

MARBLEHEAD
TOWN CLERK

2025 FEB 24 AM 9:04



DATE POSTED: Town Clerk Use Only

MEETING NOTICE

POSTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF MGL 30A § 20 Act relative to extending certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the state of emergency

Marblehead School Committee

Name of Board or Committee

Address: Marblehead High School – Library at 2 Humphrey St. Marblehead MA 01945

OR

Zoom Conference join via the web link or Dial in: <https://marbleheadschoools-org.zoom.us/j/97886762817?pwd=5hT6kswajlCtbJVaC2uYOn1pdiv7fE.1>

Meeting ID: 978 8676 2817

Password: 610612

Dial in Phone #1 646 931 3860

Thursday	February	27th	2025	5:00PM
Day of Week	Month	Date	Year	Time

Agenda or Topics to be discussed listed below (That the chair reasonably anticipates will be discussed)

- I. Initial Business
 - a) Call to order
 - o Motion and vote to meet in executive session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 30A, section 21(a) for the following purpose:
 - o Purpose (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining, specifically a response to the grievance from the MEA Unit A, because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the school committee with intent to return to open session not before 6:00PM.

Chair's Statement following roll call vote on the motion:

The Committee will now be meeting in executive session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 30A section 21(a) for the purpose (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining, specifically a response to the grievance from the MEA Unit A, because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee with intent to return to open session not before 6:00PM.

- II. Executive Session: Strategy discussion with respect to the grievance from the MEA Unit A
- III. Return to Open Session (not prior to 6:00PM): Opening Business
 - a) Pledge of Allegiance
 - b) Student Representative
 - c) Facility Naming Request
 - d) Close Open Meeting, open Budget Public Hearing (vote)
- IV. Budget Public Hearing
 - a) Budget Hearing
 - b) Motion to close Public Hearing (vote)
- V. Opening Business (cont'd)
 - a) Commendations
 - b) Public Comment
- VI. District Updates: Supt. John Robidoux
- VII. Consent Action and Agenda Items (vote)
 - a) Schedule of Bills
 - b) Meeting minutes (1/9/25, 1/23/25).
- VIII. School Committee Communication and Discussion Items
 - a) Marblehead High School Program of Studies (school year 2025-26): Dr. Carlson (vote)
 - b) School Year 2025-26 Calendar (vote)
 - c) FY26 Budget timeline
 - d) Scheduling for Supt. Evaluation Planning Workshop
 - e) Subcommittee and Liaison Updates
- IX. Closing Business
 - a) New business
 - b) Announcements
 - c) Correspondence

Adjournment

Hybrid Meeting Notice: Members of the public are welcome to attend this in-person at 2 Humphrey St. Marblehead MA 01945 or by the remote zoom connection provided. Please note that the in-person meeting will not be suspended or terminated if technological problems interrupt the remote connection.

THIS AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Chairperson: Jennifer Schaeffner
 Posted by: Jennifer Schaeffner
 Date: 2/24/25

NAMING NEW FACILITIES AND SPACES

Naming a school facility 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 for a school, a portion of a school, or a portion of school grounds. Whenever possible, the wishes of the community, including parents and students, should be considered in naming school facilities or spaces within a school.

The School Committee has the authority to approve the naming and renaming of buildings, structures, and facilities located on school property. The School Committee also has the authority to name subsections of existing structures or facilities, such as classrooms, auditoriums, and gymnasiums.

Names and/or wording associated with school facilities shall be consistent with school district policies and promote messages aligned with the mission, vision and goals of the school district. To the extent possible, names and/or wording should be designed not to restrict the use of a space or inhibit changing the function of the space should that become necessary in the future.

When the opportunity to name or dedicate a new school or school related property, structure or facility is forthcoming, an orderly procedure will be communicated at the next available School Committee meeting. The Committee's agendas should clearly reflect the intent to consider, review, and vote on naming opportunities.

Submission of a name for a school space may be made by any resident or by the Superintendent, in writing, and should be made to the School Committee Chairperson. If a name is being initiated at the local school level, the Principal must take reasonable steps to include the School Council and PTA/PTO in the nomination of the name before submission to the School Committee.

The written request should specify the intent of the requestor and the reasons why this particular name would fit the facility. It should offer appropriate background information on the person or organization after which the facility will be named. An offer of a financial contribution to the School District may accompany the naming request, but the School Committee is not obligated to accept or reject a name based upon financial considerations alone. Philanthropic contributions in support of the School District are encouraged by the School Committee. The School Committee may acknowledge generous donors by designating appropriate spaces within the School District's facilities consistent with the level of financial commitment.

Following the submission of a naming request, the School Committee Chairperson will specify a consideration period that allows for public comment, following which the Committee will deliberate and vote on the name.

SOURCE: MASC August 2016

Marblehead Public Schools - Approved 1/7/2021

February 16, 2025

Jennifer Schaeffner
Chair, Marblehead School Committee
9 Widger Road
Marblehead, MA 01945

Dear Ms. Schaeffner:

We are respectfully submitting this request to name the Marblehead High School Athletic Complex, the Alexander W. Kulevich, Jr. Athletic Complex. The reason we are submitting this request is because we believe that Alexander W. Kulevich, Jr., embodies not only Marblehead High School athletics, but also Marblehead Public Schools and its students and its athletes.

Alexander W. Kulevich, Jr (Alex) Graduated from Maynard High School in 1953 and subsequently put himself through Worcester Academy where he graduated in 1954. He went to Boston College where he played football for 4 years and graduated in 1958. Alex served as 1st Lieutenant, in the United States Infantry from 1959-1961. He received his Master of Education from Salem State University in 1964, and from 1970 to 2000 earned 80 plus credits from Salem State University for his doctorate.

Tying this back to Marblehead, Alex was a teacher, head football coach and athletic director at Bishop Fenwick High School from 1961-1970. In 1970, he took a job at Marblehead High School as a history teacher and head football coach and moved his wife and his family to Marblehead where they have lived for over 50 years. Alex served as a history teacher and Head football coach from 1970-1980. In 1978, the current athletic director fell ill, and Alex was asked to step in as interim athletic director. Subsequently, Alex became the permanent full time athletic director later that year and served as athletic director from 1978-2000 when he retired. He returned as interim athletic director from 2002-2003 due to the illness of the current athletic director at that time. Again, he returned to interim athletic director in 2015 for four months due to a brief illness with the current athletic director. Alex and his wife Barbara have eight children, all who attended Marblehead Public Schools and graduated from Marblehead High School. In addition, Alex has 20 grandchildren, 10 of them attended Marblehead Public Schools, and one of them currently helps coach the Marblehead High School Varsity Hockey team.

