

LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, October 12, 2017
Cary Memorial Building, Estabrook Hall
1605 Massachusetts Avenue

All agenda items and the order of items are approximate and subject to change.

7:00 p.m. Call to Order and Welcome (3 minutes):

Public Comment – Written comments to be presented to the School Committee, oral presentations not to exceed three minutes.

7:05 p.m. Superintendent Announcements:

7:15 p.m. School Committee Member Announcements:

7:25 p.m. Consent Agenda (5 Minutes)

1. Vote to Approve PTO donation checks to each high school class in the amount of \$700.00 each (class of 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021)

7:30 p.m. Agenda:

1. Proposed FY19-23 Capital Budget - Schools (20 minutes)
2. Proposed FY19-23 Capital Budget - School Facilities (20 minutes)
3. Policy Reading #2 - DGA: Authorized Signatures (5 minutes)
4. Vote Payroll and Accounts Payable Approval Process (5 minutes)
5. Policy Reading #1 - JICI: Weapons in School (10 minutes)
6. Discussion of Special Town Meeting Articles (10 minutes)
 - a. *Discussion and Appoint STM 2017-2, Article 2: Appropriate for Hastings School Construction.*
 - b. *Discussion and Appoint STM 2017-2, Article 3: Appropriate Design Funds for Lexington Children's Place/20 Pelham Road*
 - c. *Discussion and Appoint STM 2017, Article 11: Appropriate for Lexington High School Security System Design*
 - d. *Discussion of STM-3, Article 3: Amend General Bylaws - Recreational Marijuana*
7. Discussion & Vote of MASC Resolutions (10 minutes)
8. Discussion of LHS Graduation Requirements Working Group (20 minutes)
9. Vote to Appoint Two School Committee Members to Serve on Superintendent Search Committee (10 minutes)
10. Discussion of Superintendent's Search Process and Vote on Issuing an RFP for Superintendent Search Consultant(30 minutes)

9:50 p.m. Adjourn:

Policy AD: Mission/Vision of the Lexington Public Schools

The Lexington Public Schools serve to inspire and empower every student to become a lifelong learner prepared to be an active and resilient citizen who will lead a healthy and productive life. Educators, staff, parents, guardians and community members will honor diversity and work together to provide all students with an education that ensures academic excellence in a culture of caring and respectful relationships.

The next scheduled meeting of the School Committee is as follows:

- Tuesday, October 17, 2017 - 7:00 p.m. - Boston Location TBD

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

TODAY'S DATE: October 10, 2017

REQUESTED MEETING DATE: October 12, 2017

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Proposed FY2019-23 Capital Projects - Schools

PRESENTER: Ian Dailey, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Administration

SUMMARY:

The FY2019-23 Capital Request includes one capital project for the School Department under District Technology.

A summary listing including a detailed description of this project will be provided at the School Committee meeting. Previous years typically included two additional recurring projects, school furniture and school food service equipment.

The School Food Service Equipment item, which was funded through the School Department Food Service Revolving fund, was a place holder for replacement of assets within the program. This item has created more questions from the Capital Expenditures Committee and is unnecessary. The School Department will continue to repair and replace equipment that has exceeded its useful life through the regular operation of the Food Service program. Only when a major project is required will this be submitted going forward.

Additionally, in prior years, there had typically been a school furniture capital item. This capital item, particularly in recent years, funded the purchase of equipment that was broken and beyond repair, furniture for increasing enrollment, and furniture for new staff added during the budget process. Rather than have these necessary and required purchases, which are operational in nature, be subject to the capital budget process, administration plans to include funding in the operating budget going forward for these types of purchases. The Capital budget process will be reserved for truly unique, one-time, major capital investments should they arise.

Approval of this item simply allows the School Department to provide these projects to the Capital Expenditures Committee for their review as part of the budget development process. After working with the Town Manager and Capital Expenditures Committee, these projects will be discussed in further detail in January when the Superintendent's full recommended budget is presented.

WHAT ACTION (IF ANY) DO YOU WISH SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO TAKE?

- No action requested, this is a short update or a presentation of information.
- Request input and questions from the School Committee, but no vote required.

Request formal action with a vote on a specific item.

If formal action is requested, please check one:

This item is being presented

for the first time, with a request that the School Committee vote at a subsequent meeting
or

with the request that the School Committee take action immediately

If formal action is requested:

Include a suggested motion or let _____ know if you need assistance preparing a motion.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Motion to approve transmittal of the attached proposed FY19-23 School Department Capital Projects to the Capital Expenditures Committee for their review.

