

Regular Meeting  
October 17, 2016  
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 7:00 p.m. Those present were Ms. Cugno, Ms. DiBenedetto, Ms. Kreatz, Ms. Mustone, Mr. Skerry, Ms. Van der Kloot, Mayor Burke and Superintendent Belson.

Columbus School Student Officers Inauguration Ceremony

Assistant Superintendent Diane Caldwell stated that Mr. Plati's fourth grade class at the Columbus Elementary School learned about elections this fall. After completing a social studies unit on government and citizenship the class held its own election. The students followed the same procedures used in our national presidential election. There was a primary and then a final election. The process began with nominations. There were nine students nominated for president and three for vice president. The two top vote getters for president and vice president entered into the final election. Secret ballots were cast and Mirah Mattull was elected President and Alexandra Lombardo as Vice President. The project was a huge success. The students took the oath of office performed by Mayor Burke. The President gave her inaugural address to the committee.

On the motion of Ms. Van der Kloot seconded by Ms. DiBenedetto to suspend the rules to take the papers out of order

Vote:

Yes: 7  
No: 0  
Absent: 0

Presentation of MASS Student Achievement Awards

Superintendent Belson presented certificates of academic excellence to Medford High School and Medford Vocational Technical High School students from the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents. Superintendent Belson introduced Zachary Maffeo a member of the Class of 2017 at Medford High School. He is a consistent honor roll student with a GPA of 4.07. Zachary is interested in environment studies and plans to apply to several small colleges with environment programs. Zachary is a captain of the swim team, a former member of the crew team as well as a member of the Roots and Shoots Club which works for environmental change in the school and community, and a member of the Mustangs of the Fells Club which promotes outdoor education. He participated in the Brainstart entrepreneurship program last year at MHS and is a past Triple-Crown award winner for outstanding academic and civic achievements at Medford High School. Zachary is a runner who participates in the Medford Jingle Bell Run fundraiser and last year ran the Burlington marathon. In addition to his sports and clubs, Zachary works at the Medford High School pool as a lifeguard. Superintendent Belson continued with Valery Sajous, a senior in the Construction Craft Laborers who is ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in his senior class. A hard worker and always eager to learn, Valery has spent the last three years learning many skills in the Construction & Carpentry field. Last year, Valery

was a medal winner in Masonry at the Regional SkillsUSA competition. He spent the summer working with a general contractor and recently was hired at Cleveland Fence Company in Stoneham, MA, where he will work for his cooperative education job. His teachers report that during his time at MVTHS, he has been a consistent and committed student and a great asset to the Construction Craft Laborers program. Valery's long term goal is to become a General Contractor. His immediate goals are to join and work for the Construction or Carpentry union while pursuing a degree in Construction Management. The students were presented with certificates from MASS.

On the motion the report was accepted and placed on file.

Vote:

Yes: 7  
No: 0  
Absent: 0

On the motion of Ms. Van der Kloot seconded by Ms. DiBenedetto to revert back to the regular order of business

Vote:

Yes: 7  
No: 0  
Absent: 0

On the motion of Mr. Skerry seconded by Ms. Van der Kloot that the minutes of September 26, 2016 be approved:

Vote:

Yes: 7  
No: 0  
Absent: 0

On the motion of Mr. Skerry seconded by Ms. Cugno 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. DiBenedetto 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

Curriculum Sub Committee Meeting Minutes – October 13, 2016

Chairperson Van der Kloot read the minutes. She stated that 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. 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.

Discussion:

Ms. DiBenedetto asked how ELA and math scores compare with the previous year. Superintendent Belson said that comparisons with the state were presented and showed Ms. DiBenedetto where to find the information. Ms. DiBenedetto would like to add district comparisons to the list of requested reports.

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

Vote:

Yes: 7  
No: 0  
Absent: 0

Ms. DiBenedetto congratulated all involved in getting the district to Level 2. She is very proud and happy for this accomplishment.

