



OPEN LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

Scott F. McDermott
Town Moderator

November 3, 2022

Hello to the Medfield community:

Hope you and your family have enjoyed a great New England fall. It seems like we were just heading back to school and enjoying a sunny Medfield Day – and now we are moving onward from Halloween towards Thanksgiving.

As you may know, the town bylaw amendment passed at our Annual Town Meeting granted the Town Moderator the honor and privilege of appointing four members of our community to the new School Building Committee.

The Town Moderator shall appoint four (4) voting members to the SBC. One appointment will be a current Warrant Committee member, selected by the Warrant Committee. One appointment will be a senior Medfield resident sixty-five (65) years of age or over. Two appointments will be residents at large.

Beginning in August, I have held open forums, had numerous insightful discussions with many of our friends and neighbors, and have promoted conversations about the value of service on the School Building Committee. My discussions, and my criteria for appointment, reflected a number of considerations which included, but were not limited to, the following: commitment to an open, collaborative, inclusive, thoughtful and positive process resulting in an excellent elementary school building; highly constructive contributors bringing knowledge, experience, and insights about the Town of Medfield, building construction, and/or elementary education; open-minded individuals without single-minded agendas; personal, professional, and business acumen and skills related to planning, development, decision-making, judgment, conflict resolution, and effective communication; team players with a sense of humor; and individuals with a deep commitment to the best interests of our community and its residents.

With these considerations and more in mind, and pursuant to the authority granted to the Town Moderator by the Bylaws of the Town of Medfield, I am honored to make the following appointments to the School Building Committee:

Mather Eldred of Granite Street is my appointment as a member of the Warrant Committee. Mather is a property management professional. He has young children who are and will be attending our elementary schools. I was delighted to get to know Mather as I appointed him to the Warrant Committee where he has demonstrated his knowledge, thoughtfulness, and commitment.

Robert Meaney of Main Street is my appointment fulfilling the requirement of the bylaw for a “senior Medfield resident sixty-five (65) years of age or over.” I have known and worked with Bob for many years. He was our Police Chief from 2006-2018. Bob, his wife, and children are graduates of the Medfield schools. He has demonstrated his deep commitment to our community in a legion of ways that have benefitted us all.

Carolyn Casey of South Street is appointed as a resident at large. Carolyn and her husband Patrick have lived in town for over 30 years and raised and educated their children here. They each have made significant contributions for our community through town boards, initiatives, and service. Carolyn was a member of the Medfield School Committee from 1995-2010. She has had a 40-year career in elementary education and has deep experience as a classroom teacher. During her time on the School Committee the High School, Middle School, and Memorial were significantly renovated.

William C. Werner of Garry Drive is appointed as a resident at large. Bill is a strategy and development executive. In his role he oversees real estate and property development together with many other strategic functions of a large business enterprise. Bill and his wife have lived in Medfield for eight years and have 4 children who have attended Medfield schools. Bill's wife has been an elementary school teacher and remains involved in school activities.

I am grateful to these four individuals for stepping forward to accept the challenge of this process and this project. I am proud to be making these appointments. As a group they bring a balanced perspective and individually they bring a range of knowledge and experiences. Together with the upcoming appointments to be made by the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee, I have great confidence that Mather, Bob, Carolyn, and Bill will lead, participate, and contribute to an open, intelligent, collaborative, and positive process that brings our community together and moves us forward on this very important project.

Be well and thank you for your support when the committee begins its work.

Very truly yours,

Scott F. McDermott

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