FOLLOW-UP:

AMOUNT OF TIME REQUESTED FOR THE AGENDA ITEM:

ATTACHMENTS:

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

TODAY'S DATE: October 10, 2017

REQUESTED MEETING DATE: October 12, 2017

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Proposed FY2019-23 Capital Projects – School Facilities

PRESENTER:

Mike Cronin, Director of Public Facilities
Shawn Newell, Assistant Director of Public Facilities

SUMMARY:

The FY2019-23 School Facilities Request includes an estimated 10 capital projects that are related either in whole or in part for the School Department.

Approval of this item simply allows the School Department to provide these projects to the Capital Expenditures Committee for their review as part of the budget development process. After working with the Town Manager and Capital Expenditures Committee, these projects will be discussed in further detail in January, with updated figures, when the Superintendent's full recommended budget is presented.

The full listing of these projects will be provided at the School Committee meeting.

WHAT ACTION (IF ANY) DO YOU WISH SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO TAKE?

- No action requested, this is a short update or a presentation of information.
- Request input and questions from the School Committee, but no vote required.
- Request formal action with a vote on a specific item.

If formal action is requested, please check one:

This item is being presented

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or
- with the request that the School Committee take action immediately

If formal action is requested:

Include a suggested motion or let _____ know if you need assistance preparing a motion.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Motion to approve transmittal of the attached proposed FY19-23 School Facilities Capital Projects to the Capital Expenditures Committee for their review.

FOLLOW-UP:

AMOUNT OF TIME REQUESTED FOR THE AGENDA ITEM:

ATTACHMENTS:

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

TODAY'S DATE: October 10, 2017

REQUESTED MEETING DATE: October 12, 2017

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Policy Reading #2 – DGA: Authorized Signatures

PRESENTER: Jessie Steigerwald, Finance Subcommittee
Kate Colburn, Finance Subcommittee
Ian Dailey, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Administration

SUMMARY:

This is the second reading for an amended version of Policy DGA: Authorized Signatures.

The Finance Subcommittee seeks to update Policy DGA: Authorized Signatures. The main driver for this update allows for the committee to designate one signor, and an alternate, for payroll and accounts payable batch/warrant approvals. This is a result of language included in the Municipal Modernization Act that went into effect last November 2016. It also includes several other general language improvements. Attached to this item is a track changes version of the current policy as well as an updated draft of the proposed new policy language. This will serve as the second reading of the proposed new policy language.

Additional information regarding the changes to the payroll & accounts payable process are included in another item on the agenda titled, Payroll & Accounts Payable Approval Process.

WHAT ACTION (IF ANY) DO YOU WISH SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO TAKE?

- No action requested, this is a short update or a presentation of information.
- Request input and questions from the School Committee, but no vote required.
- Request formal action with a vote on a specific item.

If formal action is requested, please check one:

This item is being presented

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- with the request that the School Committee take action immediately

If formal action is requested:

Include a suggested motion or let _____ know if you need assistance preparing a motion.

SUGGESTED MOTION: *Move to rescind the existing Policy DGA, Authorized Signatures and approve Policy DGA, Authorized Signatures, as amended and attached effective October 12, 2017.*

FOLLOW-UP:

AMOUNT OF TIME REQUESTED FOR THE AGENDA ITEM:

ATTACHMENTS:

Proposed School Committee Policy DGA – Authorized Signatures – track changes

Proposed School Committee Policy DGA – Authorized Signatures

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES

Purchase Order and Contract Authority

The School Committee shall designate purchase order and/or contract signature authority as follows:

1. The School Chief Procurement Officer shall sign attesting to procurement laws being followed.
2. The School Business Administrator shall sign attesting to available funds to pay for the purchase.
3. Town Counsel shall sign as to form for contracts over \$100,000.

The Superintendent will sign purchase orders and contracts in the absence of the School Business Administrator. If the Superintendent is unavailable, the Superintendent will designate an alternate.

Payroll and Accounts Payable warrant/batch approval

The individual serving in the School Business Administrator role (or his/her chosen designee) shall sign the payroll warrant and/or accounts payable batches presented for approval.

The School Committee shall designate by vote one member and an alternate who will sign the payroll warrant and/or accounts payable batches presented by the School Business Administrator. Said vote shall be provided to the Town Comptroller and Town Treasurer.

