

**MARSHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MARSHFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
SETH VENTRESS BUILDING
February 11, 2022
3:00 p.m.**

Mrs. Brait called meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Ms. Boyd	Yes
Mrs. Campbell (via Zoom)	Yes
Mr. Greer	Yes
Mr. Costello	Yes
Mrs. Brait	Yes

Also present were Supt. Mr. Jeffrey Granatino, Asst. Supt. Dr. Ellen Martin, Director of Special Education/Pupil Personnel Ms. Amy Scolaro, and Asst. Supt. Business & Finance Mr. Thomas Miller.

Mrs. Brait noted under the Open Meeting Law, she was informing the public of this meeting being videotaped by Marshfield Community Television. If anyone in the audience is taping the meeting, either audio or video, please inform us of such at this time.

INFORMATIONAL

None

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Tim Carey, 29 Chandler Drive, questioned if 2/28 was the right time to remove masks or if we should wait until a week after February vacation.

Lisa Kile, 5 Howes Brook Road, disrupted the meeting speaking out of turn.

Eric Kelley, 121 Peterson Path, Thanked those who held signs at 139 and respects those with opposing views. His opinion is that the purpose of the mask mandate is to coerce vaccination.

Rich Slattery, 105 Franklin Street, supports removing masks but agrees with Mr. Carey's opinion to delay mask removal by 1 week.

Katherine Mulford, 27 Emmanuel Road, expressed how painful it is for her son to wear a mask with severe eczema and would like them removed immediately.

Christine Leonard, 59 Old Farm Road, begged the SC to discontinue mask use so that students can see their teachers' faces. Her 6 year old daughter is anxious about becoming sick since she has always been in school with teachers masked.

Ashleigh MacKinnon, 184 Valley Path, stated that it has been #721 days since the last normal school day and asked that the SC allow students to be children again and see expressions on faces. She requested that MPSD follow DESE guidance in this instance as has been done throughout the pandemic.

Lisa Kile, 5 Howes Brook Road, 76% of country has been infected or exposed to COVID therefore masks are not working. She stated that masks are not worn properly and not made for children. She urged the SC to make the decision to benefit students.

Student representatives Nicole October and Erin King stated that they spoke to students and teachers at MHS and all are in favor of removing masks.

MEA UPDATE

The MEA Update was provided to SC Members prior to the meeting.

MINUTES

None

II. OLD BUSINESS

Covid-19 Update

Supt. Granatino updated the Committee on the 2/9 announcement by the Commissioner of Education that as of 2/28, they are lifting the mask mandate and each district has the option to continue wearing masks or make masks optional.

MOTION: Mrs. Brait moved move that effective February 28, 2022 the Marshfield Pubic School District mask policy be amended to allow for optional wearing of masks by students, staff and visitors in school buildings and/or at school related events/activities, except for on school buses, which will continue, per federal mandate, to require masks being worn at all times, and subject to any further guidance that the District receives from DESE and/or MA DPH. Mr. Costello second.

Mr. Greer stated that the update to mask guidance is long overdue and is in favor of having masks optional. Mr. Costello is also in favor of mask optional and encouraged acceptance of students and families who chose to continue to wear masks. Mrs. Campbell added that the SC appreciates all of the feedback and that decisions are not taken lightly. Supt. Granatino expressed appreciation for those sharing their opinions and added that MPSD has tried to follow DPH/DESE guidelines and were one of the first districts to bring students back in spring, 2021. MPSD was also one of the first to adopt Test& Stay keeping hundreds of students in school. After speaking to the MPSD physician and chair of Marshfield BOH, Supt. Granatino recommends adhering to the recommendation of the Governor to make masks optional as of 2/28.

VOTE: 5-0-0

III. NEW BUSINESS

None

IV. FUTURE MEETINGS

A School Committee meeting is scheduled for March 8 at Martinson Elementary School. The February 15 meeting is postponed.

V. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mrs. Campbell moved to adjourn meeting at 3:30. Mr. Greer second.
5-0-0

ROLL CALL

Ms. Boyd	Yes
Mrs. Campbell	Yes
Mr. Greer	Yes
Mr. Costello	Yes
Mrs. Brait	Yes

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan M. Pozerski
School Committee Secretary