

Record of the Marblehead School Committee Workshop  
Thursday June 15, 2023  
Marblehead High School  
Library Conference Room  
7:00pm

<https://marbleheadschoools-org.zoom.us/j/92730374315?pwd=WkZlelgrOFIwQ2U4SllhRjZlNlhndz09>

Members Present: Sarah Fox, Sarah Gold, Thomas Mathers, Alison Taylor  
Members Absent: Meagan Taylor

Also: Superintendent John J. Buckey  
Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, Michelle Cresta

I. Initial Business

a. Call to Order

Ms. Fox called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. It was mentioned that committee member Gold was expected to arrive late.

b. State of the District

Superintendent Buckey provided district updates mentioning the following:

- The Glover School was recognized for being named an exemplary partner for setting high standards for building an innovative Safe Routes to School program.
- He acknowledged the fifteen staff known to be retiring per building and position and thanked them for their years of service to the Marblehead schools.
- Superintendent Buckey also noted the graduation ceremony and the wonderful experience it was.
- Superintendent Buckey also spoke about the discussions unfolding surrounding his contract and a salary increase. He recommended that a salary freeze occur given the uncertainty of the pending budget vote so that the community focus would remain on the vote and not on concerns surrounding the Superintendent's contract or any recommended raise.

c. Commendations

- Chairperson Fox thanked all educators, staff and parents for another successful school year.
- She also commended High School Principal Daniel Bauer who will be moving on from Marblehead to join Danvers Public Schools as their next Superintendent. She thanked him for his immeasurable efforts in his role. Other committee members echoed Ms. Fox's sentiment.

d. Public Comment

Cameron Staples shared some input regarding the Superintendent's upcoming review until a technological error disconnected his audio to the school committee. Chairperson Fox noted that they will come back to public comment.

II. Consent Action and Agenda Items

a. Approval of Minutes

5/18/2023, 6/1/2023 and 6/6/2023

Chairperson Fox asked for a motion to approve the minutes from May 18<sup>th</sup>, June 1, and June 6<sup>th</sup>. The motion was moved by Ms. Gold and seconded by Mr. Mathers. The motion passes-4-0.

b. Schedule of Bills-Chairperson Fox asked for a motion to approve the schedule of bills totaling \$602,846.57 The motion was moved by Ms. Gold and seconded by Ms. Alison Taylor. The motion pass-5-0.

c. User Fees

After Assistant Superintendent Cresta provided an update on the proposed plan for the increase to user fees, Chairperson Fox asked for a motion to approve the user fees for the 2023-2024 school year as proposed. The motion was moved by Ms. Gold and seconded by Mr. Mathers. Ms. Cresta also mentioned that the payment of all fees will be streamlined to make the process more efficient for families including for those families who qualify for waivers due to income status. The motion passes-4-0.

#### Public Comment

- Jessica Benedetto spoke about expanding the bussing program to district-wide.
- Jennifer Jackson shared that SEPAC received 52 nominations for the Unsung Heroes award in which all 5 schools were represented. A list of nominations per building was shared.
- Scott Solberg commended Superintendent Buckey for his participation with the SEPAC organization.
- Cameron Staples recognized the transparency the Superintendent has brought to the budgeting process during the last few fiscal years. He spoke to the benefit of consistency in leadership. He further inquired about a higher evaluation rating than the one provided in the Superintendent's annual review.
- Catherine Martin thanked the retirees for their commitment and noted the impact their loss will leave. She also encouraged community members to remain focused on the budget and be prepared to make an informed vote.

### III. Superintendent Report

a. District Updates

- The Wellness Advisory Council recently met and a liaison from the department attended. As a result of the work done on the wellness policy, a new life-threatening food allergies policy referenced within the wellness policy will also be brought forward for consideration.
- The Village School has recommended internal applicant Carla Rose as Interim Assistant Principal for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Superintendent Buckey and Chairperson Fox held a meeting with the MEA to discuss implementing a sick leave bank.

### IV. School Committee Communication and Discussion Items

a. Superintendent Review Process and Superintendent 2022-2023 Annual Review Approval  
Chairperson Fox provided an update on the workshop meeting that took place for the Superintendent's review. She spoke in favor of the collaborative effort for a new process.

Mr. Mathers provided a reminder of the process and purpose of the Superintendent's annual review cycle. He encouraged the committee to work with the Superintendent to take time setting annual goals.

b. Pickle Ball Court-Operating Hours

Chairperson Fox explained that the Recreation and Parks Commission took a vote on May 16<sup>th</sup> to reduce the hours the Pickleball Courts are open to the public from the end of June through August 31<sup>st</sup> to offer some quieter moment to the residents of Vine St.

After the update on the Pickleball courts was provided, Mr. Mathers inquired about formally voting the Superintendent's review to which Ms. Fox agreed to pending spelling and grammatical errors. Mr. Mathers made a motion to accept the 2022-2023 school year review as presented which was seconded by Ms. Gold. The motion passes, 4-0. Ms. Fox requested the minutes reflect a previous 5-0 in favor vote to account for Ms. Meagan Taylor's absence.

c. Subcommittee and Liaisons Updates

None, other than noting that the wellness policy will need to be brought forward to a new subcommittee.

V. Closing Business

a. New Business

Chairperson Fox thanked committee members Mathers for serving on the committee.

Mr. Mathers encouraged committee members to focus on governance. He commended the Superintendent for his leadership and thanked fellow committee members for the opportunity to work alongside them.

b. Correspondence

None

c. Adjournment

Ms. Fox adjourned the meeting at 7:52pm.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Dimier, Secretary  
Marblehead School Committee*

*Approved August 11, 2023*

*Materials Included:  
Superintendent's Presentation  
Safe Routes to School Award Recognition  
Schedule of Bills  
User Fees  
Superintendent Evaluation Process-MASC  
Superintendent's 2022-2023sy Evaluation  
Pickleball Hours Recommendation*