The approval of the School Business Administrator (or his/her chosen designee) and School Committee designee/alternate shall authorize issuance of checks by the Town Treasurer.

The School Committee shall include payroll and accounts payable batch/warrant approvals on its next available meeting to approve. The Superintendent (or his/her chosen designee) shall sign the payroll warrant and/or accounts payable batches presented for approval.

The Town Treasurer, who also serves as the school department treasurer, signs all checks drawn against school department funds. No other signature is valid unless allowed by statute.

LEGAL REF.: M.G.L. 41:41; 41:52; 41:56

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

TODAY'S DATE: October 10, 2017

REQUESTED MEETING DATE: October 12, 2017

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Payroll & Accounts Payable Approval Process

PRESENTER: Ian Dailey, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Administration

SUMMARY:

This item is a follow-up to the discussion that occurred during the September 19, 2017 School Committee Meeting, the September 26, 2017 Finance Subcommittee Meeting, and the October 3, 2017 School Committee Meeting.

Pending approval of the item titled *Policy Reading #2 – DGA: Authorized Signatures*, the School Committee will need to vote a delegate and alternate to sign the payroll and accounts payable batches in accordance with the attached schedule of approval dates. At the Finance Subcommittee's September 26th meeting, it was discussed that the members of the subcommittee would serve in these roles.

Outline of the new payroll & accounts payable approval process:

- Staff prepare payroll and/or accounts payable batches
- Delegate/Alternate review and approve payroll and/or accounts payable batches in accordance with schedule of dates so that checks/direct deposits can be issued
- Staff place approval on a subsequent School Committee meeting for full committee approval
- Staff provide attached schedule of Payroll/Accounts Payable Approvals Summary Forms for the agenda packet distribution
- Staff make available PDF copies of the MUNIS batch summary reports for Committee review in advance of School Committee meeting via Google Drive.

Should the committee vote to approve Policy DGA: Authorized Signatures as amended on October 12, 2017, the School Committee delegate members to approve the payroll/accounts payable batches.

WHAT ACTION (IF ANY) DO YOU WISH SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO TAKE?

- No action requested, this is a short update or a presentation of information.
- Request input and questions from the School Committee, but no vote required.
- Request formal action with a vote on a specific item.

If formal action is requested, please check one:

This item is being presented

- for the first time, with a request that the School Committee vote at a subsequent meeting
or
 with the request that the School Committee take action immediately

If formal action is requested:

Include a suggested motion or let _____ know if you need assistance preparing a motion.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Motion to approve Jessie Steigerwald as delegate to approve payroll and accounts payable batches in accordance with School Committee Policy DGA: Authorized Signatures effective October 12, 2017.

Motion to approve Kate Colburn as alternate to approve payroll and accounts payable batches in accordance with School Committee Policy DGA: Authorized Signatures effective October 12, 2017.

FOLLOW-UP:

AMOUNT OF TIME REQUESTED FOR THE AGENDA ITEM:

ATTACHMENTS:

Payroll & Accounts Payable Batch/Warrant Approval Dates – FY18
Schedule of Departmental Payroll Payables Approvals Summary Form
Schedule of Departmental Accounts Payable Approvals Summary Form

FY2018 PAYROLL AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT APPROVAL SCHEDULE

