

Regular Meeting
April 3, 2017
School Committee Meeting
Council Chambers

The regular meeting of the Medford School Committee was called to order by Mayor Burke in the City Hall Council Chambers at 7:05 p.m. Those present were Ms. Cugno, Ms. DiBenedetto, Ms. Kreatz, Ms. Mustone, Mr. Skerry, Ms. Van der Kloot, Mayor Burke and Superintendent Belson.

On the motion of Mr. Skerry seconded by Ms. Kreatz that the minutes of March 20, 2017 be approved:

Vote:

Yes: 7
No: 0
Absent: 0

On the motion of Mr. Skerry seconded by Ms. Kreatz that the Bills/Transfer of Funds be approved:

Voted: That the Bills/Transfer of Funds be approved.

Roll Call:

Yea: 7 Cugno, DiBenedetto, Kreatz, Mustone, Skerry, Van der Kloot, Burke
Nay: 0
Absent: 0

On the motion of Mr. Skerry seconded by Ms. Van der Kloot that the Payrolls be approved:

Voted: That the Payrolls be approved

Roll Call:

Yea: 7 Cugno, DiBenedetto, Kreatz, Mustone, Skerry, Van der Kloot, Burke
Nay: 0
Absent: 0

Community Participation

Joe Viglione, 59 Garfield St. Medford was given permission to speak. Mr. Viglione asked when the hard date opening is scheduled. He also questioned when the studio can be implemented to the community. Mayor Burke answered that there is no date for opening. The contractors are scheduled to be done by the end of April.

Report on SBIRT Program

Director of Health Services Toni Vento presented the report. She reported in January 2016, Governor Baker signed a law that requires public schools to screen students for risk behaviors and required that screening be implemented beginning school year 2016-2017. This law is named "An Act relative to preventing adolescent substance abuse by expanding SBIRT." SBIRT refers to a screening questionnaire and stands for **Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral to Treatment**. In order to help prevent students from starting to use substances, or to intervene with early substance use, the counseling and

nursing staff at Medford High, Medford Vocational Technical High and Curtis-Tufts High Schools completed this interview-based screening for 316 grade 9 students. This screening is based on the most commonly used substance abuse screening tool for adolescents in Massachusetts, the CRAFFT. Parents were notified of the screening schedule and offered the option to opt-out of screening; 5 parents notified the SBIRT coordinator of their desire to opt-out of screening. Student screening sessions were scheduled during health and physical education classes and were conducted **confidentially in private, one-on-one sessions** by the school nurse and counseling staff. All students received educational materials and a resource list for school support staff at the time of their screening. The enclosed tables provide a detailed description of the screening program. In summary, 316 students were screened. 277 students screened negative on the pre-screening questions, meaning they did not report risky behaviors. These students received positive reinforcement for their healthy choices. 39 students screened positive on the CRAFFT questions, meaning they reported risky behaviors. The most frequent reported risky behavior was “Ridden in a car with someone who was drinking or using drugs” as reported by 32 of 39 students. These 39 students participated in a brief motivational interview with the screener. Of the 39 positives, 7 students received referral to an in-school counselor for further exploration and discussion of their lifestyle choices. 2 of the 7 students refused the referral. This data is useful in supporting alcohol and drug prevention programs that are currently being offered in our school wellness curriculum. It mirrors the outcome data from 2015 “Communities That Care” surveys conducted by Team Medford, Medford Board of Health.

Discussion:

Ms. DiBenedetto thanked Ms. Vento and her staff. She stressed the importance of open communication with students. She asked out of the 32 students where any parents notified. Ms. Vento answered that it is confidential they only would notify parents if the students were going to harm themselves. Ms. Cugno asked how do we try to help students that don't come forward. Ms. Vento said the students have to be certain of the confidentiality and keeping them aware of who they can go to at any time. Ms. Krenz suggested doing a presentation to incoming freshmen and outgoing seniors regarding distractive driving, drinking and drugs. Ms. Vento answered that all these components are rolled into the Michigan Model curriculum. The pre-prom program also reinforces this. Ms. Van der Kloot said that her concern is with the 32 of 39 students that were in a car with drinking or drug use. She said that by junior and senior year it is too late; we should be targeting freshmen. Ms. Vento again stressed that this is taught to freshmen with the Michigan Model curriculum. Ms. DiBenedetto asked the Superintendent to check with the PTO to see if the Yellow Dress program is still happening. Ms. DiBenedetto requested that the PTO's be invited to a future meeting to inform the committee of what they are doing for the schools in the district.

