

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
OF THE MALDEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Monday, June 4, 2018
Malden Senior Center, 7 Washington Street

Mayor Christenson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Chair said that the School Committee will have a recess until the beginning of school unless the Chair calls for a meeting due to some unforeseen circumstance.

Mayor Christenson led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence for those who have served our country and for those who continue to do so.

Roll Call

The following attendance was taken:

Mayor Christenson	Present
Ms. Beardsley	Present
Ms. Bordonaro	Present
Mr. Drummey	Present
Mr. Froio	Present
Mr. Iovino	Present
Ms. Leon	Present
Mr. McCarthy	Present
Ms. Spadafora	Present
Superintendent Oteri	Present
Student Representative Tsige	Present
Clerk	Present

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Christenson brought forth the matter of the approval of minutes for the May 7th Regular Session of the School Committee. Mr. Iovino made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. McCarthy seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Seven 8th Grade Students from Salemwood

The 8th Grade Salemwood students Nadia Ali, Erickah Douyon, Elizabeth Eshetu, Christelle Jean, Sammi Nie, Ezekiel Dettering and Micael Henry voiced their aspirations for the teachers and students of the Malden Public Schools (MPS).

Ms. Loma Closeil – former Salemwood student who graduated in 2010

Ms. Closeil said that she is currently a junior in college. Ms. Closeil said that she faced many obstacles in school but having a teacher of color helped her overcome the obstacles and receive a scholarship to a top tier liberal arts college. Ms. Closeil requested the School Committee to fulfill unmet needs of students of color by listening to students with the intent to act, providing bias training to administrators, and actively recruiting teachers of color.

Ms. Penny Kalman, 194 Bainbridge Street, Malden and 6th Grade Teacher at Salemwood School
Ms. Kalman said the schools need more funding for space as well as to provide the same opportunities for students at different schools.

Mr. Guival Mercedat, 114 Columbia Street, Malden

Mr. Mercedat has been living in Malden for the last 14 years and has been attending school graduation ceremonies for the last 10 years in order to support family and friends. Mr. Mercedat said the student body has changed in terms of diversity but it is not reflected in the teaching staff. Mr. Mercedat asked the School Committee to make changes so that there is more diversity among staff.

Mr. Marcus Barbagallo, 7th Grade English Teacher at Salemwood School

Mr. Barbagallo said that he is proud of the students that he has got to know during the past five years and that they have helped him become a better educator. Mr. Barbagallo is grateful for their insight and commitment to create change. Mr. Barbagallo said that students can be our best teachers.

Ms. Deborah Gesualdo, President of the Malden Educators' Association (MEA) and Teacher at Linden STEAM Academy

Ms. Gesualdo thanked the students who spoke earlier in the evening. Ms. Gesualdo asked the School Committee and Superintendent to consider implementing a program that will help MPS students pursue a career in education so that they can later become educators in the school system. Ms. Gesualdo thanked the School Committee their work and dedication.

Superintendent's Report

1. District Updates and Highlights

Superintendent Oteri thanked the students who spoke earlier in the evening for their heartfelt message.

Superintendent Oteri said that he had met with the City Council as well as the Budget Subcommittee and is optimistic that the budget is a balanced budget and is level serviced.

Superintendent Oteri announced that on May 11th, Mr. Christopher Mastrangelo was appointed as Principal of Malden High School (MHS). The Linden S.T.E.A.M. Academy principal search is at the final stage and Superintendent Oteri said that he hired Mr. Nicholas Catoggio, a retired administrator from Beebe as an administrative advisor for the Linden S.T.E.A.M. Academy for the rest of this year. Superintendent Oteri said that the vacancy posted for the Salemwood School Principal position closed last week and that the screening committee will begin the interview process shortly. As for the Beebe School Principal position, Superintendent Oteri said that a home rule petition is being filed for Ms. Barbara O'Brien.

Two hundred and seven portable radios were purchased for the schools and have been distributed to relevant school officials such as principals, assistant principals, nurses and program managers. These radios will provide direct access to police. Superintendent Oteri added that the School Emergency Flipchart that Mr. Dolan created a few years ago has been updated and re-ordered. Superintendent Oteri and Mr. Dolan also met with the Fire Department on the number and type

of fire drills that need to be conducted in schools every year. Summer cleaning and maintenance of school buildings will be done as soon as the summer programming at the schools is completed.

