

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
OF THE MALDEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Monday, June 3, 2019
Malden Senior Center, 7 Washington Street

Mayor Christenson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Christenson said that the School Committee will recess until the beginning of school subject to the call of the Chair in case a need arises.

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. Mayor Christenson also called for a special moment of silence to honor Jaiden Chung and Jeremiah Joseph, two children in the community who tragically lost their lives during the past few weeks.

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	Absent
Clerk	Present

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Christenson brought forth the matter of the approval of minutes for the May 6th 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. Jackie Ecker, 58 Lanark Road, Malden

Ms. Ecker thanked everyone involved with improving recess at the schools including Principal Concannon, School Committee Member Tara Beardsley and City Councillor Barbara Murphy who received a grant to upgrade the playground at Forestdale School.

Ms. Penny Kalman, 194 Bainbridge Street, Malden and 6th Grade Teacher at Salemwood School
Ms. Kalman said that the changes proposed for the Roosevelt Park that Salemwood School utilizes field design was done without student, parents, staff or community input. The extensive overhaul of the park, includes the addition of an artificial turf field. Ms. Kalman asked about plans for the students during the 9 months when work will be done to the field. Ms. Kalman also mentioned that she would not be surprised if the teachers do not accept the pay cuts for the Extended Learning Time at Salemwood School.

Susan Nysten, 10 Clayton Street, Malden

Ms. Nysten voiced her opposition to the Finance Committee's recommendation to move forward with plans for a turf field at Roosevelt Park. Ms. Nysten said that there was no outreach to staff, families and the community. Ms. Nysten said equitable open-air accommodations must be made for Salemwood School students. Ms. Nysten requested Mayor Christenson to delay the vote on the renovations to the park until the students, staff, families and neighbors have time to express their opinions.

Ms. Karen Colon-Hayes, 105 Wyoming Ave, Malden

Ms. Colon-Hayes, a member of Malden Community Organizing for Racial Equity (MaldenCORE), said that it is a volunteer-led group in the City of Malden that is dedicated to undoing racism in our public schools and community. Ms. Colon-Hayes emphasized the need to provide safe spaces and effective processes for reporting and addressing incidences of racial bias and discrimination. She added that schools need to be inclusive places for everyone and clear reporting processes need to be established for staff and students. Ms. Colon-Hayes invited the School Committee to the 2nd Juneteenth Freedom celebration on June 19th at the Malden Senior Center. Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration for the abolition of slavery in the United States, dating back to 1865, when Union soldiers arrived at Galveston, Texas with news that the civil war had ended and that the enslaved were now free.

Superintendent's Report

1. MHS Robotics Team Certificate Presentation

The City of Malden and the School Committee recognized the accomplishment of the Malden High School (MHS) Robotics Team for being crowned as the New England Regional Champions on April 27, 2019 at UMASS Lowell. Superintendent Oteri said that there were 21 schools that competed. During the competition there were several rounds and Malden was the only school to not lose a single competition during any round. The team has now qualified to compete at The Global Conference on Educational Robotics in July in Oklahoma. Superintendent Oteri thanked the faculty advisers, Mr. Chris Bazzinotti and Mr. Brian Morrison as well as students, Daniel Augustin, Felix Li, Jacky Luong, Michele Nie, Thomas Tran, Kevin Nguyen, Manuela Sanchez, Angela Tejada-Soliz, Sean Tran, Valery Delva and Ajithaan Sathiyendra. The School Committee and Superintendent Oteri presented recognition certificates to the team.

2. Sustainable Development Goals Presentation

Superintendent Oteri said that the students from Linden have been working on this project for a few months and had a presentation at their school on May 10th that he attended with Mayor Christenson. Superintendent Oteri called upon Dr. Dias, Director of STEM K-12 to introduce Ms. Christina Rosenthal, 5th grade science teacher and Ms. Lianne Mokfienski Ramos, 7th grade science teacher as well as a few students to speak about the Sustainable Development Goals. In 2015, world leaders agreed to 17 goals for a better world by 2030. These goals have the power to end poverty, fight inequality and stop climate change. Ms. Rosenthal said that guided by the goals, it is now up to all of us, governments, businesses, civil society and the general public to work together to build a better future for everyone. Malden is already working toward some of the goals such as Substance Abuse Prevention Services, 5 Year Water Replacement Program and LED streetlights. The students spoke about other efforts to achieve these goals. Superintendent Oteri commended the staff and students and emphasized the importance of responsible management of resources and sustainability.