SC Approval Date	Approval Type	Check Date
Friday, September 22, 2017	Accounts Payable	Friday, September 29, 2017
Wednesday, September 27, 2017	Payroll	Friday, September 29, 2017
Friday, October 06, 2017	Accounts Payable	Friday, October 13, 2017
Wednesday, October 11, 2017	Payroll	Friday, October 13, 2017
Friday, October 20, 2017	Accounts Payable	Friday, October 27, 2017
Wednesday, October 25, 2017	Payroll	Friday, October 27, 2017
Tuesday, November 07, 2017	Payroll	Friday, November 10, 2017
Thursday, November 09, 2017	Accounts Payable	Friday, November 17, 2017
Tuesday, November 21, 2017	Payroll	Friday, November 24, 2017
Tuesday, November 21, 2017	Accounts Payable	Friday, December 01, 2017
Wednesday, December 06, 2017	Payroll	Friday, December 08, 2017
Friday, December 15, 2017	Accounts Payable	Friday, December 22, 2017
Wednesday, December 20, 2017	Payroll	Friday, December 22, 2017
Wednesday, January 03, 2018	Payroll	Friday, January 05, 2018
Friday, January 05, 2018	Accounts Payable	Friday, January 12, 2018
Wednesday, January 17, 2018	Payroll	Friday, January 19, 2018
Friday, January 19, 2018	Accounts Payable	Friday, January 26, 2018
Wednesday, January 31, 2018	Payroll	Friday, February 02, 2018
Friday, February 02, 2018	Accounts Payable	Friday, February 09, 2018
Wednesday, February 14, 2018	Payroll	Friday, February 16, 2018
Friday, February 16, 2018	Accounts Payable	Friday, February 23, 2018
Wednesday, February 28, 2018	Payroll	Friday, March 02, 2018
Friday, March 02, 2018	Accounts Payable	Friday, March 09, 2018
Wednesday, March 14, 2018	Payroll	Friday, March 16, 2018
Friday, March 16, 2018	Accounts Payable	Friday, March 23, 2018
Wednesday, March 28, 2018	Payroll	Friday, March 30, 2018
Thursday, March 29, 2018	Accounts Payable	Friday, April 06, 2018
Wednesday, April 11, 2018	Payroll	Friday, April 13, 2018
Friday, April 13, 2018	Accounts Payable	Friday, April 20, 2018
Wednesday, April 25, 2018	Payroll	Friday, April 27, 2018
Friday, April 27, 2018	Accounts Payable	Friday, May 04, 2018
Wednesday, May 09, 2018	Payroll	Friday, May 11, 2018
Friday, May 11, 2018	Accounts Payable	Friday, May 18, 2018
Wednesday, May 23, 2018	Payroll	Friday, May 25, 2018
Friday, May 25, 2018	Accounts Payable	Friday, June 01, 2018
Wednesday, June 06, 2018	Payroll	Friday, June 08, 2018
Friday, June 08, 2018	Accounts Payable	Friday, June 15, 2018
Wednesday, June 20, 2018	Payroll	Friday, June 22, 2018
Friday, June 22, 2018	Accounts Payable	Friday, June 29, 2018
Tuesday, July 03, 2018	Payroll	Friday, July 06, 2018
Friday, July 06, 2018	Accounts Payable	Friday, July 13, 2018
Wednesday, July 18, 2018	Payroll	Friday, July 20, 2018

Payroll Approval Notes:

When approval is Tuesday, approval time is 3:30pm
 When approval is Wednesday, approval time is 9:00am

Accounts Payable Approval Notes:

When approval is Friday, approval time is 11:00am
 When approval is Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday, approval time is 3:00pm

LEXINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SCHEDULE OF DEPARTMENTAL PAYROLLS PAYABLE

TO THE TOWN OF LEXINGTON

The following named payrolls of the LEXINGTON SCHOOL DEPARTMENT amounting to the aggregate
\$ 3,503,149.68 Dollars have been approved by the LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE
 and you are requested to place them on a warrant for payment:

Date: February 3, 2017

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>WARRANT DATE</u>	<u>DESE FUNC</u>	<u>DESE FUNCTION DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>TOTAL AMOUNT</u>
020317	February 3, 2017	1110	SCHOOL COMMITTEE	\$984.62
020317	February 3, 2017	1210	SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE	\$13,029.81
020317	February 3, 2017	1220	ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT(S)	\$13,061.56
020317	February 3, 2017	1230	DISTRICT WIDE ADMINISTRATION	\$26,319.94
020317	February 3, 2017	1410	BUSINESS AND FINANCE	\$28,128.40
020317	February 3, 2017	1420	HUMAN RESOURCES AND BENEFITS	\$23,600.62
020317	February 3, 2017	1450	ADMINISTRATIVE TECHNOLOGY	\$52,681.79
020317	February 3, 2017	2110	CURRICULUM DIRECTORS (SUPV)	\$130,729.88
020317	February 3, 2017	2120	DEPARTMENT HEADS (NON-SUPV)	\$23,620.06
020317	February 3, 2017	2210	SCHOOL LEADERSHIP-BUILDING	\$234,703.42
020317	February 3, 2017	2305	TEACHERS, CLASSROOM	\$1,861,976.59
020317	February 3, 2017	2310	TEACHERS, SPECIALISTS	\$114,811.39
020317	February 3, 2017	2315	INST COORD & TEAM LDERS (NON-SUPV)	\$1,828.48
020317	February 3, 2017	2320	MEDICAL/ THERAPEUTIC SERVICES	\$136,500.08
020317	February 3, 2017	2325	SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS	\$79,276.42
020317	February 3, 2017	2330	PARAPROFESSIONALS/INST ASSIST	\$296,575.67
020317	February 3, 2017	2340	LIBRARIANS & MEDIA CENTER DIRE	\$39,993.85
020317	February 3, 2017	2351	PROF DEVELOPMENT LEADERSHIP	\$3,192.31
020317	February 3, 2017	2355	SUBSTITUTES FOR TEACHERS AT PROF DEV	\$2,109.41
020317	February 3, 2017	2357	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT STIPENDS	\$15,342.83
020317	February 3, 2017	2440	OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES	\$0.00
020317	February 3, 2017	2710	GUIDANCE SERVICES	\$168,721.04
020317	February 3, 2017	2800	PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	\$28,022.15
020317	February 3, 2017	3200	MEDICAL/HEALTH SERVICES	\$56,678.40
020317	February 3, 2017	3300	TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	\$3,857.30
020317	February 3, 2017	3510	ATHLETICS	\$29,648.15
020317	February 3, 2017	3520	OTHER STUDENT ACTIVITIES	\$2,568.20
020317	February 3, 2017	0000	UNDISTRIBUTED	\$115,187.31
Total				\$3,503,149.68

