

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL SESSION
OF THE MALDEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Monday, February 22, 2021
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, as well as the Governor's August 23rd and December 8th, 2020 revised order prohibiting assemblage of more than 25 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 via remote access by internet, telephone and public broadcast by Malden Access Cable Television/Urban Media Arts on public access television channels. 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 the 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
Clerk	Present

Announcement of Finalists for Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Weldai said that the Superintendent Search Committee are pleased to presents three finalists. After the deadline of January 15th and with tremendous recruiting effort from the Collins Center, 37 applications for the position was received. Mr. Weldai continued that upon reviewing the 37 applications, nine candidates were invited for interviews and all of them accepted. On February 11th, the members of the Superintendent Search Committee deliberated on each of the nine candidates who were interviewed and decided on three finalists.

Ms. Spadafora introduced the three finalists in alphabetical order: Dr. Margaret (Margo) Ferrick, Ms. Lori Gallivan and Ms. Ligia Noriega-Murphy.

Dr. Margaret (Margo) Ferrick is currently the Deputy Superintendent of the Southbridge Public Schools and has been in that role since June 2017. Dr. Ferrick worked in the Lowell Public Schools from 1997-

2017. She began her educational career as a social worker at Lowell High School. After four years, she became the Coordinator of a Special Education Day School, and also served as a Student Support Specialist, the Director of Alternative Education, and then a Principal in an alternative middle school and middle school. In June 2017 she moved to her current role in Southbridge. Dr. Ferrick has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from UMass Amherst, a Master's degree in Social Work from Boston College, and doctorate in education from UMass Lowell.

Ms. Lori Gallivan is currently the Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Accountability for the Winthrop Public Schools. Ms. Gallivan began her educational career as a teacher in the Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps in Springfield in 1996-97. She then worked as a high school teacher in the Lynn Public Schools for almost 9 years before becoming a Middle School Assistant Principal in Newburyport and then an Upper Elementary Principal in Newburyport. She then served three years as an Elementary Principal in Saugus and then became the Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Accountability for Saugus from 2014-2018. Since 2018 she has been in her current role in Winthrop. Ms. Gallivan has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Studies from Westfield State College and a Master of Arts degree in Education from Cambridge College.

Ms. Ligia Noriega-Murphy is currently the Assistant Superintendent on Assignment as the K-8 Jackson Mann Principal in the Boston Public Schools. Ms. Noriega-Murphy was a Spanish teacher for three years at the Donald McKay Middle School in Boston. She then was a founding faculty member and chair of the world languages department at the Boston Arts Academy for five years. In 2004 she became the Headmaster at Excel High School in South Boston and served in that role for six years before becoming the Assistant Academic Superintendent for High Schools. In 2012 she was an Assistant Superintendent on Assignment as the Headmaster of The English High School in Boston, where she served for five years. Ms. Noriega-Murphy has a Bachelor of Arts in Art History from UMass Boston, a Master's degree in Management from Cambridge College, and a Certificate of Graduate Study in Education Leadership from UMass Boston.

Mr. Weldai said the community will have the opportunity to meet with the three candidates over the course of the next three weeks. Zoom forums will take place this week with students, central office and staff. Next week, the finalists will meet with the leadership team and the community at large. Mr. Weldai continued that all the community forums will have live interpretation thanks to the efforts of the Superintendent Search Committee, Mayor Christenson and Business Manager, Toni Mertz who have secured the services of Rosetta Translations. On March 8th, 10th and 11th, the community can attend the final interviews of the finalists with the School Committee where there will also be live interpretation.

Mr. Weldai and Ms. Spadafora thanked the members of the Superintendent Search Committee for their dedication and commitment to the process. The members of the Superintendent Search Committee are Heather Barry, Kevin Brill, Rebekah Brooks, Donald Concannon, Erin Craven, Isabel Delacruz, Deborah Gesualdo, Kate Greco, Jennifer Hedrington, Susan Nysten, Birukti Tsige, Jessica Vasquez, Amine Yakine, and Billy Zeng. Mr. Weldai also thanked Ms. Maria Luise from the Mayor's Office as well as Dr. Ray Shurtleff and Ms. Anne Wilson from the Edward J. Collins, Jr. Center for Public Management, UMass Boston (Collins Center).

Mr. McCarthy asked if members of the School Committee can be present when the finalists meet with the students and staff to see how they interact in that setting. Mr. McCarthy said that there are other districts where this has taken place. Mr. Weldai said that these meetings are more in the form of a "Meet and Greet" and it will not provide an accurate representation of what they would be like as leaders. Mr. Weldai added that it will be less genuine and unfiltered for the administration and staff when there are School Committee members present during the meetings. Ms. Spadafora agreed with Mr. Weldai and said that she is more inclined to get feedback from the students and staff about the finalists. Mr. Weldai said that there will be google forms available for students, parents/guardians and staff to provide anonymous feedback after meeting the finalists and this will be available to School Committee members. In response to Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Weldai said that School Committee members could attend the finalists' meetings with parents/guardians.

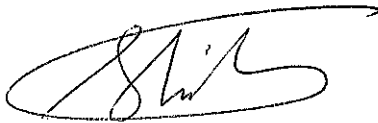
In response to Ms. Luong, Mr. Weldai said Rosetta Translations will be working on live interpretations in Cantonese, Mandarin, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, Vietnamese and Haitian Creole. In response to Mr. McCarthy, Ms. Spadafora said that the finalists' resumes and information can be found on the Superintendent Search website which can be accessed through www.maldenps.org.

Mayor Christenson along with Ms. Luong thanked Mr. Weldai and Ms. Spadafora for their work on the search.

Adjournment

Ms. Luong made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 p.m. Mr. Froio 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