

Delegate Manual and 2015 Annual Report

Wednesday, November 4, 2015



Resort and Conference Center at Hyannis

Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc.
One McKinley Square, Boston MA 02109

Delegate Manual

The 69th Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc.

One McKinley Square, Boston MA 02109 • (617) 523-8454; (800) 392-6023 • www.masc.org

MASC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Patrick Francomano, King Philip Reg.

President-Elect: Jacob Oliveira, Ludlow

Vice President: Patrick Murphy, Barnstable

Secretary-Treasurer: Beverly Hugo, Framingham

Immediate Past President: Ann Marie Cugno, Medford

Division I

(Co-Chairs): Evelyn Thoren, Chelmsford
Dina Sullivan, Triton Reg.

Division II: Jim Stockless, Framingham

Division III: Charlene McEntee, Plainville

Division IV: B. Ellen Holmes, Ashburnham-Westminster Reg.

Division V: Devin Sheehan, Holyoke

Division VI: John Hockridge, North Adams

Division VII: Geoffrey Swett, Wareham

Division VIII: Deborah Davis, Northeast Metro Reg. Voc. Tech.

Division IX: Paulette Van der Kloot, Medford

MASC Staff

Executive Director

Glenn Koocher

Communications Director

Jenifer Handy

Director of Operations

Carol Grazio

Field Director

Patricia Correia

Field Director

Michael Gilbert

Field Director

Jim Hardy

Field Director

Dorothy Presser

Graphic Designer

Kari MacCormack

Member Services Coordinator

Nanette Olsen

Operations Coordinator

Sam Cheesman

General Counsel

Stephen J. Finnegan

contents

Procedures and Rules.....	2
Agenda	2
Minutes of the 2014 Annual Meeting.....	3
Report on 2015 Legislative Action.....	6
Annual Report of the President.....	8
Annual Report of the Executive Director	9
Annual Report of the Auditor	10
MASC Budget.....	16
Committee Reports Requiring No Action	
Regional Schools Committee	18
Recommended for Life Membership	19
Current MASC Life Member List	20
Committee Reports Requiring Action	
Nominating Committee	22
Resolutions Committee	24
MASC Presidents, 1947-2015	28
MASC By-Laws	29
MASC Division Listing	34
Annual Division Reports.....	36
Amendment Form	39
MASC Board of Directors and Staff	inside front cover

procedures and rules

As adopted October 15, 1970

Each member board is entitled to one duly certified delegate or alternate having one vote on each item of business. In order to qualify as a voting delegate, each delegate must be seated in the designated area.

The annual meeting will operate under Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, with the following additional rules:

Rule 1: A maximum of ten minutes will be allotted to each proponent of a resolution.

Rule 2: In speaking to a motion, a member will be limited to three minutes. A member must speak from a microphone, must state his full name, and must state the name of his school district.

Rule 3: When a member has once spoken on a question, he will not be recognized again for the same question until others who wish to speak have spoken.

Rule 4: Motions and amendments must be presented to the chair in writing.

Rule 5: All voting shall be by a show of hands unless a secret written ballot be voted by a majority of the voting members.

Parliamentary Ruling, October 19, 1973: Any member who is the fully appointed delegate of more than one school district is hereby entitled to as many votes as school districts for which he is accredited.

2015 masc annual meeting agenda

Wednesday, November 4, 2015 • Hyannis, Massachusetts

11:00am-3:00pm – Registration of Delegates

All delegates must register by 3:00pm at the MASC delegate registration desk.

Delegates not registered by 3:00pm will not be allowed to vote.

3:15pm – Annual Meeting

- Procedures and Rules
- Minutes of the 2014 Annual Meeting
- Annual Reports of the Officers and Committees not Requiring Action by the Delegate Assembly
 - Report on 2015 Legislative Action
 - Annual Report of the President
 - Annual Report of the Executive Director
 - Annual Report of the Auditor
 - 2015-2016 Budget
 - Regional Schools Committee Report
- Recommendations for Life Membership
- Committee Reports Requiring Action by the Delegate Assembly
 - Nominating Committee Report
 - Resolutions Committee Report
- Other Business
- Adjournment

Presiding: Patrick Francomano, President
Parliamentarian: Stephen Finnegan, Legal Counsel

minutes of the 2014 annual meeting

The 68th 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, Hyannis. President Anne Marie Cugno presided. MASC Legal Counsel Stephen Finnegan acted as parliamentarian. There were 106 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.

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, 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 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: 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:

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

1. The following by-law change to Article VIII by adding the following paragraph following the last sentence of subsection 7:

"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.

2. 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 January 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.

report on 2015 legislative action

This report was submitted in August, 2015 and the Legislature was not in formal session. The Legislature will return in September and additional education hearings are scheduled in the fall. Several years ago the Legislature changed its rules so that the sessions extend for two years and bills are filed and receive a hearing during the first year of the two-year session. Thereafter, the Legislature considers matters that have been reported by the various committees of the Legislature.



RESOLUTION 1—GREATER TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR OUT-OF-DISTRICT PLACEMENT COSTS

In response to this resolution MASC filed H.508, principally sponsored by Rep. Christopher Walsh and co-sponsored by Reps. Mirra and Hecht. This bill will require institutions providing out-of-district placements to file end-of-year reports with the same content as public schools and collaboratives. A hearing was held on this matter before the Joint Committee on Education on June 17, 2015 and no further action has yet been taken.

RESOLUTION 2—UNIVERSAL QUALITY PRE-KINDERGARTEN ACCESS

MASC will support H.462 principally filed by Rep. Alice Peisch and 47 co-sponsors that establishes a grant program to ensure high quality pre-kindergarten. Also, MASC worked to secure proper funding for the kindergarten program that was the subject of a veto by the Governor. H.462 is scheduled for a hearing in the fall.

RESOLUTION 4—FINGERPRINTING OF SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

MASC filed H.377 in response to this resolution and this bill was principally sponsored by Rep. Sean Garballey and those joining with him as co-sponsors are Reps. Decker, Orrall, Keefe and Poirier. H.377 requires the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to conduct a periodic review of the fingerprinting system to consider streamlining and reducing cost of operation. Also, this bill would require that teachers be fingerprinted upon their initial licensure and, as necessary, for recertification. H.377 is scheduled for a hearing in the fall.

RESOLUTION 6—UNFUNDED MANDATES AND NEW TESTING

In response to this resolution MASC, through the principal sponsorship of Rep. Sean Garballey, has filed H.376. This legislation imposes a moratorium on new educational mandates and establishes a task force to streamline and consolidate existing mandates. H.376 is co-sponsored by Sens. Moore, Hedlund and Fattman and Reps. Provost, Decker, Nangle, Dwyer, Mirra, Velis, Orrall, Keefe, Arciero, Stanley and Ashe. This legislation is scheduled to be heard in the fall.

PRIOR YEARS RESOLUTIONS REFILED

ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL COMMISSION OF THE LEGISLATURE FOR MANDATED REPORTS AND DATA SUBMISSION FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS

MASC refiled H.506, the sponsors of which are Reps. Christopher Walsh and Roy and Sens. Richard Moore and Barbara L'Italien. Among other matters covered by this anti-mandate legislation is the requirement that prior to the promulgation of new regulations by DESE and related agencies, a financial and programmatic audit must be conducted in order to ascertain the costs associated with the implementation of the regulations. Furthermore, no regulations shall be promulgated by these agencies unless the costs of compliance, administration and implementation are provided to local school districts. A hearing on this bill is scheduled for the fall.

MODIFICATION OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION CIRCUIT BREAKER FORMULA

MASC refiled H.505, An Act Relative to Special Education Reimbursements, sponsored by: Reps. Christopher Walsh, Dwyer, Sannicandro and Senator Karen Spilka, who filed the senate version of this bill S.335. Current law reimburses school districts through the Special Education Circuit Breaker Account for 75% of the costs that exceed 4 times the state average per-pupil foundation budget and this legislation would increase the percentage to 100%. The Joint Committee on Education held a hearing on this matter on July 8, 2015 but the Committee has not yet issued a report on these bills.

APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNING BOARDS OF COMMONWEALTH CHARTER SCHOOLS AND LOCAL APPROVAL OF SUCH SCHOOLS

This resolution requires that the appointment of all members of governing boards of Commonwealth Charter Schools, after the passage of this act, shall be subject to the review and approval of the school committees of the communities where such students reside. Currently the names of all Commonwealth Charter School Boards are subject to review by the Commissioner of Education. MASC refiled H.488, An Act Relative to Charter School Boards, in response to this resolution, the sponsors of which are as follows: Reps. Frank Smizik, David Rogers and Gentile. Also, MASC filed H.485, An Act Relative to Charter Schools. This legislation allows for the approval of a charter school by the impacted school committees and also by approval of town meetings, city councils or voters of the district. This latter bill was offered in the House by Reps. Smizik, Swan, DiNatale, DuBois, Malia, Provost, Khan, Decker, Benson, Stanley, Ryan and Ultrino, and in the Senate by Sens. Jehlen and L'Italien. A hearing on all charter school legislation is scheduled for the fall.

CONCERNING THE APPROVAL OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS

MASC refiled H.391, An Act Relative to School Improvement Plans, to address this resolution. The principal sponsor of this bill is Rep. Patricia Haddad and it is co-sponsored by Education Committee Co-Chair Rep. Alice Peisch and Reps. Silvia and Roy and Senator Karen Spilka. This bill seeks to correct an amendment that was added in the Senate to a Supplementary Budget, Chapter 65 of the Acts of 2004. This amendment

removed school committees from their longstanding statutory role concerning the review and approval of school improvement plans submitted by school councils.

