

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION
OF THE MALDEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Monday, June 12, 2023
Meeting Room 3 #113 - 215 Pleasant Street
And Virtual Meeting

Mayor Christenson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call

The following attendance was taken:

Mayor Christenson	Present
Mr. Drummey	Present
Mr. McCarthy	Present
Ms. Spadafora	Present
Ms. Macklin	Present
Mr. Weldai	Present
Mr. Gray	Present
Mr. Bernard	Present
Ms. Rose-Zeiberg	Present
Attorney Greenspan	Absent
Director of Finance and Operations Mertz	Present
Superintendent Noriega-Murphy	Present
Clerk	Present

1. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of May 1, 2023

Ms. Spadafora made the motion to approve the minutes for the May 1, 2023 Executive Session of the School Committee. Mr. Bernard seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Drummey voted YES
Mr. McCarthy voted YES
Ms. Spadafora voted YES
Ms. Macklin voted YES
Mr. Weldai voted YES
Mr. Gray voted YES
Mr. Bernard voted YES
Ms. Rose-Zeiberg voted YES
Mayor Christenson voted YES
Motion passed unanimously.

2. M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(3) “to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares” (“Purpose 3”) – Malden v. Supervisor of Public Records, et. al

[REDACTED]

Mr. Weldai made a motion to recuse himself and leave the meeting at this point. Mr. Bernard seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Drummey voted YES
Mr. McCarthy voted YES
Ms. Spadafora voted YES
Ms. Macklin voted YES
Mr. Weldai voted YES
Mr. Gray voted YES
Mr. Bernard voted YES
Ms. Rose-Zeiberg voted YES
Mayor Christenson voted YES
Motion passed unanimously.

3. Purpose 2 - To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with Non-Union Personnel – Assistant Superintendent of English Learner Education, because an open meeting will have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position and the chair so declares.

Superintendent Noriega-Murphy made the recommendation to hire Ms. M. Ellen Kellher Rojas as the Assistant Superintendent of English Learner Education for 2023-2024. Superintendent Noriega-Murphy responded to the questions raised by Ms. Spadafora about Ms. M. Ellen Kellher Rojas as well as the interview process.

Mayor Christenson requested Superintendent Noriega-Murphy to inquire about Ms. M. Ellen Kellher Rojas' tenure at the Melrose Public Schools.

Mr. Bernard made a motion to approve a 1-year contract for 2023-2024 for Ms. M. Ellen Kellher Rojas for the position of Assistant Superintendent of English Language Education. Mr. Drummey seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Drummey voted YES
Mr. McCarthy voted YES
Ms. Spadafora voted NO
Ms. Macklin voted YES
Mr. Weldai RECUSED
Mr. Gray voted YES
Mr. Bernard voted YES
Ms. Rose-Zeiberg voted YES
Mayor Christenson voted NO
Motion passed with 6 votes in favor, 2 votes against and 1 recusal.

4. **Purpose 2 – To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with Non-Union Personnel – Director of Human Resources, Mr. Jonathan Barrows, because an open meeting will have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position and the chair so declares.**

Superintendent Noriega-Murphy requested the School Committee to approve a 3% salary increase for the Director of Human Resources, Mr. Jonathan Barrows effective July 1, 2023.

Discussion ensued about comparative data on salaries and whether this measure can wait until the salary increases for other non-union staff is discussed for 2023-2024.

Mr. Drummey made a motion to approve a 3% increase for Director of Human Resources, Mr. Jonathan Barrows effective July 1, 2023. Mr. Bernard seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Drummey voted YES

Mr. McCarthy voted NO

Ms. Spadafora voted NO

Ms. Macklin voted YES

Mr. Weldai RECUSED

Mr. Gray voted YES

Mr. Bernard voted YES

Ms. Rose-Zeiberg voted NO

Mayor Christenson voted NO

Motion failed with 4 votes in favor, 4 votes against and 1 recusal.

5. **Purpose 2 – To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with Non-Union Personnel – Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Noriega-Murphy, because an open meeting will have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position and the chair so declares.**

Director of Finance and Operations, Ms. Mertz left the room. Superintendent Noriega-Murphy explained that her current daily rate is lower than the daily rate of the Director Finance and Operations who works 4 days/week. Superintendent Noriega-Murphy requested a salary increase of 10%.

Superintendent Noriega-Murphy left the room for the purposes of the Superintendent's non-union salary raise discussion.

School Committee members proceeded to discuss the Superintendent's request. Consensus was reached that the vote taken at the May 1, 2023 Executive Session for a 3% salary increase for 2022-2023 for Superintendent Noriega-Murphy will remain unchanged.

Adjournment

Mr. Bernard made the motion to adjourn Executive Session at 8:14 p.m. Ms. Spadafora seconded. A roll call vote was taken. A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Drummey voted YES

Mr. McCarthy voted YES

Ms. Spadafora voted YES

Ms. Macklin voted YES
Mr. Weldai RECUSED
Mr. Gray voted YES
Mr. Bernard voted YES
Ms. Rose-Zeiberg voted YES
Mayor Christenson voted YES
Motion passed with 8 votes in favor and 1 recusal.

The committee reconvened to the Regular Session at 8:16 p.m.

I certify that a notice of this meeting was filed with the Clerk of the City of Malden in the manner provided under Chapter 39, Section 23A of the General Laws.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shirley Dorai", written over a horizontal line.

Shirley Dorai, Clerk