

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
OF THE MALDEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Monday, June 22, 2020
Online Meeting

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

Mayor Christenson read the protocols in accordance with the format used for the meeting as follows: "In accordance Governor Baker's March 12th, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c. 30A, § 18, and the Governor's March 23rd, 2020 revised guidance on order by the governor prohibiting assemblage of more than 10 people, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation. In-person attendance by members of the public is prohibited, but all effort will be made to permit public attendance of this meeting in the manner specified which is via remote access by internet, telephone and by YouTube Channel, Malden Access Cable Television. Public access will also be provided by posting draft minutes and/or transcript recording or record of the meeting on the City of Malden website at cityofmalden.org as soon as practicable after this meeting."

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
Mr. Drummey	Present
Mr. Froio	Present
Mr. Gray	Present
Mr. Iovino	Present
Ms. Luong	Present
Mr. McCarthy	Present
Ms. Spadafora	Present
Mr. Weldai	Present
Superintendent Oteri	Present
Student Representative Chouiki	Present
Clerk	Present

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Christenson brought forth the matter of the approval of minutes for the June 1st, 2020 Regular Session of the School Committee. Mr. Iovino made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Froio seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Weldai made motion to accept the minutes of the June 1st, 2020 Executive Session of the School Committee with the amendment indicating Business Manager, Ms. Toni Mertz was absent. Mr. Iovino seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Ms. Deborah Gesualdo, President of the Malden Education Association (MEA)

Ms. Gesualdo thanked Communications Director, Mr. Ron Cochran for his help with coordinating the Zoom meetings. Ms. Gesualdo said that the pandemic and the recent brutal extrajudicial murders of many black Americans has laid bare the racism that exists in communities across the country and inequities that students and families of color face. Ms. Gesualdo mentioned the Resolution affirming Black Lives Matter and said that the majority white staff and elected leadership in this racially and ethnically diverse community must not be silent when black and brown people continue to be treated differently than white people. Racism in all forms must be actively rejected. Ms. Gesualdo continued that all school employees must be provided with ongoing high quality anti-racism training. Immediate steps towards transformative change should be taken by removing the barriers to entry for educators of color and actively working to hire, support and retain educators of color. Ms. Gesualdo said that these are vital steps towards creating an anti-racist and equitable school district. Ms. Gesualdo called on the School Committee to pass the Resolution Affirming Black Lives Matter because it is time to publicly acknowledge the trauma that has been caused in the country by a long history of institutionalized racism, systemic oppression and white privilege. Ms. Gesualdo added that as a school district, we need to be guided by the belief that every student can and will succeed, and have a just future; we need to recognize that extrajudicial killing of black people in this country has deep roots in the dehumanizing system of white supremacy culture and that these tragedies are not new; we need to acknowledge the lasting negative consequences racism and violence have on our communities, cities and nation; we need to assert over and over again that the lives of black people matter; we need to bring the community into our schools and strengthen schools as centers of support in the community; and we need to examine curriculum and resources being taught under the Massachusetts state frameworks to ensure that we have culturally relevant literature. Ms. Gesualdo said that the resolution should be distributed to all school employees and an ongoing plan created to dismantle racism and oppression in the schools.

Ms. Jessica Gold Boots, Malden High School (MHS) ESL Teacher

Ms. Gold Boots spoke in support of the Resolution Affirming Black Lives Matter. Ms. Gold Boots said that in the past, when there were tragic instances of police brutality against black lives, there were calls for change but they often went unheeded. Ms. Gold Boots said that this time, it feels different. Anti-racism education and professional training are important and vital first steps. Ms. Gold Boots continued that she learned from teaching black and brown students that color-blind education, as well-intentioned as it is, just does not work. When educators ignore uncomfortable conversations about race, the message that is being sent to students is that educators do not see the key component of their identity and their selves. This stifles their expression and their ability to bring their full identity to the classrooms which perpetuates the racialized opportunity gap and limits them unnecessarily. This message continues when the teaching force is almost all white and does not include staff of color. When students of color cannot find an educator who looks like them or engage in curriculum that tells and reaffirms their story, they learn a tragic hidden curriculum that tells them that they do not deserve educational attainment and that the status quo is normal. Ms. Gold Boots added that to remain silent on the matter of the current extrajudicial killings of black people is to remain complicit with the cruel and vicious system. Ms. Gold Boots said that the resolution is an important first step and must be accompanied by critical equity work enumerated in the resolution to create a culturally responsive anti-racist curriculum, and to actively recruit, welcome and most importantly retain quality educators of color in the Malden Public School (MPS).