The school committee is the policy making authority of the school district (MGL, c.71, s.37). The review and approval of school improvement plans is an essential element of the policy making authority of school committees. As a result of the 2004 legislation superintendents now approve school improvement plans submitted by school councils. This bill, the text of which was worked out with MASS, will keep the approval of superintendents and reinsert the approval of school committees. This legislation was heard on May 6, 2015, was reported favorably on May 11, 2015 from the Joint Committee on Education and passed the House in June of 2015 and awaits further action in the Senate.

THE REPORTING OF MCAS SCORES FOR APPROVED 766 SCHOOLS

MASC refiled S.250 and H.458, the principal sponsors of which are the Chairs of the Committee on Education, Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz and Representative Alice Peisch. These bills address the issue of reporting aggregate MCAS scores for special needs students attending Approved Private 766 Schools. Instead of folding the MCAS scores of students attending private special education schools into the sending district's aggregate results, H.458 and S.250 require that such scores will be attributed to the private schools attended by such students. These bills were heard on June 17, 2015 and were reported favorably by the Joint Committee on Education on July 23, 2015 and were sent to the Senate Ways and Means Committee.

Stephen Finnegan, Esq.
MASC General/Legislative Counsel

report of the president

As school committee members, we all work very hard to make a difference in the lives of our students and the success of our communities. Our Association, through the collective effort of its members, strives to fulfill these goals on a daily basis.



On the public policy front, the Foundation Budget Review Commission has heard our clear and convincing arguments for increased funding for every school district, increased district reimbursement for high risk children and students of special education, and a more equitable and accurate calculation of staff and retiree health insurance. Our voice has resonated with the message at both public hearings and Commission meetings, that while funding is crucial, it is essential that we address the unique socioeconomic challenges and inequities facing our communities. We consistently focus public policy discussions on children and families who live in poverty, pursuing what we have termed as "The Children's Services Safety Net," a concept of mobilizing all community resources around young people in need. MASC and its members across the Commonwealth were among the first to express concern over the growing number of students at economic disadvantage and its tragic affect on their educational, social, physical and emotional wellbeing.

We researched the "story behind the story" of some charter school operations, uncovering deceitful practices of "counseling out" undesirable students and returning them to the original district so that charters can boast of higher graduation rates. We identified some blatant discrimination in the failure of charters to enroll a representative cross section of students who are recent immigrants and English Language Learners.

More than five dozen school committees over the last three years have demonstrated their dedication to excellence and professional development through their participation the District Governance Support Program. DGSP, currently wholly funded by MASC, is a nationally recognized program in identifying and applying the tactics of successful school board practices to improve student achievement.

Our members were part of a record audience at our 2014 Annual Conference that featured vibrant, relevant educational programming along with inspiring speakers and rejuvenating social activities for our members. Our commitment to professional development includes multiple training sessions for new and veteran members alike. Over 250 members attended our Charting the Course programs offered across the Commonwealth.

MASC and its members continue to confront the transition in state government and the challenges it brings. Together we are as active, committed, and engaged as we have ever been.

Division I Co-Chairs Evelyn Thoren of Chelmsford

and Dina Sullivan of Triton Regional focused on special education and technology where Ms. Thoren also represented MASC on the state's Technology Advisory Committee.

Division II Chair James Stockless of Framingham has highlighted issues of teen violence, school finance, and communications at well attended division meetings.

Division III Chair Charlene McEntee (Plainville) did double duty with her regional members and our special education committee drawing attention to students "turning 22" who are at risk of loss of services and support at their time of greatest need.

Division IV Chair Ellen Holmes (Ashburnham-Westminster) presided over our Regional Committee and was among those leading the charge for increased funding for student transportation and students with special needs.

Division V Chair Devin Sheehan championed the efforts of his Holyoke community to address the future of school reforms, school finance, and regional districts and distinguished himself by speaking powerfully before the statewide media and in defense of his district against the state bureaucracy.

In Berkshire County, Division VI Chair John Hockridge of North Adams organized several meetings of Western Massachusetts chairs and school committee members with legislators on priorities and regionalization strategies. Chairing a coordinating committee of chairs, Hockridge was able to bring the entire county legislative delegation together several times to work closely with districts who are struggling with declining enrollment. Similarly, Division VII Chair Geoff Swett of Wareham organized legislative forums and professional development for members looking into the future of teacher training in an era of curriculum transition and testing. Swett and MASC Vice President Patrick Murphy (Barnstable) also championed the work of the MASC Working Group for Charter Reform that has commanded the attention of Cape Cod legislators and generated significant research in defense of major reforms.

In Division VIII, Chair Debby Davis (Northeast Metro Tech) organized two orientations and helped mobilize our largest Day on the Hill Program with over two dozen technical school culinary arts programs and over 100 technical school representatives to advocate for education legislation in Boston.

Urban Division Chair Paulette Van der Kloot (Medford) led the way on advocating for the wellbeing of students, hosting scheduled and special sessions looking at the special challenges students confront in this era of testing. She brought to the same table advocates for prudent education reform, student emotional health, charter school reform, and urban concerns in an unprecedented and strategic advocacy agenda.

MASC's strength is in its extraordinary staff and the never ending efforts of its membership to personally

PRESIDENT continued on page 9

report of the executive director

Every year, the elected and staff leaders of the 50 state school boards associations meet to discuss common areas of concern, with surprising similarities among us all. The difference is that many look to Massachusetts as the home of the nation's highest performing students and



ask us to share best strategies. There is no secret to our success – good teachers, active parents, committed civic leaders all focusing on student achievement. In Massachusetts we honor our students for their work in the classroom and find a way to focus on all children to encourage them and promote their well being.

Massachusetts school committee members distinguished themselves in many ways. You are among the most active in seeking out professional development; you respond to calls for advocacy by reaching out to your legislators; you are visible in the community; you understand that your fiduciary responsibilities are just as important as your policies targeting student achievement.

MASC is proud to have been part of the success again this year as we presented more than 200 local programs and workshops, enjoyed record attendance at our state convention, generated huge success for our Day on the Hill, and raised principled points of advocacy at the State House and in the halls of Congress with our supportive delegation including three former school committee members (Richard Neal, Michael Capuano, and Katherine Clark) now serving in the US House of Representatives. Our board leaders delivered powerful statements to the Governor and Lt. Governor at monthly meetings of the Local Government Advisory Commission, and our representatives to the Foundation Budget Review Commission were lauded by advocates for their passion and pointed arguments.

In addition to the leadership of the Board of Directors, MASC boasts an extraordinary staff who make sure that "a live person answers the phone" and tries to answer your question or resolve your concern before the call ends. Sam Cheesman, MASC operations coordinator, usually the first voice you may hear also organized our sponsorship program that helped defray conference expenses. Carol Grazio, our operations director, led MASC through our 15th consecutive annual audit and her financial prudence has helped strengthen our fiscal position. Nanette Olsen, Member Services Coordinator, is the person who candidates for the superintendency address

and is known to many members as the overseer of policy work. Field Directors Patricia Correia, James Hardy, Mike Gilbert, and Dorothy Presser are the knowledgeable people in the office and on the road, including nights and weekends. At any given moment, they may be scheduling training, guiding you through a parliamentary procedure, explaining the foundation budget, dealing with a special concern, or reassuring you in difficult times. MASC General Counsel Stephen J. Finnegan, our invaluable resource for almost 40 years, addresses your legal questions, prepares our legal briefs, and leads our State House lobbying. As Communication Director Jenifer Handy has helped shape MASC's public image, edited our MA General Laws, directs our state convention, and produced every piece of written material we issue. She is ably assisted by our Graphic Designer Kari MacCormack.

The year ends with MASC in a very strong position as an organization with sound financial management, the ability to withstand another economic crisis, effective programs to support its members, and a good standing with public policy makers. We have been a frequent source and resource for media outlets, and participate actively in the work of the National School Boards Association. Our training materials and resource documents have been in constant use, and, based on our 2015 membership survey, have earned your trust and support.

All of that means that we are well positioned to confront significant challenges from those who would expand charter schools without the necessary reforms to make them accountable; increase bureaucrat and regulatory requirements that detract from our work of educating children; attempt to coerce the consolidation of districts as a specific strategy to reduce the ability of parents to advocate for their children; centralize power and authority in Boston or Malden and as far away as possible from the schools your children attend; and expand the state's punitive testing programs without assurances that diagnostic standardized examinations will be used to help students improve and teachers master their practices, rather than sanctioning districts under accountability systems designed to create the appearance of failure when, in fact, it may not exist at all.

Thanks to all the school committee members who have encouraged MASC in its work and who have worked with us and led the way in your cities, towns, and regional school districts.

Glenn Koocher
MASC Executive Director

PRESIDENT continued from page 8

advocate for student success and the right of public education.

We will continue our collective advocacy on behalf of all the Commonwealth's children and secure the necessary resources, legislation and policies so that all

children, regardless of race or socioeconomic status can benefit from a public education that is the envy of so many around the country.

Thank you for making a difference.

Patrick Francomano
MASC President

Independent Auditors' Report

To the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc.:

Report on Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc. which comprise the statements of financial position as of June 30, 2015 and 2014, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc. as of June 30, 2015 and 2014, and the results of its activities and its cash flows for the years then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Wolf + Company, P.C.

Boston, Massachusetts
August 5, 2015

MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL COMMITTEES, INC.

Statements of Financial Position

June 30, 2015 and 2014

Assets

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents, including interest-bearing accounts of \$1,347,160 and \$1,167,416, respectively	\$ 1,388,207	\$ 1,243,799
Accounts receivable	64,566	68,900
Prepaid expenses	24,398	30,022
Total current assets	<u>1,477,171</u>	<u>1,342,721</u>
Property and equipment, at cost:		
Office condominium	331,476	331,476
Furniture and equipment	143,328	136,479
	<u>474,804</u>	<u>467,955</u>
Less accumulated depreciation	(268,086)	(246,156)
Net property and equipment	<u>206,718</u>	<u>221,799</u>
Total assets	<u><u>\$ 1,683,889</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,564,520</u></u>

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current liabilities:		
Accrued expenses	\$ 24,816	\$ 24,085
Deferred revenue	44,553	3,500
Total current liabilities	<u>69,369</u>	<u>27,585</u>
Unrestricted net assets	<u>1,614,520</u>	<u>1,536,935</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u><u>\$ 1,683,889</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,564,520</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL COMMITTEES, INC.

