

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
OF THE MALDEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Monday, November 5, 2018
Malden Senior Center, 7 Washington Street

Mayor Christenson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Christenson announced that the next School Committee meeting will be on Monday, December 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Malden Senior Center, 7 Washington Street.

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 Stumpf	Present
Clerk	Present

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Christenson brought forth the matter of the approval of minutes for the October 1st 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

Ms. Penny Kalman, 194 Bainbridge Street, Malden and 6th Grade Teacher at Salemwood School
Ms. Kalman voiced her concerns about the administration at Salemwood as they now have only two administrators in the building. Ms. Kalman asked why the Salemwood School is still the only SEI school in the city. Ms. Kalman also asked why the Salemwood School staff were not among the first to be informed about the potential threat that happened recently. Ms. Kalman expressed concerns for her safety and the safety of her co-workers at the Salemwood School.

Ms. Amanda Maffeo, 81 Waite Street, Malden and 6th Grade Teacher at Salemwood School
Ms. Maffeo said that the incident of a student bringing a BB gun with pellets into the school bothered her. Ms. Maffeo spoke about injuries that can be caused by non-powder guns. Ms. Maffeo thanked

Mayor Christenson for accepting dozens of letters written by her 6th grade students regarding school safety. Ms. Maffeo said that we must continue to create a safe environment for the students.

Superintendent's Report

1. Washington DC Field Trip for Forestdale

Superintendent Oteri called on Principal Concannon and Ms. Diana Sullivan, Student Support Teacher 5-8, to provide more details. Principal Concannon said that this trip usually takes place during the April vacation break but since many students and families have athletic events and other plans for the vacation break, the trip is now scheduled for May 28th to the 31st. Thus far, 25 families have already shown interest. Principal Concannon said that with the date change, even more families have expressed interest. Principal Concannon added that fund raising has already begun. Ms. Sullivan said that kids love the experience.

In response to Ms. Beardsley question, Principal Concannon said that steps are always taken to ensure that no student is turned away because the family is not able to afford the cost.

Mr. Froio made the motion to approve the Washington DC field trip for the Forestdale School for this school year. Mr. McCarthy seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

2. 2018 MCAS Results Presentation

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, Superintendent Oteri explained the 2018 MCAS results from the tests that were administered in the spring of 2018. Superintendent Oteri focused on the areas of strength, areas of challenge and next steps. Superintendent Oteri said that the overall results was encouraging but that there are many areas where improvement was needed. He added that this presentation will be uploaded to the Malden Public Schools (MPS) website. When compared to Chelsea, Everett and Revere, Superintendent Oteri said that Malden did very well in many categories, especially at the 6-8 grade levels. At the conclusion of the presentation, Mayor Christenson said that questions can be asked at the next meeting in order to give everyone more time to review the data that was presented.

3. District Updates and Highlights

Superintendent Oteri informed the School Committee that 31 high school students have been hired to work with the after-school program and that this is the first year where students have been employed by the program. Superintendent Oteri said that this enables the program to be more inclusive, safer and provide an opportunity to encourage high school students to pursue a career in education. Principal Van Huynh's appointment as the permanent Principal at the Salemwood School was announced by Superintendent Oteri. The Malden High School (MHS) Start Time Subcommittee will be convening again on November 14th. They hope to have information from additional stakeholder group surveys to discuss at the next meeting. Superintendent Oteri said that the MPS team will be attending the Harvard RIDES Program training on November 8th and 9th with Dr. Lee Teitel and Dr. Darnisa Amonte. This training will help inform and support efforts towards cultural proficiency.

Superintendent Oteri said that the Advanced Placement Capstone program which was implemented at MHS three years ago did exceptionally well this year. Superintendent Oteri said that Principal Mastrangelo emailed all high school staff over the weekend providing the following details:

- 100% of our AP Seminar students (20 students) passed with a 3, 4, 5 (second year in a row).
- 60% of those AP Seminar students received a 4 or 5. This is the highest percentage of any public school in Massachusetts with more than nine students taking the exam.
- 100% of our AP Research students (10 students) passed with a 3, 4, 5 (up from 80% last year).
- We are the only public school in the state with more than 9 students taking the exam to have a 100% passing rate.
- Of public schools in the state, we had the most Research students receive a 4 or 5, including schools that had a larger number of students take the exam.

This is a reflection of the hard work and commitment of our students and staff. A huge thank you to the many staff members and community members who have helped.

On October 26th, Mayor Christenson and Superintendent Oteri met with the state delegation on the supplemental budget, and the educational benefits that might be in the budget, especially social emotional benefits. Superintendent Oteri said that MPS is partnering with Harvard and Boston Children's Hospital to do a validation study at the Early Learning Center (ELC) with 4-5 year olds. The results of the study will be shared with parents, staff and the district to better understand progress and needs for intervention.