Ms. Laura Gould, MHS Teacher

Ms. Gould said that despite being the most diverse high school in Massachusetts, MHS students and faculty have made it clear that there is still work to do. Time and resources need to be put towards anti-racist work in order to best serve all students and staff, particularly those who are black and brown, and intentionally create a Malden school system that affirms and welcomes every student's identity. Ms. Gould asked the School Committee to adopt the Resolution Affirming Black Lives Matter as a first step, clearly setting our intentions towards building a district committed to anti-racism and building a system that is equitable for all students including the most marginalized. It is not the end of the work but merely the beginning. Ms. Gould concluded that a strong message to the community is needed to show where Malden stands regarding racial equity as well as inclusion and set the tone for the work to come.

Ms. Kayla Scheitlin, MHS Teacher

Ms. Scheitlin echoed the comments of Ms. Gesualdo, Ms. Gold Boots and Ms. Gould supporting the Resolution Affirming Black Lives Matter as a first step towards making the schools more inclusive and equitable for the students and staff. Ms. Scheitlin said that the School Committee's policy decision can lead in the right direction and assured that there are educators who are ready to do this work together with the School Committee. Ms. Scheitlin added that recently many of educators have felt a call to action as well as doing grassroots work and the School Committee can lead them with this policy.

Superintendent's Report

1. DESE Guidelines on Re-Opening Schools

Superintendent Oteri commented that Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) was expected to release the guidelines by June 15th but it was postponed to June 19th. However, as of today, the information is still not available but Superintendent Oteri said that it is expected to be received by the end of this week. Superintendent Oteri said that two sets of guidelines will be provided, the first will be provided this week and the second will be in early July. Superintendent Oteri continued that no information has been provided about what the guidelines will entail. Superintendent Oteri will provide an update to the School Committee and community as soon as the guidelines are received. The Re-Entry Task Force will be meeting to discuss the guidelines when it is released.

2. Updates on Title IX Changes

Superintendent Oteri said that the new Title IX law takes effect on August 14th, 2020. This will require training of staff and updating of handbooks. Superintendent Oteri recommended that the Policy and Procedures Subcommittee review the school handbooks for MHS, K-8, Athletics and After-School Programs to adhere to the new requirement. Superintendent Oteri commented that Massachusetts is one of 17 or 18 states that are challenging the new ruling because it somehow weakens protections for sexual assault and harassment survivors. Superintendent Oteri and Attorney Greenspan have contacted someone who can provide training on Title IX.

3. Request for Sabbatical

Superintendent Oteri said that a paid sabbatical leave request was received from MHS English teacher, Ms. Robin Doherty for purposes of finishing her advanced degree. On June 11th, a committee of Malden Educators and Administrators came together to discuss Ms. Doherty's sabbatical request. The committee was comprised of Ms. Ashley Pierre, Director of Human Resources, Ms. Deb Gesualdo, President of the MEA, Ms. Pam Skinner, Vice President of the MEA, Dr. Kelly Chase, Assistant

Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment and Superintendent Oteri. By a vote of 3 – 2, the decision was made to not grant the request. Superintendent Oteri said that initially, the administration received some misguided legal counsel on the matter because the language in the contract predated Ed Reform and therefore was outdated and not applicable but unfortunately, this was erroneous. When this error was highlighted, the administration worked out the details with the MEA to be brought forth to the School Committee.

4. District Updates and Highlights

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Superintendent Oteri said that the Black Lives Matter March on June 5th in Malden was an impressive and moving event. It was student-led and student organized representing what a peaceful and respectful protest should be. The march started at MHS and ended at Lincoln Commons with speeches, music and performances. Superintendent Oteri added that the students met with Principal Chris Mastrangelo and Police Chief Kevin Molis, and had the support of Mayor Christenson. Superintendent Oteri said that due to the recent events in the country, the administration invited Dr. Darnisa Amonte-Jackson to meet with the entire leadership team as well as teacher leaders on June 11th. The team will continue meeting with Dr. Amonte-Jackson this summer to continue working on the mission of making Malden Public Schools a more welcoming place, anti-racist that embraces diversity, is equitable and inclusive to foster belonging for all students, families and staff. Superintendent Oteri said that he is and has been very committed to these goals right from the beginning when he was hired.

