

## **MINUTES OF THE 2014 ANNUAL MEETING**

**The 68<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc. was called to order at 3:00pm on Wednesday, November 5, 2014 at the Resort and Conference Center in Hyannis. President Ann Marie Cugno presided. MASC Legal Counsel Stephen Finnegan acted as parliamentarian.**

**There were 116 member school committees present, represented by delegates appointed and registered as required by the By-Laws of the Association.**

### **PROCEDURES & RULES**

**It was moved, seconded and voted unanimously to adopt for the meeting the Procedures and Rules as adopted October 15, 1970, amended October 19, 1973, and printed in the Delegate Manual.**

## **MINUTES OF THE 2013 ANNUAL MEETING**

**It was moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve the 2013 Annual Meeting minutes as they were printed in the 2014 Delegate Manual.**

### **REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER**

**Secretary-Treasurer Patrick Murphy presented the fully audited financial statement and report for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 to the delegates. It was moved, seconded and voted unanimously to accept the report as printed in the 2014 Delegate Manual.**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

**It was moved, seconded and voted unanimously to elect William Fonseca and Shirley Lundberg as Life Members of the Association.**

### **REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Immediate Past President Mary Jo Rossetti, Chair, reported and made the following nominations for election of officers of the Association, namely:**

**President-Elect—Jacob Oliveira, Ludlow**

**Vice President—Patrick Murphy, Barnstable**

**Secretary-Treasurer—Beverly Hugo, Framingham**

**There being no other nominations, It was moved, seconded and voted unanimously to elect the persons named to the respective offices. The President introduced the incoming president and the persons elected to office.**

## **REPORT OF THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE**

**On behalf of the Resolutions Committee, MASC President-Elect Patrick Francomano moved by several motions the adoption of the following resolutions:**

### **RESOLUTION 1: GREATER TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR OUT OF DISTRICT PLACEMENT COSTS**

**(Submitted by the Framingham School Committee)**

**BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees file for and support legislation that will require institutions providing out-of-district placements for education to file End-of-Year Reports that reflect in detail and inclusiveness that of corporate annual reports and stock offering schedules, and post salaries with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.**

**An amendment was proposed by the Delegate from Brookline such that the amended resolution would read as follows (new language in italic boldface):**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees file for and/or support legislation that will require institutions providing out-of-district placements for education to file End-of-Year Reports with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education that *include, but not be limited to: 1) detail on any corporate earnings and stock offering schedules, 2) all staff and board salaries, and 3) an independent financial audit, consistent with that required of Education Collaboratives under MGL Chap 40, Sec 4E and 603 CMR 50.08(2).*

Without objection, the amendment was accepted following a request by the delegate from Framingham who sponsored the initial resolution.

The amended resolution was approved on a voice vote.

### **RESOLUTION 2: UNIVERSAL QUALITY PRE-KINDERGARTEN ACCESS IN MASSACHUSETTS**

**(Submitted by the Framingham School Committee)**

**BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees file or support legislation that** will provide the appropriation for universal pre-k in Massachusetts and will take the steps necessary to provide access to good, quality universal pre-k for all children in Massachusetts.

The resolution was approved, as submitted, on a vote of 69 (in favor), 34 (opposed) and 3 abstentions.

**RESOLUTION 3: CHARTER SCHOOL REFORM**  
**(Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)**

**BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees call upon the legislature to enact charter school reform legislation that will include provisions that:**

- Require BESE to consider social and economic impact upon the districts from which new or expanding charter schools would recruit students.
- Require a strong provision to prevent skimming and suspensions from charter schools that return students whom they no longer wish to enroll to the sending districts.
- Finance reform so that charter school expropriations from local Chapter 70 funding does not severely damage the sending districts.
- Require timely reporting on accountability with meaningful data on student attendance, expulsions and suspensions, student at economic risk (low income) in comparison with sending districts.
- Establishment of benchmarks to measure success
- Establishment of a formula for evaluating school districts that uses a “growth” component that is not less than 50% of the formula.
- Require on an annual basis the reporting of best practices and innovation to the “sending” school districts.

