

ROCKPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING
Wednesday October 5, 2016

Chairperson Martha Morgan called the regular meeting of the Rockport School Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. in the MS/HS Library. Present were Colleen Coogan, Martha Morgan, Heather Nelson, Rebecca Sly and Mary Porter. Also, present was Superintendent Robert Liebow and Recording Secretary Ingrid Keating.

I. Opening of Regular Meeting

A. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Mary Porter motioned to approve the regular minutes, from September 21, 2016.
Seconded: Heather Nelson seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

Motion: Mary Porter motioned to approve the executive minutes, from September 21, 2016.
Seconded: Heather Nelson seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

B. Personnel Actions

RETIRE:	Linda Vaughan	HS Guidance	June 30, 2017
	Rebecca Merry-Berry	MS SPED Teacher	November 3, 2017

II. Community Participation

A. Student Advisory Representative N/A

B. Public Participation N/A

III. Discussion and Recommended Action

A. MCAS/AYP

Mr. Liebow reported that there will be the "Next Generation MCAS" implemented in the spring of 2017. He explained each grade level results, the difference between Level I, II, and III school designation, and SGP (Student Growth Percentile) which compares a student's MCAS score with the scores of all students in the state at that grade level who received a similar MCAS score in prior years. Elementary Principal Todd Simendinger and Assistant Principal Heather Castonguay reported on the Elementary Action Steps. They reported that they are trying to introduce more technology in the lower grades, offering more Chrome Books and will have a Technology Specialist next year to go in to the classrooms. A retired Rockport elementary teacher is volunteering to do interventions in Kindergarten. The science curriculum is being reviewed with the teachers to see if they want to shift back to classroom instruction vs. science as a special. There will be a focus on increasing vigor an emphasis to improve at all levels. With more social/emotional support they hope to have fewer interruptions in the classroom to increase learning. They would like to create a schedule with SPED blocks so that the student would not be taken out of the classroom during instruction time. Director of Student Services Lindsey McGovern has implemented a formal curriculum in Pre-K, Open World of Learning. There will be "flex groups" only in math, and student will have pretests before each Envisions unit and placed in groups by strength in specific areas. RMHS Principal Gregg Bach and K-12 Math Specialist Jodi Goodhue spoke on the MS/HS action steps. They will focus on identifying high need students and those students close to the next level of proficiency; provide more practice tests, growth mindset, and more balanced guided and independent practice. Mr. Bach is looking into providing a 3 credit course to staff regarding "Growth Mindset". Mrs. McGovern states that SPED is a service not a place and the best place for a student is in the classroom. She is concerned that when a student is pull out of the classroom they miss critical instruction. She will be looking at where services are provided, who are the providers and will carefully analyze each student. At the HS level there will be focus on targeted goals through the evaluation process, whole staff review of data, and expand the roll of the K-12 Math Specialist. There are 15 classes that have co-teachers, formal review of current Tier 2 supports and formalization of

interventions, meetings with SPED to review and analyze data. Mr. Liebow stated that he is very proud of the team in place, it's the people in the trenches doing all the work, technology is very impressive and the administrators are very strong in curriculum. Chairperson Martha Morgan stated it is also very important that Administration does not get cut in the budget process.

B. Pre-K Tuition Recommendation

Motion: Heather Nelson motioned to approve the "Pre-School Tuition Fee Proposal" as presented.
Seconded: Rebecca Sly seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

C. School Committee Goals

Motion: Heather Nelson motioned to approve the School Committee Goals with the addition of developing a school committee handbook and supporting health education in the elementary school.
Seconded: Rebecca Sly seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

D. Resolution

Motion: Colleen Coogan motioned to pass the Resolution Against Lifting the Cap on Commonwealth Charter Schools.
Seconded: Rebecca Sly seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 4-1.

E. Arts Wing Conceptual Drawing update

Superintendent Liebow received a quote of \$7800 for Tappe Architecture to assess the current condition and provide a conceptual approach to making physical improvements to the theater arts and music areas. Hopefully by the first of the year he would have figures to bring to the town and townspeople during community discussions.

Motion: Mary Porter motioned to fund the proposed Theater Arts Department Assessment, from Tappe Architecture, in the amount of \$7,800
Seconded: Heather Nelson seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

F. Policy Review/Proposals N/A

IV. Information and proposals

A. School Council Update N/A

B. Donations

Kim Gulino of Rockport donated a clarinet to be used in the Rockport Elementary Music Program.

C. Updates

Sub-committee reports:

Rebecca Sly reported that PTO has two parent candidates for RMHS School Council.

V. Correspondence N/A

VI. Other Business

Motion: Heather Nelson motioned to approve the Food Service warrants as presented.
Seconded: Rebecca Sly seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

Motion: Rebecca Sly motioned to approve the special education warrants as presented.
Seconded: Colleen Coogan seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

VII. Future Agenda Items

- A. Superintendent's Report & Fund/Flow
- B. DECA Proposal (10/19)
- C. Capital Improvement Requests (10/19)
- D. Communication Plan (10/19)

VIII. Calendar

- A. October 19, 2016, Regular Meeting
- B. November 2, 2016, Regular Meeting

VIV. Executive Session

Motion: Colleen Coogan motioned to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:41p.m.
Seconded: Mary Porter seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Liebow
Superintendent of Schools