Re-entry and Long Term Planning

Superintendent Oteri said that among the new members who have been added to the Re-Entry Task Force team are MHS teacher Ms. Robin Doherty, Ms. Marie Motley, representing the Social Work/Adjustment Counselor field and Ms. Caitlin Filteau, Assistant Director of Food Services. The next meeting is scheduled for June 23rd. Superintendent Oteri continued that a couple of surveys for parents and staff will be done once the school year is concluded around how many will not come back to school, how many will and any specific concerns. Superintendent Oteri said that the guidance from the state is to wait until the second set of guidelines from DESE comes out in July to conduct the survey to families so they can have time to digest the guidelines about re-entry to school. Superintendent Oteri will update the School Committee throughout the summer.

Chromebook and Hotspot Distribution

In order to support student access during remote learning, MPS deployed over 1,300 chromebooks to the PreK-8 students, in addition to the over 1,600 devices currently in the hands of MHS students. Superintendent Oteri added that to ensure students currently in grades PreK-11 have access to online summer enrichment activities, families will keep their chromebook through the month of July. Over 125 hotspots were provided and there are some leftover for the upcoming school year. Superintendent Oteri also recently announced to the school community that Comcast is extending their offer through the end of December of free 60 days of internet and waiving the requirements for previous customers to have no outstanding balance. Families can go to the MPS website at www.maldenps.org or to Comcast to sign up. Information on the collection of chromebooks will be sent out later this summer so that they can be inventoried, updated and refurbished.

Summer Programming

Superintendent Oteri said that summer programming has been announced to the school community and posted on the website. With the exception of some Extended School Year services, all MPS

programming will be done remotely. The district will be working with DESE Guidelines to ensure that a safe environment for all students and staff is maintained. Superintendent Oteri continued that registration is slow at the moment which might be attributed to “screen fatigue” as many families are probably tired of online programming and the summer affords them an opportunity to get a break from screen time and be outdoors.

Summer Reading

Superintendent Oteri announced that summer reading lists are available on the MPS website. There are a plethora of resources and reading options for students. The Malden Public Library (MPL) also has many resources for students. In addition to summer reading, now with books easily accessible online and with work due dates that take school closure into consideration, MPS offers a wide variety of remote learning opportunities for students during the summer months. These opportunities are free, and range from virtual camps to college exploration. Descriptions and registration are available on the website. Teachers will be giving out summer reading assignments to their students during the month of June, although some of the systems and expectations were altered to account for what students may face during this uncertain summer. The district is working with the K-8 and high school librarians, as well as the Malden Public Library, to ensure access to the assigned reading materials is available. Librarians have been working to identify free e-book and audiobook versions of texts, and the MPL will be gathering up the materials for summer reading to make sure students have equitable access. Assignments will be posted on the MPS as well as MPL websites and translations will be made available to communicate with families. Summer reading assignments will not be due until the end of the first marking period. Students will have the opportunity to complete the assignment at any point during September or October if they were unable to complete it over the summer. The assignment will also not count as a major grade and if students are having trouble completing it, they can speak with their teachers in the fall, and should circumstances dictate, allow the students an alternative assignment or to skip it altogether. Ultimately, the district really wants students to read over the summer, but also recognize that sticking to a stricter summer reading program is not possible given the current circumstances.

CARES Act

The school district is currently working on the application for the FY21 CARES Act funding which is due by June 30th. Business Manager, Ms. Toni Mertz and Assistant Superintendent Chase are taking the lead on this task. It will be targeting the purchase of PPE from masks, sanitation equipment, thermometers and other necessary PPE as well as purchasing additional chromebooks in the event we are in a remote learning phase or if we have to go out on remote learning again. The law lists 12 allowable uses of the \$13.2 billion in the package's K-12 relief fund and among other things includes response efforts of schools with state and local health departments; activities to address the needs of low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, ethnic minorities, homeless students, and foster care youth; training for staff on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases; purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean school facilities; providing meals, purchasing technology for online learning and providing other educational services; as well as providing mental health services and supports. Superintendent Oteri said that the funds can be used to supplement but not supplant which means it cannot be put into the regular operating budget to fund salaries of staff.

