

# Approved Minutes

## Marlboro School Board Meeting

### Wednesday, May 6, 2020

### 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89800329292?pwd=djVyMHJtL2xvNHNOcHVMcWJoSFIWQT09>

#### VIRTUAL MEETING BEST PRACTICES:

Public comment will be offered at the start and end of every meeting. If you have a statement or question please either unmute yourself to talk, use the “raise your hand” feature, or put your statement/question into the chat for the moderator to read aloud. Please refrain from physically raising your hand as the moderator cannot see all participants on the screen at the same time.

If you have a question that is pertinent to the discussion, please use the “raise your hand” feature or post your question in the chat. The meeting moderator will inform the meeting facilitator when a hand is raised or if a question/statement is submitted.

Please try to avoid having side conversations in chat. This will make it difficult for the moderator to get to others’ questions or statements swiftly and smoothly.

Be careful not to interrupt others when they’re speaking. If you have trouble remembering, just mute your mic whenever you’re not speaking.

Understanding that sometimes lateness can’t be avoided, late comers can catch up on any info they missed at a later time. Whenever possible, meetings will be recorded and accessible.

Turn off or silence your phone (if you aren’t using it to call in)

If you’re using your computer or other devices to connect, close down all other apps and browser windows to eliminate notification.

Avoid rustling papers, eating noisy foods or making other distracting noises in the background.

Present: Staff and Faculty members: Patti Donnelly, Gail Greenleaf, Jamie Shilling, Emily & Aaron Walsh, Jesslyn Mullet, Angela Mouseau, Kayla Jager, Andrea Howe,  
Members of the Public: Carol Anne Johnson, Judy Robinson  
Board members & Admin: Lissa Harris, Bill Anton, Wayne Kermenski, Dan MacArthur, Douglas Korb, Celena Romo

6:00 p.m. – Douglas calls to Order

Welcome members of the Public

Welcome members of the Faculty

Douglas relayed the new format for Zoom meetings and stated that the meeting would be recorded. He expressed the need for Virtual Best Practices being instituted so that everyone has a voice, is heard, as Zoom meetings are very difficult compared to live meetings.

Lissa reviewed the virtual best practices.

6:10 p.m. – COVID-19

- Legislative Updates

Douglas debriefed and stated he has not heard anything from representatives on re-voting the already passed budget. No other news from state level other than webinar information

- Financial Webinar Update from 5/4

Douglas shared his screen and displayed the document shared during the Joint Fiscal Office webinar. The office said they will not have an “accurate” forecast until May 15-20, but right now they predict a \$171 million shortfall in 2021. They imagine creative ways to manage funds - coming from Federal relief programs.

6:20 p.m. – Faculty Visioning Meeting #1 - [Notes from the meeting can be found here](#), along with answers to questions asked.

Dan reports out about the meeting:

- review of questions that were asked at the meeting - Getting info from Bill and Laurie and Emily Long
- Jesslyn - reflects on yesterday's meeting, going into things in a positive way. Dan said that for next year things will largely be the same, but the following year we need to get creative and share all ideas to vision for the future
- David suggests that maybe this be a Board retreat topic?
- Angela - perhaps folks were hesitant to share ideas, no discussion, everyone wanted to meet and that felt good
- Jesslyn - when do we start this visioning? Lissa - would like to see staff in addition to public involved over the next year or so as info comes out and looking ahead together with the community and staff. Doug - encourages Wayne to continue this dialog with Wayne on an ongoing basis cause you are the boots on the ground

6:40 p.m. -- Principal's Report - looking forward to continuing to have this dialog, its really the art of education, continuously evaluating and assessing what we do

- Calendar Review - Started with WCSU calendar as template to build from. 8/25-8/28 WCSU sponsored development, 8/31 first day of school
  - Blue = teacher in-service days
  - green = half days
  - black = days off
  - pink = school events
- conference days will no longer be a day off, but 2 half days and can count as student days
- Question about snow days - can they be distance learning days instead? Bill says that the secretary of education will review this in the fall. Would need to be a waiver process most likely

Aaron - Do we need a contingency plan calendar for the fall if we do not open? Not at this time reports Wayne. Aaron suggests we go to school thru the summer! A couple weeks online, a couple of weeks offline, etc. Bill points out the issues with different schedules from the high school

Celena motions to approve the calendar as is, Dan seconds

Celena great job on calendar, well thought out, thanks to all

Roll call vote: David Aye Dan Aye Lissa Aye Celena Aye Doug Aye Motion carries

- Painting of school - Aaron will not be able to get certification for EPA due to classes being canceled - painters estimate \$8900
- Need to do this for Pre-school compliance - requests hiring painters sooner rather than later, then hire bus drivers, to help paint!

Patti asks if online option is viable, no, wrong certification

Need EPA certified painter to seal the building - fine is \$38,000 (yikes!)