Statement of Activities

Years Ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

	2015	2014
Unrestricted net assets:		
Revenues:		
Dues	\$ 1,022,696	\$ 997,911
State conference	334,443	288,508
Management Information for School Committees	60,200	59,600
Publications	118,415	120,389
Conferences and workshops	37,975	21,940
Subscriptions	165,830	153,140
Policy publications	170,485	174,750
Plaques and miscellaneous	33,086	34,115
MASC search service	120,974	100,664
Grant Income	377	182,646
Interest income	4,759	3,778
Total revenues	<u>2,069,240</u>	<u>2,137,441</u>
Expenses:		
Programs:		
State conference	489,152	472,989
Management Information for School Committees	2,646	14,686
Publications	219,816	234,208
Conferences and workshops	384,027	281,623
Policy publications	207,401	205,203
MASC search service	85,714	83,797
District governance support	3,447	166,254
Total program expenses	<u>1,392,203</u>	<u>1,458,760</u>
Administrative	599,452	584,314
Total expenses	<u>1,991,655</u>	<u>2,043,074</u>
Increase in unrestricted net assets	77,585	94,367
Unrestricted net assets—beginning of year	<u>1,536,935</u>	<u>1,442,568</u>
Unrestricted net assets—end of year	<u>\$ 1,614,520</u>	<u>\$ 1,536,935</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL COMMITTEES, INC.

Statements of Cash Flows

Years Ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Increase in unrestricted net assets	\$ 77,585	\$ 94,367
Adjustments to reconcile increase in unrestricted net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	21,930	21,383
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	4,334	58,463
Prepaid expenses	5,624	7,265
Accrued expenses	731	609
Deferred revenue	41,053	(14,000)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>151,257</u>	<u>168,087</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchase of property and equipment	(6,849)	(19,702)
Net cash used by investing activities	<u>(6,849)</u>	<u>(19,702)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	144,408	148,385
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>1,243,799</u>	<u>1,095,414</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>\$ 1,388,207</u>	<u>\$ 1,243,799</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

I. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Operations

The Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc. (the "Association") was incorporated on April 6, 1954. The Association was organized to provide closer cooperation among all of the school committees of the cities and towns of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; to study the problems of organization, administration and operation of public schools and to work for the adoption of the best methods, practices and procedures in public school administration; to encourage the enactment of legislation deemed beneficial to the public schools, school children and all of the citizens of the Commonwealth; and to sponsor, develop and encourage all projects, programs and matters deemed necessary and desirable to promote better public education in the Commonwealth.

In order to meet its purpose, the Association organizes an annual state conference and other conferences and workshops, provides various publications and manuals and operates a search service for school superintendents.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Association are presented on the accrual basis of accounting in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Financial Statement Presentation

The Association reports information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets and permanently restricted net assets. As of June 30, 2015 and 2014, all of the Association's net assets are unrestricted.

Use of Estimates

In preparing financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities as of the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Concentrations of Credit Risk

Financial instruments, which potentially subject the Association to concentration of credit risk, include cash and cash equivalents which may exceed insurance limitations and are placed in high quality financial service organizations.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of checking, savings and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less when purchased.

Accounts Receivable

The Association carries its accounts receivable at the invoiced amount less an allowance for doubtful accounts. On a periodic basis, the Association evaluates its accounts receivable and determines the allowance for doubtful accounts, based on a history of past write-offs and collections and current credit conditions. Management has determined that no allowance for doubtful accounts is necessary at June 30, 2015 and 2014.

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment is stated at cost. Depreciation is provided over the estimated useful lives of the assets using the straight-line method. A summary of the estimated useful lives follows:

Classification	Estimated Useful Life
Office condominium	40 years
Furniture and equipment	5 - 7 years

For the years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014, depreciation expense amounted to \$21,930 and \$21,383, respectively.

The City of Boston has assessed the office condominium at \$959,000 as of January 1, 2014.

Revenues and Deferred Revenue

Dues revenue is recognized ratably over the applicable membership period. Program revenues and grant income are recognized as the related services are provided. Deferred revenue at June 30, 2015 and 2014 consists of amounts received for registration fees for which the event had not yet taken place as well as policy publications for which the service had not yet been provided.

Income Tax Status

The Association is a tax exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is, therefore, exempt from Federal and state income tax.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require the Association to evaluate tax positions taken, including the position that the Association qualifies as a tax-exempt organization, and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Association has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the Internal Revenue Service. Management has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Association, and has concluded that as of June 30, 2015 and 2014, there are no uncertain tax positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the financial statements. The Association believes it is no longer subject to examinations for years prior to June 30, 2012.

2. COMMITMENTS

The Association has entered into an operating lease for office equipment and is also leasing other equipment on a month-to-month basis. Future minimum lease payments under the non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

Years Ended June 30,	
2016	\$ 16,428
2017	16,428
2018	5,476
	<u>\$ 38,332</u>

Lease expense under all operating leases amounted to \$34,036 and \$35,404 for the years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

3. PENSION PLANS

The Association has a defined contribution pension plan in effect for all employees who are at least twenty-one years old and have met the required length of service. Contributions are based on a specified percentage of qualifying compensation (presently 5%) and are funded annually. The Plan also provides

for discretionary contributions as determined annually by the Board of Directors (2% for both fiscal years 2015 and 2014). A participant in the plan is not vested in the Association's contributions until they have performed two years of service, at which time they become 20% vested. Participants are fully vested after six years. The Association has also adopted a second defined contribution plan which allows for only employee deferred contributions. Pension expense for the years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014 amounted to \$53,318 and \$53,512, respectively.

4. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated subsequent events through August 5, 2015, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued. There were no subsequent events that require adjustment to or disclosure in the financial statements.

MASC Budget and Revenues/Expenditures

RECEIPTS		BUDGET 2015-2016	REVENUES/ EXPENDITURES 2014-2015 (unaudited)
1.	Dues	\$1,027,000.00	\$1,022,726.00
2.	Subscriptions	164,600.00	165,830.00
3.	Policy Updates from Dues	52,000.00	52,675.00
4.	General Laws from Dues	109,960.00	110,110.00
5.	Council of School Attorneys	30,000.00	31,515.00
6.	Publications	10,000.00	8,375.00
7.	Policy Service	110,000.00	128,193.25
8.	Annual State Conference (inc. advertisements)	330,000.00	338,430.58
9.	Day on the Hill	20,000.00	18,410.00
10.	Interest and Dividends	15,000.00	4,504.34
11.	Plaques/Recognition Awards	1,200.00	575.30
12.	Advertising income (included in other categories)	—	—
13.	Conferences/Workshops	12,000.00	2,535.00
14.	M*I*S*C	60,000.00	60,200.00
15.	MASC Search Service	108,000.00	111,474.05
16.	Division Income	1,000.00	—
17.	Offset BOD Expense (Reimbursement)	—	—
18.	NE Regional NSBA Meeting	—	—
19.	Other Memberships	15,000.00	18,000.00
	Totals	\$2,064,760.00	\$2,073,553.52

EXPENSES

1.	Salaries	\$790,066.59	\$733,119.01
2.	Payroll Expenses (Paychex)	2,900.00	3,228.73
3.	Payroll Tax Expenses (FICA/Medicare)	60,440.09	53,464.39
4.	Pension Fund	39,503.33	51,318.53
5.	Bank Services Charges	—	(424.22)
6.	Employee Insurance (reimb.; AD&D; Life)	78,000.00	68,617.64
7.	Staff Recruitment/Temp Staff	15,000.00	9,101.01
8.	Legislative Counsel	47,000.00	47,000.00
9.	Legislative Research	—	—
10.	Legislative Reporting Service	4,158.00	4,158.00
11.	Legal Counsel	46,000.00	46,000.00
12.	Legal Services	10,000.00	7,684.44
13.	Auditor	31,000.00	29,515.00
14.	Accounting Services	2,800.00	2,715.00
15.	Staff Expense	40,000.00	34,929.83
16.	Staff Professional Development	4,000.00	2,647.96
17.	Board of Directors	32,000.00	52,172.40
18.	Board Professional Development	—	—
19.	Additional out-of-state Travel	—	—
20.	Professional Development: NSBA Northeast Region	11,000.00	6,386.48