Alex's honors and affiliations are too numerous to mention and can be found on his attached resume. Some highlights include:

- Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Governor William Weld Recognition Award for Physical Education and Health at Marblehead High School, 1992
- Executive Committee of Massachusetts City and Town Administrators of Physical Education, 1980-1995
- Secretary/Treasurer, Northeast City and Town Administrators of Physical Education, 1978-2000
- Member of Marblehead Gridiron Club, 1970-present
- Member of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish Council, 1992-Present
- Board of Directors, Marblehead Dollars for Scholars, President, 2004-5
- Moynahan Lumber North Shore Student/Athlete Program, 1st recipient of Recognition Award, 1988,
- Massachusetts Football Hall of Fame, 1988
- Bishop Fenwick Hall of Fame, 1992
- Worcester Academy Hall of Fame, 1992
- Massachusetts Athletic Director Association, President's Award of Merit, 2000
- Marblehead High School Boosters Hall of Fame, 2005
- Marblehead Gridiron Club Hall of Fame, 2003
- The Chevrus Award, Archdiocese of Boston, 2012 – highest honor for service to the church and its people.

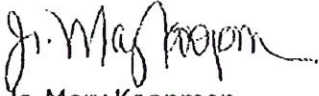
Alex was instrumental in the building of the Athletic Complex. He served on the Steering Committee where he visited several area schools to assess the footprint and provided input in the design and scope of the new Sports Complex.

While Alex's honors and accomplishments deserve to be recognized, what stands out with Alex is his character. He is humble, unselfish, and always willing to help and give to others. This was evident when he was a teacher, coach, and athletic director. His student athletes came first, and he would help them in any way he could to be successful.

Alex has had a tremendous positive impact on the town of Marblehead and its residents. He also had a tremendous impact with the Marblehead Public Schools and its students-athletes, which is why we are requesting his name be placed on the Athletic Complex along with a dedication plaque inside the entrance.

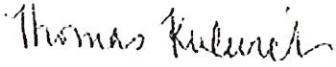
We appreciate both your time and consideration.

