Tewksbury School Committee

Wednesday, December 11, 2024
Regular School Committee Meeting #7 - 5:00 PM
Tewksbury Memorial High School
Large Group Instruction Room #1
320 Pleasant Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Bridget Garabedian, Chair Chris Moncada, Clerk Kaitlyn Anderson, Member Kayla Biagioni-Smith, Member

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER EXCUSED

Richard Russo, Jr., Vice-Chair

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Brenda Theriault-Regan, Superintendent Nancy Milligan, Assistant Superintendent David Libby, Business Manager

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Garabedian called the Regular School Committee meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:00 p.m., Ms. Garabedian entertained a motion to convene an Executive Session, Ms. Biagioni-Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to enter into the Executive Session to discuss the November 13, 2024 Executive Session minutes and to discuss Collective Bargaining pertaining to Secretaries and TTA (Teachers) Collective Bargaining Units. The Committee will reconvene in open session following the Executive Session.

Roll Call Vote - Voting Yes: Mr. Moncada, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Biagioni-Smith and Ms. Garabedian. All Aye. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 4-0.

At 5:25 p.m., Ms. Garabedian entertained a motion to adjourn the Executive Session. Ms. Biagioni-Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to adjourn the December 11, 2024 Executive Session and reconvene in open session in the Christine McGrath Auditorium for the Academic Awards recognitions.

Roll Call Vote - Voting Yes: Mr. Moncada, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Biagioni-Smith and Ms. Garabedian. All Aye. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 4-0.

RECOGNITIONS

TPS Academic Awards

Ms. Garabedian welcomed the students and families for joining us tonight, relating that it is an honor for the School Committee members to recognize the outstanding achievements of our students. She introduced the School Committee members, principals and administrators in attendance and turned the meeting over to Superintendent Brenda Regan.

2024 MCAS Student Achievement Awards

Ms. Regan introduced the 2024 MCAS top performing students to the School Committee and the community. The 43 students were recognized and presented with a medal in recognition of their outstanding performance on the 2024 MCAS assessments. (A list of the students is attached to the minutes).

Class of 2025 John & Abigail Adams Scholarship Recipients

Ms. Regan introduced the TMHS Class of 2025 John & Abigail Adams Scholarship recipients to the School Committee and the community. The 44 students were recognized and presented with a key chain for their academic achievements. (A list of the students is attached to the minutes).

2025 National Merit Scholarship Program: Commended Student

Ms. Regan introduced Christopher Arbogast, a senior at Tewksbury Memorial High School, reporting that Christopher has been named a Commended Student in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program. Ms. Biagioni-Smith read and presented Christopher with a Proclamation of Resolution for his outstanding achievement. Ms. Regan thanked the students and families for attending the recognition ceremony this evening.

ADJOURN INTO PUBLIC SESSION

At 6:35 p.m., Ms. Garabedian reconvened the Regular December 11, 2024 School Committee meeting. She thanked everyone for attending the student recognitions tonight.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Ms. Garabedian called for a Moment of Silence in remembrance of Mary Manseau who recently passed. She was a former aide and Special Education teacher at the Tewksbury Public Schools before retiring in 2003. Ms. Regan said a few words stating that those that knew Mary said she was a very kind and caring person.

Principal Andy Long addressed the Committee announcing that Brian Aylward was named MIAA Coach of the Year. Mr. Aylward will be honored at a future School Committee meeting.

<u>ANNOUNCEMENT</u>

Ms. Garabedian announced that the December 11, 2024 Regular School Committee meeting will be televised and recorded and may be viewed live on Comcast Channel 22, Verizon Channel 34, or YouTube.com/TewksburyTV. Under the Open Meeting Law, the public is permitted to make an audio or video recording of an open session at a public meeting. Ms. Garabedian asked if anyone in the audience was recording tonight's meeting to please identify themselves. No one was recording the meeting.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Rania Elouahi - TMHS Student Council Representative Report and Highlights Rania reported on the news and events at Tewksbury Memorial High School.

