

**MARSHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MARSHFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
FURNACE BROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL
MARCH 16, 2021
6:00 p.m.**

In response to Governor Baker's declaration of a public health emergency and the related Emergency Executive Order dated March 12, 2020 as well as the Marshfield Board of Selectmen's Declaration of Emergency on March 17, 2020, the School Committee shall be meeting remotely until further notice. The audio conferencing application Zoom will be used for this purpose. An online link and telephone access number will be provided on all meeting agendas and also on the Board's website. This application will permit the public to access and participate in future Board meetings and hearings. Instructions for joining meetings in this manner will be provided on the School Committee and Town Clerk's websites. In addition, Marshfield Community TV may provide coverage of these meetings. We extend our thanks for your understanding and participation in this manner, which is intended to keep members of the Board and the public safe.

Mr. Costello called meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Ms. Boyd	Yes
Mrs. Campbell	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 (via Zoom), and Asst. Supt. Business & Finance Mr. Thomas Miller.

Mr. Costello noted under the Open Meeting Law, he 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

Supt. Granatino's updated the committee on the previous meeting's motion to identify all logistics to be completed to return students to full in-person learning along with negotiations with the MEA.

- All furniture needed has been returned to rooms or is staged in buildings
- Rooms that do not meet distance requirements have been identified and classes have been relocated
- Transportation has been reviewed and routes adjusted as required
- Drop off/pick up point potentially to be added at FBMS
- Students snack throughout the day as needed
- E-Hall pass will continue to be used

- Necessary schedule changes are underway
- Meetings held with MEA 3/11 and 3/15. Next meeting scheduled for 3/18

Asst. Supt. Martin had no additional updates.

Ms. Amy Scolaro had no additional updates.

Asst. Supt. Miller update the Committee on the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan of which \$125 billion is for K-12 education. At 2.2x the ESSER Fund, Marshfield potentially will receive \$2.75 million to be used in FY22 and FY23 with \$1 of every \$5 earmarked for learning recovery.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

None

STUDENT PARTICIPATION

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Sally Marples, MEA president, thanked all those who worked to vaccinate MPSD staff but emphasized that it is not in the best interest of staff or students to return before the vaccine takes full effect following the 2nd dose.

Megan Burns, MHS Senior Class President, spoke in favor of returning to in-person learning 5 days/week.

Ben Raymond, MHS teacher, also expressed thanks for the vaccination opportunity and as a parent urged waiting until April 5th, at the earliest, to return once all teachers had the opportunity to have their 2nd vaccination.

II. MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Greer moved to approve the minutes of March 9, 2021. Ms. Boyd second. VOTE: 5-0-0.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Proposal to Return to Full In-Person Instruction (6-12)

Mrs. Campbell stressed that all students should be back in school and believes that April 5th is a natural transition time (start of last term). She also asked how many substitutes are available. Supt. Granatino answered that finding substitutes has been a challenge all year but others have helped cover classes including ESPs and tutors. Mrs. Campbell then asked if teachers were required to quarantine if they are deemed a close contact after receiving the vaccine. Supt. Granatino answered that there is no need to quarantine once 2 weeks has passed following the 2nd dose.

Mr. Greer asked the earliest date schools could reopen. Mr. Granatino answered March 29th.

Ms. Boyd acknowledged the many valid competing concerns among parents, teachers, and students along with concurrent learning not being a substitute for in-person instruction. She then asked how many are currently in quarantine. Supt. Granatino answered that 5 educators and 34 students are in quarantine along with 7 in isolation.

Mrs. Brait questioned if parents and staff are prescreening students and themselves prior to coming to school. Supt. Granatino answered that they are instructed to. Mrs. Brait expressed concern for the number of transitions families have been through this year and asked that this be the final schedule change.

MOTION: Mrs. Brait moved that all students return to in-person instruction no sooner than March 29th pending negotiations with the MEA. Mr. Greer second.

Mrs. Campbell empathized that she wants all students back in-person but feels that April 5th is less disruptive transition date for staff and students.

Mr. Costello commented that it is evident that the residents of Marshfield are passionate about public education and there is no easy decision as all stakeholders have a different perspective. The health and safety of students, staff, and families is the #1 priority of the SC. Teachers have made many sacrifices and the SC greatly appreciates all they have done.

Vote: 4-1- 0 (Nay – Campbell)

MCAS Resolution

Supt. Granatino read the revised MCAS resolution. Ms. Boyd stated that although students need to be assessed, MCAS is not necessary for that exercise but the state must request a waiver from the US Department of Education to eliminate MCAS testing. Mrs. Campbell added that MCAS is only one data point and feels that time is better spent on instruction rather than testing.

MOTION: Mr. Greer moved to approve the MCAS Resolution. Mrs. Campbell second. Vote 5-0-0

IV. NEW BUSINESS

None

V. FUTURE MEETINGS

A School Committee meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2021.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mrs. Campbell moved to adjourn meeting at 7:13. Mr. Greer second.

ROLL CALL

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan M. Pozerski
School Committee Secretary