Expenses, continued

21.	Professional Development: NSBA FRN Conference (incl. Leadership)	23,000.00	28,689.49
22.	Professional Development: NSBA Annual Convention	37,000.00	26,851.71
23.	Professional Development: NSBA President's Retreat	6,000.00	263.20
24.	Memberships	38,000.00	44,376.00
25.	Roberta Doering/Past Presidents Scholarships	3,500.00	4,000.00
26.	State Conference	225,000.00	252,742.15
27.	Day on the Hill	24,000.00	25,901.27
28.	Division/Committee Expense	12,500.00	7,098.90
29.	Publications	76,000.00	75,838.62
30.	Policy Service	45,000.00	56,942.22
31.	Office	35,000.00	35,000.00
32.	Equipment Lease	39,000.00	36,536.21
33.	Equipment Maintenance	5,000.00	2,295.31
34.	Postage	64,000.00	42,654.75
35.	Condo fees	41,500.00	33,546.71
36.	Custodial service	6,500.00	5,958.00
37.	Insurance	12,000.00	9,245.00
38.	Unemployment Compensation	450.00	—
39.	Telephone	15,000.00	9,665.86
40.	Electricity	7,500.00	7,871.72
41.	Gas	3,250.00	2,536.91
42.	Capital Improvements/Depreciation	25,000.00	25,000.00
43.	Plaques/Recognition Awards	4,650.00	3,303.00
44.	M*I*S*C	2,500.00	1,910.00
45.	Conferences/Workshops	10,000.00	6,651.26
46.	MASC Search Service	36,000.00	40,109.47
47.	Council of School Attorneys	22,000.00	23,220.05
48.	Technology	13,500.00	13,500.00
49.	Bad Debt Expenses	4,000.00	—
50.	Other	—	—
51.	COSCAP (Board Secretaries) Expenses	800.00	495.00
52.	District Governance	—	3,447.07
52.	Salaries - DGAP	—	—
	Totals	\$2,051,518.01	\$1,983,897.16
	Net Income	13,241.99	89,656.36

committee reports requiring no action

REPORT OF THE REGIONAL SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

With the changes in the Legislature, our Regional Schools community benefited from the appointments of two outstanding friends of our districts, Senator Anne Gobi and Representative Kimberly Ferguson, as the Chairs of the Regional Schools Caucus. Both bring a vast amount of experience to their new roles, and have sponsored several pieces of legislation that have successfully moved through the Legislature. Representative Ferguson was an active participant and panelist in the Fall '14 of a Regional School Forum discussion. As a member of the Foundation Budget Commission, she made sure to share up-to-date information with us. Senator Gobi's maiden speech before her colleagues during the Spring budget debate offered an outstanding statement for the need to increase Regional School Transportation. Her presentation of the needs for reliable funding for regional school transportation energized the budget debate, and championed a successful conclusion for FY16. Their support of the Acts of 2010 having to do with 9C cuts (same percentage cut as those made to Chapter 70), and advocacy with our Committee to protect regions from the devastating 9C cuts of the prior administration has been crucial. Our committee has benefited from both of these legislators presenting and updating the membership on a regular basis.

Our year began with a special evening honoring Senator Stephen Brewer on his retirement. At our Joint Conference, Rep. Cleon Turner's retirement was recognized. These gentlemen were passionate advocates for regional school systems, and public education as a whole. They will be greatly missed.

This year the Committee focused on the following issues: Job Restrictions for Voc-Tech students, Updates

of Regional Agreements and Grants (including Regional Planning Grants & the Safe and Supportive School Action Plan Grant), Chapter 222, the Impact of 9C cuts to Regional School Transportation, Refiled Legislation (Stabilization, Regional School Bonus Aid and Regions as Fiscal Agent, and Regional School Transportation Ideas to reduce costs. Charles Crowe from Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative spoke at our May meeting about the services they offer. The Committee focused their questions on the significant savings realized by member districts by having their regular education transportation handled by LPVEC. In some cases the cost committee member districts were paying was \$400/bus vs \$250/bus through the Collaborative. Additional information was provided by French River Collaborative. The Chair later discussed with the Executive Director of MOEC the possibility of continuing the conversation with other collaboratives throughout MA.

We have been very fortunate to have continued our discussions with Christine Lynch, Michelle Griffin, Jay Sullivan, Melissa King and Roger Hatch of DESE. They have attended our meetings, responded to questions, and have participated in our annual Conference Call following the release of the Governor's budget. The opportunity to have candid discussions have made our advocacy more focused as well as alerting regions to matters that will immediately impact them.

The success of this Committee would not be possible without the active engagement of its members. Personal interaction is essential to our advocacy, and you should know how committed they are to these efforts. Please feel free to speak with any of us if there are issues of concern or you wish to help!

Respectfully submitted, B. Ellen Holmes,
Ashburnham-Westminster Reg., Chair

recommended for life membership

BRENDA ENNIS

Ms. Ennis has served for 12 years on the Oxford School Committee where she is a strong advocate for students, educators and most importantly education of the Whole Child. She gives her time, support and reaches out to all resources she can to help others. She has served as Chair for six years, and as Vice Chair for three years. She has been particularly active in MASC as a member of the Legislative and Resolution Committees (six years each,) and as a participant at MASC Conferences, Day on the Hill, and other professional development programs hosted by MASC. She has also been a liaison between MASC and state organizations to address child abuse. Ms. Ennis has been cited by the State Legislature, Worcester County Sherriff, and The Patriot newspaper in Southern Worcester County as their Woman of the Year for her work on behalf of children.

PATRICIA JEHLLEN

A former member of the Somerville School Committee and, at one time, the Division II representative to the MASC Board of Directors, Patricia Jehlen now brings her passionate advocacy for children to the State House. For the past 20 years, Jehlen has represented Somerville and especially its children and those in need first in the MA House of Representatives and currently in the Senate where she is a leading advocate for the role of school committees and social and economic justice for students and their families.

JULIANNE KELLEY

Before retiring this Spring, Julie Kelley served for eight years on the Wachusett Regional School Committee where she was an outspoken advocate for students in special education programs. Ms. Kelley was also an active member of MASC, participating in the Annual Conference and Day on the Hill, and also brought her considerable skills and insight to the MASC Regional Committee and the Special Education committee, serving as a member of each for five years.

KEVIN McKENZIE (In Memoriam)

Prior to his death earlier this year, Kevin KcKenzie, a ten-year member of the Nashoba Valley Regional Vocational School Committee representing the town of Groton, was a major force behind capital improvements in Science and Engineering and in a performing arts center. He was also an active member of MASC serving on the Resolutions Committee and representing the district at the Delegate Assembly. Remembered and as a leader on his committee and an active spokesperson for vocational education and schools, Mr. McKenzie was also very active in his local community, serving many years on the Groton-Dunstable Middle School Council. He was succeeded on the school council by his wife Melissa.

current MASC life members

Josephine Almeida, Taunton
Penny Blackwell, Upper Cape Cod Reg. Voc. Tech.
Mitchell Blaustein, Sharon
Arthur Boyle, Jr., Pembroke
William Brinker, Berkshire Hills
Robert Brousseau, Wareham
William Buckley, Blue Hills Reg. Voc. Tech.
Kenneth Buffum, Shawsheen Valley Reg. Voc. Tech.
Ralph Cahoon, III, Barnstable
William Carey, Arlington*
Kim Carman, Upper Cape Cod Reg. Voc. Tech.
Paul Carroll, Foxborough
Michael Cavanaugh, Pathfinder Reg. Voc. Tech.
Carol Clevon, Chelmsford
William Collamore, Holyoke
John Columbus, Narragansett
Patricia Correia, Springfield
Stephen Cozzaglio, Lee
John Creed, Silver Lake Regional
Ann Marie Cugno, Medford*
Allene Curto, Springfield
Matthew Di Marco, North Attleboro
Ronald Dobrowski, Brockton
Roberta Doering, Agawam*
Patricia Doherty, Silver Lake Regional
Stratos Dukakis, Nashoba Regional
Francis Elliott, Quaboag Regional*
Helga "Sunnie" Epstein, Montachusett Reg. Voc. Tech.
Charles Fahey, Spencer-East Brookfield
Winthrop Farwell, Brockton*
Judith Fitzpatrick, Millbury
Marilyn Foley, Holden
William Fonseca, East Longmeadow
Clifford Fountain, Quaboag Reg.
Ellen Furtado, Swansea*
Carole Gallagher, Norton
Shoshanah Garshick, Raynham
Robert Gass, Randolph*
Christopher Ghilarducci, Berkley

Alana Gilbert, Triton Regional
Michael Gilbert, Whittier Voc. Tech.
Paul Gorden, MASC Executive Director
Richard Grady, King Philip Reg.
Carol Grazio, Pentucket Regional*
Chrisanne Gregoire, Hingham
Maurice Hancock, Brockton*
George Harvey, North Shore Reg. Voc. Tech.
Frank Hegarty, Avon*
Marcia Madden Heist, Brookline
Edward Hill, Greater Fall River Reg. Voc. Tech.
Bernard Hoar, Shawsheen Reg. Voc.
B. Ellen Holmes, Ashburnham-Westminster Reg.
Marjorie Hurst, Springfield
Diane Huster, North Andover
Robert Jacobsen, Williamstown*
Mindy Kempner, Southeastern Reg. Voc. Tech.
Augustine Kish, Nashoba Valley Tech.
Elizabeth Lafond, Hatfield
Debra (Bibeau) LaValley, Amesbury*
Carol LePrevost, Lee*
Ronald Levine, Tantasqua Regional
Karl Lord, Tri-County Reg. Voc. Tech.
Shirley Lundberg, Northboro-Southboro Regional
Judith Mallette, Chelmsford
Gary McCauley, Monson
Suzanne McAuliffe, Dennis-Yarmouth
Charles McDonald, Southeastern Reg. Voc. Tech.
Scott McDuffy, Brockton*
Charlene McEntee, Plainville
Dr. Ogretta McNeil, Worcester
Janice Mills, Mashpee*
Deborah Moiles, Oxford
Deborah Niswonger, Hampshire Regional
Vincent Nuccio, Needham
Brian O'Connell, Worcester*
Robert Paquette, Swansea
Diane Paradis, Blackstone Valley Voc. Tech.
Arthur Parlin, Grafton

Kenneth Pereira, Upper Cape Cod Voc. Tech.*
Joan Petersen, Triton Regional
Marc Peterson, Oxford
Carl Peterson, Salem*
Joyce Phillips, Gill-Montague
Reinelde Poole, Assabet Valley
Louis Porcelli, Whitter Reg. Voc. Tech.
Samuel Poulten, Nashoba Valley Voc. Tech.
Dorothy Presser, Lynnfield*
Ruth Provost, Sandwich
Angel Ramirez, Pittsfield
Kathleen Robey, Marlborough
Al Roderick, Falmouth*
Lynn Ryan, Assabet Valley*
Joanne Rys, MASC Associate Director
Rosemary Sandlin, Agawam*
Joseph Santos, Ludlow*

Paul Schlichtman, Arlington*
John Silva, Hull*
E. Denise Simmons, Cambridge
Nancy Stinger, East Longmeadow*
Lynne Sullivan, Newton*
Elaine Sweeney, Minuteman Voc. Tech.
Jo-Ann Testaverde, Georgetown
Kate Turpie, East Longmeadow
Maureen Vacca, North Reading
Nancy Walser, Cambridge
Paulette Van der Kloot, Medford
Frederick White, Hopkinton
Mary Whitney, Fitchburg*
Marjorie Wojcik, Chicopee

*MASC Past President

report of the nominating committee

The Nominating Committee met on Thursday, June 18, 2015. Members in attendance were: Ann Marie Cugno, MASC Immediate Past President, Chair, Ex Officio; Evelyn Thoren, Chelmsford (Division I); Jim Stockless, Framingham (Division II); Chris Ghillarducci, Berkley (Division III); Michelle Bodin Hedinger, Marlborough (Division IV); William Fonseca, East Longmeadow (Division V); Michael Case, Central Berkshire Reg. (Division VI); Clifford Sylvia, Wareham (Division VII); Deborah Davis, Northeast Metro Tech. (Division VIII); Stacy Rizzo, Revere (Division IX).