On the motion of Ms. DiBenedetto seconded by Mr. Skerry to accept the report and place on file:

Vote:

Yes: 7
No: 0
Absent: 0

On the motion of Ms. Mustone to take papers out of order:

Vote:

Yes: 7
No: 0
Absent: 0

Old Business:

Report on Safe Routes to School Program

This report provides you with information on a joint project between the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) and the City of Medford. The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program encourages public elementary and middle school students to walk and bicycle to school safely through education and infrastructure improvements such as sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, traffic calming, signals, signage and bike lanes. (Please find detailed information on this program attached to this introductory cover memo.) As a first project in Medford, MassDOT working with the Mayor's Office has identified the Brooks School area. The specifics on selection of the Brooks are contained in the full report. This project will work in conjunction with the "Complete Streets Grant" that was previously presented to the School Committee. The value of the SRTS grant to Medford is projected to be \$900,000. The SRTS implementation is currently scheduled for FY 2020. We will begin exploring the best way to incorporate all of our schools into the program. Liz White and Syrah McGivern gave a brief overview of the project.

Discussion:

Ms. DiBenedetto noted that not all schools are participating and that this should be made a priority with all principals. She also asked for an update on the DCR crossing guard. Superintendent Belson said that they have no new commitment from DCR. Ms. Krenz commented that the timing light at the crosswalk has been adjusted so there is ample time to cross. Ms. Cugno asked if other schools will be able to apply for this grant. Ms. McGivern answered that the Columbus also applied but only one school can be selected so they will apply again.

On the motion of Mr. Skerry seconded by Ms. Van der Kloot to accept report and place on file:

Vote:

Yes: 7
No: 0
Absent: 0

On the motion to revert back to regular order of business.

Vote:

Yes: 7
No: 0
Absent: 0

On the motion of Ms. Van der Kloot to take papers out of order to discuss middle school field trips:

Vote:

Yes: 7
No: 0

Absent: 0

Addendum #1

Approval of Middle School Field Trips

Each year the middle schools plan for grade 8 students an overnight trip to New York. This year both schools have planned their trips which will take place in June. The McGlynn Middle School trip will take place June 2 and 3 and the Andrews Middle School trip is planned for June 9-11.

Discussion:

Ms. Cugno asked what the cost is for McGlynn students. Principal Edwards answered \$320 per student. The Andrews School has 100 students signed up and the MCGlynn School has 49 students. Mr. Skerry asked if there is a contingency plan for cancellation. Principal D'Alleva assured him that there is. Ms. Cugno asked Principal Edwards to provide a copy of the itinerary. Ms. DiBenedetto asked if any students are in need of medical services. Both principals answered not this year.

On the motion of Mr. Skerry seconded by Ms. Van der Kloot to approve the field trips to New York:

Roll Call:

Yea: 7 Cugno, DiBenedetto, Kreatz, Mustone, Skerry, Van der Kloot, Burke
Nay: 0
Absent: 0

On the motion to revert back to the regular order of business:

Vote:

Yes: 7
No: 0
Absent: 0

Report on Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

Director of Health Services Toni Vento presented the report. According to the American Heart Association Guidelines cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and defibrillation saves lives. The 2010 Guidelines say that rescuers need to focus on high quality CPR, which when administered at the proper depth and rate can potentially save a victim. Used in conjunction with an automated external defibrillator (AED), CPR moves blood through the heart and into the heart muscles providing crucial help to the ineffective heart.

In January 2017, Governor Charles Baker signed "An Act Requiring Automatic External Defibrillators in Schools", effective July 2018. This law requires the following elements:

- A school shall, subject to available funding, provide and maintain on site, in each facility where instruction is provided, at least 1 automated external defibrillator, AED.
- The commissioner of elementary and secondary education, in consultation with the commissioner of public health, shall establish guidelines on the number of AED providers that shall be on site at a school to ensure ready and appropriate access for use of an AED during an emergency.

- If a school is used for school or district sponsored or approved curricular or extracurricular events or activities including, but not limited to, school sponsored athletic contests, the school officials and administrators responsible for the school facility or athletic contest shall ensure the presence of at least 1 AED and AED provider.
- If a school sponsored athletic event is held at a site other than a school facility, the school officials shall ensure that an AED and AED provider is on-site.