Superintendent Oteri informed the School Committee that Massachusetts passed a new dyslexia law. The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) will issue guidelines to assist districts in developing screening procedures and protocols for students that demonstrate one or more potential indications of dyslexia. Besides screening, the legislation will require school districts to train teachers on the learning disability, its signs and intervention strategies. It also requires schools to adopt an "evidence-based dyslexia remediation" program. Superintendent Oteri commented that the MPS has already implemented programs such as the Orton-Gillingham program and have become a training site for this program.

Superintendent Oteri provided information on some of the fall activities at the schools. Beebe School had their Fall Festival on October 12th and Forestdale's Fall Festival was on October 27th. The Malden Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) held a pumpkin decorating event on October 18th. Former Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director, John Brennan, visited Ferryway School on October 23rd and answered questions from students. Mr. Brennan was a high school classmate of Social Studies Teacher, Mr. Tim Stratford. Mr. Brennan said that the CIA is the most diverse agency in the world and Superintendent Oteri said this was a unique opportunity for many of MPS students to pursue. In conjunction with STEM Week, activities were organized at MHS and at Ferryway School in October. Linden STEAM Academy had STEM Day last week. There was a joint presentation by the Chinese Cultural Connection (CCC) and Malden Reads on October

25th on “Author’s Series Presentation - Beijing to Boston”. This book is available in English and Mandarin.

MPS has been selected by DESE to be on a television advertisement. Superintendent Oteri said that more information will be provided once the advertisement is completed and ready to be aired. The last meeting of the Urban Superintendents Network was on November 2nd and Superintendent Oteri said that they focused on the Foundation Budget Review to address the underfunding of schools. Superintendent Oteri participated in the Malden Live Event on October 11th. The District PTO meeting was held on October 12th. Superintendent Oteri attended the Housing Families Breakfast at the Irish American Club on October 17th. On October 31st, there was a Trick-or-Treat event in Malden Square.

Superintendent Oteri informed the School Committee that the ELC students receive free snacks now and they will receive the universal free breakfast starting next school year. Superintendent Oteri added that inquiry is being done to see if the ELC would be eligible for the free lunch program as well.

Superintendent Oteri provided some updates on sports activities at MPS. Both Boys and Girls Soccer Teams made the Division 1 State Tournament. However, they lost the opening round games. The Cheerleading team placed 2nd out of 14 teams in the Northeastern Conference League Championship! The Unified Basketball Team has competed four times and have one more road game at Billerica this Thursday at 6:00 p.m. Next week, they will go to Andover High School to compete in the Unified Basketball Jamboree.

Superintendent Oteri thanked Assistant Superintendent Chase and Technology Director, Ms. Natalia Brennan for their time and effort in planning the November 6th Professional Development Day titled “Malden Education Expo 2018: Celebration, Collaboration and Inspiration!” All staff will report to MHS where they can choose from over 70 different course offerings.

Subcommittee Reports/Discussions

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

Mr. Iovino commented that as of Friday, November 2nd, the enrollment was 6,687. Last year, during the same time, the enrollment was 6,700. This year, the enrollment increased by 54 students since September. Mr. Iovino added that the enrollment figures for each of the schools will be posted on the website once a month. Mr. Iovino provided the following enrollment numbers for each school: Beebe – 904; Ferryway – 912; Forestdale – 560; Linden – 854; Salemwood – 1,180; MHS – 1,859, ELC – 329; and Out of District Placements – 85.

2. Social, Emotional and Physical Well-Being Ad-Hoc Subcommittee – Ms. Beardsley

Ms. Beardsley said that the last meeting was held on October 16th and it was available on Facebook Live. The recess policy was discussed as well as establishing focus groups composed of teachers and students in each of the schools to look into adding recess time. Ms. Beardsley added that a questionnaire will also be sent to parents and guardians. Ms. Spadafora said that a peer-to-

peer mentoring program is being piloted at the Beebe School. This pilot program will enable the gathering of data about the benefits and successes of mentoring between the older grade students and the PACE students before the program is expanded to include more students. In response to Mayor Christenson's question, Ms. Spadafora said that the pilot program involves 4th and 5th grade students going into younger grade PACE classrooms to read to the students, helping with classwork, building friendships and being good role models. Ms. Spadafora added that Superintendent Oteri supports the program as well.