On May 10th, the Special Olympics was held at the Macdonald Stadium with 350 participants from over 9 school districts. "Once Upon a Lilypad" was performed by the 2nd Grade students at Linden and attended by Mayor Christenson and Superintendent Oteri. Two weeks ago, the Beebe School had an event in conjunction with the Boston Celtics around health and wellness. Both Ferryway and Forestdale held band concerts within the last few days. The last SEPAC meeting for the school year was held last week and Ms. Salima Slimane was named as the new president. The first Brendan Duffy award was presented to high school senior, MacKenzie Furlong. The Roseann McEvoy playground dedication ceremony was held on Saturday at the Salemwood School. Mr. Dave Holland's tree dedication took place at MHS recently and was attended by his family. Other recent events at MHS includes the red carpet ceremony, senior prom, senior awards night, national honor society induction ceremony, Pathways graduation where 29 students graduated, Pride Flag raising event which was attended by 150 students and the MHS graduation with 442 students who received their diplomas. Superintendent Oteri said that on May 13th, a conversation on race was held at the Linden S.T.E.A.M. Academy which was sponsored by Malden Reads. Superintendent Oteri thanked the Malden Educator Association's sponsorship of the forum that was held on May 18th with Senator Jason Lewis about funding for public schools that was moderated by Mayor Christenson.

Subcommittee Reports/Discussions

1. Budget Subcommittee – Mr. Froio and Ms. Bordonaro

Mr. Froio said that the Budget Subcommittee has had a few meetings since the end of March and just had the public hearing earlier in the evening. Ms. Bordonaro said that concerns expressed by some parties about the budget will be noted but that the budget is moving in the right direction. Ms. Bordonaro said that the budget was voted unanimously by the Budget Subcommittee.

Mr. Iovino made a motion for the School Committee to vote on the Unit A portion of the FY19 budget. The motion was seconded by Ms. Leon. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Beardsley voted YES

Ms. Bordonaro voted YES

Mr. Drummey voted YES

Mr. Froio voted YES

Mr. Iovino voted YES

Ms. Leon voted YES

Mr. McCarthy voted YES

Ms. Spadafora voted YES

Mayor Christenson ABSTAINED

The motion passed by a vote of 8-0, with 1 abstention.

Ms. Spadafora made a motion for the School Committee to vote on the Unit C portion of the FY19 budget. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bordonaro. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Beardsley voted YES

Ms. Bordonaro voted YES

Mr. Drummey ABSTAINED
Mr. Froio voted YES
Mr. Iovino voted YES
Ms. Leon voted YES
Mr. McCarthy ABSTAINED
Ms. Spadafora voted YES
Mayor Christenson voted YES
The motion passed by a vote of 7-0, with 2 abstentions.

Mayor Christenson thanked everyone who worked on the budget and said that the budget is very close to being balanced. Mayor Christenson added that three years ago, \$4 million from reserves was needed to balance the budget; two years ago, \$5 million was needed; and last year, \$6.5 million dollars was needed. Next year, \$2.6 million from reserves will be needed. Mr. Iovino mentioned that we should also recognize the state representatives who worked diligently with the Foundation Budget Review Commission to increase local aid by about \$30 per student. Mayor Christenson commented that hopefully this aid will be approved soon.

Mr. Froio made a motion for the School Committee to vote on the FY19 budget in its entirety. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bordonaro. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Beardsley voted YES
Ms. Bordonaro voted YES
Mr. Drummey voted YES
Mr. Froio voted YES
Mr. Iovino voted YES
Ms. Leon voted YES
Mr. McCarthy voted YES
Ms. Spadafora voted YES
Mayor Christenson voted YES
The motion passed unanimously.

2. Space and Enrollment Ad-Hoc Subcommittee – Mr. Iovino

Mr. Iovino commented that the latest enrollment figure is 6,784 students, an increase of 136 students since the beginning of the school year.

