Street, Medway
- **Fall Town Meeting, Monday, November 19, 2018, 7:00 p.m.**, Medway High School, 88 Summer Street, Medway
- **Office Hours, Thursday, November 29, 2018, 7:00 p.m.**, Medway High School Guidance Area, 88 Summer Street, Medway
- **Budget Subcommittee Meeting, December 6, 2018, 6:00 p.m.**, in the Superintendent's Conference Room, 45 Holliston Street, Medway
- **Regular Meeting, Thursday, December 6, 2018, 7:00 p.m.**, in the presentation room, Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway
- **Regular Meeting, Thursday, December 13, 2018, 7:00 p.m., (tentative if needed)** in the presentation room, Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway

M. ADJOURNMENT

At approximately 8:39 p.m. it was moved by Mr. Segarra and seconded by Ms. Sullivan to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen Quinn

Ellen Quinn
Secretary to the School Committee

Approved: December 6, 2018