Kindergarten Registration

Superintendent Oteri said that upon speaking with Malden Board of Health Director, Mr. Chris Webb, the Parent Information Center (PIC) which is physically closed, can probably be opened in Phase III which is in early-July. The placement of incoming Kindergarteners and English Learner (EL) students will be a

bit delayed since the testing is delayed. Superintendent Oteri is working closely with Mr. Webb to ensure safety protocols are set in place for the opening of PIC. At this point, there are about 300 Kindergarten registrations, 155 of them are complete but 75 out of the 155 need the English testing. The testing needs to be done before placements can begin. There is one SEI classroom at Beebe with 25 slots, another SEI classroom at Ferryway with 25 slots and the rest of the classrooms are at Salemwood.

Other Grants

Assistant Superintendent Chase is working with her team to finalize the Barr Foundation grant for the upcoming school year. Superintendent Oteri thanked Assistant Superintendent Chase who has been doing most of the work on the different grants that the district is applying for, including the Social Emotional grant, McKinney-Vento grant and others. Superintendent Oteri said that at some point in the near future, the findings and reports from the Barr Foundation work will be presented to the School Committee. Superintendent Oteri continued that this will have a major impact on the direction and scope of the work that should be done over the next several years.

Professional Development (PD) for Principals

Superintendent Oteri said that there will be some professional development for principals. The New Teacher Project (TNTP) will partner with The Five-District Partnership (5DP) and school leadership teams to work towards their vision and strategy for re-entry, grounded in how identity and bias impact student and teacher experiences. Starting in July, there will be a live, 90-minute session which provides districts a community of learning as they plan for their distance learning plans, address the social emotional needs of their school community, engage families and communicate plans with community stakeholders, and assess their instructional resources and tools. The training is led by former principals and provides needed practical professional development without burdening our Principals with a “graduate course” with additional work. Superintendent Oteri commented that MPS Principals will also be developing collegial relationships with their counterparts in Everett, Revere, Chelsea and Winthrop which, especially in these times, is a great asset to have.

PD for Teachers

Superintendent Oteri said that a virtual PD for staff was held earlier in the morning. The program was designed to be meaningful, flexible and easy to complete. The themes were around Social-Emotional Learning; Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Technology; and Re-Entry.

PD for Summer

Many staff members showed a lot of interest in doing curriculum work over the summer. Superintendent Oteri said that at the moment, 88 staff members expressed interest, which is the biggest outpouring of support the district has ever seen on curriculum work. The district is working behind the scenes to secure funding and prioritizing projects. This work would start around July 1st.

Eureka Math Update

MPS will move ahead with Eureka math in grades 3, 4, and 5 for the 2020-2021 school year as part of our expanded pilot. The materials will include online access which is very much in line with remote learning. Superintendent Oteri said that students in these grade levels are more likely to be able to jump in independently to the online learning component when it becomes necessary, and teachers of the younger students will be able to focus more on the transition piece. Teachers who piloted materials this year will be able to continue with the program. Once everyone is settled into the new year, and if all goes well with Phase 2, MPS will begin to plan for next steps. Eureka training was provided to all

grade 3-5 teachers responsible for math instruction including teachers of ELs and special educators on June 19th and June 22nd.

ST MATH

Superintendent Oteri said that DESE informed MPS about a free opportunity to take part in a unique Math Program called S-T Math (spatial temporal math). ST Math is run by a MIND Nonprofit named Mind Research Institute working to ensure that all students are mathematically equipped to solve the world's most challenging problem. It is a PreK-8 visual/instructional math program that leverages the brain's unique spatial temporal reasoning to solve math problems. This is especially helpful for EL students as the program is not very language dependent. Even though MPS did not get the grant, MPS did receive a free trial of ST Math without the requirements of the grant. So, ST Math will be used in the K-8s as a supplemental program.

MHS Graduation

MHS received approval from the Malden Board of Health Director, Mr. Chris Webb, to hold the MHS Graduation August 3rd at 6:00 p.m., outdoors at MacDonald Stadium. This will be greatly modified from past years, most notably, there will only be two tickets per graduate. Superintendent Oteri said that all social distancing guidelines will have to be observed. Everyone will need to wear masks and there will be hand sanitizer available. The stage will be very small with a very limited number of people on it. Superintendent Oteri cautioned that this is subject to change based on the trajectory of the virus and the current level of safety at the time of graduation. Superintendent Oteri and MHS Principal Mastrangelo will be in communication with the class of 2020 and keep the community updated as we approach August 3rd.

