**REPORT ON RESOLUTIONS 2015**

The following is a report on actions taken on the resolutions and proposed amendments to the Association by-laws that were considered by the Delegate Assembly at the annual meeting in Hyannis on Wednesday, November 4.

There were 132 districts represented at the assembly.

**Resolution 1—Regarding High School Starting Times**

(Submitted by the Newton School Committee

BE IT RESOLVED that MASC be authorized to petition the legislature and to support legislation, including S.254, which calls for the establishment of a special commission to study the appropriate starting time for students in middle and high school.

The resolution was approved on a voice vote.

**Resolution 2—Poverty and Children**

(Submitted by the Framingham School Committee)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committee will prioritize, as a matter of its public policy agenda, and file for and support legislation that will support the eradication of poverty among children in Massachusetts and advocate for social and economic justice for students and their families that will include:

• Support for a revenue stream that supports social and economic priorities for children and families.

• Support for state programs and services that serve children at greatest social and emotional risk which are easily accessible to students and families.

• Advocacy for nutrition programs that eradicate hunger among children.

• Advocacy for healthcare including vision, hearing, dental and mental health through accessible service providers.

• Support for pre-kindergarten programs for all children.

• Advocacy for increasing educational opportunities for children to grow both inside and outside of school.

The resolution was approved on a voice vote.

**Resolution 3—Tying Test Scores to Chapter 70 Funding**

(Submitted by the Framingham School Committee)

BE IT RESOLVED that MASC support legislation to ensure that individual student MCAS and/or PARCC assessment data in a given academic year is ascribed to the school and district that claims Massachusetts Chapter 70 funding based on that student’s October 1 enrollment, provided that the student is enrolled in a Massachusetts school when the tests are administered.

In addition, MASC requests the State Auditor to examine academic outcomes for students who move out of charter schools after October 1.

The resolution was approved on a voice vote.

**Resolution 4—Support for an Equitable and Sustainable Placement Program for Students Covered under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act**

(Submitted by the Framingham School Committee)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees file for and support legislation that will design, implement, and fund a program that will provide a more sustainable and equitable placement program for the state’s homeless and McKinney-Vento students. A placement program needs to include consideration of the social-emotional and behavioral circumstances of the student, timing of the placement in relation to budgetary considerations, proximity to the student’s previously established support system, and the availability of resources the receiving district has to accommodate the student’s needs.

The resolution was approved on a voice vote.

**RESOLUTION 5—Tax Reform Ballot Question**

(Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

BE IT RESOLVED that the MASC explore ways to promote social and economic equity through a ballot initiative whose purpose may include a state constitutional amendment, tax reform, protection of the state’s neediest residents of all ages, and seeks additional revenue only from tax reform affecting the state’s wealthiest residents. Further, that the goal of such a ballot referendum would be to secure a stronger financial base to underwrite needed improvements in the infrastructure of the Commonwealth as well as the educational, social and economic well-being of its residents.

The resolution did not pass on a vote of 62 (opposed) to 50 (in favor).

**RESOLUTION 6—Membership of a School Committee Member on the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education**

(Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

BE IT RESOLVED that MASC submit to the General Court proposed legislation that MGL Chapter 15, Section 1E be revised (see italics) as follows:

Section 1E. There shall be in the department a board of elementary and secondary education, in this chapter called the board, which shall consist of the chairman of the student advisory council established under this section, the secretary of education, in this chapter called the secretary, or her designee, and 9 members appointed by the governor. The 9 members appointed by the governor shall consist of 1 representative of a labor organization selected by the governor from a list of 3 nominees provided by the Massachusetts State Labor Council, AFL-CIO; 1 representative of business or industry selected by the governor with a demonstrated commitment to education; 1 representative of parents of school children selected by the governor from a list of 3 nominees provided by the Massachusetts Parent Teachers Association; *1 representative from a school committee from a list of three nominees provided by the Massachusetts Association of School Committees* and *5* additional members.

An amendment was offered by the delegate from Arlington to further urge the legislature that the prohibition of school committee members and licensed educators from serving on the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education be stricken from the MA General Laws (*“No appointive member of said board shall be appointed by or receive regular compensation from the department of education, or from any school system, public or independent, in the commonwealth, or serve as a member of any school committee.”* MGL Chapter 15, Section 1E).

The amendment was accepted on a voice vote. The resolution was approved on a voice vote.

**RESOLUTION 7—Relative to the Teaching Strategies GOLD Assessments for Kindergarten Students**

(Submitted by the Arlington School Committee)

BE IT RESOLVED that MASC urge the Department of Early Education and Care and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to end the mandate that districts implement TS GOLD or any other externally developed kindergarten assessment.

The resolution was approved as presented.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS to the MASC BY-LAWS**

(Referred by the Board of Directors)

**I. AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VIII, Section 1**

Addition of the following paragraph to Section 1:

Any member of the MASC Board of Directors serving on the Board of Directors for the National School Board Association (NSBA) shall continue to serve as a voting member of the MASC Board until such time as his/her term on the MASC Board expires in accordance with these by-laws. Any member of MASC serving on the NSBA Board of Directors shall serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the MASC Board of Directors for the duration of his/her term on the NSBA Board.

The amendment passed unanimously as proposed.

**II. AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VIII, Section 1 and Section 4**

The first sentence of Article VIII, Section 1 shall be amended by revising the first sentence as follows:

The Officers, the Immediate Past President, the Division Chairmen and the Chair of the Minority Caucus, shall constitute the Board of Directors except that no employee of the Association may serve on the Board of Directors.

Further, Article VIII, Section IV shall be amended by deleting the word “fourteen” and substituting the word “fifteen”.

The amendment passed unanimously as proposed.