Sports Updates:

- The Fall Sports Season has officially ended.
- To recap this very successful Fall Season, 9 of 10 teams made it to postseason play, we had 2 MVC Conference Champions, and 33 athletes were named First and Second Team MVC - All Conference.

- The Fall Sports Awards Ceremony was held last Wednesday, December 4th.
- The Winter Season began last Monday, December 2nd. The sports offered include Winter Track, Gymnastics, Wrestling, Basketball, and Ice Hockey. These teams will be having their first scrimmages, meets, and games this week and the following week.

Club Updates:

- NHS is holding a door decorating contest in which teachers can sign-up to have their door decorated and judged by Mrs. Ryan and Ms. Murphy.
- The TMHS Theater Company put on a wonderful performance of *Footloose* from Thursday November 21 through Saturday November 23rd.
- The Student Council planned the Pep Rally which took place on Wednesday the 27th, in which students participated in many games and enjoyed performances by the Cheerleading Team and witnessed the Robotics Team in action.
- The Student Council did community leaf raking for a variety of Tewksbury's senior citizens through the month of November.
- The Interact Club will be hosting a holiday drive this month.
- DECA exams will all be held last Block on Monday December 16th. All members have been actively preparing for this exam. Additionally, at this point, members are nearly done with their written presentations and roleplay preparation.
- The Class of 2025 has already begun collecting data through the form of surveys sent out to the Class in order to plan Prom and Senior Week activities.

Miscellaneous Updates:

- The annual Powder Puff Game was held at Doucette Stadium on Tuesday, November 26th. The Sophomore Class won the game.
- Beginning on November 6th until March 6th, individuals from a variety of career fields will be visiting TMHS to help students gain insight into the multitude of fields they can go into.

PRESENTATIONS

None

CITIIZEN'S FORUM

Ms. Garabedian asked if there was anyone in the audience that wished to speak on anything on the agenda and if so to please state their name, address, and the specific agenda item that they would like to speak on this evening. No one was present to speak.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Moncada moved to approve the November 13, 2024, School Committee Regular Business Meeting Minutes, seconded by Ms. Anderson. All Aye. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 4-0.

SUBMISSION OF PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mr. Moncada moved, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to approve the Payroll Period ending November 21, 2024 to be approved and certified in the amount and categories as shown, \$1,651,180.79. Roll Call Vote - Voting Yes: Mr. Moncada, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Biagioni-Smith and Ms. Garabedian. All Aye. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Moncada moved, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to approve the Payroll Period ending December 5, 2024 to be approved and certified in the amount and categories as shown, \$1,643,853.32. Roll Call Vote - Voting Yes: Mr. Moncada, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Biagioni-Smith and Ms. Garabedian. All Aye. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 4-0.

SUPERINTENDENT & STAFF REPORTS

Superintendent's Report

Ms. Regan pointed out a new category on the agenda, *Correspondence and Informational Only Topics*. She reported that the 2025-2026 Kindergarten Registration will begin in January 2025 and will continue through April 2025. She gave an update on the Care Solace usage and reviewed the data. Ms. Regan reported that she will be attending the Valley Collaborative meeting tomorrow adding that the Valley's Quarterly Financial Report and Newsletter can be found in the Correspondence and Information section of the agenda. She reported that Ribas Associates will be presenting the results of the Special Education Audit at the January 8th School Committee meeting. They have summarized the report and will share their recommendations to the School Committee. The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) will be conducting an assessment of school buildings across the state. They will be assessing Tewksbury schools in mid-January. The Tewksbury School Facility Study Committee (TSFSC) is looking at short-term and long-term needs of the Tewksbury Public Schools' school buildings. She reported that the TSFSC members toured our school facilities last weekend adding that students were not in the buildings. Ms. Regan made a suggestion to add the TSFSC meeting updates to our agenda under *Committee Reports*.