Community Participation

Melanie McLaughlin, Co-Chair SEPAC was given permission to speak. Ms. McLaughlin began by saying that she attended the Lawrence Public Schools and she has a daughter with Down's syndrome. She commented that at the end of the school year she proposed recommendations and a Committee of the Whole meeting was to be scheduled but it has not taken place yet. She said that she has been contacted by many parents after the last meeting. She stated that all students include SWD and ELL. It is all students. Superintendent Belson said explained the high needs category saying that one student can be in more than one category. Ms. McLaughlin continued her overview of sped data concerns. She said in summary substantial achievement gap between typical students and high needs students is a significant issue. Full inclusion rates are less than the state average; drop-out rates are higher than state average and substantially separate setting higher than state average. She said that high needs students can be economically disadvantaged, students with disabilities and/or ELL. She said that tonight she is asking the committee to create and endorse a high needs sub-committee and asking to pilot an autism unit "Understanding Our Differences" at the Brooks.

Discussion:

Ms. Cugno commented on the piloting of our Understanding Differences at the Brooks? She said she wasn't aware of this and asked why the school committee was not notified. Ms. McLaughlin said that this is a two hour directive on teaching and learning. Ms. Cugno asked if it was brought before them. Superintendent Belson said that there is too much information for this forum; lets take this to a Committee of the Whole for further discussion. Ms. Van der Kloot agreed that a Committee of the Whole is the way to begin and then go to a subcommittee if necessary.

On the motion of Ms. DiBenedetto seconded by Mr. Skerry to move this item to a Committee of the Whole and schedule within the next two months

Vote:

Yes: 7  
No: 0  
Absent: 0

## Report on Elementary School Grants

Assistant Superintendent Diane Caldwell presented the report. She reported that several grants were awarded to teachers in our elementary schools. Listed below is a description of the grants and their recipients.

Joanne McKay, a third grade teacher at the Roberts Elementary School applied for a grant through the Medford Educational Foundation during the spring of 2016. She was awarded \$600.00 to host a math night for families at the Roberts. Math activities will be for grades kindergarten through grade five. There will be math board games and larger man- made games. An example of games made by staff include: bean bag hopscotch, dance grids and multiplication basketball.

Ms. Micahela Kelly, JP Cormio and Christina Federico are collaborating and brainstorming different ideas for the math evening event which takes place on Thursday, November 17, 2016 at the Roberts Elementary School.

In addition, Katie Rockwell, an EL teacher at the Columbus Elementary School was also awarded a Medford Educational Foundation grant for something called *Enhanced ELL Solution*, a program produced by the makers of Reading A to Z. The program has several computer-based components that will support EL students, including support for content vocabulary (math, science, and social studies) and additional printable readers that students can take home for additional reading practice. This program will complement the resources we already have in the *Journeys* program. Also, there are language assessments designed specifically for EL's. There are qualitative measures that we can use to assess English development on an interim basis (between annual ACCESS administrations). The additional data we will collect using these assessments should help us to make EL instruction even more targeted to students' greatest areas of need. In short, the program that we purchase with this grant will allow us to offer even more reading resources targeted for EL students and to monitor the program of ELD across the four language domains (speaking, listening, reading, and writing).

Cynthia Griffin, a grade three teacher at the McGlynn Elementary School wrote and received a grant for \$200.00 toward a school bus for a field trip to Plymouth Plantation. This grant is offered once per year for any k-12 school that applies in early September and is provided through the Massachusetts Cultural Council. The trip must be to a nonprofit cultural activity or institution within Massachusetts.

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

Vote:

Yes: 7  
No: 0  
Absent: 0

## Report on TB Response and Follow-up Action Steps

Superintendent Belson reported that from the outset we have worked closely with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Medford Board of Health, and our own medical staff to properly, effectively, and efficiently respond to the situation.

There will be an informational session at the High School/Caron Theater on Thursday October 20, 2016 beginning at 7:00 p.m. The session will be conducted by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health who will provide information on TB and our response. They will answer questions regarding this topic. On Wednesday, October 26, 2016 the D.P.H. will conduct TB testing of individuals who have been identified as being in close contact with the individual who was diagnosed with TB. The specific test that will be used is the T-Spot TB (IGRA). This is a very reliable blood test. If the test is positive arrangements will be made for a chest x-ray. Antibiotics can be given to help

prevent a person from becoming sick. If the test is negative a second blood test will be given after winter vacation. The second test is needed to determine if infection occurred but was too recent to be detected in October. The D.P.H. has identified 208 persons for testing. The breakdown is as follows:

- MHS students           194
- Middle school students   5
- Adult personnel           14

Individuals may choose to have the test conducted by their own private physician. Insurance will cover this choice. If the test is done at school there will be no charge. Please see the attached letters and forms providing information to parents and staff and identify the choices for testing. Since the original case was diagnosed there have been no further identifications. The D.P.H. procedure will be followed precisely to ensure due diligence.