3. District Updates and Highlights

Superintendent Oteri said that the Beebe School Principal search process which was rigorous has been concluded. Superintendent Oteri continued that after doing background checks and taking into consideration the input provided at the various levels, a decision was made to appoint Dr. Kari-ann Murphy as the next Principal of the Beebe School starting July 1st. Dr. Murphy has more than 13 years of experience as an educator. During this time, she has worked with a variety of students ranging from first through eighth grade. Dr. Murphy began her teaching career as an elementary teacher student-teaching in the Malden Public Schools. After leaving Malden, she spent eight years with Chelsea public schools. During her time with Chelsea, she served as a middle school science teacher, a school and district coach, a professional development provider as well as a content and curriculum lead. Most recently, Dr. Murphy has been an assistant principal in Winthrop at the Cummings School. She also serves as a professional development provider through Salem State Collaborative. This past year, she became a trauma-certified educator through the National Institute for Trauma and Loss in Children. Dr. Murphy believes all students deserve authentic learning experiences, grounded in a rigorous standards-based curriculum carried out in a culture of kindness, collaboration, and respect. Superintendent Oteri said that a Meet & Greet event will be organized at Beebe at some point in the near future.

Superintendent Oteri informed the School Committee that the Extended Learning Time (ELT) Program as well as the bargaining units are in negotiations over contracts. Another update provided was the resignation of the entire faculty of the Linden STEAM Academy Governing Board. Superintendent Oteri said that he is contacting the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education DESE for guidance and next steps.

Another update was provided by Superintendent Oteri about the Barr Foundation Grant. Many meetings and a lot of work was done with the Barr Foundation to examine the transition of students from 8th grade to high school as well as after high school. Achievement gaps, equity and access were examined. Assistant Superintendent Chase said that this grant is a planning grant that helps with data collection as well as guiding MHS and the district team to improve student experience at MHS. Superintendent Oteri said a full presentation will be done in the fall when school is in session.

Superintendent Oteri highlighted some of the events that happened in the past month including the Special Olympics on May 9th, MHS Red Carpet and Senior Prom on Friday, May 24th. The Senior Scholarship Night was held on Tuesday, May 28th and around \$100,000 of scholarships were awarded to the students. The Golden Tornado Club handed out \$11,500 in scholarships to numerous senior student athletes. The National Honor Society Ceremony was held on Wednesday, May 29th. The Pride Flag Raising was held at MHS and Ferryway on Friday, May 31st and MHS Graduation was held on Sunday, June 2nd where 427 diplomas were awarded.

The sports update included the Girls Outdoor Track team finishing 1st in the NEC with an undefeated record. The boys and girls tennis teams earned home state tournament matches.

Superintendent announced that the last day of school is Friday, June 14th with an 11:00 a.m. dismissal. A number of professional development events have been planned during the summer for staff who want to make use of this opportunity starting on June 17th. Superintendent Oteri said that although school is out, there are many programs run in our schools for the students. The Summer Eats program is available at the parks throughout the city from June 8th onwards. Children who are not attending summer school are welcome to head to the parks to get some lunch.

Subcommittee Reports/Discussions

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

Mr. Iovino said that the student enrollment as of Friday was 6,700. This is an increase of 67 students since the beginning of the school year. The figure is about the same number as last year at the same time.