Medford Public Schools Current Capacities:

- Every school building has a minimum of 1 AED in the building, accessible to the general public. AEDs are stored in well-marked and unlocked, wall-mounted cabinets. Upon opening the door an alarm is activated, alerting others in the building that an emergency is in progress.
 - ❖ MHS: 7 AEDs located on 1st, 2nd and 3rd floors, Vocational School office, Pool, Fitness Center and Athletic Trainer's office
 - ❖ AMS: 1 AED located in the 1st floor main office
 - ❖ MMS: 1 AED located on the 2nd floor outside the library
 - ❖ MES: 1 AED located on the 1st floor outside the auditorium
 - ❖ BES: 1 AED located on the 2nd floor near the elevator and main office
 - ❖ CES: 1 AED located on the 1st floor outside the cafeteria
 - ❖ RES: 1 AED located on the 1st floor outside the cafeteria
 - ❖ Curtis-Tufts: 1 AED located on the 1st floor main office
- AED units are compatible with Armstrong Ambulance equipment.
- Every school has staff, including nurses, teachers, athletic coaches and administrators, that are certified in CPR and AED use.
- CPR/AED training for MPS staff is provided through generous support by Armstrong Ambulance.
- AED units are serviced and maintained through a contract with Life Support Systems, Dedham, MA.

Enhancements needed to meet recent legislative mandates for schools:

- Purchase of 16 AEDs for use by athletic coaches during off-campus practices and events. Anticipated purchase cost of \$15,200, service and maintenance costs of \$4560 yearly.
- AED Service/Maintenance and Tracking Program (Semi-annual On-site Physical Inspection) includes:
 - ❖ Verify operations of visual indicators and voice prompts
 - ❖ Examine AED housing and battery well for damage
 - ❖ Examine and replace batteries (prior to expiration)
 - ❖ Examine electrode pad cables and verify electrode pad package is sealed without damage
 - ❖ Replacement of adult and pediatric electrode pads prior to expiration

- ❖ Inspect AED wall cabinet (alarm battery and connections)
- ❖ Upgrade AED software to meet new guidelines and manufacturer updates
- ❖ Post-event service and data reporting including data retrieval and replacement of adult/pediatric electrode pads, lithium batteries and CPR/AED responder kit
- ❖ Provide loaner AED if an existing AED is unserviceable
- ❖ Replace AED if an existing AED is unserviceable due to unit recall.

Long Term Development/Goals and Objectives

- Maintain CPR/AED certified staff at all school buildings and sponsored events.
- Provide access to AEDs in all school buildings, athletic events and school sponsored events.
- Provide CPR/AED training for staff.
- Provide and maintain appropriate number of AEDs as determined by the commissioner of elementary and secondary education, in consultation with the commissioner of public health.
- Explore grant funding opportunities for reimbursement of AED purchase costs.

Sean Mangan from Armstrong Ambulance provided a demonstration of the AED.

Discussion:

Ms. Van der Kloot asked if there was an AED in city hall. Mayor Burke answered yes in the lobby. Ms. DiBenedetto stated that we need to purchase these now and asked if there is any way we can buy them now for this year. Superintendent Belson said that they are proposing that the athletic trainer and coaches take an AED to the game now.

On the motion of Ms. DiBenedetto to purchase all needed AED's now without waiting:

Vote:

Yes: 7
 No: 0
 Absent: 0

On the motion of Ms. DiBenedetto seconded by Ms. Mustone that spring coaches have these devices with them:

Roll Call:

Yea: 7 Cugno, DiBenedetto, Kreatz, Mustone, Skerry, Van der Kloot, Burke
 Nay: 0
 Absent: 0

Ms. Cugno asked about proms and banquets. Ms. Vento said this needs to be questioned when booking a venue – do they have a device and where is it located. Ms. Cugno suggested the advisor bring one. Ms. DiBenedetto asked for a follow up report, to be added to list of requested reports, when the devices are ordered and the total cost. She

also stated that she is concerned that the Curtis Tufts only has one trained employee. She would like an updated list after the training.

On the motion of Ms. DiBenedetto seconded by Ms. Van der Kloot to accept the report and place on file:

Vote:

Yes: 7
No: 0
Absent: 0

Pre Budget Health Services

Supervisor Toni Vento presented the report. She stated that the complexity of school nursing has expanded profoundly in the last 20 years. As recently as 20 years ago, there were few students with chronic health illnesses such as diabetes, epilepsy, asthma, complex cardiac disease, or cancer in our school populations. Because of advances in pediatric medicine, students with these illnesses live and eventually attend school. New mandates from the Department of Public Health for student screenings also expand the responsibilities of the school nurse. She briefly listed the accomplishments for the school year. Ms. Vento continued with the use of funding for school year 2016-2017. She is asking to replace the FTE position lost to a pending retirement and to increase the staff at the Roberts by adding a .6 position and a .4 at the Curtis Tufts. Additional funds will be needed to support the contractual agreements for nurse professional development and professional liability should the 2 FTE positions be received.