Ms. Regan reported that the district received a request to release student directory information. She gave a brief overview of how parents/guardians may opt-out if they do not wish to have their student's directory information released. The district will send a letter to families with information on the opt-out process and will include an opt-out form. This will be done annually; parents/guardians will only have to fill out the form if opting out. The Student Handbooks will be updated to include the opt-out information. Ms. Regan reported that the district has an opportunity to engage in the MA Love Math District Challenge. The challenge will be fun for every age level; Tewksbury will play against districts across the Commonwealth.

Ms. Garabedian approved the suggestion to add the Tewksbury School Facilities Study Committee (TSFSC) to the agenda under *Committee Reports*.

Ms. Regan responded to questions and comments from the School Committee members.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Ms. Milligan reported that a few members of the District Leadership Team attended the CACE Title 1 Federal Conference, December 4th-6th. The theme was Every Path Leads to Leadership with a focus on how to increase leadership opportunities in our schools and districts while empowering educators to build capacity, confidence, and motivation and to better support our students. Ms. Milligan gave an update highlighting the professional development that our administrative team is completing. She reported that the District Administrative Team completed an efficacy scale this fall. Through the data we have identified three areas to support our administrators. The Team is reading the book, Leverage Leadership, to help us manage the demands of our roles. Ms. Milligan reported on an upcoming event, Beyond the Books. There will be four sessions offered to families at our K-6 schools to learn more about our literacy program. Families are invited to come in for a 1-hour session, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. The sessions will be held at the Dewing School on January 9th; at the Heath Brook School on January 14th; at the Ryan School on January 28th; and at the Center School on January 30th. The information may be found in the District Newsletter. She reminded parents that the Massachusetts Partnership for Youth (MPY) Poster Contest is due January 24th and the PSA Contest is due on April 25th; more information will be included in the District Newsletter. Ms. Milligan announced that the district has an EL PAC for multilingual families. She provided the Committee with the English Language (EL) PAC meeting schedule in the agenda packet. The first meeting will be held on January 9th, 6:00-7:30 p.m. at the Ryan Elementary School. The EL PAC meeting schedule will be in the District Newsletter. The School Committee members discussed if a Committee member

should be a liaison to the EL PAC. Mr. Moncada offered to attend the next EL PAC meeting. Ms. Milligan responded to questions and comments from the School Committee members.

Business Manager's Report

Mr. Libby gave a brief update on the Heath Brook School projects. He emailed the Committee pictures from Principal Gerrish showing the progress on the outside of the project. The HVAC Contractor working on the ceiling and windows stated that he should be finished on December 20th. The only thing open on his punch list would be the window blinds and they are expected to be delivered and installed at the end of January. The insurance flooring folks are scheduled to come in on December 21st and 23rd to finish flooring in the area and installing the cabinets. He does not think the school is planning on the December move as planned. They will wait until all the testing is done and everything is fully functional. The staff and students should be making the move in January. Mr. Libby reported that he attended the TMHS Hall of Fame Banquet relating that there were eight individual athletes, two coaches, and one team inducted into the Hall of Fame. He gave a shout-out to Ron Drouin and Nancy O'Hare for putting the event together. Mr. Libbby responded to questions and comments from the School Committee members.

Correspondence & Informational Topics

Superintendent Regan, Assistant Superintendent Milligan, and Mr. Libby presented the following topics in their reports.

- o English Language PAC (EL PAC) Meeting Dates
- o 2025-2026 Kindergarten Registration
- o Hall of Fame Announcement
- o Care Solace Usage Update
- o Valley Collaborative Newsletter & Treasurer Report

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Garabedian asked if any member had questions and/or comments on any item on the Consent Agenda. Ms. Biagioni-Smith moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Ms. Anderson. All Aye. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Personnel Items