Respectfully,



Jo-Mary Koopman

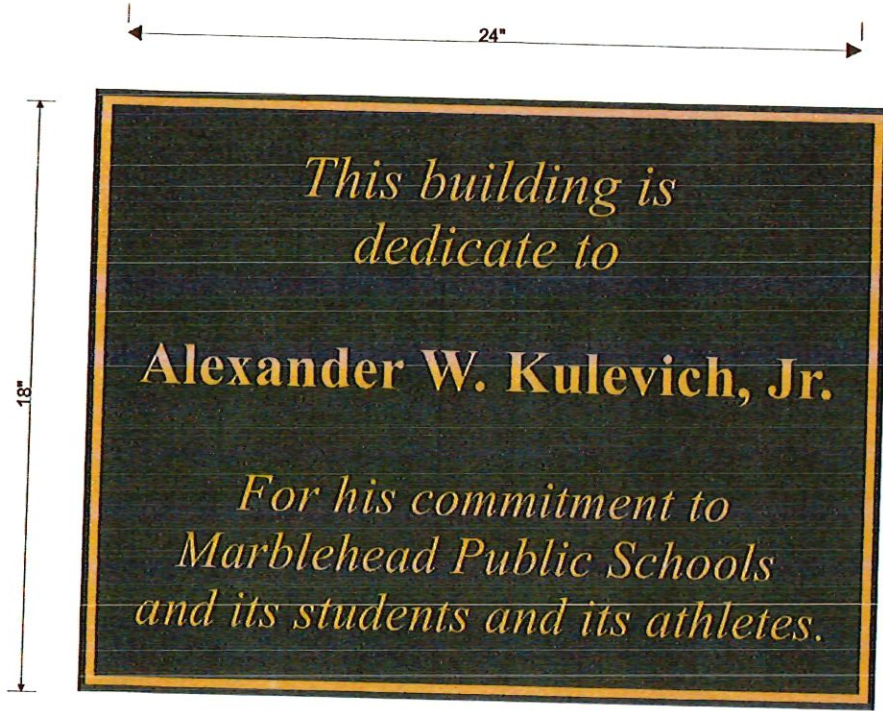
[REDACTED]
Marblehead, MA 01945



Thomas G. Kulevich

[REDACTED]
Marblehead, MA 01945

Cc: John J. Robidoux
Interim Superintendent of Schools

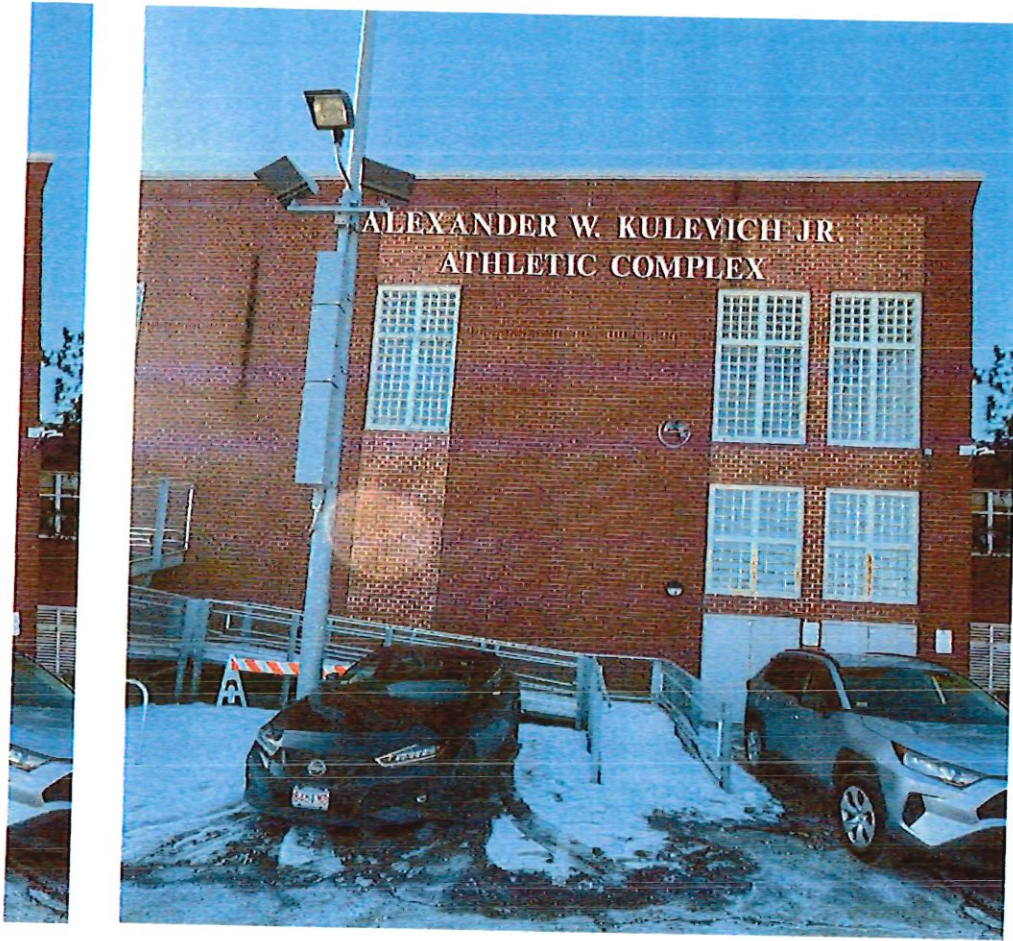


18" X 24"
 PRECISION TOOLED BRONZE PLAQUE
 RAISED TEXT : BRONZE
 RECESSED COLOR: DARK OXIDE
 SINGLE LINE BORDER
 BLIND MOUNT

COST: \$2644.99 + TAX
 SHIPPING: \$110.00
 INSTALL : 250.00

CLIENT JO KOOPMAN	DATE 2/4/25	THIS DRAWING CONTAINS PROPRIETY INFORMATION AND DESIGN CONCEPTS THAT ARE PROPERTY OF LABEL SIGNS. IT IS PRESENTED TO YOU FOR YOUR EXCLUSIVE USE AND MAY NOT BE COPIED OR SHOWN TO ANYONE OUT SIDE OF YOUR ORGANIZATION WITH OUT OUR WRITTEN PERMISSION. COPYRIGHT 2021
LOCATION MHEAD H.S.	DESIGNED BY CL	





2.



Alexander W. Kulevich

Education: Maynard High School, 1953
Worcester Academy, 1954
Boston College, 1958 – Bachelor of Social Services
Salem State University, 1964 – Master of Education
Salem State University, 1970 – Masters + 80 Post Graduate Credits

Experience: Worcester Boys Trade High School
➤ Teacher, 1958-1959
Maynard High School
➤ Assistant Football Coach, 1958
➤ Teacher, 1961
Bishop Fenwick High School, Peabody, MA, 1961-1970
➤ Teacher, 1961-1970
➤ Head Coach of Football, 1961-1969
➤ Athletic Director, 1964-1970
Marblehead High School, 1970-2000
➤ Teacher, 1970-1990
➤ Head Coach of Football, 1970-1980
➤ Athletic Director, 1978-2000; 2002-2003, 2015 (Interim – 4 months)

Military Experience: 1st Lieutenant, United States Infantry, January 1959- January 1961

Affiliations: Secretary/Treasurer, Northeast City and Town Administrators of Physical Education, 1978-2000
Executive Committee of Massachusetts City and Town Administrators of Physical Education, 1980-1995
Super Eight Selection Committee, Hockey
Member of the M.I.A.A. Ice Hockey Committee, 1978-2000
Board of Directors of Marblehead Dollars for Scholars, 1982-Present
➤ President, 2004-2005
➤ Vice President, 2002-2003
Member of Marblehead Gridiron Club, 1970-Present
Member of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish Council, 1992-Present
Lay Minister, Our Lady Star of the Sea, 1975-2023
Teacher of Religious Education, 1975-1995

Honors: Association of New England Football Officials Coaches – Memorial Award, 1977
New England Sports Lodge, B'Nai B'rith Brotherhood Award, 1990
Marblehead Gridiron Club, William Peabody Award – Outstanding Contribution, 1982
Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Governor William Weld Recognition Award for Physical Education and Health at Marblehead High School, 1992

Moynahan Lumber North Shore Student/Athlete Program, 1st Recipient
Recognition Award, 1998
Massachusetts Football Hall of Fame, 1988
Worcester Academy Hall of Fame, 1992
Bishop Fenwick Hall of Fame, 1995
Massachusetts Athletic Director Association, President's Award of Merit, 2000
Marblehead Hick School Boosters Hall of Fame, 2003
Marblehead Gridiron Club Hall of Fame, 2003
Chevrus Award, Archdiocese of Boston, 2012 – highest honor for service to the
church and its members.



Marblehead Public Schools

9 Widger Road
Marblehead, Massachusetts 01945
Phone: (781) 639-3140

John Robidoux
Interim Superintendent of Schools

Julia Ferreira
*Assistant Superintendent of
Teaching & Learning*

LisaMarie Ippolito
*Assistant Superintendent of
Student Services*

Michael Pfifferling
*Assistant Superintendent of
Finance & Operations*

MEMORANDUM

TO: Marblehead School Committee
FROM: Michael Pfifferling, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations
DATE: February 25, 2025
RE: Schedule of Bills for Approval

Included in this packet are the following Schedules of Bills for your consideration. The schedules and invoices have been uploaded to the shared drive.