Juneteeth Celebration

Juneteenth commemoration, the oldest known celebration of the abolition of slavery in the United States was held on Friday, June 19th. Juneteenth dates back to June 19, 1865 when Union soldiers arrived in Galveston, TX with news that the Civil War had ended and enslaved people were to be freed. The keynote speaker at the celebration on Friday was Ferryway Principal Sepulveda. Superintendent Oteri commended Principal Sepulveda.

Naming of PACE/Pathways Program

Superintendent Oteri announced the retirement of Mr. Ron Janowicz. Mr. Janowicz has been the Pathways program director for many years and will be an incredibly difficult act to follow. Mr. Janowicz has been in the Malden Public Schools for over 30 years and his dedication, patience and passion for students has been inspiring. Superintendent Oteri highly praised Mr. Janowicz for doing wonderful work with some of the most vulnerable and at-risk students. Mr. Janowicz treats all students not just with dignity and respect, but also with a smile. Superintendent Oteri said that there is a request to rename the Pathways program after Mr. Janowicz. Superintendent Oteri continued that the district would like to forward this request to the Policy and Procedures subcommittee to examine and then, hopefully this will be brought back to the School Committee for approval. The dedication ceremony for Mr. Janowicz will probably be held in the fall. Superintendent Oteri continued that prior to the pandemic, the Barr Foundation and MHS had begun a study on the Pathways program. In the spring they made a recommendation that the Pathways Program be a separate house in MHS and have their own House Principal. Superintendent Oteri said that this matter will be brought to the School Committee in the fall to examine their findings and discuss this possibility. In the meantime, the position will be posted as a one year interim while the pros and cons of making it a House Principal position is studied. Superintendent Oteri invited MHS Principal Mastrangelo to speak on this matter.

Principal Mastrangelo provided more details about Mr. Janowicz's work at MHS. Principal Mastrangelo requested the School Committee to officially rename the Pathways Program as the Ron Janowicz House.

Looking Ahead

Superintendent Oteri concluded his report stating that this school year has posed many challenges to the entire community. However, the resilience and cooperation showed by students, teachers, staff, administrators, city officials and the entire community was inspiring and heartwarming. Even though many of our normal end of year school activities was cancelled, all schools were able to hold some form of celebration for the students who were graduating or moving on to the next step. Superintendent Oteri also announced that the free breakfast and lunch will be available at MHS and Salemwood through the summer. Families will be able to pick up meals for the weekend on Fridays. The school district will continue to be in touch with the students, families and community through the summer to inform them about any updates received from state and local authorities. Superintendent Oteri wished everyone a safe and happy summer.

In response to Mr. Gray, Superintendent Oteri said that thus far, only Mayor Christenson, Principal Mastrangelo and himself will be on the stage during graduation but this is subject to change upon any guidelines issued by the Board of Health.

Mr. Weldai made the motion to send the request to rename the Pathways Program to the Ron Janowicz House to the Policy and Procedures Subcommittee. Mr. Iovino seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

In response to Ms. Spadafora, Superintendent Oteri said that MPS will receive about \$1.8 million from the CARES Act. Business Manager, Ms. Toni Mertz confirmed that \$200,000 of this amount will be for the two private school in Malden. In response to Mayor Christenson, Superintendent Oteri said that the rain date for the graduation will be the following day and that MATV will be recording the event. Superintendent Oteri was asked to forward the information about teacher participation on PD days by subject matter to Mayor Christenson. When questioned about the when the district will receive news about the CARES Act, Superintendent Oteri said that the application will be submitted at the end of the month and hopefully by July, the district will receive a response.

In response to Mayor Christenson, Superintendent Oteri was fairly certain that there might be a remote component about going back to school for students who cannot be physically present due to a number of reasons. In response to another question, Superintendent Oteri said that there are about 14 members in Dr. Amante Jackson's cohort. With regards to school reopening, Superintendent Oteri responded that the state will probably provide a combination of a mandate and guidelines so that districts will have some flexibility based on each of their unique situations.

