Approved by the MRSC January 12, 2017

Monomoy Regional School Committee
Monomoy Regional High School Library
Meeting Minutes Thursday, December 8, 2016
6:00 pm

Members Present: Brian Widegren, Chairman; Nancy Scott, Vice Chair; Terry Russell; Steve Davol; Donna Richardson; Sharon Stout; Jackie Zibrat-Long; and Karen Ryder.
Administrators Present: Scott Carpenter, Superintendent; Carla Blanchard; Katie Isernio; Melissa Maguire; Jim Birchfield; Robin Millen; Sam Hein; Bill Burkhead; and Mark Wilson

A. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm.

B. Approval of Minutes –

MOTION: Nancy Scott moved to approve the minutes of December 1, 2016; seconded by Terry Russell.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS.

C. Public Comment – Stephanie Goley, Chatham parent and representative of Calmer Choice, spoke in support of retaining the Calmer Choice program at the Chatham Elementary School.

D. Student Representatives Monomoy Middle School – Middle school student council representatives Youmi Rai, Britanya Bucknor and Liam Jordan reported on events at the middle school. The new student council is currently planning special events such as spirit week, ice cream socials, etc.

D. Recognitions – the Superintendent thanked Mass. Environmental Police Sgt. Kevin Clayton for taking the initiative to start an after-school safe boating course for students which will begin this winter.

E. Reports and Discussions

1. One-to World Chromebook Initiative – Middle school principal, Mark Wilson, presented information on implementing the 1:1 Chromebook initiative for the 2016-2017 school year. The program will improve school-home communication, assist in individual and differentiated instruction; allow for interdisciplinary opportunities; and foster 21st century skills. The FY18 budget reflects the implementation of the Chromebook proposal.

2. MRMS Seminar Block – Principal Mark Wilson provided the committee with information on the new seminar block program which provides students opportunities for remedial instruction, enrichment and exploration based on data from individual classroom performance. Using the data from the MAP assessments, teaching staff are able to customize students' unique needs and/or interests. In addition to remediation classes in core academic areas, students are able to select a variety of seminar opportunities in the areas of science, technology, arts, and history,

3. Anti-addiction/Anti-Opioid Grants – Melissa Maguire, Director of Student Services, presented information on several grant opportunities the district is pursuing for funding the Botvin Lifeskills Training program ($14,754) and Preventure Positive Choices ($15,000) program. Both programs have evidence-based results in preventing/decreasing opioid addictions. Ironically, the same day the district was awarded the DESE grant of $14,754, the Governor's office released a list of 9C cuts which included the elimination of the DESE anti-addiction grants. It is hoped that increased revenue between now and the end of the fiscal year will allow the restoration of these funds.

Fiona Jensen, Executive Director of Calmer Choice, was invited to speak on behalf of the Calmer Choice program which is in its second experimental year at Chatham Elementary, funded through the district; the PTO; the Arts Foundation of Cape Cod; and the Chatham Fund of the Cape Cod Foundation. She indicated that feedback from staff and parents has been positive. The results of the program's success is not currently evidenced-based, however, they are currently working with Yale and MIT to become established as an evidence-based program. Falmouth Public Schools secured a $100,000 Tower Grant to become independent of Calmer Choice.

4. Update on Strategic Plan Progress – Curriculum Director Dr. Carla Blanchard provided with committee with an update on the progress the district is making with Strategic Plan Initiatives 1A, 3A and 3B. Staff have had opportunities to participate in many professional development activities and training workshops in connection with the action steps outlined in the Strategic Plan. The committee was also provided with a listing of future trainings that will be conducted for staff.

5. FY18 Budget – The draft FY18 budget was presented December 1, 2016; since that time there have been no changes in the proposed draft. It will be presented to the Harwich and Chatham on January 30 and January 31, 2017.

F. Subcommittee Reports – None

G. Superintendent's Report

1. School Start Times for 2017-2018 – the Superintendent has scheduled parent meetings for January 10, January 11, January 19 and January 25, from 6:30 – 8:30 to talk about the change in start times for next year.

H. Action Items – None

I. Adjournment – Executive Session pursuant to MGL 30A, Section 21 to discuss strategy with respect to custodial contract collective bargaining units and MREA Channel 22 stipend, coming out for adjournment only.

MOTION: Sharon Stout moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:30, coming out for adjournment only; seconded by Terry Russell.
VOTE: UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Susko
Recording Secretary

Documents Used at Meeting and Available For Review
MRMS Chromebook Initiative
MRMS Seminar Blocks
Anti-Addiction/Anti-Opioid Grants
Update on Strategic Plan