**MASCONOMET REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Budget Subcommittee

Minutes of the 1/7/19 Meeting

(Date)

Members Present: Tasha Cooper, Carolyn Miller, Kosta Prentakis, Zillie Bhuju

Others present: Kevin Lyons (Superintendent of MRSD) Susan Givens (Assistant Superintendent of Operations), Cindy Dixie (Masconomet’s Accountant), Kathy Trull (Boxford FinCom)

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

1. **Remarks from public:** none
2. **Minutes approved:** Carolyn moved to approved meeting minutes from 11/29/18 and 12/10/18. Zillie 2nd, all approved.
3. **Lunch fees:**

Cindy presented an update on our lunch program. She stated that is had been a self-sustaining program. we are currently in year 5 of a 5-year contract with Whitsons. Current challenges include aging equiptment with approximatedly $400k in capital needed in the next five years. In addition recruitment and retention of staff has been an issue partly due to a limited labor pool and an increase in minimum wage. There has been no price increase on school lunch in at least 12 years. Our lunches are currently $2.50 for the basic lunch and $3.50 for the premium lunch. We are currently lower than surrounding towns and even the TriTown lunch program. We are proposing a $0.50 increase for both lunch options to $3.00 and $4.00, to start in the 19/20 school year. Zillie made the motion to increase the school lunch princing by $0.50. kosta 2nd and all were in favor.

1. **Breakfast program:**

Currently the school offers ala carte breakfast options. The school is proposing a breakfast program at $2.25, within the range of surrounding towns’ programs. This will allow reimbursement for students who are eligible for Free and Reduced lunch. The hope is that this will also increase participation in the breakfast program and help feed students so no one is going to school hungry. An added benefit may be an increase in revenue derived from the program. The school is suggesting adding this in as a pilot program as soon as it receives approval for the full school committee.

1. **Review possibility of”game cards”:**

Ticketed athletic events are bringing in revenue of about $35k through football, hockey, basketball and wrestling tournaments. We have heard public concern about paying fees for the sports and then paying to watch their children play in these sports. We are suggesting one season pass per athlete of a ticketed sport per season. Kevin to deterimine which exact sports are charging fees and if it is varsity only, or sub varsity teams as well. Zillie made this motion to accept this, Carolyn 2nd, all were in favor.

1. **Next Steps:**

Review talking points of our athletic fees increase. Review early FY20 operating budget information. Get a FY20 projected capital budget update (1/28/19 meeting).

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m. Carolyn Miller made motion, Zillie Bhuju 2nd, all in favor.