Schedule	Amount
26092	\$ 419,914.77
26152	\$ 9,570.00
26162	\$ 45,753.24
26163	\$ 324,463.20
26179	\$ 16,424.82
26180	\$ 11,221.28
26181	\$ 10,732.58
26182	\$ 28,610.50
26207	\$ 91,137.78
26211	\$ 28,720.19
26212	\$ 27,516.73
26213	\$ 190,968.96
26234	\$ 7,475.33
26239	\$ 171,630.77
26240	\$ 16,602.90
26259	\$ 347,575.88
26261	\$ 12,737.89
26278	\$ 29,180.57
26289	\$ 1,827.00
26290	\$ 9,795.67
26293	\$ 346,231.34
26297	\$ 28,911.82
Total	\$ 2,177,003.22

Suggested Motion:

Motion to approve the identified schedules of bills totaling \$2,177,003.22

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Record of the Marblehead School Committee Meeting
Thursday January 09, 2025
6:00 PM

Members Present: Jennifer Schaeffner, Sarah Fox, Alison Taylor, Brian Ota, Al Williams

Also Present: John Robidoux-Interim Superintendent, Julia Ferreira-Assistant Superintendent of Teacher and Learning, LisaMarie Ippolito-Assistant Superintendent of Student Services

Ms. Schaeffner calls the meeting to order at 6:04 PM

I. Opening Business

a. Pledge of Allegiance

b. Commendations

- Jennifer Schaeffner asks for a moment of silence for Libby Moore, a former teacher and principal of Marblehead Public Schools, who passed away in late December 2024
- Sarah Fox would like to commend Tyler Earp who received an award from the Eagle Scouts for his work with the Greenhouse at Marblehead High School

c. Public Comment

- None

d. Student Representative-Ella Benedetto (Spelling)

- The Senior Show will be this Sunda 01/12/25 at 3:00 PM
- The Varsity Girls basketball team will be playing at TD Garden on Saturday 01/11/25 at 11:30 AM
- The Musical this year at MHS will be Hades Town-auditions will be 01/15/25
- Junior Seminars are beginning next week

II. District Updates- Superintendent John Robidoux

- A joint committee has been established for School Safety
 - This committee is composed of 10 union and 10 administrative members
- A joint Labor Committee has also been established
 - The primary responsibility of the Labor Committee will be to review and update the educator evaluation process as well as address issues related to contract language etc.
- Superintendent Robidoux provides an update on the independent investigation in relation to antisemitism in the district
- The District Six DECA Competition was held on 01/07/25 led by Paul Gleason
- John provides an update on the current athletic standings for Marblehead Public Schools

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- Magic Hat is celebrating 20 years and over 200 million dollars in donations to Marblehead Public Schools

III. Consent Action and Agenda Items

a. Schedule of Bills

- Moved to a future agenda

b. Meeting Minutes (12/05/24, 12/19/24)

Ms. Schaeffner asks for a motion to approve the School Committee Meeting minutes for 12/05/24

Moved by Ms Taylor, Seconded by Ms. Fox

Mr. Williams, Mr. Ota, Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor, Ms. Schaeffner and -All Yes

A vote was taken, and the motion passes 5-0

Ms. Schaeffner asks for a motion to approve the School Committee Meeting minutes for 12/19/2024

Moved by Ms Taylor, Seconded by Ms. Fox

Mr. Ota, Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor, Ms. Schaeffner and -All Yes

Mr. Williams abstained from the vote

A vote was taken, and the motion passes 4-0 with one abstention

IV. School Committee Communication and Discussion Items

a. MCAS High Needs Overview/Academic Discoveries Review (LisaMarie Ippolito)

- LisaMarie gives a presentation on MCAS High Needs Overview and provides an Academic Discoveries Review
 - The slide deck for this presentation can be found within the agenda for the 01/09/25 meeting minutes
 - Academic Discoveries have almost completed their review of the district
 - They are coming back to the district on 01/31/25 to complete more classroom observations
 - February is the current date for completion of the report to present to the School Committee

b. Proposal for Competency Determination for graduating students

- Julia Ferreira, Superintendent Robidoux and Michele Carlson have met a few times to discuss competency determination and what it would look like for Marblehead students

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- John presents a document to the School Committee that would include both competency determination and graduation requirements
 - The state requires that we align our competency determination with the 2023 MCAS exams
 - He highlights that it is now up to the district to determine what is used for competency determination now that MCAS is not one of the determining factors
 - John provides options for competency determination to the school committee that he, Julia and Michele feel make the most sense based upon the state's requirements
 - They will continue this discussion at future meetings to ensure that they have a plan in place for this school year as well as one in place moving forward
- c. Preliminary 2025-26 School Year Calendar
- Superintendent Robidoux presents the preliminary school year calendar for the 2025/2026 school year including the PD Days and School Vacation weeks
 - Alison Taylor highlights 01/02/26, the day that the students come back from Winter Break, falls on a Friday for the 2025/2026 school year which may lead to reduced attendance
 - Alison also highlights November 3rd and 4th where the Monday is a half day and Tuesday is an off day, which may lead to reduced attendance on Monday
 - These PD Days were scheduled this way because the Town may be using one school as one single polling location for the voters of Marblehead during the election
 - John and Julia will bring an updated version of the 2025-26 School Year Calendar to the next school committee meeting for review and possible vote
- d. Coffin School Surplus Property (vote)

Ms. Schaeffner asks for a motion to transfer the care custody, management, and control of the Coffin School building and grounds to the Select Board being it is no longer needed for School purposes

Moved by Mr. Williams, Seconded by Ms. Taylor

- Sarah Fox outlines that this was postponed last year because the committee wanted to see the outcome of the 3 A Vote due to the potential of bringing 900 more residence units to the town of Marblehead
 - Which was voted down last year but has currently been brought back to light recently due to circumstances in another district in Massachusetts

Mr. Williams, Mr. Ota, Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor, Ms. Schaeffner and -All Yes

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A vote was taken, and the motion passes 5-0

- e. Capital Outlay request: MHS Roof (possible vote)

Ms. Schaeffner asks for a motion to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate of an appropriate sum of money for remodeling, reconstructing, and making extraordinary repairs to existing school buildings, infrastructure and the purchase of necessary equipment including computer hardware and software to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise or to take any other action relative there to

Moved by Ms. Fox, Seconded by Mr. Williams

Mr. Williams, Mr. Ota, Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor, Ms. Schaeffner and -All Yes

A vote was taken, and the motion passes 5-0

- f. Warrant article Additional Funding for school expenses (vote)

Ms. Schaeffner asks for a motion to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate of transfer from available funds a sum of money to supplement the school departments operating budget beginning in fiscal year 2026, contingent upon the passage of a proposition two and a half so called ballot question or take an action relative thereto