New Hires

Talita Nunes, Education Support Personnel Aide at the Dewing School, effective December 2, 2024; Crystalee Mendez, Education Support Personnel Aide at the Center Elementary School, effective November 25, 2024; Alexandra Gonzalez, Education Support Personnel Aide at the Heath Brook School, effective November 25, 2024; Morgan Burgess, Education Support Personnel Aide at the Center Elementary School, effective November 25, 2024; Meagan Ellis, Education Support Personnel Aide at the Heath Brook School, effective November 25, 2024; Jacquelyn Johnston, part-time Food & Nutrition Services team member at the Center Elementary School; Kristen Lanoutte, part-time Food & Nutrition Services team member at the Wynn Middle School, effective November 18, 2024

Reappointments - None

Retirements - None

Appendix B 2024-2025 Co-Curricular Activities

District-wide

2024-25 Mentor Stipends

<u>Higher Stipend</u>: Sarah Filiberto; *Brenda Meuse; Sheri Mulloy; Lauren Nastari; Lauren Tierney; Catherine Ventura

Tewksbury School Committee Regular SC Meeting December 11, 2024

*plus Additional Stipend

Lower Stipend: Maura Dearing

Center Elementary School

Kim Khan - .5 Special Education PLC Facilitator Charity Legvold - Specialist PLC Facilitator

Dewing Elementary School

Edward Finneran -.5 Special Education PLC Facilitator

Appendix B 2024-2025 TMHS Athletics - None

Acceptance of Grants - None

Acceptance of Donation - None

Raffle - TMHS PAC Trivia Night Raffle, March 13, 2025, proceeds to support the *All Night Long* senior's graduation party and scholarships.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Tewksbury SEPAC

Ms. Anderson reported that the SEPAC members discussed the fall event; they were excited that it was well attended. They are looking forward to the results of the Special Education audit. Ms. Biagioni-Smith confirmed that the SEPAC members will be meeting with the District administrators tomorrow. She reported that they are enrolled and meetings are on the calendar for the APPLE program. Ms. Biagioni-Smith will email the membership that the Special Education Audit report will be presented at the January 8th School Committee meeting.

Wellness Advisory Committee

Ms. Anderson reported that the Wellness Advisory Committee met today relating that they are in the early stages of planning a wellness event for the district and the community. She reported that there will be free Yoga & Mindfulness sessions at the Wynn Middle School for students and faculty.

Policy Subcommittee

The Committee will meet on December 18, 2024. We will have policies to bring forth after the meeting.

POLICY CHANGES, PROPOSALS, AND ADOPTIONS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

FY 25 Quarterly Budget Report

Mr. Libby reported that he has a correction to make on the October/November Budget Transfer relative to salaries. There was \$176,895 added to our budget at the October Town Meeting and it was put into our districtwide Salary Reserve Account as part of the closeout of the Town Meeting process by the Town Auditor. Mr. Libby was not familiar with the process and thought we would put the funds into accounts where needed as a result we double counted that transaction. Mr. Libby met with the Town Accountant to see how best to correct the error. He reported that he would like to move \$90,000 to the Wynn Middle School for a new hire and leave the \$86,895 in the Salary Reserve Account and that would be the correction to the November Transfer on the salary side. He drew the Committee's attention to the Budget

Tewksbury School Committee Regular SC Meeting December 11, 2024

Transfer of our Operating Accounts and Capital Outlay. He reported that the funds in the Capital Outlay Account have not really been used. He is requesting to transfer most of the funds in the Capital Outlay Account to the Operating Account for tuition and Out-of-District Transportation to help cover those expenses. Mr. Libby responded to questions from the School Committee.

Ms. Biagioni-Smith moved to approve the FY25 Expenditure Report and the Budget Transfer as presented. Ms. Garabedian added that there is no change to the bottom line; the transaction is to realign our budget to the revised needs of the district. Mr. Moncada seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote - Voting Yes: Mr. Moncada, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Biagioni-Smith and Ms. Garabedian. All Aye. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 4-0.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MATTERS OF INTEREST