On the motion of Ms. Cugno seconded by Mr. Skerry to accept the report and place on file:

Vote:

Yes: 7
No: 0
Absent: 0

Pre Budget Foreign Language

Rita DiCarlo, Director of Foreign Language presented the report. She gave an overview of the importance of foreign language study in today's world. Ms. DiCarlo continued with an update of the current foreign language program including programs held at the elementary, middle and high school. She reported on the department's highlights for the year, staffing needs and funding requests for next year.

Discussion:

Ms. DiBenedetto asked what the average class size is at the middle school level. Mr. D'Alleva answered 24-25. He noted that it is a balancing act to schedule the foreign language classes at the middle school. Mr. Skerry asked if students request classes in Chinese or German. Ms. DiCarlo answered that a survey was recently done and the results were Spanish, Italian, French and Portuguese.

On the motion of Ms. Van der Kloot seconded by Mr. Skerry the report was accepted and placed on file.

Vote:

Yes: 7
No: 0
Absent: 0

Pre Budget - Mathematics

Director of Mathematics Carolyn Joy stated that the mathematics program supports the teaching and learning of mathematics in grades kindergarten through twelve in the Medford Public Schools. Support includes supervision and evaluation of instruction across grade levels, analysis of student data and review of the effectiveness of program materials. She said that the math curriculum is standards-based with a shared emphasis on math practice and content. Math courses for special populations are aligned to the district's curriculum. Ms. Joy reported on the department's highlights for the year, staffing needs and funding requests for next year.

On the motion of Ms. Cugno seconded by Mr. Skerry to accept the report and place on file:

Vote:

Yes: 7
No: 0
Absent: 0

Update Report on Personnel Hiring September 1, 2016 to March 29, 2017

Pursuant to a School Committee report request please find attached a comprehensive listing of regular personnel newly hired between September 1, 2016 and March 29, 2017. The report is listed alphabetically and identifies the unit, department location, date of hire, and replacement/new position status.

The report identifies 88 different transactions as follows:

Administration	2
Teachers	39
Paraprofessionals	25
Kindergarten Aides	4
Secretary	1
Non Unit	13
Food Service	2
Lunch Attendants	<u>2</u>
	88

Non-unit personnel include:

- 10 instructional support (permanent substitutes)
- 1 BCBA (Behavior Specialist)
- 1 Kids Corner Staff
- 1 Foreign Language Aide (CASIT)

On the motion of Mr. Skerry seconded by Ms. Cugno to accept the report and place on file:

Vote:

Yes: 7
No: 0
Absent: 0

New Business

School Committee Resolution

Be it resolved, that the Medford School Committee express its sincere condolences to the family of Steven Honeycutt. Mr. Honeycutt was an active member of the community who served on the city's disabilities commission. He was a strong supporter of the Medford Public Schools.

School Committee Resolution

Be it resolved, that the Medford School Committee express its sincere condolences to the family of Stephen Devaux. Mr. Devaux was the brother of former Superintendent Philip Devaux. Mr. Devaux was a 1964 graduate of Medford High School.

School Committee Resolution

Be it resolved, that the Medford School Committee express its sincere condolences to the family of Frank LoScuito. Mr. LoScuito was a former Medford Public Schools custodian for many years.

School Committee Resolution

Be it resolved that the Medford School Committee express its sincere condolences to the family of Senator Kenneth Donnelly. Senator Donnelly lost his courageous battle with brain cancer on Sunday.

A moment of silence was held.

Be it resolved, that the Medford School Committee express its congratulations to Director of Pupil Services Kathy Medaglio on the birth of her first grandchild, Reese James McMahon. Reese is the son of social studies teacher Dana McMahon.

On the motion of Mr. Skerry seconded by Ms. Van der Kloot the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Roll Call:

Yea: 7 Cugno, DiBenedetto, Kreatz, Mustone, Skerry, Van der Kloot, Burke
Nay: 0
Absent: 0

Respectfully submitted:

Paulette Van der Kloot
Secretary

