

Major Edwards  
School Council Minutes

Date: March 13, 2024

Time: 4:00

Location: Major Edwards Library

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

I. Approval of January Minutes

II. Building/Staff Updates

- Jen Bates was hired as a kindergarten paraprofessional
- Charlene Conrad, hired as a preschool paraprofessional
- April Bernier hired for long term grade 4 - Mrs. Miller, Ms. Bernier has Emilia Heidemann co teaching with her to help with the transition as well
- We are hoping that when another teacher goes on leave at the end of May we can transition Ms. Bernier to that position as well if it works out with the timing
- Our recent hiring of Lorrain Gallagher - school nurse at Major Edwards continue 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 called, "I Love You Guys". A main topic will be the reunification process and where meeting/staging places would be. The committee will meet monthly with West Boylston emergency responders. It will be presented to students in a kid friendly way, we do not yet have a plan on when this will begin.

### III. Mcas Testing:

- Will begin the week of March 25th
- Third grade ELA is going to be last with their ELA session being on April 10th and 11th so they can become familiar with use of the chromebook for testing.
- Moving forward we will look to do a rotation of how each grade gets a pick of their MCAs week. We recognize that all grades would like extra days to practice or teach final skills that students may need.

#### **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**

- Monday, May 13 - Session 1
- Tuesday, May 14 - Session 2

#### **5th Grade STE**

- \* Wednesday, May 15 - Session 1
- \* 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

#### IV. STEM night March 27th - 4:30 - 6:00 Superhero Theme

Looking forward to having a great night with science and math activities, here are a few that are planned:

- Photo booth
- Penny wars
- Fingerprinting
- Geometry exploration
- Magnets

#### V. Our next Community Meeting will be held on March 29th for students and we will have a guest, Master A from Arteca Karate. He is invited to speak to us about our theme of respect.

- Our last community meeting was held on February 2nd and was hosted by 4th grade with an emphasis on responsibility

#### VI. Drama/Art/Chorus Club -

- Drama club will be performing the Emperor's New Clothes on April 4th and the students will get to see the performance in school before April vacation.
- The clubs are afterschool activities that offer great enrichment opportunities in the Arts

#### VII. The PTA

- Someone Special Dance:
  - April 5th from 6-8
  - Grades 1-3
  - Will have 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)

- PTA is sponsoring the Discovery Museum Program for grade 1 on March 27th

VIII. Literacy Review Committee (staff from each grade level)

- Looking at 5 programs:
- CKLA, Superkids, Houghton Mifflin, Wit and Wisdom, and EL
- Currently we are using Foundations for phonics, Heggerty for phonemic awareness, and SRSD for our writing program - some programs may incorporate some of this
- The committee will narrow this down to 2 choices and it will be piloted in the fall by designated classrooms

Other - Parent question if the Open Spaces Committee could have a 3rd party get results of a questionnaire from parents at possibly the end of year event or through backpack Thursday. Alex will check with the superintendent.

Next meeting will be April 3, 2024  
At 4:00 in the Edwards Library

