I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Diane Duncan. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

Approval of Agenda

MOTION: On a motion of Leigh Martin, seconded by Tanna Jango to approve the agenda.

VOTED: Unanimously approved

Approval of Open Session Minutes of November 14, 2016

MOTION: On a motion of Phil DeZutter, seconded by Dorothy Scally to approve the Open Session minutes of November 14, 2016

VOTED: Unanimously approved

Approval of Executive Session Minutes of 9/12/16, 9/26/16 and 10/17/16

MOTION: On a motion of Phil DeZutter, seconded by Dorothy Scally to approve the Executive Session minutes of 9/12/16, 9/26/16 and 10/14/16

Leigh Martin amended the minutes from 10/17/16 to insert remote participation due to geographic distance

VOTED: Unanimously approved

III. STUDENT COMMENTS

Emily informed the School Committee the following:

- FAST was held on Wednesday, November 23 and it was a great success. A mannequin challenge was filmed and was viewed by the School Committee. Monies were raised and donated to charity.
- Nipmuc won the ‘Battle of Pleasant St’ Football game on Thanksgiving. It was the first time the game was played at Nipmuc.
- Winter sports begin today.
- On 12/2 Nipmuc will be having the High Honors dinner with 100+ students.
- On 12/7 is the evening of the Annual Winter Concert
IV. COMMUNITY COMMENTS - NA

V. SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

School Choice in/Choice Out Report
Superintendent Maruszczak presented to the School Committee data on School Choice. At this time there are 162 students choicing in which is an increase of 17 students (10%). There are 49 students choice out which is a decrease of 7 students. These are positive treads however need to be careful not to creating a structural deficit by accepting too many choice students.

School Wide Walks and Fundraising Efforts
Superintendent Maruszczak shared with the School Committee each schools efforts during the holiday season:
- Miscoe Hill 8th grade staff and students raised over $1300 for the Walk for Giving. Funds will go to Miscoe Giving Tree to provide food and presents for local families
- Memorial School participated in a school wide walk for Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. $1,788 has been raised to this point.
- Nipmuc FAST events raised $1,615 for the Dana Farber Cancer Institute.
- Clough’s 2nd grade teacher Lauren St. Pierre spearheaded the collection of canned and non-perishable grocery items for the Mendon Food Pantry. This year was the largest donation the school ever made.

These are great efforts and teaches the value of giving to the students.

Update – MURSD Curriculum Mapping
Maureen Cohen updated the School Committee on the curriculum mapping available online. Highlights included the following:
- Parents were excited to learn they could view the curriculum online
- Website home page describes the vision and belief of the district’s curriculum
- All curriculum on the website has been thoroughly reviewed
- A demonstration on how to browse one of the curriculum map was done for the School Committee.
- Goal is to add more curriculum to the website such as electives
- Assessments have not been made public because more work is needed

VI. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

Policy Subcommittee
Tanna Jango informed the School Committee the subcommittee is looking at guidelines for school activities. The Policy Subcommittee also presented Policy JICH- Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drug Use Prohibited by Students and Policy IHAMB- Teaching about Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco to the School Committee for second reading. It was explained these are revisions to existing policies and are recommended by MASC to be in compliance with MGL c. 74, sec 96, the Opioid Law. This law requires each public school to have these policies and communicate directly to the parents/guardians and post to the website.

Approval of Policy JICH- Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drug Use Prohibited by Students and Policy IHAMB- Teaching about Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco
MOTION: On a motion of Tanna Jango, seconded by Dorothy Scally to approve Policy JICH- Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drug Use Prohibited by Students and Policy IHAMB- Teaching about Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco
VOTED: Unanimously approved
VII. NEW BUSINESS

*Social Emotional Learning: What Is It and Why Is It So Important*

Superintendent Maruszczak presented a PowerPoint on Social Emotion Learning. Highlights included the following:

- CDC data on social emotional health of children show children are living in anxious times. 80% of students do not receive the treatment needed. Schools are in a unique position to work with these students and their families.
- 5 Core Competencies was developed by the CASEL (Collaborative of Academic, Social and Emotional Learning): Self-Management, Self-Awareness, Responsible Decision Making, Relationship skills, Social Awareness.
- Benefits of SEI programming include increases in performance and benefit cost ratio.
- Programming in MURSD include student support team at each school and formal partnerships with Riverside Community Care, Family Continuity and Community Impact for students in crisis.
- Proactive programming include Second Step program, KCR Club, Rachel’s Challenge, Nipmuc Advisory Program, Health screenings/consultations, K-12 Wellnless curriculum/
- Approach to improve SEL is to create, access and identify ongoing PD resources. 93% of teachers fell SEL is very or fairly important.
- Employers want the top 10 soft skills that SEL teaches
- Kerry Fagan described the upcoming Wellness Week at Nipmuc on Dec 5-9. This is the 3rd year for the Wellness week and it introduces students to wellness practices. 2 Advisory classes are held where student can chose a session. Positive feedback from the students and staff.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

*MURSD Capital Needs & Future Directions*

A report of capital budget items was given to the School Committee for review. It was determined it would be best to be more proactive for capital items in the district.

It was determined to get more details on each item, what items would be needed to completed within the next 1 to 5 years and then prioritize the items. This information will be needed to inform each of the communities of the upcoming capital needs of the district. It was stated Miscoe will be needing upgrades in both functionality and cosmetically.

Superintendent Maruszczak will be working on the list for a meeting in January so the School Committee can bring it to the Multi Board.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE - NA

X. Other Matters Not Anticipated By The Committee Within 48 Hours Of The Posted Meeting

Diane Duncan will be reaching out to School Committee members for a date to conduct another outreach meeting with the community.
XI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Inclusion Professional Development – December 12
- MURSD FY2018 First Pass Budget – January 23

XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: On motion of Tanna Jango, seconded by Dorothy Scally to adjourn.
VOTED: Unanimously approved

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.
Minutes by Kelly A. McElreath