

**Medford Public Schools  
Medford, Massachusetts**

**Medford School Committee  
Curriculum Sub Committee  
October 13, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Paulette Van der Kloot in the Center for Civic and Social Responsibility/MHS Library at 7:00 p.m. In addition to the chairperson, subcommittee members Mea Muston and Robert E. Skerry Jr. were present. Also school committee members Kathy Kreatz, and Erin DiBenedetto. Superintendent Roy Belson, Assistant Superintendent Diane Caldwell, Director of Curriculum Bernadette Ricciardelli, Director of Humanities Nicole Chiesa, Director of Mathematics Carolyn Joy, Director of Science Rocco Cieri, Director of Pupil Services Kathleen Medaglio, Director of ELL Leslie Trotta, all school principals, teacher Nicole Sanford, parents: Alexandra Laurie, Alicia Caron, Melanie McLaughlin, Michelle Ciccolo and Jen Lewis.

All rose to salute the Flag.

Mrs. Van der Kloot explained the purpose of the meeting was to review and discuss the 2016 State Test Results.

The participants were provided with reports on the test results in all areas. (see attached). Specific information on each area is found in the attached reports.

Deputy Nelson and Assistant Superintendent Caldwell discussed the state testing and the variables affecting the testing. They explained that tonight's discussion would focus on subgroup data for PARCC grades 3-8 and MCAS. Deputy Superintendent Nelson introduced Nicole Chiesa, Carolyn Joy and Rocco Cieri. Ms. Caldwell gave a brief history of MCAS. It was also stated that there is no state data available this year.

Nicole Chiesa gave an overview of the ELA MCAS grade 10 results. Superintendent Belson clarified the Asian subgroup population. It is not homogeneous. It includes a wide range of groups from across the continent. It varies from city to city.

Carolyn Joy continued with an overview of the MCAS grade 10 results.

Rocco Cieri presented the science MCAS results for grades 5, 8 and 10. Discussion was held about the difficulty of disaggregating grade 10 science as students were taking different content areas and are in different grade levels. They also discussed the low scores for grade 5. Mr. Cieri said that grade 5 scores were low across the board and he plans to research programs this year. They also need to look at the budget for materials/supplies and additional professional development for elementary students.

A review of PARCC ELA and Mathematics for grades 3-8 followed with a review of the highlights and subgroup data. Discussion was held regarding computer based testing at the Andrews School and paper testing. It was determined that more time is needed for elementary staff to learn how to use computers when testing. Dr. Ricciardelli explained the PARCC assessments. This is Medford's first year. Students are required to not only answer the question but to also explain how they got there. Ms. DiBenedetto asked about comparison of like districts to Medford. A report will be generated. Ms. Nelson described the five point scale PARCC uses and the four point MCAS scale. Ms. Nelson also reviewed student report inconsistencies around the following change in numbers between levels, plus or minus 7.4 range and the explanation of the legend.

Ms. Van der Kloot asked what are the take aways from this evening. Superintendent Belson said that we need to get better, improve science and math scores, review and purchase a new elementary science program and look hard at our specialized populations. There is a lot of transition statewide. State is still sorting it out. Ms. Mustone would like to look at the Brooks School to collaborate on effective teaching strategies around science. The number of ELL students at the Brooks is much less than the others schools.

Testing in 2017 was discussed. The high school will continue to use MCAS. MCAS 2.0 is untimed, no long compositions, will resemble PARCC questions. Grades 4 and 8 online testing of all students. The Andrews will be online testing for all grades. A meeting with Revere and Burlington Public Schools is planned to look at infrastructure needs for technology.

Ms. McLaughlin raised concerns around students with disabilities taking MCAS 2.0. It will be discussed in the weeks ahead.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paulette Van der Kloot  
Chairperson