Discussion:

Supervisor of Health Services Toni Vento said that symptoms of TB include cough, weight loss, fever, chills, night sweats and fatigue. Ms. Cugno asked if you go through your own insurance is there any out of pocket expenses. Superintendent Belson answered that health insurance should cover it. Ms. Cugno asked who determined who is tested. Ms. Vento said that there is a criteria list including length of contact with infected person, if they were in same class, extra-curricular activities, team member and extended close contact with the individual. Mayor Burke suggested filming the session on October 20 so it can be played on television. Ms. Kreatz thanked the Superintendent for calling concerned parents.

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

Vote:

Yes: 7  
No: 0  
Absent: 0

#### Report on DESE Planning for ESSA Accountability System

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) replaces the act No Child Left Behind (NCLB) as the Federal Education legislation. School Year 2016-2017 will be a transition period in preparation for a July 2017 implementation. The key elements of the new act are as follows:

- ESSA comprises nine Title Grants which provide funding to districts and states
- Title IV Grant represents a new funding source which is an allocation grant for districts in the area of student support services.
- Districts and states are required to conform to the requirements of ESSA
- ESSA encourages state agencies to think differently about how best to support low performing schools as the School Improvement Grants are no longer available.

- ESSA minimizes Title 1 prescriptive school and district accountability requirements
- ESSA adds requirements regarding equitable access to effective teachers and eliminates the NCLB “highly qualified” teacher provision.

There is a shift in the focus of the Title II program from highly qualified to reporting on the student learning experience. The new approach focuses on student access to quality educators. DESE will continue to collect highly qualified teacher data for this year. They will establish new guidelines for “out of field” and “inexperienced” teachers under EPPIMS. DESE is still working on the guidelines for ineffective.

Total funding for this year will be about the same with the largest shift in Title IV Student Support. The federal government has readjusted funding levels and our State will receive less money. DESE does not have the FY18 budget and thus they do not know what the exact funding levels will be.

ESSA maintains some requirements associated with the 1965 Act and NCLB but minimizes the prescriptive accountability requirements. There will be an innovative assessment pilot program for districts who want to explore alternative methods for assessment students. DESE will not be applying for these funds but they are happy to partner with district or groups of districts. The definition of supplement has changed and there is currently a debate at the federal level about the new definition. These new regulations are out for public comment. In addition each district will be asked to demonstrate to the State that they are funding their schools at an equitable level. The danger could be that equitable does not necessarily mean equal. The Commissioner hopes that the new law will result in greater transparency around funding. This calendar year represents a transition process.

There will be new accountability requirements under ESSA. Some of the key points of the new system include:

- ESSA maintains the NCLB annual testing requirement
- Retains the 95% assessment participation requirement
- Requires a system of “annual meaningful differentiation” for all public schools
- Requires states to design long term goals and measures of interim progress for all students and sub-groups including a focus on closing the achievement gap
- Requires state to include the following indicators within the new accountability system – academic achievement, measures of student growth for both elementary and middle schools, high school graduation rates, and progress in achieving English proficiency for ELL students
- The system also includes a required indicator which measures school quality but this indicator does not carry the same weight as the four previous indicators.

DESE is considering the elimination of the CPI. There is always a balance between presenting the technical complexity of the CPI with the need to present a complete picture. Another principle is preparing students for success at the next instructional level. At the end of the day DESE wants to know that students leave high school well prepared for college and/or employment. Success at middle school could be judged by their

success at the grade 9 level. How to measure the issue of success at the next level is still under discussion. We will keep you posted as this new system evolves.

Discussion:

Ms. Van der Kloot asked if there is any way to advocate for the five year graduation rate? We have students that take a little longer. Any way the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> year data can be provided. Superintendent Belson said that they can provide the information but the trick is to get the state and the feds to move on this. This needs to be front and center of discussions.