(I) (We) hereby certify under the penalties of perjury that the statements set forth in this payroll are true to the best of (my) (our) knowledge and belief.

**ABOVE BILLS ARE
APPROVED FOR PAYMENT**

SIGNATURE

DATE

**ABOVE BILLS ARE
APPROVED FOR PAYMENT**

SIGNATURE

DATE

SUPERINTENDENT

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR
FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

SCHOOL COMMITTEE DESIGNEE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF LEXINGTON

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY **LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

TODAY'S DATE: October 10, 2017

REQUESTED MEETING DATE: October 12, 2017

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Policy Reading #1 – JICI: Weapons in School

PRESENTER: School Committee

SUMMARY: First Reading of Draft Policy JICI: Weapons in School

WHAT ACTION (IF ANY) DO YOU WISH SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO TAKE?

- No action requested, this is a short update or a presentation of information.
- Request input and questions from the School Committee, but no vote required.
- Request formal action with a vote on a specific item.

If formal action is requested, please check one:

This item is being presented

- for the first time, with a request that the School Committee vote at a subsequent meeting
or
- with the request that the School Committee take action immediately

If formal action is requested:

Include a suggested motion or let _____ know if you need assistance preparing a motion.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

FOLLOW-UP:

AMOUNT OF TIME REQUESTED FOR THE AGENDA ITEM: 10 Minutes

ATTACHMENTS:

JICI - WEAPONS IN SCHOOL

Possessions and/or use of any dangerous weapon in school buildings on school grounds, in any school vehicle or at any school-sponsored activity is prohibited unless prior written approval has been obtained from the Superintendent or designee. Such weapons include but are not limited to any pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun, air gun or spring gun, slingshot, brass knuckles or artificial knuckles of any kind, knife having a blade of greater than two inches, firecrackers, incendiary or explosive devices, mace or pepper spray.

Students of any age are prohibited from bringing to school or school-related events, any replicas of weapons or toys that resemble weapons.

Students in possession of any such weapons will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the student code of conduct published in the student handbook.

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

TODAY'S DATE: October 10, 2017

REQUESTED MEETING DATE: October 12, 2017

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Discussion of Special Town Meeting Articles

PRESENTER: School Committee

SUMMARY:

WHAT ACTION (IF ANY) DO YOU WISH SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO TAKE?

- No action requested, this is a short update or a presentation of information.
- Request input and questions from the School Committee, but no vote required.
- Request formal action with a vote on a specific item.

If formal action is requested, please check one:

This item is being presented

- for the first time, with a request that the School Committee vote at a subsequent meeting
or
- with the request that the School Committee take action immediately

If formal action is requested:

Include a suggested motion or let _____ know if you need assistance preparing a motion.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

FOLLOW-UP:

AMOUNT OF TIME REQUESTED FOR THE AGENDA ITEM:

ATTACHMENTS: TMMA Warrant Information Report: STM 2017-2, Article 2
STM 2017-2, Article 3; STM 2017-3, Article 3; STM 2017, Article 11

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

TODAY'S DATE: October 10, 2017

REQUESTED MEETING DATE: October 12, 2017

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Discussion and Vote of MASC Resolutions

PRESENTER: School Committee

SUMMARY: School Committee will discuss and vote the MASC Resolutions

WHAT ACTION (IF ANY) DO YOU WISH SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO TAKE?