3. Academics Ad-Hoc Subcommittee – Ms. Beardsley

Ms. Beardsley said that the MHS Program of Studies was passed at the recent Academics Subcommittee meeting and that the Program of Studies will be completed earlier next year. Superintendent Oteri said that after discussing with the MEA, a Curriculum Committee will be set-up next year with a teacher from each discipline, two administrators, parents and two students. Superintendent Oteri added that courses will be vetted internally through the administration team and then go to the Curriculum Committee in the fall. The Curriculum Committee will consider matters such as course additions, renaming and pre-requisites. Once this process is completed, the Curriculum Committee will present the Program of Studies to the Academics Ad-Hoc Subcommittee and School Committee in November or December. Superintendent Oteri plans for the Program of Studies to be published and printed in January so that the course selection process can begin earlier as it will provide better staffing needs information.

Motions and Resolutions

1. MHS Program of Studies – Ms. Beardsley

Ms. Beardsley made a motion for the School Committee to vote on the MHS Program of Studies. The motion was seconded by Mr. Iovino. Mr. Iovino also made a suggestion to the Superintendent to add a basic course on civics. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Beardsley voted YES

Ms. Bordonaro voted YES

Mr. Drummey voted YES

Mr. Froio voted YES

Mr. Iovino voted YES

Ms. Leon voted YES

Mr. McCarthy voted YES

Ms. Spadafora voted YES

Mayor Christenson voted YES

The motion passed unanimously.

2. FY19 Malden Public Schools Budget – Mr. Froio and Ms. Bordonaro

This matter was addressed earlier in the evening.

3. DESE School Choice Vote – Mr. Iovino

Mr. Iovino explained that this is a matter brought forward by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) for a vote every year to determine if MPS would want to open enrollment to students in other school districts. Mr. Iovino said that he would urge the School Committee to vote no on this motion considering the high enrollment numbers in Malden.

Mr. Iovino made a motion to vote no in terms of MPS being a School Choice school district. Mr. Drummey seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Beardsley voted NO

Ms. Bordonaro voted NO

Mr. Drummey voted NO

Mr. Froio voted NO

Mr. Iovino voted NO

Ms. Leon voted NO

Mr. McCarthy voted NO

Ms. Spadafora voted NO

Mayor Christenson voted NO

The motion to vote NO passed unanimously.

4. School Improvement Plans – Ms. Beardsley

Ms. Beardsley said that six school improvement plans require the vote of the School Committee. Superintendent Oteri said that these plans will provide a baseline for the coming year.

Superintendent Oteri added that his vision for next year is to make this a more inclusive process and have the School Councils present the School Improvement Plans to the School Committee sometime in March or April.

Ms. Beardsley made the motion to accept the six school improvement plans. Ms. Bordonaro seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

Personal Privilege

Executive Session

Mr. Iovino made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. Ms. Beardsley seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Beardsley voted YES

Ms. Bordonaro voted YES

Mr. Drummey voted YES

Mr. Froio voted YES

Mr. Iovino voted YES

Ms. Leon voted YES

Mr. McCarthy voted YES

Ms. Spadafora voted YES

Mayor Christenson voted YES

Motion passed unanimously.

The committee reconvened to the Regular Session at 7:29 p.m.

Mr. Iovino made the motion to approve the 3 year-contract for Dr. Kelly Chase for the position of Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment at \$150,000 annually. Ms. Bordonaro seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Beardsley voted YES

Ms. Bordonaro voted YES

Mr. Drummey voted YES

Mr. Froio voted YES

Mr. Iovino voted YES

Ms. Leon voted YES

Mr. McCarthy voted YES

Ms. Spadafora YES

Mayor Christenson voted YES

Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Mayor Christenson said that the meeting will be adjourned in honor of the students who spoke before the School Committee meeting earlier in the evening. Mr. Iovino made a motion to recess subject to the call of the Chair at 7:37 p.m. Mr. Drummey seconded and it was so VOTED.

I certify that a notice of this meeting was filed with the Clerk of the City of Malden in the manner provided under Chapter 39, Section 23A of the General Laws.



Shirley Dorai, Clerk