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

Vote:

Yes: 7

No: 0

Absent: 0

Report on Snow Days/School Cancellation Protocols

As we head into the winter season we are prepared to provide comprehensive notifications to parents, students, and the community should conditions require the closing of our schools. Experience tells us that the number of school closings can vary from year to year. Last year we closed school three times, but there have been years when no days were cancelled for inclement weather. The decision to close schools results from a process that evaluates multiple factors. The paramount consideration is student, faculty and staff safety. We must consider not only the storm conditions but also our ability to clean school areas, streets, and sidewalks. We will consult with the weather service, our D.P.W., and public safety officials. We speak with colleagues in neighboring school districts and transportation providers. As you know we must conduct school for 180 days to meet our DESE requirements. Waivers are not given frequently by the state. By contract with the MTA we must complete the school year by June 30<sup>th</sup>. We are mindful that when school is cancelled that it can be a hardship for working parents. Therefore, it is important that parents/guardians begin planning for coverage now in anticipation of closings. We are also aware that for a significant number of students that the schools provide safety, warmth, and nutrition. There are too many latch key children in communities across the state. We will always try to provide the earliest possible notification to families and staff as possible. However, many times storms intensify and conditions are unpredictable and change throughout the night and early morning. Our preference is to let people know the night before but in any case no later than 6:00 a.m. We do not favor delayed openings as they impact bus schedules and generally result in less productive learning days. We do make provisions for unpenalized late student arrivals. When school is cancelled families will be informed through multiple media. Notifications will be posted on both the television listings and websites of Channels 4, 5, 7, Fox and NECN. Closings will also appear on our school website. Robocalls will go to the homes either from principals or the central office. We will be disseminating this information throughout the schools.

Discussion:

Ms. DiBenedetto commented that students could have the opportunity to use snow day to do online learning and she would really like to have further discussion pertaining to online learning and studying at home. She always wants to keep school open if possible. Superintendent Belson asks the older students to help the younger ones and also shovel for their elderly neighbors.

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

Vote:

Yes: 7  
No: 0  
Absent: 0

On the motion of Ms. Van der Kloot seconded by Ms. Cugno to move negotiations and legal matters to the end of the calendar.

Vote:

Yes: 7  
No: 0  
Absent: 0

New Business:

MASC Conference Resolutions:

Resolution 1: Foundation Budget – Superintendent Belson stated that the word “adequacy” is very important as it indicates funding for everyone.

Vote Yes – push adequacy

On the motion of Ms. Cugno seconded by Mr. Skerry to amend the resolution to state “adequacy for all communities”:

Roll Call:

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

Resolution 2: Tax Reform Ballot Question

On motion of Mr. Skerry seconded by Ms. Van der Kloot to approve the resolution

Roll Call:

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

Resolution 3: Charter School Reform

Ms. DiBenedetto stated that she works in a charter school so therefore she abstains from voting.

On the motion of Ms. Van der Kloot seconded by Ms. Cugno to approve the resolution

Roll Call:

Yea: 6 Cugno, Kreatz, Mustone, Skerry, Van der Kloot, Burke  
Nay: 0  
Abstain: 1 DiBenedetto

Resolution 4: Social and Emotional Well-Being of Students

On the motion of Ms. Van der Kloot seconded by Ms. Cugno to approve the resolution

Roll Call:

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Resolution submitted by Member Van der Kloot

Ms. Van der Kloot impressed the importance of voting “No” on Question 2. She urged the School Committee to take a stand and urge the citizens of Medford to realize the impact this will have on public schools

On the motion of Mr. Skerry seconded by Ms. Cugno to Vote No on Question 2:

Roll Call:

Yea: 6 Cugno, Kreatz, Mustone, Skerry, Van der Kloot, Burke

Nay: 0

Abstain: 1 DiBenedetto

Mayor Burke submitted the following resolution:

Keeping the Lights On After School: A Proclamation

WHEREAS, the citizens of Medford stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they provide challenging and engaging learning experiences that help children develop social, emotional, physical and academic skills while supporting working families, ensuring their children are safe and productive after the traditional school day ends.

WHEREAS, the City of Medford has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are key to helping our children become successful adults.

WHEREAS, *Lights On Afterschool*, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 22, 2016, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families and communities.