- No action requested, this is a short update or a presentation of information.
- Request input and questions from the School Committee, but no vote required.
- Request formal action with a vote on a specific item.

If formal action is requested, please check one:

This item is being presented

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If formal action is requested:

Include a suggested motion or let _____ know if you need assistance preparing a motion.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Vote on the MASC Resolutions

FOLLOW-UP:

AMOUNT OF TIME REQUESTED FOR THE AGENDA ITEM: 10 Minutes

ATTACHMENTS:

report of the resolutions committee

The MASC Resolutions Committee met on July 5, 2017 to consider the resolutions proposed by member districts for consideration at the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Association. Members present: Beverly Hugo, Framingham (Chair, Ex Officio), Patrick Francomano, Past President and King Philip Regional School Committee, William Fonseca, East Longmeadow School Committee; Margaret Driscoll, Melrose School Committee; Laura Fallon, Northampton School Committee, Irene Feliciano-Simms, Holyoke School Committee; Mildred Lefebvre, Holyoke School Committee; Geoff Swett, Wareham School Committee; Brian O'Connell, Worcester School Committee; Brendan Walsh, Salem School Committee

The following resolutions were moved forward by the Resolutions Committee and approved by the MASC Board of Directors at their meeting on July 12.

RESOLUTION 1: MOVEMENT OF THE CHAPTER 70 FUNDING ENROLLMENT DATE TO MARCH 15

Submitted by the Framingham School Committee

WHEREAS: District schools in Massachusetts Department of Education report peak enrollment in the months of January, February and March.

WHEREAS: House Bill 2846 would provide that a district may only receive reimbursement from the proposed Unfunded Student Reserve Fund if the district has a net enrollment of more than 100 new students between October 1 of the previous year and March 1 of the current year.

WHEREAS: Many districts must have their budgets completed prior to knowing what their Chapter 70 funds amount will be.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that: The Massachusetts Association of School Committees file for and support legislation that will implement the movement of the Chapter 70 funding enrollment date to March 15th.

RATIONALE: Giving the districts the ability to base their budget on the enrollment rate after the peak enrollment time will allow districts to base their budget with increased accuracy to meet the needs of their student population. Underfunding leaves students at risk to fall behind due to not having the appropriate staffing, technology or needed educational materials. Smaller districts will be more at risk as their admission rate may not reach the required 100 students proposed in House Bill 2846 (2017) and will be least able to absorb the additional cost of unfunded students. For larger districts the proposed Unfunded Student Reserve Fund will still leave them underfunded as the amount proposed to be set aside will not meet the needs of the students across the state.

RESOLUTION 2: REFORM OF CIRCUIT BREAKER FUNDING

Submitted by the Framingham School Committee

WHEREAS: The Special Education Circuit Breaker program includes a provision that only allows districts to claim for extraordinary relief when claimable special education costs exceed 125% of the year's claimed costs.

WHEREAS: There are many districts that have a large special education population especially with regard to out-of-district placements that will never reach the special provision of 125%. Framingham alone has budgeted over \$42 million for district SPED costs.

WHEREAS: Out-of-district placement costs are rising yet the out-of-district schools have not been liable for their expenditures to the taxpayers, and there is no accountability for the increases. Public schools are held accountable to the taxpayers for where every dime goes. In turn districts are unable to justify their rising expenditures and are unable to receive the additional funding needed from those to whom they are accountable.

WHEREAS: Medicare and Medicaid cuts that are being discussed threaten many districts who have their Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy services paid for by those programs to bear the burden of these costs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that: The Massachusetts Association of School Committees file for and support legislation that will support the provision of reform for Circuit Breaker Funding and support the recommendations of the Foundation Budget Review Commission.

RATIONAL: According to MAAPS 2012 Bottom Line Report between 2006 and 2012, special education costs in Massachusetts increased by 56% compared to 36% for all public education.