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

Mr. Froio said that earlier in the evening, a public hearing for the 2019-2020 Malden Public Schools budget totaling \$74,200,150.00 was held and voted. The budget enables the hiring of ten additional teachers and two administrators. Ms. Bordonaro thanked everyone who worked on the budget. Superintendent Oteri thanked everyone including the state delegation for raising awareness that gateway cities are underfunded. Mr. Iovino said that this is the first time in a long time that the budget has enabled the addition of positions. Mr. Froio said that this is the first time in the last 12 years that there were no cuts made to the budget. Mayor Christenson thanked Superintendent Oteri as well as MPS students and emphasized the power of advocacy that is bringing about a shift on Beacon Hill. Mayor Christenson also thanked Malden City Controller Charles Ranaghan, Mr. Ron Hogan and Business Manager, Ms. Toni Mertz. Superintendent Oteri said that the budgetary process is on-going as well as transparent and that the school administration team will meet formally in January to work on the following year's budget. Mayor Christenson said that if the Senate does not mirror the House of Representatives' final figure on Chapter 70, the budget might need to be re-worked but he was confident that the Senate and House will have similar figures.

Ms. Bordonaro made the motion to accept the 2019-2020 Malden Public Schools budget as presented. Mr. Froio 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 YES

Ms. Spadafora YES

Mayor Christenson voted YES

The motion passed unanimously.

3. Policy and Procedures Subcommittee – Ms. Bordonaro

Ms. Bordonaro requested Ms. Spadafora to read the draft policy for the “Naming, Renaming and Dedication of Existing Facilities” as follows:

Naming, renaming or dedicating any school building or sites within school premises, is an important matter that deserves thoughtful attention. Personal prejudice or favoritism, political pressure, or temporary popularity should not be an influence in choosing a name. A name with educational significance or inspiration should be chosen and the person(s) being honored must have strong ties to the Malden community. All naming, renaming and dedication requests must be submitted in writing to the Malden Public School Committee. The School Committee as a whole will then refer requests to the Policy and Procedure Subcommittee to ensure requests follow the policies set forth. If needed, the Policy and Procedure Subcommittee will direct requests to the appropriate committee(s) for further approval (i.e. Public Facilities and Safety Subcommittee). After requests have been vetted by all appropriate subcommittees, the Malden School Committee will make the final approval decision. The Malden School Committee does not provide financial assistance to approved requests. The Superintendent will establish procedures to manage requests and establish an inventory of dedicated sites.

Mayor Christenson asked whether the Superintendent should be the first point of contact instead of the School Committee so that he can do the initial vetting process. Ms. Spadafora and Ms. Bordonaro responded that prior to the meeting, it was highlighted that an amendment needs to be made so that the requests go to the Superintendent first for vetting before being presented to the School Committee.

Ms. Spadafora made the motion to amend the policy so that requests go to the Superintendent first for vetting before being presented to the School Committee. Mr. Iovino seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. McCarthy made the motion to approve the Naming, Renaming and Dedication of Existing Facilities policy with the amendment. Mr. Iovino seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Bordonaro said that another Policy and Procedures Subcommittee meeting will be held soon to address the MHS media center dedication, Pope John students and the employee’s child transfer request.

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

Ms. Beardsley said that the recess survey has received almost 2,000 responses and that there will be a presentation of the results and recommendations in September. Ms. Beardsley thanked Ward 5 Councilor Barbara Murphy for enabling the purchase of new equipment as well as Principal Concannon and Assistant Principal Carpenito at the Forestdale School for their efforts on improving recess for the students.

Motions and Resolutions

1. FY 20 Budget – Mr. Froio and Ms. Bordonaro

This matter was addressed earlier in the meeting.

2. **School Improvement Plans - Ms. Beardsley**

Ms. Beardsley said that six school improvement plans excluding the Linden STEAM Academy require the vote of the School Committee. Superintendent Oteri said that the six plans followed the template from the previous year. Superintendent Oteri added that the district is working with consultant, Dr. Lori Likis on the district improvement plan. Once that is established in the fall, Superintendent Oteri said that meetings with various stakeholders will take place in order to form a template for the school improvement plans that will mirror the district improvement plan. Superintendent Oteri said a formal presentation to the Academics Subcommittee will be done in the spring. In response to Ms. Spadafora, Superintendent Oteri said that the Linden STEAM Academy has a five year innovation plan and that they provide annual updates.