Moved by Ms. Fox, Seconded by Mr. Williams

Mr. Williams, Mr. Ota, Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor, Ms. Schaeffner and -All Yes

A vote was taken, and the motion passes 5-0

- g. Superintendent Status preliminary discussion
- Currently Superintendent Robidoux has a 2-year temporary contract
 - The discussion is started regarding the steps that the School Committee will take to make this determination from a staff, student and community standpoint
 - Superintendent Robidoux would like to make his position permanent with Marblehead Public Schools if that is the will of the committee and the community
 - The committee would like to ensure that community feedback is involved in this decision-making process as well as a formal evaluation of Superintendent Robidoux's performance thus far
 - This is to ensure that we are using data in the final decision
 - The preliminary timeline for discussion, negotiations and decision making is outlined by the committee
 - Within 4 weeks- A Workshop will be held with all School Committee members as well as Superintendent Robidoux

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- 6-8 weeks-The committee will gather community feedback and complete the evaluation
- All will be presented at a future School Committee meeting
- h. Subcommittee and Liaison Updates
 - Sarah Fox-Budget Subcommittee
 - Met on Tuesday 01/07/25
 - Budget Forum scheduled for 02/06/25 to get community input
 - 03/06/25 School Budget hearing scheduled
 - 03/31/25 Town hearing scheduled
 - There is also a budget workshop scheduled
 - FinCom's warrant hearing is 04/07/25
 - Brian Ota-CEPAC meeting held today 01/09/25
 - Newsletter and FAQ's will be launched this month

V. Closing Business

- a. New Business-School Committee announcements and requests
- b. Correspondence

Meeting is adjourned at 8:30PM by Ms. Schaeffner

Respectfully Submitted,
Allison McMahon, Secretary
Marblehead School Committee

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Record of the Marblehead School Committee Meeting
Thursday January 23, 2025
6:00 PM

Members Present: Jennifer Schaeffner, Sarah Fox, Brian Ota, Al Williams

Also Present: John Robidoux-Interim Superintendent, Julia Ferreira-Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations

Ms. Schaeffner calls the meeting to order at 6:02 PM

I. Opening Business

a. Pledge of Allegiance

b. Commendations

- John Robidoux would like to commend both Lisa Dimier and Melissa Acquaviva in the administration office for going above and beyond over the last couple of weeks to try and keep moving the district forward after having a few personnel changes
- Sarah Fox would like to commend Jeff St. George who has served for many years as a member of our Facilities Subcommittee who unfortunately passed away earlier this week for his years of service with the district

c. Public Comment

- Mary McCariston-Pine Cliff Drive
 - Mary references the flag policy in regard to a comment that was made at last weeks school committee meeting
- Michael Kalpin-7 Saphire Ave Marblehead
 - Michael is a construction worker and asks the School Committee “why we would borrow from a 30-year bond for a roof replacement when the current roof has only lasted 20 years”

d. Student Representative-Ella **Benedetto (Spelling)**

- Senior Project is beginning, and the folders and all required signatures are due back by 02/14/25
- Two senior nights are being held tonight for the Swim and Dive team as well as the Gymnastics team
- Best Buddies dinner is tonight at 6
- Boys Hockey team is ranked 3rd in the MIAA power rankings
- MHS’s two acapella groups will be attending New England Voices competition this weekend

II. District Updates- Superintendent John Robidoux

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- John starts by thanking our facilities team for ensuring that the walkways and lots have been cleared and salted during the two snow falls we have had so far this season
- In upcoming school committee meetings, we will be featuring “School Spotlights” which will be highlighting ways that each of our schools has incorporated Student voices into their operations
- We are also in the midst of Budget discussions and planning
- John provides an update on our athletics department as well as our performing arts department
- MHS Drama club is busy preparing two performances-The Sleepwalker written by MHS Senior Benji Boyd and Hadestown
- We will be discussing the updated 2025/2026 school calendar, competency determination, and will provide an update on MHS Roof Project

III. Consent Action and Agenda Items

a. DECA Overnight Trip (vote)

- Mr. Gleason gives a explanation of the DECA Club as well as the upcoming field trip

Ms. Schaeffner asks for a motion to approve the DECA State Career Development and competition overnight trip from 02/27/25-03/01/25

Moved by Mr. Williams , Seconded by Ms. Fox

Mr. Williams, Mr. Ota, Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor, Ms. Schaeffner and -All Yes

A vote was taken, and the motion passes 5-0

b. Schedule of Bills

Ms. Taylor asks for a motion to approve the identified Schedule of Bills totaling \$748,330.97

Moved by Ms. Fox, Seconded by Ms. Taylor

Mr. Williams, Mr. Ota, Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor, Ms. Schaeffner and -All Yes

A vote was taken, and the motion passes 5-0

c. Meeting Minutes (01/09/25) (vote)

- Postponed to the next school committee meeting

IV. School Committee Communication and Discussion Items

a. Competency Determination for graduating students (vote)

- The proposal that is being presented is like the draft that was presented to the School Committee at the last meeting

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- John outlines the options available and what is required for a student to prove competency prior to graduation
- There will be an additional, more in depth, discussion regarding competency held prior to next school year however we need to get something in place for this year's graduating class

Ms. Schaeffner asks for a motion to approve the competency determination proposal as submitted to reflect for the graduating class of 24-25 at the top

Moved by Ms. Fox, Seconded by Mr. Ota

Mr. Williams, Mr. Ota, Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor, Ms. Schaeffner and -All Yes

A vote was taken, and the motion passes 5-0

b. 2025-26 School Year Calendar (vote)

- The following changes were made to the previously proposed draft of the 25/26 School Year Calendar:
 - There will be 2 PD days at the beginning of the School Year on 08/25/25 & 08/26/25
 - Students would start on 08/27/25
 - New Teacher Orientation would be Friday 08/22/25
 - This allows us to have our last day of school on 06/17/26
 - 11/10/25 will be a PD Day which will allow for a long weekend for students and families
 - Parent/Teacher conferences were added for 11/05/25 and 11/12/25
- Sarah Fox and Alison Taylor would like to see the Calendar revised to have the start of School for the kids fall after Labor Day as it was originally proposed
 - 08/27/25 & 08/28/25 will be off days and 01/02/26 and 06/18/26 will be school days