RESOLUTION 3: LITIGATION FOR FAIR SCHOOL FINANCE

Submitted by the Framingham School Committee

WHEREAS: As the result of a lawsuit (*McDuffy vs. Driscoll*), the MA Supreme Judicial Court ruled that the Commonwealth was obliged to provide such financial assistance so as to assure that there would be an adequate level of support for the public schools, and

WHEREAS: Public schools rely heavily on state financial assistance to underwrite the legislatively mandated level of "required net school funding" that meets the current standard of "adequacy" envisioned by the Supreme Judicial Court, and

WHEREAS: Based on the findings of the Foundation Budget Review Commission and the consensus of public educators across Massachusetts, state financial assistance to support a standard of adequacy sufficient to meet the Massachusetts Constitutional standard as determined in the *McDuffy* case, is lacking and

WHEREAS: The second attempt at litigation to secure greater state financial support was rejected by the SJC, but did not rule out a willingness to hear a future case should the situation merit consideration,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that: The members of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, through its delegate assembly, authorizes the Board of Directors to:

1. Reassess the need for a new round of litigation to secure funding to guarantee an adequate appropriation of funds, and
2. Assess the viability of a lawsuit to secure such funding, and
3. Join with other parties at interest to plan and file such a lawsuit if it is determined that there is likelihood of success, and
4. That the Board of Directors shall be authorized to use the reserves of the Association to help underwrite the cost of such litigation.

RESOLUTION 4: PRIVATIZATION OF PUBLIC EDUCATION AND THE OVERSIGHT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS, INCLUDING SMALL AND REGIONAL DISTRICTS

Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors

WHEREAS: The voters of Massachusetts overwhelmingly rejected a ballot initiative to lift the cap on charter school expansion, and

WHEREAS: In light of the decision of the voters, advocates for further reforms have proposed several new strategies that include such concepts as introducing federal tax credits for families who enroll their children in private schools, authorizing vouchers for use in private schools, and creating additional regulatory options to expand the power of the state to alter the status of schools and districts so as to limit the authority of the residents of their communities to oversee their public schools,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that: The Massachusetts Association of School Committees, recognizing the provisions of the state constitution, oppose any state or federal legislative initiative to authorize the use of state funds for education to subsidize the tuition or costs of private schools, except where specifically authorized for students in special education programs, or students with disabilities.

Further, MASC opposes any state legislative initiative that expands the authority of the Commissioner of Education, the Board of Elementary Education, or the Secretary of Education over schools and school districts beyond those already imposed, and that MASC further opposes the alteration or conversion of any school or district status

beyond that permitted by current law without the consent of the city, town or region in which the school or district is located.

MASC supports the protection of small and rural school districts from modifications in their governance format and regional structure without the consent of the member communities, and, further, supports recognizing the special financial requirements of these, often geographically large and difficult to access parts of the state.

RESOLUTION 5: USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS

Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors

WHEREAS: School districts are operating in difficult economic conditions as the cost of education exceeds normal inflationary growth in our economy, and

WHEREAS: The Commonwealth has provided some measure of relief, but the growth in Chapter 70 funding has failed to keep up with expanding costs, and

WHEREAS: Several federal grant programs allow the Commonwealth in general, and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, in particular, to take an administrative overhead allowance from government aid programs including the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the Perkins Vocational Technical Education Act, and certain programs under the Department of Agriculture, and

WHEREAS: This money allocated for maintaining the state bureaucracy would be better deployed at the school and district level,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that: MASC urges the legislature to restrict the ability of the Commissioner, Secretary of Education or Board of Elementary Education to take for its own purposes or use by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, such as but not limited to administrative overhead of the state agency, any share of funds disbursed by the federal government under ESSA, the Perkins Vocational Technical Education Act, or programs under the oversight of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and, further, that those funds be directed specifically to schools and school districts.

RESOLUTION 6: FOUNDATION BUDGET

Initiated by the Worcester School Committee

Sponsored by the MASC Board of Directors

WHEREAS: A special Foundation Budget Review Commission (FBRC) reported its recommendations in 2015 to the General Court and to the public, and

WHEREAS: Among the recommendations were those to calculate more accurately the costs of students in special education and health insurance costs for employees and retirees, and

WHEREAS: Several recommendations of the members of the Commission to establish adequate and equitable funding for school districts remain unresolved, and

WHEREAS: There remains a broad consensus that the overall calculations used to establish the "Foundation Budget" for city, town and regional school districts remain significantly understated and, in the opinion of MASC and its members, violates the letter and spirit of the ruling of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court in the 1993 *McDuffy* case,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that: MASC calls upon the legislature to enact the recommendations of the Foundation Budget into law, and further,

- That the legislature order the Commission to reconvene in order to conduct further deliberations and make such recommendations as the FBRC may propose, and further
- That the FBRC shall address and make recommendations toward the overall accuracy of the adequacy of the overall Foundation Budget.