3. SHORE Collaborative Update – Ms. Beardsley

Ms. Beardsley is the representative from Malden on the board of directors for SHORE Collaborative and she attends the monthly meetings. Ms. Beardsley said that it is an out-of-district placement that offers special education and day service for behaviorally and academically challenged students and adults. As of October, Malden has sixteen students placed at SHORE. Ms. Beardsley said that SHORE recently signed a lease in Chelsea and are planning to move the adult education and the offices to the new location. This will free up their current space so that it can be redesigned for the students by March 2019. Ms. Beardsley added that they just received their 3 year accreditation.

Motions and Resolutions

1. Malden High School Student and Family Handbook 2018-2019 – Mr. Froio

Mr. Froio called on Principal Mastrangelo to provide an update on the new handbook since the last School Committee meeting. Principal Mastrangelo said that the handbook has been reviewed by the legal department. Superintendent Oteri said that legal services have reviewed the handbook and made suggestions to reflect recent legislation such as in matters of student discipline. Student Representative Stumpf commented that one of her class projects was to review the 2017-2018 handbook with particular attention to "Responsibility Regarding Alcohol, Tobacco, Marijuana, & Other Drugs". Student Representative Stumpf and her classmates found that there was a lot of ambiguous language that might lead to bias where students might not be treated equally. She continued that a lot was left to interpretation because there was no specific procedure or process to help teachers decide whether a student is under the influence. Principal Mastrangelo explained that if a teacher finds that a student might be under the influence, they refer the matter to an administrator who will then call a medical personnel to verify. Principal Mastrangelo said that if the guidelines were too specific, it would force a teacher to make a snap judgement which might encourage even more biases. Principal Mastrangelo said that the language in the handbook allows checks and balances so that any decision made would be a group decision. Mayor Christenson suggested that for next year, Student Representative Stumpf and her classmates could draft some language that they feel would better address the situation which they can then present to Principal Mastrangelo for consideration. Superintendent Oteri appreciated Student Representative Stumpf's comment and added that some matters are vaguely worded because the focus is on the health and safety of students. Mr. Froio made a motion to approve the Malden High School Student and Family Handbook 2018-2019. Ms. Bordonaro seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Resolution in Support of Yes on Question 3 - Ms. Beardsley

Ms. Beardsley said that this matter is one of the questions on the ballot and read the draft of the "Resolution in Support of Yes on Question 3".

Mr. Iovino clarified that supporting the resolution means that we are in favor of the current law and do not want it changed. In response to Ms. Leon's question, Ms. Beardsley responded that the School Committee can make a resolution regarding this matter at any time. Ms. Spadafora said that regardless of the results at the polls tomorrow, as a school district, we are inclusive and welcoming to everyone.

Ms. Beardsley made the motion to accept the "Resolution in Support of Yes on Question 3". Mr. Iovino seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Little Free Libraries at Malden Public Schools – Ms. Beardsley

Ms. Beardsley said she asked the students and their teacher from MHS who helped build boxes for the Little Free Libraries (LFL) to attend the meeting today in support of the motion to seek approval to place LFL's on the following school grounds: Malden High School, Early Learning Center, Forestdale School, Salemwood School and Ferryway School. LFL is a nonprofit organization that inspires a love of reading, builds community, and sparks creativity by fostering neighborhood book exchanges. The LFL's were made by Malden High School students in the makerspace and overseen by their teacher, Ms. Ashley Freeman. The schools will need to identify groups of students to paint the library and decide where to place them. The Malden Department of Public Facilities has graciously donated time to install them if they are to be placed outdoors. Ms. Beardsley and/or someone from each school will need to be the liaison for the first year and will set up rules and regulations for the library.

Ms. Beardsley added that the first LFL at Linden STEAM Academy had been installed and books have been changing hands. Superintendent Oteri applauded this effort to encourage literacy.

Ms. Beardsley made the motion to place LFL's on the following school grounds: Malden High School, Early Learning Center, Forestdale School, Salemwood School and Ferryway School. Ms. Leon seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

4. School Council Member Appointments – Ms. Iovino

Mr. Iovino said that the School Councils in each school has been formed and that the School Council member appointments have been brought forward to the School Committee to be formally approved. Mr. Iovino made the motion to approve the School Council member appointments. 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 7:40 p.m. Mr. McCarthy 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

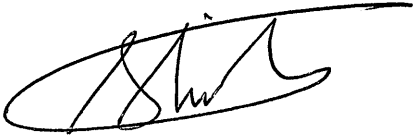
Mayor Christenson voted YES
Motion passed unanimously.

The committee reconvened to the Regular Session at 8:20 p.m.

Adjournment

Mr. Drummey made a motion to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. Ms. Leon 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shirley Dorai', is written over a horizontal line.

Shirley Dorai, Clerk