WHEREAS, more than 28 million children in the U.S. have parents who work outside the home, and 15.1 million children have no place to go after school.

WHEREAS, many afterschool programs across the country are facing funding shortfalls so severe that they are being forced to close their doors and turn off their lights.

WHEREAS, the City of Medford is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by providing afterschool and out-of-school time programs that will help close the achievement gap and prepare young people to compete in the global economy.

WHEREAS, it is important to engage families, schools and communities in advancing the welfare of our children and ensure the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all children after school,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **Stephanie Burke**, Mayor of the City of Medford , do hereby proclaim **October 22, 2016**, to be,

***Lights On Afterschool Day***

And urge all the citizens of Medford to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given this xxxxxxxx day of October, in the year two thousand and fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-ninth.

On the motion of Mr. Skerry seconded by Ms. Van der Kloot to approve the resolution:

Vote:

Yes: 7

No: 0

Absent: 0

#### School Committee Resolution

Be it resolved, that the Medford School Committee express its sincere condolences to the family of Thomas English. Mr. English was a Medford High School physical education/health teacher and coach for many years. He was the husband of Marlene English a former Medford Public Schools secretary.

#### School Committee Resolution

Be it resolved, that the Medford School Committee express its sincere condolences to the family of Beth Wood. Ms. Wood was the sister of former Director of Administration and Finance, Pat Velie.

#### School Committee Resolution

Be it resolved, that the Medford School Committee express its sincere condolences to the family of John Viveiros. Mr. Viveiros was a long time custodian for the Medford Public Schools.

#### School Committee Resolution

Be it resolved, that the Medford School Committee express its sincere condolences to the family of Hannah Young a Medford High School student.

A moment of silence was held.

Ms. DiBenedetto said that she would like to go over the two reports that she requested.

Superintendent Belson reported that the complete roll out of the School Brains program will take time. The primary functions of school attendance and grading are the first priorities. We are still cleaning up our data base that was transferred from the old system of IPass to School Brains. Also implementation training is an ongoing matter as faculty/staff learn the components and become more comfortable with the new system. Additional training has been scheduled for our Professional Development Day in November. We are also providing train the trainer assistance to lead teachers and administrators at each building. MHS and MVTHS will be opening the interactive parents portal at the end of the first quarter. Middle schools will be aiming at mid-year. Elementary schools are concentrated on the standards based report cards.

The potential is great but we must be careful to ensure that both the system and staff can use the components effectively before we promise too much too soon. School Brains is an improvement over IPass but there is still work to be done before we can fully implement effectively and efficiently.

Discussion:

Ms. DiBenedetto asked that a timeline be set-up within the next month to present to parents. Superintendent Belson replied that he doesn't want to make promises that he can't keep. He understands that parents are anxious. Ms. DiBenedetto asked that it be put on the website that we are working on it with approximate time. Also she would like to be kept updated on the progress. Ms. Cugno commented that everyone is frustrated with School Brains. Parents were used to daily checking IPass. What are we asking parents to do? Email teachers? They are not able to stay up to date. Superintendent Belson answered that there is a lot of training involved with the transition and negotiations with the teachers union took time. He also commented that you can only do so much over the summer. It is happening, we don't want to rush it, we need to do it right. He said that

parents can communicate with teachers by email or call the school. Ms. Cugno said it is taking time but let's do this right. She agrees with her colleague to put information on website to inform parents.

Ms. DiBenedetto thanked Superintendent Belson for helping people that needed help with the MBTA passes.

Ms. DiBenedetto said she would like listed under item 11

- Letter to Rep. Donato re: crossing guard
- Cost of MASC conference both last year and this year
- Add bus for elementary field trip to high school

Ms. Kreatz commented that she spoke with Mr. Johnson and the crossing guard on the Fellsway/Fulton is not longer needed/used.

On the motion of Ms. Mustone seconded by Mr. Skerry to go to Execution Session at 8:58 p.m. to discuss Negotiations and Legal matters regarding MTA grievance and an update on legal matters.

Roll Call:

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

The committee returned to regular session at 8:44 p.m.

On the motion of Mr. Skerry seconded by Ms. Cugno the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Roll Call:

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

Respectfully submitted:

Robert E. Skerry Jr.  
Secretary

