I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm by Diane Duncan. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

Approval of Agenda
MOTION: On a motion of Tanna Jango, seconded by Dorothy Scally to approve the agenda.
VOTED: Unanimously approved

Motion to table the approval of Open Session Minutes of January 23, 2017

Motion of Approval of Executive Session Minutes of January 23, 2017
MOTION: On a motion of Tanna Jango, seconded by Dorothy Scally to approve the Executive Session minutes of January 23, 2017
VOTED: Unanimously approved

III. STUDENT COMMENTS

- 2/7/2017 College Search Program with Guidance
- 2/9/2017 34 students to be inducted to the National Honor Society
- 2/10/2017 Acapella Festival will be held at Nipmuc
- 2/11/2017 Ski Club trip to Killington VT

IV. COMMUNITY COMMENTS – NA

V. SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

MCAS 2.0 Update
New website is live and ELA practice tests are available. Schools within the district are beginning to practice to learn the tech tools. Joe Leacu is working to ensure there will be no issues when everyone is signed on a one time.
**Mendon-Upton SEPCA Update**

Dennis Todd and Superintendent Maruszczak had a meeting with over 30 parents who expressed interest in SEPCA. Great dialogue regarding programming and structures of the revived SEPAC occurred. Special Education parents have been emailed a survey to complete and the next meeting will be on Monday, March 6 at 7 pm at Nipmuc PDC to review the specific programming and workshops for the remainder of the year. ON Monday Feb 13, there will be a meeting with about 12 parents to review the survey results.

**Massachusetts Youth Art Month**

A month long exhibit at the State Transportation Building in Boston will feature 900+ K-12 students’ art work. MURSD will have 35 students pieces displayed and it is the first year high school students’ work will be there. The exhibit ends on March 30.

**Commissioner’s Forum in the MURSD – March 29**

Commissioner Mitchell Chester asked Superintendent Maruszczak to host a *Community Forum on K-12 Education in Massachusetts*. The intent of the forum is to highlight how well Massachusetts schools are performing relative to other states and internationally. After a presentation, Commissioner Chester will have a Q&A session. The event will be on Wednesday, March 29, 2017 at Nipmuc Auditorium beginning at 6:00 pm. The event is open to all 11 Blackstone Valley districts.

### VI. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

**Budget Subcommittee**

Tanna stated the Budget Subcommittee met last week. She ask Superintendent Maruszczak to present the budget. Highlights of his presentation include the following:

- This is strictly a level services budget to further the district’s cycle of continuous improvement and to maximize efficiencies and pursue cost savings.
- The State of the District is strong with class sizes, recognition from Newsweek’s Top High Schools, new emphasis with SEL and robust curriculum review and revision process.
- Enrollment is projected to be 40 fewer students due to low birth rates.
- The largest driver right now is an assumption of a 15% increase in health care insurance. This translates to an increase of $688,694 in the operational budget. This is definitely a high estimate and it is hopeful this number will be lower in actuality.
- Other increases include Transportation at a 6.7% increase and Student Services at a 15% increase and salaries.
- It was noted, Building & Grounds will see a 10.6 % reduction in electricity costs due to solar credits. All other lines are level funded except for a $6,000 increase for upgraded security cameras/software
- Budget includes continued investment in Technology and Textbooks/Instructional Supplies.
- Initial increase in expenditures total $1,289,273 (3.95%).
- Initial increase in revenues is $830,246 (2.55%)
- Since debt for Nipmuc is paid off, the total assessment will be lower to the Mendon and Upton
- At this juncture, there is a gap of $459,027 between projected revenue and expenditures. The gaps should be closed by finalizing a better
number for the health care insurance and an increase in Chapter 70 and Regional Transportation Reimbursement as the budget progresses through the House and Senate during the spring.

- Reminder the budget needs to be certified on March 13.

VII. OLD BUSINESS - NA

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Upton Men’s Club Fireworks Festival Request
Brad DiDio presented the request for use of Nipmuc High School for the Upton Men’s Club Fireworks. The festival will be held on Saturday, June 24.

Approval of use of Nipmuc High School for Upton Men’s Club Fireworks Festival on June 24
MOTION: On a motion of Tanna Jango, seconded by Leigh Martin to approve the use of Nipmuc High School for Upton Men’s Club Fireworks Festival on June 24
VOTED: Unanimously approved

Approval of Field Trip Request – Nipmuc Music
Simon Harding of the Nipmuc Music Department presented a request for a Field Trip to Walt Disney World for April 11 – April 16, 2018. Nipmuc music students will be participating in the Festival Disney Competition with performances in venues throughout the various parks and judged by highly qualified judges. The cost is estimated at $1,400 with an estimate of 100 students and 10 chaperones. Fundraising efforts are ongoing to assist with the cost.

Approval of Nipmuc Music Department Field Trip to Disney in April 2018
MOTION: On a motion of Leigh Martin, seconded by Dorothy Scally to approve the Nipmuc Music Department Field Trip to Disney in April 2018
VOTED: Unanimously approved

Approval of 2017-18 School Year Calendar
School Committee reviewed the 2017-18 School Calendar. There was a request to hold off the approval of the calendar until teacher negotiations are final. It was determined to approve the calendar for planning purposes and if needed, a vote could be taken to amend the calendar after negotiations.

Approval of FY2017-2018 School Calendar
MOTION: On a motion of Tanna Jango, seconded by Dorothy Scally to approve the FY2017-2018 School Calendar
VOTED: Unanimously approved

IX. CORRESPONDENCE

- MASC Legislative Bulletin
- MASC Summit on Poverty

X. Other Matters Not Anticipated By The Committee Within 48 Hours Of The Posted Meeting
XI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Superintendent’s Mid-Cycle Progress – February 27
- MURSD FY18 Open Budget Hearing – March 13

XII. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** On motion of Leigh Martin, seconded by Tanna Jango to adjourn.
**VOTED:** Unanimously approved

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.
Minutes by Kelly A. McElreath