

**MEDFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**Zoom Remote Meeting**  
**January 12, 2021**

**PRESENT:** Jessica Reilly - Chair  
Leo Brehm - Vice Chair  
Timothy Knight - Recording Secretary  
Meghan Glenn - Financial Secretary  
Anna Mae O'Shea Brooke - Member at Large

**ALSO PRESENT:** Jeffrey Marsden - Superintendent of Schools  
Michael LaFrancesca - Director of Finance and Operations  
Andrea Moores - Secretary  
Andrew Barrette - Student Representative

A Roll Call was taken to open the meeting:

- Leo Brehm- yes
- Meghan Glenn -yes
- Anna Mae O'Shea Brooke -yes
- Jessica Reilly- yes

Mr. Timothy Knight was not present at the roll call and joined the meeting late.

**STUDENT OPPORTUNITY ACT PLAN (SOA) - presented by Dr. Jeffrey Marsden**

The Student Opportunity Act is a mechanism to give districts additional funding and districts are required to develop and submit a plan to DESE for approval to be able to access the SOA funds. Dr. Marsden explained that the district is slated to receive \$76,000 from this grant but it is still unclear when the funds will be available.

Dr. Marsden presented the Medfield Public School's SOA Plan to the Medfield School Committee and explained that the plan will:

- Focus on student subgroups to ensure all students achieve at high levels
- Use evidence based programs to close gaps
- Monitor success with outcome metrics and targets
- Engage all families

The Medfield Public Schools SOA Plan will focus on students who receive special education services and English Learner (EL) services to ensure that all students achieve at high levels in school. The district will utilize two evidence-based programs to best support the closure of the achievement and opportunity gaps.

The district offered weekly remote academic sessions called Boot Camp in the summer of 2020 for students on an IEP. This program focused on the review and preview of grade level material and funded by a summer learning grant. The SOA funds received will be dedicated to the continuation of this program as well as to expand the program to include sessions for students in the EL program.

The district has expanded its co-taught teaching model gradually over the past three years in grades 5-12. SOA funds will also be allocated to the salary of a special education teacher for a 5th grade full co-taught classroom.

The district will use the following metrics to monitor success in reducing the disparities in achievement among student subgroups:

- Individual achievement towards goals/objectives for students with Individualized Education Programs
- Decreased length of time for students to recoup skills lost from no instruction over summer. This would particularly be of note for students who do not qualify for ESY services but still may need a short recoupment in the Fall.

The district will engage all families by continuing to build upon its direct communication with families of students receiving EL and special education services. The Medfield Public Schools has joined the Early Adopters program for the IEP improvement project and has direct family involvement at both the building and district level to support this mission.

Ms. Jessica Reilly asked for comments and feedback from the School Committee:

Mr. Leo Brehm stated that he was in support of any resources to expand programs for students.

Ms. Jessica Reilly stressed the importance of supporting the district's most vulnerable learners and continuing to offer and extend programming in this area.

Ms. Ann Mae O'Shea Brooke asked Dr. Marsden how many students participated in last summer's programs and how many students do you expect to expand the programming to. Dr. Marsden stated that approximately 18 students participated and estimated that 10 to 15 additional students could be added to the program. It was also explained that this program is in addition to the district's Extended School Year (ESY) programming.

Ms. Meghan Glenn asked how parents would have access to the summer program. Dr. Marsden explained that Student Services would identify those students and offer the program to students who are eligible.

Ms. Jessica Reilly asked if there was extra funding could this type of programming be offered to a second tier of students who may need additional support due to the irregularities of this past year. Dr. Marsden informed the committee that discussions are taking place on how to support second tier students if needed.

Mr. Timothy Knight inquired when the funds would be available. Dr. Marsden stated that once the plan is submitted to DESE it could take some time for the district to hear how and when the funds will be distributed.

Mr. Leo Brehm inquired about the status of the district's Circuit Breaker. Dr. Marsden explained that the district has not yet received its Circuit Breaker percentage.

**Ms. Jessica Reilly opened up the meeting to public comment on the SOA Plan:**

Ms. Christine McCue Potts, 7 Curve Street, shared her concerns that the School Committee did not follow the proper certification guidelines in developing the SOA Plan. She stated that she has not seen this topic as an agenda item for public discussion on any School Committee or SEPAC meeting. She stated her belief that there was not enough public community outreach and limited consultation from the School Committee in the development of the district's SOA plan.

A motion was made by Ms. Anna Mae O'Shea Brooke, seconded by Ms. Meghan Glenn to accept the Student Opportunity Plan as presented by Dr. Marsden.

Ms. Meghan Glenn stated for the record prior to the vote that the SOA Plan has been discussed in open meetings prior to the pandemic.

A Roll Call Vote was taken to accept the Student Opportunity Act Plan as presented by Dr. Marsden.

- Leo Brehm- yes
- Timothy Knight - yes
- Meghan Glenn -yes
- Anna Mae O'Shea Brooke -yes
- Jessica Reilly- yes

**The motion passed unanimously.**

Ms. Reilly asked for a motion for the committee to move to Executive Session and not return to open session.

A motion was made by Mr. Timothy Knight, seconded by Ms. Anna Mae O'Shea Brooke to move to the Executive Session and not return to open session to discuss issues related to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body. (Medfield Teachers' Association Unit A & B).

A Roll Call Vote was taken to move to the Executive Session and not return to open meeting to discuss issues related to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body. (Medfield Teachers' Association Unit A & B)

- Leo Brehm- yes
- Timothy Knight - yes
- Meghan Glenn -yes
- Anna Mae O'Shea Brooke -yes
- Jessica Reilly- yes

**The motion passed unanimously.**

The School Committee moved to the Executive Session at 5:27 pm.

**Minutes Approved by School Committee: March 23, 2021**

#### **EXHIBITS AND DOCUMENTS**

- Student Opportunity Act Plan

Respectfully submitted,  
Andrea Moores  
Secretary