Ms. Fox asks for a motion to table this until our first February meeting so that we can give the community a chance to provide some feedback

Seconded by Ms. Taylor

Mr. Williams, Ms. Fox, Ms. Taylor, Ms. Schaeffner and -All Yes

Mr. Ota-No

A vote was taken, and the motion passes 4-1

c. MHS Roof Update -Michael Pfifferling

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- Left Field and Raymond Designs are the companies we have contracted with for the MHS Roof Repair
 - Both attended the last Facilities meeting to present our options for MHS Roof Replacement
 - They did a thorough check of the status of the roof and have determined that our HVAC systems are also at the end of their life span at MHS
 - Two options were presented to replace the HVAC units:
 - A. Replace all HVAC Units
 - B. Put the old equipment back on the roof and we would have to charge it with a “recovered refrigerant” but this would be a temporary fix
 - We have 2-3 years left with this HVAC systems equipment
 - 5.5 million that was originally proposed will cover the “vast majority” of the cost of Roof Replacement
 - The additional 8.61 million will be presented at Town Meeting and the School will ask for a “debt exclusion” for the HVAC portion of the project
 - Currently it is estimated that the equipment will be delivered in May of 2026
 - The timeline for the project has been extended because the scope of the project has changed
- d. Subcommittee and Liaison Updates
- Brian Ota & Alison Taylor-Communications Subcommittee
 - The School Committees website is in the process of being updated
 - The newsletter is in the final stages of development
 - The draft will be presented to the School Committee for approval prior to being published on the Marblehead Schools homepage
 - This will be ready to go live in January 2025
 - Facilities Subcommittee-Sarah Fox
 - Village-Light in the front parking lot that fell
 - Brown School- Fence in the back is providing a safety concern
 - Facilities subcommittee is working with the town to see about adding a crosswalk and a stop sign as you exit the Brown School
 - Policy Subcommittee-Jennifer Schaeffner and Alison Taylor
 - Met last week
 - They are making progress on the School Committee goals as well as a Policy Review
 - The Flag Policy was discussed as well
 - There will be a Student and a Community forum to discuss the Flag Policy
 - They will ask for public comment to ensure that the Community is heard regarding the policy

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- After these forums the committee will follow up with a policy
- METCO Subcommittee-John Robidoux and Alison Taylor
 - There will be another meeting with Caja hopefully in the next couple of weeks

V. Closing Business

a. New Business-School Committee announcements and requests

- Brian Ota asks a question in response to an article he read regarding immigration agents raiding Boston Public Schools and removing undocumented students
 - Has Marblehead Public Schools provided any guidance to Teachers and Principals and how they should handle this situation should it arise?
 - John Robidoux indicates that yes this will be a discussion that will be had so that we are prepared for if this happens in the future

b. Correspondence

Meeting is adjourned at 7:56PM by Ms. Schaeffner

Respectfully Submitted,
Allison McMahon, Secretary
Marblehead School Committee

Draft



Michele Carlson
Principal

Lindsay Donaldson
Assistant Principal

Marblehead High School

2 Humphrey Street
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Dan Richards
Assistant Principal

To: Marblehead School Committee
John Robidoux, Interim Superintendent

From: Michele Carlson

Date: January 29, 2025

Subject: Program of Studies 2025-2026, Updates

Introduction

Below are the annual updates to the Marblehead High School Program of Studies. These revisions update graduation requirements for the class of 2029, enhance access to upper-level courses by reducing barriers, expand Advanced Placement offerings, remove low-enrollment courses, and continue to phase out CP2 general education levels in math and science.

Graduation Requirement update:

Add

Financial Literacy graduation requirement - one semester (effective for graduating class of 2029)

One semester course required, select one course listed in the Financial Literacy section outlined in the Program of Studies.

Courses which count towards Financial Literacy requirement:

BANKING AND PERSONAL FINANCE - CP1

Level: College Prep 1

Open to Grades: 9 - 12

Course Number: 705

Credits: 2.5

Students will experience real-world financial transactions by working at the high school branch of the National Grand Bank on a rotating schedule. These shifts are during class time when students will be under the supervision of bank personnel. In the classroom, students will study personal finance topics, primarily through the Budget Challenge, a ten-week real-time financial simulation that teaches students to manage finances as independent, working young adults. This course satisfies the optional DECA Membership requirement.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP - CP1

Level: College Prep 1

Open to Grades: 9 - 12

Course Number: 707

Credits: 2.5

Our free enterprise system encourages individuals to own and operate their own businesses. This course is designed for students who want to study the creation, ownership, and management of a business. The entrepreneurial mindset is encouraged through creativity, innovation, and problem-solving. Each student will choose a startup, and through the process of Design Thinking will develop a Business Model Canvas for that business. This course satisfies the optional DECA Membership requirement.

REAL WORLD SKILLS - CP1

Level: CP1

Open to Grades: 11, 12

Course Number: 715

Credits: 2.5

This course is developed for juniors and seniors who are interested in learning key skills they will need to transition into adulthood. Whether they are trying to figure out a career path, exploring college options, or simply seeking to learn how to navigate car insurance, this class will cover all the tools and lessons to help equip students for the next phase of their life. The course will cover 4 key areas of "adulthood"; personal development and goal setting, career/college planning, financial responsibility, and everyday life skills. We will cover professional skills such as resume writing, interviewing basics, and filling out application forms as well as communication skills, financial responsibility, and everyday life skills such as personal health and nutrition, travel, home and vehicle maintenance, taxes, insurance, and all of the things you wish someone taught you when you were in high school.

Rationale: Introduce a financial literacy graduation requirement to help students develop money management skills, promote critical thinking, and prepare them for the future. By engaging in real-life applications, students will gain the practical knowledge necessary for future financial planning, empowering them to make informed financial decisions throughout their lives.

Remove

Graduation requirement language - Business courses from counting towards the 2 semester *Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Practical Arts, Applied Arts* graduation requirement for the class of 2029.

Rationale: There is a new financial literacy graduation requirement for the class of 2029. The business courses that are included as the financial literacy requirement will not count towards Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Applied Arts graduation requirement.