Attorney Greenspan advised that the school handbooks be referred to the Policy and Procedures Subcommittee to be reviewed in light of the Title IX changes. Mr. Weldai made the motion to refer Title IX updated federal regulations to the Policy and Procedures Subcommittee. Mr. McCarthy seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

In response to Ms. Spadafora, Superintendent Oteri said the sabbatical request was reviewed earlier in May with the administrative team and that is when the misunderstanding of the legal aspect occurred. Superintendent Oteri added that this is the first time that this type of request was received in the last 20 years or so. Superintendent Oteri said that once the right guidance was received, the matter was

discussed at a meeting with the MEA. Mr. Weldai commented that it is difficult to understand how something that is so prominent in the contract can be misinterpreted so badly. Mr. Weldai concurred with Ms. Spadafora stating that two months to respond to the request is unacceptable because the situation was different two months ago which could have resulted in a different conversation. Mr. Weldai continued that the professional development of an educator has been negatively impacted by district leadership's inactions or missteps. Mr. lovino said that he is also troubled about the situation in light of the budget because if the sabbatical is granted, the district will have to pay the educator a full salary and hire another person to take the educator's position. Mr. lovino continued that it is very unfortunate that this error was made but that it would be financially irresponsible to support the request at this point. Mr. Froio said that he is not in favor as well because the salary that this educator will be receiving next year for the sabbatical can be used to hire two new teachers. Mr. Froio added that if this request was granted, there will be more requests from other educators in the future.

Attorney Greenspan clarified that the language used in the contract is about 50 years old. Since Ed Reform in 1993, all personnel actions have been transferred away from the School Committee to the Superintendent of Schools. Attorney Greenspan said that unfortunately the language in the contract was not updated. When Superintendent Oteri brought this request to Attorney's Greenspan attention the second time, Attorney Greenspan gave the opinion that although the contract language is archaic, it should be followed. Mr. Weldai commented that this request would still come before the School Committee because it is a budgetary request. Ms. Spadafora said that she is disappointed that this archaic language is included in the contract and that the district needs to do a better job when it comes time for negotiations.

Mr. lovino made the motion to approve Ms. Robin Doherty's request of a sabbatical. Mr. Froio seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Drummey voted NO

Mr. Froio voted NO

Mr. Gray voted YES

Mr. lovino voted NO

Ms. Luong voted NO

Mr. McCarthy voted NO

Ms. Spadafora voted NO

Mr. Weldai voted YES

Mayor Christenson voted NO

Motion failed with 2 votes in favor and 7 against.

Subcommittee Reports

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

Mr. lovino said that there are 6,684 students enrolled as of last Friday with an increase of 149 students since the beginning of the year. Compared to last year at this time, there are only 3 fewer students this year. Mr. lovino commented that the enrollment is consistent. As for the ELC, Mr. lovino said since it is a work in progress pending the requirements of reopening and what it will entail, no update is available at the moment.

2. Budget Subcommittee – Ms. Spadafora

Ms. Spadafora said that the Budget Subcommittee has been meeting regularly and the last meeting was on June 8th. Business Manager, Ms. Toni Mertz had presented them with a revised level funded budget proposal which included 7 restored positions by making additional cuts to operations and maintenance. Ms. Spadafora continued that the public hearing of the proposed 2020-2021 budget was held earlier in the evening and based on the comments received, if the money is available in August or September, all effort will be made to fund the School Adjustment Counselor position at MHS. Ms. Spadafora said that the level funded budget was voted unanimously at the Budget Subcommittee meeting held on June 8th.

Motions and Resolutions

1. FY 21 Budget – Ms. Spadafora

Ms. Spadafora made the motion to approve and adopt the 2020-2021 proposed level funded schools budget at \$74,200,150. Mr. Iovino seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Drummey voted YES

Mr. Froio voted YES

Mr. Gray voted YES

Mr. Iovino voted YES

Ms. Luong voted YES

Mr. McCarthy voted YES

Ms. Spadafora voted YES

Mr. Weldai voted YES

Mayor Christenson voted YES

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Weldai and Mayor Christenson commended everyone involved with the budget process.