Ms. Biagioni-Smith gave a shout-out to the Wynn Middle School's Award winning Drama Program; their show is this week on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. She gave a shout-out to the Center Elementary PAC for the amazing holiday event last week. She helped one of the PAC Co-Chairs to transfer the toys donated for Toys for Tots to the Tewksbury Firehouse. She had a discussion with the Co-Chair to better align events to ensure that they are not scheduled on the same date as town events. Ms. Biagioni-Smith announced that the School Committee Listening Session will be held tomorrow night; she and Mr. Moncada will be at the Center School, 6:00-7:00 p.m. She would like to talk more about ROTC options, at some point. Mr. Moncada concurred that the holiday event at the Center School was great and gave a shout-out to the students from the Ryan School, Wynn Middle School and the Tewksbury Memorial High School that stepped-up to volunteer where needed. He and his family attended the TMHS Theater Company's performance of Footloose relating that it was great. Ms. Garabedian recognized the efforts of Mr. Sullivan at the high school. This year, they offered their second year of Unified DECA; it went really well and they invited outside districts. She is looking forward to the development of that program. Ms. Garabedian announced to the Committee that as agreed upon in Collective Bargaining with the TTA, and with Appendix B and the Teachers' contract, the Subcommittee is going to resume regular meetings. Our first meeting will be held next Wednesday.

FUTURE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

January 8th - Regular Business Meeting; January 22nd - Budget Workshop; February 5th - Budget Hearing & Regular Business Meeting

2024 FUTURE SUB-COMMITTEE & ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

TSEPAC Business Meeting: January 16th; February 13th

Wellness Advisory Committee: February 12th

Policy Sub-Committee: December 18th at 1:30 PM - 3:00

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Recognition of TMHS athletes
Recognition of a student who ranked nationally in Musical Theater

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:46 p.m., Ms. Garabedian adjourned the December 11, 2024 Regular School Committee meeting with a motion from Ms. Biagioni-Smith, seconded Ms. Anderson. Unanimous vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Johnson, Recording Secretary
List of documents and exhibits used (GL c.30A, sect 22(a)):

AGENDA ITEM #	DOCUMENTS
1	School Committee Meeting Agenda: December 11, 2024
2	Executive Session Agenda: December 11, 2024
11	Minutes: November 13, 2024
12	Submission of Payment of Bills: November 21, 2024; December 5, 2024
14	Correspondence & Informational Topics: English Language PAC (EL PAC) Meeting Dates 2025-2026 Kindergarten Registration Hall of Fame Announcement Care Solace Usage Update Valley Collaborative Newsletter & Treasurer Report
15	Consent Agenda: Personnel items; Appendix B appointments; Raffle request
19	New Business: FY25 Expenditure Report & Budget Transfer

2024 MCAS Student Achievement Awards

Exceeded Expectations In Two Subject Areas (page 1/2)

English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics (MATH) and/or Science, Technology & Engineering (STE)

NAME	ASSESSMEN T GRADE	SUBJECT AREA
MAVERICK KUO	3	ELA and MATH
Alexandros Makris	3	ELA and MATH
Norah McGinnis	3	ELA and MATH
THEODORE ROBINSON	3	ELA and MATH
AIDEN WEIR	5	math and ste
Jake Bushen	5	math and ste
Mia Swansburg	5	ELA and MATH
Ashley Ponte	6	ELA and MATH
Ella Garagliano	6	ELA and MATH
Joshua Olsen	6	ELA and MATH
Avani Tiwari	7	ELA and MATH
Daniel Buczynski	7	ELA and MATH
MARIABELLA CRACCHIOLO	7	ELA and MATH
Riya Jumani	7	ELA and MATH
Sarah Maccioli	7	ELA and MATH
Alia Dunac	8	ela and ste
Dylan Richard	8	ELA AND MATH
Jaxon Flaherty	8	ELA AND MATH
Justin Plamondon	8	ela and ste
Allison Shpritzer	10	ELA AND MATH
BAVLY YOUSSEF	10	ELA AND MATH

^{*}Assessment Grade reflects the grade the student was in during the Spring of 2024

Exceeded Expectations In Two Subject Areas (page 2/2)