What follows is the slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee to be voted on by the delegates to the Annual Meeting of the Association which will be held on Wednesday, November 4, 2015 at the Resort and Conference Center in Hyannis.

*Respectfully submitted,
Ann Marie Cugno, MASC Past President, Chair, Ex Officio*

NOMINATED FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT PATRICK MURPHY, BARNSTABLE

A 12-year member of the Barnstable School Committee (three years as chair, six years as vice chair), Patrick Murphy also currently serves on the MASC Board of Directors as Vice- President, having previously served as Treasurer/ Secretary and two years as Chair of Division VII (Cape and Islands). He represents MASC on the Governor's Local Government Advisory Council and is active in efforts to meet with federal and state legislators.

For many years, Mr. Murphy has been at the forefront of efforts to raise awareness of Cape-wide concerns related to changing student demographics combined with increased school choice, and competition from private schools and charter schools. Together with the area's superintendents, the Cape Cod Collaborative, the Cape's legislative delegations, Murphy has led an effort to gather, analyze and present data to better understand the current challenges faced by districts on the Cape and to bring these to the community as a whole.

As a member of the MASC Board of Directors, Murphy has been a driving force on MASC's task force on charter schools with a focus on pushing changes that address equity. He has worked closely with fellow board members to implement long term planning of MASC's assets.

He has been extremely active and committed at the community level. Mr. Murphy has served as a member of numerous Cape Cod associations including the Chamber of Commerce, United Way, Technology Council, and Workforce Investment Board,. For many years, he worked in the revenue and operations departments of various high tech companies until embarking on a career change to receive accreditation as a Massachusetts School Business Officer. Murphy is an active member of the Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials. He now serves as the Director of Finance and Operations for the Falmouth Public Schools.

Murphy has a B.S from Boston College's School of Management and an M.S. from UMass Boston in Public Affairs.

NOMINATED FOR VICE PRESIDENT BEVERLY HUGO, FRAMINGHAM

A nine-year member of the Framingham School Committee, Ms. Hugo has been highly praised by her colleagues for her focus, full-time commitment and progressive leadership in ensuring the best interests of all students and for her relentless commitment to attaining the most resources for ensuring educational excellence with equity throughout the school district.

Currently the Secretary-Treasurer of MASC, she previously served as Chair of MASC's Division II (Metropolitan), having risen through the positions of that Division's Vice Chair and Secretary-Treasurer. Ms. Hugo has maintained an active role on MASC committees (Budget [Chair]; Legislative; Advocacy; and Resolutions). In addition, she is a regular participant at state and national professional development events, including NSBA's annual convention; Federal Relations Network (at which she was a speaker in 2013); and at MASC's Day on the Hill and Annual Conference, at which she has represented her district as a delegate to the Annual Assembly (2008-2014). Ms. Hugo has also presented on Gifted and Talented Education, Standardized Testing, The Whole Child-Social and Emotional Wellness and the Role of Communication and Public Relations. Over the past four years, Ms. Hugo has authored numerous resolutions that were ultimately voted upon favorably during annual Delegate Assemblies, several of which have been enacted by the Legislature.

She is currently serving her fourth term as Chair of the Framingham School Committee, having also served two terms as Vice Chair. She has served on numerous subcommittees including Finance; Policy; Collective and Interest-Based Bargaining; Health Advisory Council; Academic Data Dashboard; and as Chair of the Superintendent Search Committee. For the past five years, she has represented her school district as the Legislative Liaison to MASC, fostering productive relationships with local, state and federal legislators, and has previously devoted four years as a member of the Board of Directors of The Education Collaborative (TEC). She was recently elected as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Suburban Coalition.

Beverly Hugo has been a very active presence in the

Framingham community, serving on a wide range of committees and volunteer programs including the Democratic Town Committee as Vice-Chair and Treasurer; the Metrowest STEM Education Network Advisory Board; as a children's tour guide at the New England Wildflower Society's Garden in the Woods; as a director and judge for the Future Problem Solving International Program and as a grade 4-12 coach for the MA Future Problem Solving Program (at which the Framingham Team placed sixth in the world in 2008). She is a founder of both the Framingham Youth Zone and the Metrowest Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition, and a Past President, National Youth Chair and Director of the Mock Trial Program for the American Association for Justice (formerly Association of Trial Lawyers of America) Auxiliary. She is a frequent local speaker on educational issues, and stays active in her alma maters by participating on the Scholarship Committees of Boston Latin Academy/Girls' Latin School and UMass-Amherst. She is also a past coordinator for the Metrowest Area for the annual WGBH auction.

A graduate of the Boston Public Schools, Girls' Latin School, UMass-Amherst followed by postgraduate studies at Boston University, she has taught in the Boston and Brookline Public Schools as a certified K-8th grade teacher. Ms. Hugo is a product of and a staunch advocate for Public Education. She believes in the power of Public Education to give all students the opportunity they need and deserve to succeed in the 21st century global workforce and society.

She is married to her best friend and patient husband, Michael, an environmental attorney, and is the proud mother of three amazing children - Carly, Mark and Matt.

NOMINATED FOR SECRETARY-TREASURER

DEVIN SHEEHAN, HOLYOKE

Devin M. Sheehan has entered his sixth year serving as a member of the Holyoke School Committee and has served with passion and integrity since first being elected in 2009. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) for two and a half years proudly representing Division V (Connecticut Valley Division). Prior to assuming that leadership role, Mr. Sheehan served as the Division Vice Chair and as a member of the Special Education Committee.

Mr. Sheehan has attended and presented at numerous MASC conferences, served as Holyoke's representative in the delegate assembly, and presented on Roles and Responsibilities for Charting the Course. In addition, he has attended and participated in Day on the Hill, multiple NSBA Annual Conferences, and the NSBA Advocacy Institute this past January. Mr. Sheehan also represented Massachusetts on the Regional Nominating Committee for the NSBA Board of Directors in October 2014 and January 2015.

On the School Committee, Mr. Sheehan has been

elected by his peers for the past four consecutive years to serve as the Vice Chair. In this role he is responsible for developing meeting agendas, leading the committee and working with the Superintendent to set the mission and goals of the Holyoke Public Schools. Prior to his serving on the board, the School Committee had not approved a balanced budget. However, as a result of Mr. Sheehan's leadership, they have had a balanced budget for the past five years. A major goal of Mr. Sheehan's is to continually improve the graduation rate of the Holyoke Public School. With the administration and fellow Committee members he worked to set goals and created a plan that would encompass the entire community to increase the graduation rate of 49.6 to 60.2 in just four years. Given the significant challenges facing Holyoke and its students, this is an impressive gain.

Beyond serving on the Holyoke School Committee, Mr. Sheehan works in an urban school district as an Operations Specialist. In this role, he works with the Chief Instructional Officer and multiple academic directors in managing budgets, working with vendors and procuring supplies and curriculum for the district. He has been designated by the Inspector General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as an Associate Massachusetts Certified Public Purchasing Official.

Mr. Sheehan is deeply involved in his community serving as a member of the Board of Directors for the Children's Museum at Holyoke and the St. Patrick's Committee of Holyoke. He is also a member of the Friends of the Holyoke Public Schools and the Holyoke Democratic Committee. In January 2013, Mr. Sheehan was recognized by the Republican/Masslive as the "Best Local Politician." He is a member of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) and the American Society for Public Administration.

Mr. Sheehan is a graduate of Franklin Pierce University and has a graduate certificate in Educational Policy from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth where he is currently finishing his work as a graduate student in the Public Policy Master's program. He is a life-long Holyoke resident and resides with his partner, Dr. Michael Dodge.

PRESIDENT 2016: **JACOB OLIVEIRA, LUDLOW**

Currently serving his seventh year as a school committee member on the Ludlow School Committee, Jacob (Jake) Oliveira has emerged as a young progressive leader of vision and energy who is committed to advocating for students and their families, educators and local school committee members.

Elected in 2014 as the association's President-Elect, Mr. Oliveira first joined the MASC Board of Directors in 2011 as Chair of Division V (Connecticut Valley), having previously served as the Division's Secretary-Treasurer and Vice President. He is Chair of MASC's Resolutions Committee as well as the Board of Directors Policy Subcommittee. He has also participated at numerous state

continued on page 27

report of the resolutions committee

The MASC Resolutions Committee met on June 8, 2015 to consider resolutions proposed by member districts for consideration at the 2015 Annual Meeting of the Association. Members present were: Jacob Oliveira (Ludlow), Chair, Paul Schlichtman (Arlington), John Columbus (Life Member), Cliff Fountain (Quaboag Reg.), Kathleen Robey (Life Member), Brian O'Connell (Worcester), Ann Marie Cugno, (Medford), William Fonseca (East Longmeadow), Wendy Rua (Agawam), Marc Peterson (Life Member), Beverly Hugo, (Framingham).