2. Transportation Contract – Ms. Spadafora

Ms. Spadafora said that among the guidance received from DESE, school districts were advised to pay the transportation companies at a reduced rate. Ms. Spadafora made the motion to pay the transportation contract at 78% of the regular monthly invoice. Ms. Luong seconded. Mr. Iovino clarified that this motion is to amend the contract and a contract extension. A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Drummey voted YES

Mr. Froio voted YES

Mr. Gray voted YES

Mr. Iovino voted YES

Ms. Luong voted YES

Mr. McCarthy voted YES

Ms. Spadafora voted YES

Mr. Weldai voted YES

Mayor Christenson voted YES

Motion passed unanimously.

3. School Improvement Plans – Mr. Iovino

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

4. Resolution Affirming Black Lives Matter – Mr. Weldai

Mr. Weldai thanked Mayor Christenson and MEA President, Ms. Gesualdo for work on this resolution. Mr. Weldai made a motion to adopt the Resolution Affirming Black Lives Matter. Mr. McCarthy seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

5. COVID-19 State Funding Resolution – Mr. Weldai and Mr. Drummey

Mr. Weldai thanked Mr. Drummey who found out from City Councillor, Ms. Peg Crowe about this resolution. Mr. Weldai said that about 40 school districts across Massachusetts that have adopted it. Mr. Drummey said that it makes sense in terms of funding. Mr. Drummey made the motion to adopt the COVID-19 State Funding Resolution. Mr. Weldai seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Motion for a Special Education Audit of Services Delivered to All Special Education Students in 2019-2020 – Ms. Luong

Ms. Luong said that she is concerned about inconsistencies in delivery of services and some special education students who may not have received services. In order to prevent some students who fell through the cracks in getting services, Ms. Luong requested for an audit to be done this summer of the special education services that individual students received and did not receive. Ms. Luong said that the audit report should be presented in the September or October meeting in the fall. Superintendent Oteri said that this audit can be done in the summer. In response to Mr. Iovino, Ms. Luong said that when she questioned Mr. Wood about two students in a particular family, he assured her that both students received services but Ms. Luong found out that this was not the case. Ms. Luong said that initially she was doing just a spot check but feels that a full review needs to be done. Mr. Weldai said he fully supports this request. Ms. Spadafora said that an audit is needed to ensure that services are provided so that families will not feel the need to seek out of district placements and be able to keep the students in their current schools. Ms. Spadafora added that out of district placements cost a lot of money. Ms. Luong said that the audit needs to be a full scale audit of each family and that if it is a survey, it should have a substantial number of respondents. Mayor Superintendent requested Superintendent Oteri to be in communication with Ms. Luong over the summer on this matter.

Ms. Luong made the motion for a special education audit of services delivered and not delivered to all special education students in 2019-2020. Mr. McCarthy seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

7. School Committee Meetings for 2020-2021 – Mayor Christenson

Mr. Iovino made the motion to approve the 2020-2021 meetings dates of the School Committee. Ms. Spadafora seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

Personal Privilege

Executive Session

Mr. Iovino made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:50 p.m. Mr. Drummey seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Drummey voted YES

Mr. Froio voted YES
Mr. Gray voted YES
Mr. Iovino voted YES
Ms. Luong voted YES
Mr. McCarthy voted YES
Ms. Spadafora voted YES
Mr. Weldai voted YES
Mayor Christenson voted YES
Motion passed unanimously.

The committee reconvened to the Regular Session at 8:03 p.m.

Mr. Iovino made the motion to approve the SEIU Local 888 Secretaries Union contract for a 2% salary increase for the period of one year from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, retroactive July 1, 2019 and it will remain in effect until a successor agreement has been executed. Mr. McCarthy seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

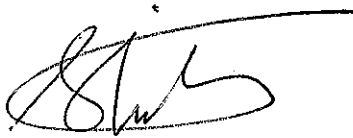
Mr. Drummey voted YES
Mr. Froio voted YES
Mr. Gray voted YES
Mr. Iovino voted YES
Ms. Luong voted YES
Mr. McCarthy voted YES
Ms. Spadafora voted YES
Mr. Weldai voted YES
Mayor Christenson voted YES
Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Mayor Christenson said that the meeting will adjourn in recognition of Student Representative Batoul Chouiki and all the seniors at MHS.

Ms. Spadafora made a motion to adjourn at 8:06 p.m. Mr. Iovino seconded and it was so VOTED. Motion passed unanimously.

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