Essex Tech After Dark Program**Remove**

Rationale: The program was eliminated last year due to budget. The class of 2025 is the final class for the Essex Tech After Dark Program.

English Department

Eliminate Courses:

GRAMMAR - CP1/H

Level: College Prep 1

Open to Grades: 10, 11, 12

Course Number: 174 and 175

Credits: 2.5

This course examines the ways in which Modern American English works, how it can be manipulated to include some groups and exclude others, and how it consistently changes while simultaneously being resistant to change. Students will study grammar, regional dialects, slang and profanity, and the language of AI.

This course is recommended to any student who wishes to become a better writer.

NATURE WRITING - CP1/H

Level: College Prep 1

Open to Grades: 10, 11, 12

Course Number: 176 and 177

Credits: 2.5

This outdoor-based, writing-based course examines nature writing before and after Linnaeus developed scientific classification. Students will read and write herbals, bestiaries, and pastorals; they'll read excerpts of early ecologists; importantly, they'll hone the skills necessary to writing about their own local environments. This course is recommended to any student who wants to spend time outdoors or who wants to become a better writer.

Rationale: Courses have not run due to lack of enrollment.

Math

Eliminate:

ALGEBRA 2 - CP2

Level: College Prep 2

Course Number: 334

Credits: 5

Rationale – This is the third year elimination of general education CP2. The general education CP2 level has been eliminated in English and Social Studies.

Science

Eliminate:

PHYSICS - CP2

Level: College Prep 2

Course Number: 533

Credits: 5

Rationale –This is a third year of elimination of general education CP2. The general education CP2 has been eliminated in English and Social Studies.

Visual Arts Department

Change (reduce) prerequisite:

Art Studio 3 - CP1/H

Open to Grades 10, 11,12 - 2 Semester prerequisite

Rationale: Increase access and remove barriers to upper level course offerings by having 2 art class prerequisite instead of 3

Add New Course**AP PHOTOGRAPHY (AP 2-D ART & DESIGN)**

Level: Advanced Placement

Open to Grades: 11, 12

Course Number: TBD

Credits: 5

Prerequisites: Photo 1 and Photo 2

This advanced photography course is designed for experienced, highly motivated, and dedicated photography students seeking to develop a 2-D portfolio and earn college credit. Using an inquiry-based approach, you will create a two-part portfolio: five selected works that showcase your creativity, skills, and ability to integrate materials, processes, and ideas, accompanied by written responses; and a sustained investigation comprising 15 images centered around a theme or question, demonstrating your practice, experimentation, and growth. Students' portfolios will be evaluated based on written inquiries (20%), evidence of practice and revision (30%), creative synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas (30%), and technical execution (20%). At the end of the year, students will submit their portfolios to the AP Board in May.

Rationale: Expanding AP course offerings. Provides an upper level elective option for students that are interested in expanding their photography skills and interests.

Marblehead Public Schools 2025-2026 School Calendar

August/September 2025 (21)				
M	T	W	Th	F
25	26	27	28	29
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

October 2025 (21)				
M	T	W	Th	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

November 2025 (16)				
M	T	W	Th	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

December 2025 (17)				
M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

January 2026 (19)				
M	T	W	Th	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

- August**
- 22 New Teacher Orientation
 - 25-26 Teacher Prof. Dev.
 - 27 **First Day of School**
Grades PreK - 12
 - 29 No School
- September**
- 1 No School - Labor Day
 - 23-24 No School - Rosh Hashanah
- October**
- 2 No School - Yom Kippur
 - 13 No School - Indigenous Peoples' Day
 - 22 Early Release gr. PK-12
Prof. Dev.
- November**
- 5 Early Release gr. PK-8
Conferences (full days gr. 9-12)
 - 10 No School -
Teacher Prof. Dev. gr. PreK-12
 - 11 No School - Veterans Day
 - 12 Early Release gr. PK-8
Conferences (full days gr. 9-12)
 - 26 Early Release gr. PK-12
 - 27-28 No School - Thanksgiving Break
- December**
- 23 Early Release gr. PK-12
 - 24-31 No School - December Break
- January**
- 1-2 No School - Dec/Jan Break
 - 5 Students return to school
 - 19 No School -
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
 - 28 Early Release gr. PK-12
Prof. Dev.
- February**
- 16-20 No School - February Break
- March**
- 13 No School -
Teacher Prof. Dev. gr. PreK-12
- April**
- 3 Early Release gr. PK-12
Good Friday
 - 20-24 No School - Spring Break
- May**
- 13 Early Release gr. PK-12
Prof. Dev.
 - 25 No School - Memorial Day
- June**
- 17 Last Day for Students and Staff
Early Release for Students

February 2026 (15)				
M	T	W	Th	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27

March 2026 (21)				
M	T	W	Th	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

April 2026 (17)				
M	T	W	Th	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

May 2026 (20)				
M	T	W	Th	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

June 2026 (13)				
M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

	No School for Students – Professional Development or Conferences		No School for Students and Teachers/School Year Staff - holiday or vacation break
	First Day of School for all students		Early Release Days due to Prof. Dev., Conferences, or before a break
	Last Day of School for students - 180 days		185 th day of school for students if needed for cancellations



Marblehead Public Schools

Budget Hearing for FY26 Superintendent's Proposed Budget February 27, 2025

John J. Robidoux, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Michael Pfifferling, Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations
Julia Ferreira, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning
LisaMarie Ippolito, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services



Fiscal Year (FY26) Proposed Budget

We have requested a fiscally responsible, level-services budget of \$49,120,285. This represents an increase of \$2,361,174 or 5.05% over our current operational budget of \$46,759,111.