The following resolutions were moved forward by the Resolutions Committee and approved by the MASC Board of Directors.

RESOLUTION 1—REGARDING HIGH SCHOOL STARTING TIMES

(Submitted by the Newton School Committee)

WHEREAS there is considerable debate and discussion about the appropriate starting time for certain students, including middle and high school students, and

WHEREAS several districts in Massachusetts have debated the merits of delaying the start of school for middle and high schools in order to allow students the opportunity for adequate sleep, and

WHEREAS The American Academy of Pediatrics and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recognize insufficient sleep in adolescents as an important public health issue that significantly affects the health and safety, as well as the academic success, of middle and high school students, and

WHEREAS research and study could help determine how districts could better arrange schedules to allow for the sleep necessary for adolescents to succeed in school,

THEREFORE 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.

RATIONALE: The American Academy of Pediatrics has issued a policy statement¹ indicating that lack of sleep is a public health issue that significantly affects adolescents. While adolescents need 8.5 to 9.5 hours of sleep, most high school students get 7 hours or less. Chronic sleep loss can cause issues such as depressed feelings, suicidal thoughts, risk-taking behavior, difficulty problem solving, poor judgment and lack of motivation.

The American Academy of Pediatrics strongly supports the efforts of school districts to optimize sleep in students and urges high schools and middle schools to aim for start times that allow students the opportunity to achieve optimal levels of sleep (8.5–9.5 hours) and to improve physical (e.g., reduced obesity risk) and mental (e.g., lower rates of depression) health, safety (e.g., drowsy driving crashes), academic performance, and quality of life.

Proposed legislation S.254 (sponsored by Senators Cynthia S. Creem, William N. Brownsberger, Carolyn C. Dykema, James B. Eldridge) calls for a nine member commission that includes MASC and MASS to conduct a comprehensive study, including (i) a review of the scientific findings relative to sleep needs of adolescents, relative to the effect which middle school and secondary school start times have on the health and academic performance of students; (ii) determining the number of districts in the Commonwealth which have implemented later school day starting times for middle school and secondary schools and examining the academic performance of students; and (iii) identify resources and opportunities to assist districts in implementing later school day start times for middle school and secondary schools.

Policy Sta

¹Policy Statement, American Academy of Pediatrics, School Start Times for Adolescents, Adolescent Sleep Working Group, Committee on Adolescence, and Council on School Health

RESOLUTION 2—POVERTY AND CHILDREN

(Submitted by the Framingham School Committee)

WHEREAS one-third of the children in Massachusetts are living in or near poverty, and

WHEREAS the perils of poverty include putting students and families at risk for health, social and emotional and educational disadvantage, and

WHEREAS students in poverty and at social and emotional risk face obstacles and impediments to their success that other students do not confront, and

WHEREAS there is a direct link between poverty and student and district academic performance, demanding our attention and our diligent efforts to address these challenges, and

WHEREAS the eradication of poverty among children is essential to generating a strong economy and vibrant society,

THEREFORE 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.

RATIONALE: This resolution would help ensure that our underserved population of school children will be provided with the supports and services necessary for lasting success in the classroom and in their future. Knowing that, by eliminating the ravages of poverty, these strategies have been proven to increase positive student outcomes, this resolution will level the playing field by helping to ensure equity and to close the achievement gap for this vulnerable cohort of children.

RESOLUTION 3—TYING TEST SCORES TO CHAPTER 70 FUNDING

(Submitted by the Framingham School Committee)

WHEREAS the Commonwealth of Massachusetts bases the amount of Chapter 70 funding disbursed to each school district upon enrollment measured on October 1 of any given academic year,

WHEREAS many students transfer between Massachusetts schools and districts throughout the academic year prior to the administration of statewide standardized tests,

WHEREAS the results of standardized tests taken by transferring students will more accurately reflect the strengths and weaknesses of the sending school and district and will be a far less useful analytic tool for the receiving school and district,

THEREFORE 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.

RATIONALE: If a school accepts Massachusetts Chapter 70 funding for a student in a given academic year,

that school should be responsible for the MCAS and/or PARCC results from that student in that academic year. This action will give the clearest assessment of a school's strengths and weaknesses and will remove any incentive for counseling students out of a school or district just prior to testing in order to avoid responsibility for a projected or expected result.

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)

WHEREAS many families receiving services under the provision of the McKinney-Vento Act are placed in housing based on availability of affordable temporary housing,

WHEREAS the average length of stay for a family's placement is 70 days,

WHEREAS many students receiving provisions from McKinney-Vento are placed in a districts outside their home district after the October 1st cutoff date for Chapter 70 funding,

WHEREAS many receiving districts have consistently experienced a shortfall in McKinney-Vento funding that negatively impacts the receiving district's budget and imposes on the taxpayers the burden from a program that was designed to be funded by federal grant monies,

WHEREAS a recent DESE report calculated 4,362 of these students to be special education students,

WHEREAS the 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey calculated that 22% more homeless students as compared to housed students are members of a gang and that 17% more homeless students become pregnant as compared to housed students,

WHEREAS the above-mentioned report calculated that 14% more homeless students felt sad or hopeless for more than two weeks, as compared to housed peers,

WHEREAS the Institute for Children in Poverty (2008) found that homeless children are nine times more likely to repeat a grade than their housed peers; are four times more likely to drop out than their housed peers; and are three times more likely to be placed in a special education program than their housed peers.

THEREFORE 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.

RATIONALE: At any given moment a child and/or family will be placed in a town or city that is foreign to them. Without a complete history, and in many cases without knowledge of the student's social-emotional or behavioral needs, the receiving district must make a decision for placement based on what is best for the student. Placement may be chosen outside the receiving district.

Current governing law does not require attendance in the "home-district" or district of parent's choice. Students and their families often have to move two to three times a year. Statistics show that inconsistencies in, and experience of, multiple school placements, have a negative impact on the success rate of students. There are no provisions in the governing law that placement should take into account the proximity to the family or student's established support system.

Studies done by multiple credible agencies have consistently correlated data that provide evidence supporting the inequities between the educational status and success rates of homeless and McKinney-Vento students as compared to that of their housed peers. Evidence supports the facts that these students have to overcome barriers that include hunger, abuse, depression, learning disabilities, and tendencies for risky behaviors. Often these students are placed in districts that are underfunded and understaffed, and, because they have not been budgeted for, leaving them to improvise a way to meet the students at their level and provide a fair and equitable level of education relative to that of their housed peers.

If the MGL states that education is to be provided to all children between the minimum and maximum ages established for school attendance by the board of education it needs to be equitable no matter the housing situation of the student. The placement of, and funding for, these students must account for all social-emotional and behavioral circumstances, timing of the placement, available support system for the student, and the ability of the receiving district to accommodate the student's needs.

RESOLUTION 5—TAX REFORM BALLOT QUESTION (Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

WHEREAS there is a clear need to invest in our state's educational, social, and infrastructure systems, and

WHEREAS the need to rebuild our roads and bridges,

strengthen public education, and provide the necessary support to help ensure social and economic equity for the residents of Massachusetts, and

WHEREAS a reasonable solution could be a combination of tax reforms and measures of accountability to establish a more equitable source for revenue and a more effective way of measuring our success, and

WHEREAS net income growth over the past decade has demonstrated a disproportionately lower tax burden as a share of net income upon high wage earners within the current tax system than is asked of economically disadvantaged and middle class families, and

WHEREAS advocates for social and economic equity are considering seeking to ask voters to amend the Constitution of the Commonwealth to allow for greater tax equity that will not raise taxes on any but the wealthiest residents of Massachusetts,

THEREFORE 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.

RESOLUTION 6—MEMBERSHIP OF A SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER ON THE BOARD OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION (Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

WHEREAS the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) is established to oversee and implement policy related to public education, and

WHEREAS most boards and commissions in MA appropriately include representatives of constituent groups subject to the jurisdiction of those boards and commissions, and

WHEREAS a glaring omission among members of the BESE is a representative of the people elected to oversee public policy making among the many city, town and regional school district school committees,

THEREFORE 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

report of the nominating committee

(continued from page 23)

and national education workshops and conferences and organized the first of several MASC division meetings that focused on the new educator and administrator evaluation regulations.

At the national level, Mr. Oliveira was elected in 2014 to the National School Boards Associations Board of Directors. He is only the 7th member, and the first in nearly 20 years to be elected from Massachusetts. At 29, Mr. Oliveira is the youngest member of NSBA Board of Directors by over a decade. He is active as a member of Agenda for Action and Board Policy Review committees. During the 2015 Congressional session, Mr. Oliveira has been active advocating for school districts as the House and Senate debated the re-authorization of the ESEA.

In Ludlow, Mr. Oliveira is an active presence both on the School Committee as well as in many community undertakings. He also serves as Chair of the Policy and Advocacy subcommittee and as the School Committee's Legislative Liaison; and as Ludlow's representative to

the Ludlow Energy Committee; and the Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative Board of Directors. Mr. Oliveira is also very involved in local initiatives. He is currently Chair of the Ludlow Democratic Town Committee; member of the Michael J. Dias Foundation to prevent substance abuse; a member of a local credit union advisory committee and a former 8th grade CCD teacher. Nor is Mr. Oliveira's involvement in education limited to his school committee experience. As the Assistant Executive Officer of the MA State Universities Council of Presidents, his professional work entails representing the State Universities on Beacon Hill, with the Board of Higher Education, the Executive Office of Education and the public. Through his professional responsibilities, Mr. Oliveira believes he has become particularly attuned to the politics and complexities of education in the Commonwealth, especially in the budgetary and legislative processes. While in college, he served two years as the student member of the Board of Higher Education representing the nearly 50,000 students enrolled in the State University system, and three years as a member of the Framingham State University's Board of Trustees.

report of the resolutions committee (continued from page 26)

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.