RESOLUTION 7: AFFORDABLE CARE ACT AND MEDICAID

Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors

WHEREAS: The Affordable Care Act expanded access for health care to millions of Americans, including thousands of Massachusetts families who have been without health insurance, and

WHEREAS: Through the expansion of the Medicaid program, more families in economic distress gained access to health insurance and, subsequently, affordable health care, and

WHEREAS: The Medicaid program reimburses public school districts for certain clinical services provided to students who may be clients of special education or who experience disabilities, and this revenue provides critical support to the districts and municipalities where they are based, and

WHEREAS: The restriction of Medicaid eligibility and reduction of funding would require the Commonwealth to choose between extraordinary state budget increases to fill the gap or absorb the cost of caring for families that could lose health insurance,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that: MASC urges the Congress to preserve the Affordable Care Act and its expansion of Medicaid programs for the states, and further

- MASC urges the General Court to require that 100% of Medicaid reimbursements to cities and towns be provided in full amount to the public schools of each municipality to underwrite the cost of providing an adequate education.

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY **LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

TODAY'S DATE: October 10, 2017

REQUESTED MEETING DATE: October 12, 2017

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Discussion of Forming an LHS Graduation Requirements Working Group

PRESENTER: School Committee

SUMMARY: Discussion of forming an LHS Graduation Requirements Working Group

WHAT ACTION (IF ANY) DO YOU WISH SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO TAKE?

- No action requested, this is a short update or a presentation of information.
- Request input and questions from the School Committee, but no vote required.
- Request formal action with a vote on a specific item.

If formal action is requested, please check one:

This item is being presented

- for the first time, with a request that the School Committee vote at a subsequent meeting or
- with the request that the School Committee take action immediately

If formal action is requested:

Include a suggested motion or let _____ know if you need assistance preparing a motion.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

FOLLOW-UP:

AMOUNT OF TIME REQUESTED FOR THE AGENDA ITEM: 20 Minutes

ATTACHMENTS:

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY **LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

TODAY'S DATE: October 10, 2017

REQUESTED MEETING DATE: October 12, 2017

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Vote to Appoint Two School Committee Members to Serve on Superintendent Search Committee

PRESENTER: School Committee

SUMMARY: Vote for two School Committee members to serve on the Superintendent Search Committee

WHAT ACTION (IF ANY) DO YOU WISH SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO TAKE?

- No action requested, this is a short update or a presentation of information.
- Request input and questions from the School Committee, but no vote required.
- Request formal action with a vote on a specific item.

If formal action is requested, please check one:

This item is being presented

- for the first time, with a request that the School Committee vote at a subsequent meeting or
- with the request that the School Committee take action immediately

If formal action is requested:

Include a suggested motion or let _____ know if you need assistance preparing a motion.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Motion to appoint _____ and _____ as School Committee Representatives on Superintendent Search Committee

FOLLOW-UP:

AMOUNT OF TIME REQUESTED FOR THE AGENDA ITEM: 15 Minutes

ATTACHMENTS:

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

TODAY'S DATE: October 10, 2017

REQUESTED MEETING DATE: October 12, 2017

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Discussion of Superintendent Search and Vote on Issuing an RFP for Superintendent Search Consultant

PRESENTER: School Committee

SUMMARY: School Committee will discuss the process for conducting a Superintendent Search with the intent of hiring a new superintendent to begin employment on July 1, 2018. Discussion of the process will include consideration of (a) whether or not to engage the services of a search consultant to assist the School Committee, (b) a tentative timeframe for the search, and (c) a process for selecting members of the Superintendent Search Committee

WHAT ACTION (IF ANY) DO YOU WISH SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO TAKE?

- No action requested, this is a short update or a presentation of information.
- Request input and questions from the School Committee, but no vote required.
- Request formal action with a vote on a specific item.

If formal action is requested, please check one:

This item is being presented

- for the first time, with a request that the School Committee vote at a subsequent meeting
or
- with the request that the School Committee take action immediately

If formal action is requested:

Include a suggested motion or let _____ know if you need assistance preparing a motion.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Motion to issue an RFP for a Superintendent Search Consultant

FOLLOW-UP:

AMOUNT OF TIME REQUESTED FOR THE AGENDA ITEM: 30 Minutes

ATTACHMENTS: