

MEDFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Zoom Remote Meeting
April 1, 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

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm after an Executive 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 Units A & B, AFL-CIO Custodians, Cafeteria Workers and Secretaries)

The Chair called for a Roll Call to enter the meeting:

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

PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Anna Mae O'Shea Brooke, seconded by Mr. Timothy Knight, to approve the meeting minutes from 2/11/21, the workshop minutes from 2/26/21, and the Board of Health/School Committee joint meeting minutes from 3/9/21.

A Roll Call Vote was taken to approve the meeting minutes from 2/11/21, the workshop minutes from 2/26/21, and the Board of Health/School Committee joint meeting minutes from 3/9/21.

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

The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Meghan Glenn seconded Ms. Anna Mae O'Shea Brooke to approve and retain the Executive Session minutes from 3/11/21 and 3/23/21.

A Roll Call Vote was taken to approve and retain the Executive Session minutes from 3/11/21 and 3/23/21

- Leo Brehm- yes

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

The motion passed unanimously.

FY21 BUDGET UPDATE - presented by Dr. Jeffrey Marsden

Dr. Marsden informed the committee that there were no updates at this time since the month of March closed yesterday. The next update will be presented at the April 15th meeting.

Mr. Leo Brehn requested that the list of cuts made to the FY21 Budget be reviewed at the next meeting.

SCHOOL LEARNING MODEL PROGRESS - presented by Dr. Jeffrey Marsden

Dr. Marsden reported that Grades K-5 are back to full in-person learning and is looking forward to having the middle and high school students back in a few weeks. Dr. Marsden thanked the parents who volunteered their time and efforts to help set up the classrooms.

Dr. Marsden shared the preliminary analysis that indicated that there have been limited impacts to the scope of student learning even though there were changes to curriculum assessment and instruction. This does not mean that all students perform well under this model; the data indicate that there has been limited impact to student learning across the district. Dr. Marsden shared highlights of the data and a more formal presentation on the data will be shared at a School Committee meeting in May.

Ms. Jessica Reilly opened the meeting to public comment on the School Learning Model Progress and the FY21 Budget update.

There was no public comment at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

High School Advisory – presented by High School Student Representatives

Catherine Bannister(9th), Elizabeth Panciocco (10th grade), Kerry White (11th) and Eva O'Toole (12th) were in attendance and presented their grade level updates to the School Committee. All of the student representends shared their excitement about the full return to school and that the overall morale of the student body has improved.

Fall 2021 Outlook for Schools – presented by Dr. Jeffrey Marsden

Dr. Marsden informed the committee that, based on his weekly superintendent meetings with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Commissioner, the outlook is that districts will return to school full in-person for the 2021-2022 school year with the mitigation protocols that are currently in place. Dr. Marsden expects that additional guidance will be released by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education over the summer but the district is planning for a full return to in-person learning. There will be no additional days required prior to the beginning of the school year and the district calendar approved by the School Committee on March 11, 2021 will be adhered to.

Ms. Anna Mae O’Shea Brooke reiterated Mr. Brehm’s request to review the cuts that were made to FY21 and would like information on the plan for extra support for students who may need an extra safety net.

Ms. Jessica Reilly asked Dr. Marsden if there were any additional updates on potential stimulus. Dr. Marsden stated that there wasn’t any new information to share and the parameters for disbursement of funds to districts will be using the Title 1 funding formula. The DESE Commissioner did inform superintendents that the state has put aside some funds for districts who do not receive adequate funding due to the Title 1 disbursement formula but no additional information has been provided.

Ms. Jessica Reilly opened the meeting to public comment on the School Learning Model Progress and the FY21 Budget update.

There was no public comment at this time.

Other items since posting on March 29, 2021 - presented by Dr. Jeffrey Marsden

Dr. Marsden provided a quick update on the district’s pooled testing program. He informed the committee that Representative Jake Auchincloss will be coming to the district on Thursday, April 8th to observe the district's pooled testing in action at the high school.

OLD BUSINESS

FY22 Budget Update – presented by Dr. Jeffrey Marsden

Dr. Marsden explained that the Warrant Committee has recommended funding the district’s FY22 Budget with a 3.99% increase as a component of a town wide balanced budget.

Ms. Jessica Reilly opened the meeting to public comment on the FY22 Budget update.

There was no public comment at this time.

New Elementary School Project Update – presented by Dr. Marsden, Ms. Anna Mae O’Shea Brooke

Dr. Marsden stated that the project is moving forward and the School Building Committee (SBC) recently met with the project’s landscape designer. It was helpful to see the landscape vision for the project and to discuss the synergy between the Wheelock and the new school. The Police and Fire Chief have also been able to give their feedback pertaining to the access areas on the new site. The SBC Working Group will continue to meet weekly. Ms. O’Shea Brooke informed the rest of the School Committee that the Board of Selectman approved moving forward with a Net Zero building plan, and thanked the Sustainability Subcommittee of the SBC for their work in this area. Ms. O’Shea Brooke stated that the SBC Communications Subcommittee will meet again on April 8th and encouraged the community to subscribe to the project’s email list.

Ms. Jessica Reilly opened the meeting to public comment on the New Elementary School Project Update.

There was no public comment at this time.

Donations – presented by Dr. Jeffrey Marsden

Dr. Marsden asked the School Committee to approve the following donations:

- \$4499.80 from the Dale Street School PTO to the Dale Street School to purchase desk dividers and floor mats
- \$500.00 from Grynn & Barrett Enterprises to the Blake Middle School Gift Account

A motion was made by Ms Anna Mae O'Shea Brooke, seconded by Ms. Meghan Glenn to approve the donations as presented by Dr. Marsden..

A Roll Call Vote was taken to approve the donations as presented by Dr. Marsden:

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

The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Dr. Marsden included the determination from DESE from a September 30, 2021 complaint. Dr. Marsden stated that DESE found the district in compliance and closed out the complaint.

Ms. Jessica Reilly informed the committee that she would be sending out queries pertaining to the summer meeting schedule and the potential of holding some workshops. The workshop topics would focus on communication, school committee roles, and budget. She announced that the School Choice Public Hearing would be held at the next meeting, scheduled for April 15, 2021.

Mr. Timothy Knight expressed his gratitude for the work of the Medfield Onward group and their collaborative relationships with town organizations such as MCPE and the PTO. Mr. Knight also requested to bring Dave Worthley back to a future meeting to provide an update on Social Emotional Learning.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Mascot Task Force Update (April 15)
- School Choice Public Hearing (April 15)
- Standards Based Report Card Feedback (Workshop-April 16)
- Student Feedback (Summer 2021)
- Social Emotional Learning (May)
- Follow up on Student Assessments (May)

Next Meeting – April 15, 2021

The Chair Called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Ms Anna Mae O'Shea Brooke, seconded by Mr Leo Brehm.

A Roll Call Vote was taken:

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

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Minutes approved by School Committee: April 15, 2021

EXHIBITS AND DOCUMENTS

- Meeting Narrative 4/1/21
- DRAFT 2/11/2021 School Committee Minutes
- DRAFT 2/26/2021 School Committee Workshop Minutes
- DRAFT 3/9/2021 Joint School Committee and Board of Health Meeting Minutes
- Donations 4/1/2021
- DESE - PRS 4292 Medfield SLT Closure Letter 3.31.21 Final
- School Committee Meeting Video
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U3G1FDgz5ZA&list=PLypOllJHc4M11uhMSb4wb8Z1bf_hWzEwR&index=1

Respectfully Submitted,
Andrea Moores
Secretary