Celena asks clarification on the scope of the work

David moves to expend up to \$10,000 to hire EPA painter to scrape and prime the school for early childhood compliance

Dan seconds

Roll call vote: David Aye Dan Aye Lissa Aye Celena Aye Doug Aye Motion carries

- Celena asks about getting an accounting snapshot for end of year summary for next meeting. Celena will email Laurie
- Playground - issues, need upgrades, moving things around (garden and play yard) discussion of pro's and con's of re-thinking this
  - We have \$9k from MSA for outside structures. Using local folks as volunteers too, how can we thoughtfully use that money to build some new possibilities. Think it would be great for kids to come back to a new play area.
- David - prelim work is important to determine how much this will actually cost. Would be in support of getting Bob Anderson over to the school to get an idea of what needs to be done and costs. Agree with reasons for making the move for the changes.
- How do you move the garden??
- Lissa thinks it would be great for moral for when students come back.

- Jude - Soccer field? How does that fit into this project? Is Basketball court functional? Wayne doesn't want to take away from the field or court
- Also still some money left over from Pre-school merger
- Marlboro College?? What about playground work if we move.. Wayne would like to design structures that we can take with us!
- Wayne would like to create moveable and work with staff to develop something, a fun more light hearted project. Wayne will come back with a plan to present to the board

7:30 p.m. – Final Questions (Public) Jude- wants to flag a decision that Chris Pratt had to lay off 38 paraprofessional staff. Review of DMG report, had believed that there was going to be PD for the general It's clear that that did not happen in the case of WNESU, do we forecast that happening in our district and or our surrounding districts?

Bill - Reports he is very proud of the work that the WCSU has done over the last 3 years in response to the DMG report, he doesn't see us changing the way that we are approaching things.

Aaron - As a parent I continue to be impressed and inspired by the care and attention given by the teachers, board, principal, and superintendent of our school and district. Thank you all!

7:38 p.m. – Approve Minutes (3/18; 3/25; 4/16; 4/22, 4/29)

- David motion to approve 3/18 minutes Dan 2nd
  - Roll call vote: David Aye Dan Aye Lissa Aye Celena Aye Doug Aye Motion carries
- David motions to approve motion to approve minutes from 3/25, Lissa 2nd
  - Roll call vote: David Aye Dan Aye Lissa Aye Celena Aye Doug Aye Motion carries
- Lissa motions to approve minutes from 4/16 David 2nd
  - Roll call vote: David Aye Dan Aye Lissa Aye Celena Aye Doug Aye Motion carries
- Lissa motionso to approve minutes from 4/22 David 2nd
  - Roll call vote: David Aye Dan Aye Lissa Aye Celena Aye Doug Aye Motion carries
- Lissa motions to approve minutes from 4/29, David 2nd
  - Roll call vote: David Aye Dan Aye Lissa Aye Celena Aye Doug Aye Motion carries

7:40 p.m. – Executive Session – Contracts Celena motions to move into exec session Lissa 2nd

8:30 p.m. - Move out of Executive Session

Board Directing superintendent to remind the Marlboro Teachers Association about the process of communications.

Board Directing superintendent to extend offering early retirement incentive to June 5th as well as lower eligibility years to five years of service

8:37 p.m. –Celena motions to adjourn, David 2nds

Roll call vote: David Aye Dan Aye Lissa Aye Celena Aye Doug Aye Motion carries

### *Upcoming Meetings & Important Dates*

- Marlboro School Board meeting Wednesday May 13 @ 6 p.m. Zoom
- **May 15 = Vermont COVID-19 Re-open Date**
- Marlboro School Board meeting Thursday May 21 @ 6 p.m. Location TBD

**Our Guiding Principles:** Students will be at the center of our decision-making. We will keep to the agenda. The chair will estimate the amount of time necessary for each item and act as timekeeper during the meeting. Every voice is heard as discussion goes back and forth. Decisions will not be made hastily. We will ask ourselves, “What other information do we need in order to make a thoughtful decision?” Decisions/discussion will be recapped before moving on to a new item. Items requiring action will be identified and we will note who is responsible for each action item. Follow through will occur before the next meeting. We will use email judiciously to communicate between meetings.

**Implementation Guidelines:** Meetings will be held on the third Thursday of each month with other meetings to be warned as needed. The chair will send out the agenda the Monday before the meeting. The meetings will start at 6:00pm and go no later than 10:00pm.

**May 6, 2020**  
**Principal Report to Board**  
**Wayne Kermenski**

**Zoom Meeting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89800329292?pwd=djVyMHJtL2xvNHNOcHVMcWJoSFIWQT09>

**Review 20-21 Calendar**

[See calendar here.](#)

**Financial Efficiencies**

- Painting the building - In light of Covid-19, Aaron will not be able to get his EPA certification in time for September. Can we hire the painters and Aaron/Bus Drivers can finish the job.
- The playground seems more important than ever. It would be great for students to come back to an awesome playground. After talking with the building committee, we are looking to switch the current playground with the garden. Benefits include:
  - Better line of sight at recess.
  - More space for the play structures and away from Route 9.
  - Garden can be seen by the community. and route 9.
  - Garden would be easy to access for PK and North El.
  - Wider walkway from buses