English Language Arts (ELA) & Mathematics (MATH) and/or Science, Technology & Engineering (STE)

NAME	ASSESSMENT GRADE	SUBJECT AREA
Ian Todd	10	ELA AND MATH
JEREMIAH WEBB	10	ELA AND MATH
Maddox Chretien	10	ELA and MATH
Samuel Caballero	10	ELA and MATH
Samuel Grathwohl	10	ELA AND MATH
Steven Oppedisano	10	ELA AND MATH

^{*}Assessment Grade reflects the grade the student was in during the Spring of 2024

Exceeded Expectations In Three Subject Areas

English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics and Science, Technology, & Engineering (STE)

NAME	ASSESSMENT GRADE	SUBJECT AREA
Josiah Holland	5	ela, math and ste
SOPHIA CAMPBELL	8	ELA, MATH AND STE

^{*}Assessment Grade reflects the grade the student was in during the Spring of 2024

2024 MCAS PERFECT SCORE OF 560

NAME	ASSESSMENT GRADE	SUBJECT AREA
Erin McCusker	6	ELA
Farah Gonzalez	6	ELA
Marianna Tancredi	6	ELA
Natalie Watkins	6	ELA
Sean Dechellis	6	ELA
Mark Johnson	8	ELA
CHLOE MELLO	10	ELA
Anthony Coppi	10	MATH

^{*}Assessment Grade reflects the grade the student was in during the Spring of 2024

2024 MCAS PERFECT SCORE OF 560 PLUS EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS 1 AREA

NAME	ASSESSMENT GRADE	SUBJECT AREA
Hannah Huy	3	Perfect Score in MATH & Exceeded Expectations in ELA
Isabella Lepordo	6	PERFECT SCORE IN MATH & EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS IN ELA
Alan Dang	10	PERFECT SCORE IN MATH & EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS IN ELA

^{*}Assessment Grade reflects the grade the student was in during the Spring of 2024

2024 MCAS PERFECT SCORE OF 560 PLUS EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS 2 AREAS

NAME	ASSESSMENT GRADE	SUBJECT AREA
Avitel Gaidukova	8	Perfect Score in ELA & Exceeded Expectations in MATH and STE
CELESTE WEBB	8	Perfect Score in ELA & Exceeded Expectations in MATH and STE

^{*}Assessment Grade reflects the grade the student was in during the Spring of 2024

2024 MCAS PERFECT SCORE OF 560 IN 2 AREAS

NAME	ASSESSMENT GRADE	SUBJECT AREA
KYLE CHIU	7	PERFECT SCORE IN ELA AND PERFECT SCORE IN MATH

^{*}Assessment Grade reflects the grade the student was in during the Spring of 2024

TMHS Class of 2025 John & Abigail Adams Scholarship Recipients

<u> </u>		
Lucia Alvarado	Avery Harrington	Ada Mullins
CHRISTOPHER ARBOGAST	Luc Jodoin	Elena Pejic
Toffy Beyloune	Brooke Khourie	Belen Poirier
Salvatore Catanzano	Nathanael Laboy	Deven Ricci
Vanessa Chen	David Lam	Maya Sachdev
Anya Cranston	EMILY LAPERRIERE	Zachary Salvaggio
Gianna Doiron	Philip Lombardi	Basheer Shikh Khamis
Payton Dunn	Miles Madera	ROSE SOE
Rania Elouahi	Austin Mannetta	Edison Sok
John Erskine	Nathan Marsden	Aidan Sweeney
KALLIE FRECHETTE	Colby Mengata	Collin Todd
Keira Gaffney	GREGORY MERCADO	Jonathan Walazek
Hazel Garabedian	Dante Moniz	Sydney Whalen
PETER GEORGACOPOULOS	CHARLOTTE MORRIS	REILLY WILLIAMS
Mason Gomes		Abbie Young

TMHS Class of 2025

Commended Student in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program

CHRISTOPHER ARBOGAST