Mr. Iovino made the motion to accept the six school improvement plans. Mr. McCarthy seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Naming, Renaming and Dedication of Existing Facilities Policy - Ms. Bordonaro**

This matter was addressed earlier in the meeting.

4. **Global Conference on Educational Robotics Trip (Oklahoma) and Donations – Mr. Froio**

Mr. Froio made the motion to accept the \$1,000 donation from the MHS Alumni Association for the Robotics Team Trip to Oklahoma. Ms. Bordonaro seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously. Principal Mastrangelo spoke about the time and dedication of the team advisors and students of the MHS robotics team. Students, Felix Li and Jacky Luong, talked about how the team built two robots as well as the Go Fund Me page that has been set up to raise more money for the Oklahoma trip. Superintendent Oteri said the link to the Go Fund Me page will be put on twitter so that the community can donate toward the trip. Mr. Iovino made a motion to approve the trip to Oklahoma. Mr. Drummey seconded it and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

5. **The Marguerite Gonsalves Television and Media Studio at MHS – Mr. Froio**

Mr. Froio said that this naming and dedication request will be sent to the Policy and Procedures Subcommittee. Mr. Froio invited Mr. Valente and Ms. Ceppetelli to provide more details about this request.

Ms. Marguerite Gonsalves has served as a teacher, advisor, union president, mentor as well as in many other capacities while employed as an educator in the Malden Public Schools for over 40 years. As a teacher of English Language Arts, she pioneered, some 35 years ago, a movement that would allow students to engage in what then was an emerging visual world. Ms. Gonsalves established a media literacy and production course at MHS and through vigorous grant applications, cobbled together the funds to give the course some basic equipment to use to create content, and the MHS Filmmaking and Media Course was born. Ms. Gonsalves would go onto instruct the course for the next two decades and even without sophisticated and up-to-date equipment, her students excelled in the skills of television and media production. Many of her students have entered the work world in their media field. Ms. Gonsalves fought to build a formal studio at Malden High throughout her tenure in the MPS, yet with budgetary constraints, it never came to fruition. Mr. Valente said that with the assistance of Mayor Christenson and the help of many others in the City of Malden, as well as current and former students, the idea of needing a modern, 21st century styled TV studio at MHS became a reality. With consultation through MA-TV, Superintendent John Oteri's office, along with Business Manager Toni Mertz,

Hunts Photo and Video, as well as many others at MHS including Principal Chris Mastrangelo, Mr. Peter Phelps, the custodial staff and other facility managers, a studio at MHS was outfitted to be ready to air programming during the next school year and continue to create content at a high level so that students can achieve their dreams of entering the world of visual production.

This current achievement did not start recently, even though the studio was newly built. It started 30 years ago with the dream of its founder Ms. Marguerite Gonsalves, who lugged around heavy, outdated equipment to make it happen when budgets said it could not. Mr. Valente continued that this reality was born of her making and it is only fitting that we commemorate the efforts of the past with the achievements of the future by naming the MHS TV studio in her honor as the "Marguerite Gonsalves Television and Media Studio at MHS", with a formal opening in September 2019.

Ms. Spadafora said she was in support of this request. Mr. Iovino and Ms. Bordonaro said that the Policy and Procedures Subcommittee will be meeting soon and will be able to formally bring this request to the School Committee by the start of the school year. Mayor Christenson also thanked Mr. Ron Hogan for re-negotiating the contract with Comcast and making it a priority to obtain additional capital funding for the MHS TV studio.

Mr. Froio made motion to send this request to the Policy and Procedures Subcommittee for deliberation. Mr. Iovino seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Transfer of Employee's Child for the 2019-2020 School Year

Mayor Christenson said that this matter will be discussed at the next Policy and Procedures Subcommittee meeting.

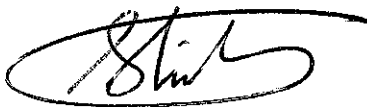
Personal Privilege

Adjournment

Mayor Christenson ended the meeting in memory of Jaiden Chung and Jeremiah Joseph.

Mr. McCarthy made a motion to adjourn at 7:44 p.m. Ms. Spadafora 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