

**MARSHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MARSHFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
SETH VENTRESS BUILDING
September 28, 2021
7:00 p.m.**

Mrs. Brait called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

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

SPOTLIGHT ON EXCELLENCE: MPSD Preschool Program

Early Childhood Coordinator Courtney Coutts presented a slide show on the MPSD Early Childhood program which services #167 students (#72 of whom have identified needs) with #7 teachers. The program is integrated with a maximum of #15/class where #8 are tuition paying peers. Each year, #4 community screening are held. ECC sends a weekly newsletter with upcoming events for families.

Ms. Boyd asked if the program is able to meet the demand. Dr. Coutts answered that all but #3 potential students were admitted from the waiting list. Mr. Greer asked what resources are needed to expand the program. Dr. Coutts answered that moving all ECC resources to one location would be helpful. Supt. Granatino added that the Alamo (building next to South River School) is under consideration for the ECC expansion. Asst. Supt. Miller added that a full day program is under discussion to meet the needs of working families.

INFORMATIONAL

Supt. Granatino updated the Committee on the following:

- The Board of Selectman voted to create a regional planning committee to investigate Marshfield joining South Shore Vocational Technical School in the fall of 2023
- Thanks to the PTOs for making schools welcoming to staff and students
- Thanks to Elizabeth Burns who stepped down after volunteering for the MEF for many years
- Celebration planned for Ruthann Despier on Thursday, 9/30
- Wall of Honor nominations accepted through 10/15

- FBMS held One Book One School celebration which included a Zoom session with the co-author of Squint

Asst. Supt. Martin updated the Committee on the following:

- Reiterated the positive message that Squint co-author Shelly Brown shared with FBMS students
- Assessments underway for grades K-8 with math diagnostic tool iReady
- 40 new MPSD educators had a productive session with their mentors

Director of Special Education/Pupil Personnel Ms. Scolaro updated the Committee on the following:

- Commended Dr. Coutts on her presentation
- Detailed the partnership with ESS that is underway and includes Professional Development for staff and families including an upcoming SEPAC workshop on Destigmatizing Mental Health (10/6)
- SEPAC presentation on parental basic rights in Special Education scheduled (10/20)

Asst. Supt. Miller updated the Committee on the following:

- ESSER III submission due next week
- A survey is available on MPSD for stakeholders to complete regarding how ESSER III funds should be allocated

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

None

STUDENT PARTICIPATION

This year's student representatives introduces themselves: Lisa Parsons, Nicole October, and Erin King. All are members of MHS Class of 2023.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Susan Petrie, 60 Riverside Circle, spoke in favor of the 8th grade English curriculum and feels that a powerful message is being misinterpreted. The teachers are teaching students to listen.

Tina Shea, 566 Careswell Street, spoke in opposition of the mask policy and stated that nothing school can teach is worth trading for health.

Eric Kelley, 121 Peterson Path expressed concern that mask requirement is to force vaccination.

Tim Higgins, 81 Maryland Street, requested a SC vote on mask mandate.

Ashleigh MacKinnon, 184 Valley Path, requested that the Test & Stay program be amended to include those who are vaccinated as well as those unvaccinated to create an inclusive environment.

Kate Carr, 221 Hampstead Way, is appalled at the book choices selected by FBMS including All American Boys.

Kristen Lydon, 240 Parsonage Street, asked that families of law enforcement be consider as books are selected.

Sarah Marples, MEA President, expressed concern that families believe that curriculum is designed to make a group of people feel that their profession is unacceptable. The curriculum is designed to open children's minds. MPSD has wonderful examples of MPD in our schools setting examples of courtesy and kindness.

MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Greer moved to approve the amended minutes of August 24, 2021. Ms. Boyd second. VOTE: 5-0-0

II. OLD BUSINESS

Week 1 Update

Supt. Granatino updated the Committee on the start of the school year:

- School year theme is "Better Together" and staff received t-shirts to wear on the first day
- Keynote speaker Tom Murray presented to all staff
- Meet & Greets were held at elementary schools the evening before school started
- Focus on SEL and re-acclimating students
- MHS football game on 9/10 recognized first responders including school nurses
- Working on some typical start of school bus issues

Mr. Greer revisited the CR 24 & CR25 discussion from the 6/8 SC meeting asking that politically biased curriculum be reviewed. Mr. Costello expressed appreciation for the work done to begin the school year. Mrs. Brait complimented all on putting the community first in making decisions.

III. NEW BUSINESS

Facilities Update

Facilities Manager Fred Russell highlighted recent projects including:

- Replaced the MHS track
- Installed a/c at FBMS (2nd floor)
- Awarded \$65,000 to replace LED lights at FBMS
- Working with the Town Administrator and Solar Ray to replace roof and add solar panels at MES
- Replaced fire alarm systems at SRS and GWS
- Painted exterior of Ventress Building

Test & Stay Protocols

Supt. Granatino updated the Committee on the status of Test & Stay:

- CIC working with DESE to staff program (Currently 1 of 3 positions filled)
- Issues regarding systems' access being resolved

- Revised start date of 10/12 expected
- Program allows students identified as close contacts to be tested each morning and attend school if negative
- CNA hired to assist district wide and focus on elementary schools (start date 10/12)
- In the process of hiring 2 floating nurses using ESSER funds

Mrs. Brait asked how many students have consented to Test & Stay. Supt. Granatino answered that the consents go directly to CIC and he will share the numbers when available. Mrs. Campbell expressed appreciation for the additional nursing support. Mr. Greer asked that the “one size fits all” decisions from DESE be evaluated. Mrs. Brait answered that she is unsure if SC can change DESE policy regarding Test & Stay.

Acceptance of Donations

Supt. Granatino recognized #3 local business for donations to MPSD:

1. ServiceMaster – \$1,250 to purchase school supplies
2. South Shore Children's Dentistry – Pencils to all 1st grade students
3. Kirwan Surgical Products – General school supplies

MOTION: Mrs. Campbell moved to accept the business donations. Mr. Greer second. VOTE: 5-0-0

Special Town Meeting

Asst. Supt. Miller discussed the items pertaining to MPSD at the upcoming Special Town Meeting including \$250,000 for facilities and \$400,000 for the operating budget.

IV. FUTURE MEETINGS

A School Committee meeting is scheduled for October 12.

V. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mrs. Campbell moved to adjourn to Executive Session not to return to Open Session at 8:25. Mr. Greer second. VOTE: 5-0-0

ROLL CALL

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

Meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan M. Pozerski
School Committee Secretary