

**Major Edwards
School Council Minutes**

Date: April 3, 2024

Time: 4:00

Location: Major Edwards Library

Members Present: Alex Audette, Nancy Hubbard, Amy Campbell, Andrew Perna, Cathy Cranston, Vanessa Kuzmanovski

I. Approval of March Minutes

II. Building/Staff Updates

- The selectboard will discuss/vote on a possible override on the school's budget being \$1,000,000 shortfall. The plan will be to have 2nd grade to go from 4 sections to 3 sections to accommodate additional special education programming. This will result in about 25-26 students per class.
- April Bernier hired for a long term grade 4 - Mrs. Miller, Ms. Bernier has Emilia Heidemann co-teaching with her with the transition as well.
- We are hoping that when another teacher goes on to that position as well if it works out with the timing.
- Our recent hiring of Lorrain Gallagher - school nurse at Major Edwards- continues to go smoothly and she is a good fit for the building.
- The cafeteria hired a new lead person and she has made some good changes already, including card organization, having older grades use their pin number, and overall the food quality and organization is getting good feedback.
- The sink and cabinets were put in room 119 and the wall in the t-wing has been completely repaired.
- The district is forming a School Safety Committee that would include staff from both buildings and community members. We are continuing next year to have crisis response training call, "I Love U Guys". A main topic will be the reunification process and where meeting/staging places would be. The committee will meeting monthly with West Boylston emergency responders. It will be presented to students in a kid friendly way. We do not have a plan on when this will begin.

III. Professional Development April 3 - Special Education staff districtwide met at the MHS for training on the new DESE Individual Education Plan. It will be expected that Massachusetts Districts use this beginning in Fall 2024. Information will be the same but the layout will be more user friendly for parents and educators.

- Those not involved in the special education training watched The Truth about Reading as a staff. The renowned documentary shows the literacy crisis in our country. The staff found the movie impactful and eye opening about how illiteracy affects people.

IV. MCAS Schedule – MCAS is going well and we will continue to follow the schedule below. Grade one will switch special times with 4th and 5th grade during their MCAS sessions to allow enough time for them to work uninterrupted throughout the day. Kindergarten will switch times with 3rd grade.

Major Edwards MCAS TESTING SCHEDULE - GRADES 3-5 2023 - 2024

DESE Testing Windows Spring 2024 MCAS Grades 3-5

Subject Area Test	Testing Window
ELA	March 25th – April 26
Mathematics	April 23–May 24
STE (Grades 5)	April 23–May 24

5th Grade ELA

- Tuesday, March 26 - Session 1
- Wednesday, March 27 - Session 2
- Make-up - March, 28 to March, 29 (Additional Make-up: April 22 to April 25)

4th Grade ELA

- Tuesday, April 2 - Session 1
- Thursday, April 4 - Session 2
- Make-up - April 5- (Additional Make-up: April 22 to April 25)

3rd Grade ELA

- Wednesday, April 10 - Session 1
- Thursday, April 11 - Session 2
- Make-up - April 12 (Additional Make-up: April 22 to April 25)

3rd Grade Math

- Tuesday, April 30- Session 1
- Wednesday, May 1- Session 2
- Make-up - May 2 and 3 (Additional Make-up: May 20 to May 23)

5th Grade Math

- Wednesday, May 8 - Session 1
- Thursday, May 9 - Session 2
- Make-up - May 10 (Additional Make-up: May 20 to May 23)

4th Grade Math 5th Grade STE

- Monday, May 13 - Session 1 * Wednesday, May 15 - Session 1
- Tuesday, May 14 - Session 2 * Thursday, May 16 - Session 2
- Make-up - May 15 to May 16 * Make-up -Monday, May 20 to Friday, May 24
- Make-up - Monday, May 20 to Friday, May 24

Revised: 2/9/24

V. Other Events

- STEM Night, March 27th - 4:30pm to 6:00pm (Superhero Theme) was well attended. The night included a photo booth, penny wars, finger painting, geometry exploration and magnets.
- Our next Community Meeting was held on March 29th for students and we had a guest, Master A from Arteca Karate who spoke about "respect". Our next Community Meeting will be May 3rd with the theme of acceptance.
- Drama/Art/Chorus Club - Dram Club will be performing "The Emperor's New Clothes" on April 4th or April 9th depending on the weather.
- Special Person Dance, Friday, April 5th - 6:00pm to 8:00pm for grades 1-3. We will have a DJ, photo booth, glow sticks and a runway walk.
- PTA is fundraising with a penny drive for grades K-5 and the grade level with the most funds gets to vote on a "stunt: for Mr. Audette (kiss a goat or tape him to a wall)
- Eclipse Glasses - the district has purchased eclipse glasses for all of the students. They will be handed out before dismissal so they can have them to safely watch the eclipse at home.

Next meeting will be May 8, 2024
At 4:00pm in the Edwards Library