The resolution was approved, as submitted, on a voice vote.

**RESOLUTION 4: FINGERPRINTING**  
**(Submitted by the MASC Resolutions Committee)**

**BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees** calls upon the legislature to establish such legislation and require that the administering agencies:

- Conduct a periodic system review to consider means of streamlining and reducing costs of operation.
- Ensure that teachers be fingerprinted upon their initial licensure under the supervision of DESE.

- Establish the requirement that teachers be fingerprinted upon their re-certification if they are not already fingerprinted.
- *Establish DESE as the clearinghouse for all fingerprinting checks for all educators.*

An amendment was proposed to eliminate the final bullet (see italic). The amendment was adopted with three votes in opposition.

The amended resolution was adopted on a vote of 61 (in favor) to 30 (opposed).

**RESOLUTION 5: REINSTITUTION OF EARMARKING**  
**(Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)**

**BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees** supports the reinstatement of federal earmarks for school districts, regional school districts and municipalities through the federal appropriations process.

The resolution was approved, as submitted, on a voice vote.

**RESOLUTION 6: UNFUNDED MANDATES AND NEW TESTING**  
**(Submitted by the Arlington, Chelmsford, Lincoln-Sudbury, Mendon-Upton, Northbridge, Holbrook, Woburn and Worcester School Committees)**

**BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees** calls upon the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the legislature to refrain from adding new mandates including new tests and other initiatives and to revisit the mandates already imposed on districts with a view to reducing interference with classroom instruction, thus allowing educators to do their work.

The resolution was approved, as submitted, on a voice vote.

**RESOLUTION 7: ASSESSMENT SYSTEM IN MASSACHUSETTS**  
**(Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)**

**BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees** urges the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to conduct further examination of options for a state evaluation and accountability system and to substantially involve educators and school committee members in the process of choosing an assessment instrument and to refrain from committing to any instrument before this process is complete.

Such evaluation should substantially involve educators and school committee members in the process of choosing an assessment instrument, and to refrain from committing to any instrument before this process is complete.

An amendment was proposed by the delegate from Tantasqua Regional to strike the words “conduct further examination of options for a state evaluation and accountability system and to” and inserting after the word Education the following: “to suspend implementation of the Common Core standards and PARCC assessment and to conduct an examination of Massachusetts education standards and its evaluation and accountability system. Such evaluation should. . “

An amendment was proposed to the amendment to replace the word “suspend” with “reexamine.”

The amended amendment was approved on a vote of 58 (in favor), 27 (opposed) with 11 abstentions.

The resolution, as amended, was approved on a vote of 69 (in favor), 21 (opposed) with 3 abstentions.

The final resolution reads as follows:

**BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees** urges the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to reexamine the Common Core standards and PARCC assessment and to conduct an examination of Massachusetts education standards and its evaluation and accountability system.

Such evaluation should substantially involve educators and school committee members in the process of choosing an assessment instrument, and to refrain from committing to any instrument before this process is complete.

## PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE MASC BY-LAWS

The following by-law change to Article VIII by adding the following paragraph:

*“During the interim period between meetings of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee may take such actions on behalf of the Board as it deems prudent on matters that require immediate action and shall report such action immediately to the full membership of the Board of Directors.”*

The change was approved on a voice vote.

The following by-law change to Article V, subsection 4 to delete the following sentence:

*“Division officers shall take office on July 1 following election.”*

And to substitute the following:

*“Division officers shall take office on January 1 following election. The meeting shall be held at or in advance of the Annual Meeting of the Association, or, if a quorum cannot be reached, then as soon as is practical.”*

An amendment was proposed to change the date of July 1 to December 31.

The amendment was approved on a voice vote, and the change to the by-law, as amended, was approved.

A motion was made to adjourn. The motion was approved and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 5:10pm.