FY26 Budget/Operational Goals

- **Develop a fiscally responsible level-services budget incorporating feedback and input from administrative stakeholders providing a clear understanding of what is required to educate Marblehead students.**
- **Ensure all schools have appropriate staffing and resources in place to meet the needs of all learners.**
- **Utilize individual School Improvement Plans to align fiscally and operationally with “District Plan for Success” (Future District Improvement Plan) .**
- **Collaborate and clearly communicate our goals with staff, parents, and community stakeholders.**
- **Provide a budget based upon data-informed decisions that focuses on academic rigor and high student achievement.**

FY26 Budget Process

- **Collecting and reviewing data which informs utilization of staff. This data will be used to determine efficiencies as we move through 25-26 SY into the 26-27 SY.**
- **Review of vacant positions to ensure we are working diligently to fill with permanent employees and/or to determine the need for reallocation or discontinuation of positions.**
- **Addition of staff within this level-services budget requires reduction of other staffing for zero net gain.**
- **Moved the custodial positions from “central administration” to the schools within which they work.**
- **Worked to maximize staffing and resources to ensure rigor and student achievement are our priority within the backdrop of social/emotional learning.⁴**

FY26 Budget Assumptions

During the FY26 Budget Development, the following assumptions were made with regard to Salaries, Supplies, Contracted Services, Utilities, Curriculum, and Special Education Out of District obligations.

- **Increase all Salary Steps / Lanes as indicated by settled Collective Bargaining Agreements for FY26 (SY 2025-2026).**
- **Increase non-represented employees by 2% COLA.**
- **Increase Supply and Contracted Service lines by 2% unless otherwise specified. Principals, directors and departments were permitted to increase and decrease individual lines, provided the net increase did not exceed 2%.**
- **Increase Utilities by 4%.**
- **\$200,000 investment in Curriculum refresh cycle.**
- **Increase Special Education Out of District Tuitions and Transportation to align with known expenses and DESE approved increases.**

M Level-Services budget made possible

Based upon ongoing collaboration, the Town Accountant, Town Administrator, Finance Committee and Select Board, have indicated that the town will provide a funding increase of \$2,361,174 which will allow the District to ensure provision of appropriate staffing and resources to meet our students' needs while providing high caliber education for the 2025-2026 SY within a level-services budget.



FY 27-28 Budget Considerations

Contractual obligations of the CBAs for FY27 (+3%) and FY28 (+3.5%) will drive much of the discussion as we move forward and will *likely* result in staff reductions and/or the need for a proposition 2 ½ override in order to meet those fiscal year obligations.

Continued review and reenvisioning of special education programming to assist with staffing efficiencies, resource allocation and reduction in the need for out-of-district programming for students.



Capital Improvement Requests

Item	Description	Cost
Glover Cafeteria HVAC	Air Conditioning	\$70,000
Glover Playground	New Structure	\$120,000
Reupholster PAC Seating	Cosmetic	\$140,000
Paint PAC	Cosmetic	\$200,000
Special Education 7D Van	Rolling Stock	\$77,458
Feasibility Study	Early Childhood Center/Eveleth School usage	\$125,000
Debt Exclusion	MHS Roof Project	\$8,610,602

Purpose of this document

To provide information to the public on topics that are timely in relation to the Marblehead School District.

What are the Roles and Responsibilities of the School Committee; [Massachusetts General Laws \(MGL\) Section 37](#) :

According to this law, the school committee in each city and town and each regional school district shall have the power to select and to terminate the superintendent, shall review and approve budgets for public education in the district, and shall establish educational goals and policies for the schools in the district consistent with the requirements of law and statewide goals and standards established by the board of education. The school committee in each city, town and regional school district may select a superintendent jointly with other school committees and the superintendent shall serve as the superintendent of all of the districts that selected him.

What are the Roles and responsibilities of the Superintendent: [MGL Section 59](#)

According to this law, the school committee of a town not in a superintendency union or district shall employ a superintendent of schools and fix his compensation. A superintendent employed under this section or section sixty or sixty-three shall manage the system in a fashion consistent with state law and the policy determinations of that school committee. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, the school committee may also establish and appoint positions of assistant or associate superintendents, who shall report to the superintendent, and the school committee shall fix the compensation paid to such assistant or associate superintendents. The school committee shall approve or disapprove the hiring of said positions. Such approval by the school committee of the recommendation shall not be unreasonably withheld; provided, however, that upon the request of the superintendent the school committee shall provide an explanation of disapproval.

I have a problem with my school, Is the School Committee the appropriate body to address it?

All complaints and concerns should be addressed in accordance with [policy KE](#) which outlines the chain of command for addressing problems.

When should I contact the SC?

We encourage the public to reach out to the School Committee at any time to share feedback and suggestions regarding anything that is under our purview. For concerns or complaints please reference [policy KE](#).

When do your SCHOOL COMMITTEE meetings take place?

Typically held first and third Thursday of the month at 6pm during the school year with few exceptions. All meetings are [posted](#).

What are School Committee [sub committee](#) meetings?

The School Committee creates sub committees which are small groups of school committee members and others that address specific topics and make recommendations to the full school committee.

When are sub-committee Meetings held during the Day?

They are scheduled during the workday as they often involve our administrative staff who provide subject matter expertise to our sub committees. They may be recorded and posted at the School Committee web site. Meeting minutes will also be posted to the School Committee website.

Do I have an opportunity to speak at the [School Committee meetings](#)?

The Marblehead School Committee provides a [public comment period](#) at most School Committee meetings. Each speaker is given a time limit so that no one speaker dominates the public comment time period.

The School Committee meeting is a meeting in front of the public not a meeting with the public.

What is proper protocol for public participation?

Comments from citizens generally go through the chair at the school committee meeting, school committees use the public comment period as an opportunity to listen to citizen concerns. Due to Open Meeting Laws, school committee members do not debate public comment.

The School Committee may respond to public comment by seeking additional information or by delegating the authority to investigate the issue to the superintendent or his/her designee.

Where can I find out more information about the School Committee?

School Committee meetings are recorded and available at our [YouTube channel](#); Agendas, materials and minutes are available [here](#).

How does the School Committee set its meeting rules?

The Marblehead School Committee [Meeting Rules](#) follows the [Massachusetts General Law](#) our meetings are guided by Roberts Rules of Order. These describe which describes how meetings are run, how motions and votes are taken, and other procedures.

What is [Executive Session](#) and when is it used?

Executive Sessions mean that the SC is going into a private session.

Many questions rise over why and when the SC goes into Executive Sessions. Executive Sessions can only be entered for *very specific reasons* such as confidential personnel issues, contract bargaining strategy updates by the bargaining subcommittee, and to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property, to name a few. Executive sessions are governed by [MA state law](#)

Where can I find Budget Information

The current fiscal year budget and future planning documents are located under the Marblehead Public Schools Web page, under this link: [Budget information.](#)