RESOLUTION 7—RELATIVE TO THE TEACHING STRATEGIES GOLD ASSESSMENTS FOR KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS

(Submitted by the Arlington School Committee)

WHEREAS the kindergarten and preschool teachers in our district understand the importance of observing, nurturing and assessing the social-emotional and cognitive growth of their students, and

WHEREAS these early education teachers do this work every single school day and specifically focus on assessing student progress at three intervals each year, and

WHEREAS requiring teachers to participate in the Teaching Strategies GOLD assessments on top of the assessments they are already doing is duplicative, and

WHEREAS the requirement to document student behavior and enter data on numerous objectives interrupts and takes time away from teaching, and

WHEREAS teachers in our district report that they and their students' parents gain little or no new information about their students from TS GOLD, and

WHEREAS teachers in our district have expressed concerns about uploading personal information about young students to the TS GOLD website, and

WHEREAS the cost of maintaining TS GOLD after federal funds run out would deprive our district schools of funds needed for more effective educational activities;

THEREFORE 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.

MASC presidents, 1947-2015

1947-48: Ethel Troland , Malden	1984-85: Frank Hegarty , Avon
1948-49: Winston B. Keck , Shrewsbury	1985-86: John Coleman , Beverly
1949-50: Charlotte Roads , Marblehead	1986-87: Roberta Doering , Agawam
1950-51: George Harper, Jr. , Williamstown	1987-88: Christopher Kennedy , Quincy
1951-52: Elmer Poole , Dartmouth	1988-89: Norman Doyle , Newburyport
1952-53: Thomas H. Moriarty , Fitchburg	1989-90: Carol Grazio , Pentucket Reg.
1953-54: Honore F. Savaria , West Springfield	1990-91: Francis Elliott , Quaboag Reg.
1954-55: Hazel Johnson , Stoneham	1991-92: Lynne Sullivan , Newton
1955-56: Theodore C. Sargent , Swampscott	1992-93: Winthrop Farwell , Brockton
1956-57: Charles F. Johnson , Tyringham	1994: Carl Petersen , Salem
1957-58: Haskell C. Freedman , Newton	1995: Janice Mills , Mashpee
1958-59: John T. McDonough , Springfield	1996: Albert Roderick , Falmouth
1959-61: Shirley R. Lewis , Taunton	1997: Scott McDuffy , Brockton
1961-62: Philip C. Weissbrod , Lenox	1998: Brian O'Connell , Worcester
1962-64: Alton S. Cavicchi , Plymouth	1999: Lynn Ryan , Assabet Valley Voc. Tech.
1964-66: Charles T. Sweeney , Quincy	2000: Nancy Stinger , East Longmeadow
1966-68: Edward L. Butler , Duxbury	2001: Robert Gass , Randolph
1968-70: Helen A. Bowditch , Worcester	2002: Rosemary Sandlin , Agawam
1970-71: Robert L'H. Miller , Danvers	2003: Carol LePrevost , Lee
1971-72: Hugh R. Boyd , Stoneham	2004: Paul Schlichtman , Arlington
1972-73: John Canavan, Jr. , Winthrop	2005: Kenneth Pereira , Upper Cape Cod Reg. Voc. Tech.
1973-74: Margaret Jacques , Grafton	2006: Maurice Hancock , Brockton
1974-75: Paul Ambler , Natick	2007: Joseph Santos , Ludlow
1975-76: John Silva , Hull	2008: Ellen Furtado , Swansea
1976-77: Gertrude Florini , Beverly	2009: Debra (Bibeau) LaValley , Amesbury
1977-78: Joseph Savery , Lee	2010: Kathleen Robey , Marlborough
1978-79: Robert Jacobsen , Williamstown	2011: Dorothy Presser , Lynnfield
1979-80: John Raftery , Hull	2012: Penny Blackwell , Upper Cape Cod Reg. Voc. Tech.
1980-81: Charlotte Scott , Nashoba Valley Voc. Tech.	2013: Mary Jo Rossetti , Somerville
1981-82: Doris Krensky , Plymouth Carver Reg.	2014: Ann Marie Cugno , Medford
1982-83: Mary Whitney , Fitchburg	2015: Patrick Francomano , King Philip Reg.
1983-84: William A. Carey, Jr. , Arlington	

MASC By-laws As Amended through November 5, 2014

ARTICLE I - NAME

The Corporation shall be called the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc., hereinafter referred to as the Association.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE & POLICY

The objectives of the Corporation shall include:

1. To provide closer cooperation among all of the school committees of the cities and towns of the Commonwealth.
2. To study the problems of organization, administration and operation of the public schools and to work for the adoption of the best methods, practices and procedures in public school administration.
3. To encourage the enactment of legislation deemed beneficial to the public schools, school children and all of the citizens of the Commonwealth.
4. To sponsor, develop and encourage all projects, programs and matters deemed necessary or desirable to promote better public education in the Commonwealth.
5. To interpret the aims, functions and needs of the schools to the public.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

1. Active Members—Active Members shall be those school committees (as used in these by-laws the term “school committee” shall mean a school committee exercising jurisdiction in Massachusetts) which pay annual dues for the then current fiscal year of the Association. The annual dues of active members shall be determined pursuant to Article IV hereof.

2. Associate Members—There shall be two classes of associate members: Associate Members Class A and Associate Members Class B. Any individual who has been a member of a school committee may become an Associate Member Class A of the Association upon payment of annual dues. Any entity, group or organization, however constituted, affiliated with education may become an Associate Member Class B of the Association upon election by the Board of Directors and payment of annual dues. The annual dues of each class of associate members are as follows.

Class A (former school committee members): \$100.00 per year (life members will be exempted from the fee).

Class B (Entity, group or organization, however constituted, affiliated with education): dues as follows:

Class B-1 Corporate Partners (Corporations serving the educational community, including for-profit entities providing services and products to the educational community): \$3500.00

3. Honorary Members—The Board of Directors may elect Honorary Members of the Association from among persons not serving on a school committee who are distinguished in the field of public education or in other allied fields in which the Association is interested. Honorary members shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

4. Life Members—Each president of the Association shall become a Life Member of the Association upon the assumption of office by his successor as President. Other persons who have made an outstanding contribution to the image of the Association and have served at least one full term on a school committee may be elected Life Members of the Association at any annual meeting of the Association upon recommendation of the Board of Directors. Candidates for election as Life Members at any annual meeting may be proposed by any active or associate member of the Association to the Board of Directors not later than July 1 and the names of candidates recommended by the Board of Directors for election as Life Members shall be included in the notice of the annual meeting at which their election shall be proposed. Life members shall be exempt from payment of dues.

ARTICLE IV - ANNUAL DUES

1. Active Members and Associate Members—Active members and associate members of any class shall pay annual dues in such amounts as may be approved by the Delegate Assembly after recommendations by the Board of Directors.

2. Basis for Dues—Each active member's annual dues are based on that member's operating expenses for support of all public day schools derived from all sources as last reported to the Department of Education prior to the start of the fiscal year of the Association—July 1. Operating expenses shall be the total of those expenditures reported under accounts 1,000, 2000, 3000, 4000, and 9100, 9200, 9300, 9400.

3. Dues Payment—A statement of dues shall be mailed to each active member on or before the first day of the fiscal year. Dues will be due and payable within 90 days after the first day of the fiscal year.

4. Exceptions—There shall be no exceptions or adjustments to the membership dues structure for any Active Member except with the approval of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V - DIVISION ORGANIZATION & ADMINISTRATION

I. Division Designations—For organizational and administrative purposes the Commonwealth shall be divided into nine divisions to include all school committees, as follows:

- Division I — Northeast Division
- Division II — Metropolitan Division
- Division III — Southeast Division
- Division IV — Central Division
- Division V — Connecticut Valley Division
- Division VI — Berkshire Division
- Division VII — Cape and Islands Division
- Division VIII — Vocational Tech. School Districts Division
- Division IX — Urban Division

Committees in Division VIII and Division IX shall be members of the appropriate geographical division as well as the Vocational Technical Schools Division and/or the Urban division.

2. Division By-Laws—The active members belonging to each Division shall adopt by-laws which shall be consistent with the Association by-laws, for the regulation of the affairs and the conduct of the business of the Division. Upon determination by the Board of Directors that any provision of the by-laws of a Division is inconsistent with any provision of the Association by-laws, the Division by-laws shall be deemed to have been amended in such a manner as the Board of Directors may determine.

3. Adjustment in Division Assignment—Active members shall be assigned by the Board of Directors to membership in the various Divisions and the names of the active members in the various Divisions shall be published annually in an official publication of the Association.

4. Division Officers—Each Division shall elect such officers as its by-laws provide. The term of office of such officers shall be two years. Division officers shall take office on December 31 following election. The meeting shall be held at or in advance of the Annual Meeting of the Association, or, if a quorum can not be reached, then as soon as is practical. The term of office of any Division chairman shall expire upon the Division Chairman's acceptance of any elected office of the Association. Any Division officer that ceases to be a member of a school committee shall be entitled to serve until the next June 30.

5. Division Meetings—Each Division shall hold a minimum of two meetings annually at least one of which must be a Division-wide meeting. At the discretion of the chairman, a series of regional meetings may be scheduled in order to satisfy the requirement for a second meeting. In any event, one of said meetings shall be held prior to January 1 of each school year and a second shall be held after January 1 of each school year. If there is only one Division-wide meeting, it shall be held after January 1 of each school year and shall be designated as the annual meeting for the election of officers.

6. Duties of Division Chairmen—Each Division chairman shall:

- (a) be responsible for promoting the aims and purposes of the Association in the Division and shall preside at all Division meetings unless the chairman shall have made the appropriate arrangements for the Vice Chairman to preside;
- (b) be a member of the Board of Directors of the Association. Whenever a Division chairman is unable to attend a meeting of the Board of Directors, he/she shall notify the Vice Chairman or such other Division officer as the Division by-laws may provide who may attend and act at such meetings with all the powers of the Division Chairman;
- (c) maintain and file with the Executive Director of the Association a copy of its by-laws with all amendments thereto and a list of the names and addresses of its current officers.

7. Failure to Discharge Duties—In the event of the failure or inability of any Division Chairman to discharge the duties required under these by-laws, the Board of Directors shall have the power to call such meetings, to appoint interim officers for the Division, which officers shall serve until their successors are duly elected and qualified, and to perform all acts necessary to effectuate the aims and purposes of the Association within such Division.

ARTICLE VI - DUTIES OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

1. Association Officers—The officers of the Association shall be a President, a President-Elect, a Vice President and a Secretary-Treasurer.

2. President—The President shall preside at the meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors and shall appoint (with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors) the several standing committees.

3. President-Elect—The President-Elect shall act in the absence or disability of the President. The Board of Directors shall by vote determine when such absence or disability exists. The President-Elect shall succeed to the Presidency provided the President-Elect is a member of a school committee when he or she assumes the Presidency. In the event that the President-Elect ceases to be eligible to succeed to the Presidency, the Vice President shall succeed to the office.

4. Secretary-Treasurer—The Secretary-Treasurer, under the direction of the Board of Directors, shall collect, take charge of, and disburse all funds belonging to the Association. The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep proper accounts and, at the annual meeting, and at other times when required by the Board of Directors, shall present a report of the financial condition of the Association. The Secretary-Treasurer shall also keep a record of all the proceedings of the Association and of the Board of Directors, shall give notice to members of the time and place of all meetings of the Association, and shall prepare each year a report of the annual meeting of the Association. All records, officers' reports, committee reports,

regional meetings reports and minutes of all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors shall be signed by the Secretary and deposited in the office of the Association and the Executive Director shall thereafter be responsible for their preservation and availability for future reference.

5. The Role of the Secretary, formerly described in Article VI, Section 5, was combined with the Treasurer's role in 1994.

6. Officer Requirements—Each Association officer, if that officer ceases to be a member of a school committee, shall be entitled to serve until the following January 1 and each Division officer who ceases to be a member of a school committee shall be entitled to serve until the next December 31.

7. Signature Authorization—Except as the Board of Directors may generally or in particular cases authorize the execution thereof in some other manner, all deeds, leases, transfers, contracts, bonds, notes, drafts and other obligations made, accepted or endorsed by the Association shall be signed by the President, the Secretary-Treasurer, or the Executive Director. The President, the Secretary-Treasurer, the Executive Director and each other person if any, from time to time so authorized to act shall furnish surety bonds in amounts and by companies approved by the Board of Directors, the premiums for such bonds to be paid by the Association.

ARTICLE VII - ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. Election and Term of Office—The officers, except for the President, shall be chosen by ballot at the annual meeting of the Association and shall hold office until the next December 31 and until their respective successors are chosen and qualified. Any vacancy in any office may be filled by the Board of Directors subject to any action respecting such vacancy which the members of the Association may take at any meeting called for the purpose. The President, the President-Elect, the Vice President, and the Secretary-Treasurer shall serve for one year. The Nominating Committee, with the concurrence of the Board of Directors, may re-nominate any officer, including the President, for one additional term of one year only under extenuating circumstances. No person may hold more than one office at the same time. Should the Past President be unable to serve for any reason, the next previous Immediate Past President who is still an active school committee member shall be called upon to serve. For the election of officers printed ballots shall be provided which shall contain the name of each candidate nominated pursuant to Section 3 for each office and shall have a marking space opposite the name of each candidate. The officer presiding at the annual meeting shall appoint three tellers who shall have custody of the ballot box and who shall receive and count and report the votes cast for each of the candidates nominated.

2. Nominating Committee—A Nominating Committee of ten persons shall be appointed by the President with the

advice and consent of the Board of Directors, on or before May 1 of each year. One of such persons shall be a past President, who shall serve as Chairman of the Nominating Committee, four shall be Division Officers and five shall be members of school committees which are active members of the Association. The four Division officers and the five others shall be so appointed that each Division of the Association is represented.

3. Report of Nominations and Timing—The Nominating Committee shall nominate a candidate or candidates for each office of the Association to be elected by the members and shall file its report with the Secretary-Treasurer not later than the ninetieth day before the date set for the next annual meeting of the Association. The Secretary-Treasurer shall mail a copy of the report of the Nominating Committee to each active member at least eighty-five days before the date set for such meeting. Active members may make additional nominations from the floor at the annual meeting provided that a notice signed by at least five active members giving the names of the persons to be nominated and the offices for which they are to be nominated shall have been filed with the Secretary-Treasurer within thirty-five days after the date the report of the Nominating Committee was mailed. Upon expiration of the period within which such notices may be filed the Secretary-Treasurer shall notify any person proposed to be nominated for more than one office of the offices for which that person is proposed; such person may designate for which of such offices he or she desires to be a candidate by notice filed with the Secretary-Treasurer not later than ten days before the date of the annual meeting; and such persons may then be nominated only for the office so designated. Any person nominated for and elected to two offices shall be deemed elected to neither and the vacancies shall be filled by the Board of Directors as provided in Section 1 hereof.

ARTICLE VIII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. Composition and Vacancies—The officers, the Immediate Past President and the Division Chairmen shall constitute the Board of Directors except that no employee of the Association may serve on the Board of Directors. Should a vacancy occur in the Board of Directors for any reason, the vacancy, if not otherwise filled under the provisions of these by-laws, may be filled by a two-thirds vote of the remaining Directors, such appointee to serve until the next annual meeting or until election by the respective Divisions.

2. Function—Except as reserved to the members by law, the agreement of association or these by-laws, the Board of Directors shall have full authority and power to manage and conduct the business and affairs of the Association and to exercise its powers, to control the expenditure of Association funds, to authorize the borrowing of money and the pledge of its credit by the Association, to make regulations for the conduct of affairs of the Association, to determine its general

policies and to act for its interest in any way not inconsistent with the by-laws and the agreement of the Association.

3. Agents of Association—The Board of Directors shall have the sole right to appoint and re-appoint an Executive Director and such assistants, agents and servants as it may deem necessary or useful to the Association, and to remove them if it shall think fit, and shall prescribe their respective duties and compensation.

4. Quorum—A majority of the members of the Board of Directors or, eight out of fourteen members, shall constitute a quorum. Where the President deems it urgent and necessary, the Board of Directors may hold a special meeting, via conference call, provided that all members of the Board are notified at least 72 hours prior to the call, stating the time of the conference call and the purpose of the special meeting.

For the purposes of achieving a quorum, the President will permit participation by a board member or members via telephone, voiceover internet protocol (VOIP) or other means that allow for distance participation in the meeting as long as all board members are able to hear all other board member comments easily at all times.

5. Audit—The Board of Directors shall at the close of each fiscal year, and may at any other time, employ a qualified accountant to audit the books and accounts of the Association and shall present at the annual meeting the written report of such audits; the Board of Directors may also cause to be audited in the same manner the accounts of any agents of the Association.

6. Committees—The Board of Directors may create such standing or special committees as it deems wise for carrying on the activities of the Association, may delegate to them such powers as it deems wise and may discontinue any such committee.

7. Executive Committee—The President, the President-Elect, the Vice President, the Secretary-Treasurer, and the Immediate Past President shall constitute the Executive Committee, the function of which shall be to meet from time to time and make recommendations for action to the full Board of Directors. The President of the Association shall be the Chairman of the Executive Committee.

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.

ARTICLE IX - MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

1. Annual Meeting—The annual meeting of the Association, to be known as the Delegate Assembly, shall be held at such hour on such business day, not earlier than September 20

nor later than November 30, in each year and at such place within Massachusetts as the Board of Directors shall determine. Resolutions and other purposes for which an annual meeting is to be held additional to those proscribed by law, by the agreement of association, and by these by-laws may be specified by the Board of Directors and by written application made to the Secretary-Treasurer not later than July 1 in any year by at least five active members located in at least two Divisions. Resolutions submitted by a single school committee may be presented to the Delegate Assembly upon approval by the Board of Directors on the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee. If an annual meeting is not held within the dates specified above, a special meeting may be held upon call by the Board of Directors with all the force and effect of an annual meeting.

2. Special Meetings—Special meetings of the Association may be called by the Board and shall be called by the Secretary-Treasurer or, in the case of the death, absence, incapacity or refusal of the Secretary-Treasurer, by any other officer of the Association, upon written application by at least seven active members located in at least two divisions. Such call shall state the purpose of the meetings, the place and time, which shall not be sooner than forty-five days from the date of the call by the Board of Directors or of such application, as the case may be.

3. Place and Date—A written notice of the place, date, and purposes of all meetings of the Association shall be given by the Secretary-Treasurer or, in the case of death, absence, incapacity or refusal of the Secretary-Treasurer, by any other officer of the Association at least thirty days before the meetings to each member of the Association by mailing it postage prepaid and addressed to each member at that member's address as it appears in the records of the Association. The written notice of any meeting at which officers are to be elected shall include the names of the persons proposed by the Nominating Committee and of those persons named in notices filed pursuant to Article VII, section 3 with the office for which each person is proposed.

4. Quorum—Twenty active members shall constitute a quorum at all regular and special meetings of the Association. Except where a larger vote is required by law, by agreement of association or by these by-laws, a majority of the votes cast on any question at a meeting at which a quorum is present or in any mail ballot at which at least twenty active members cast ballots shall decide. Quorums at Division meetings shall be set by each Division's by-laws.

5. Voting by Mail—At the direction of the Board any question other than the election of officers may be submitted to the active members for vote by mail. Ballots shall be prepared by the Secretary-Treasurer and mailed, postage prepaid, to all active members at their addresses on the Association's

records. Each ballot, or an accompanying notice, shall state the date fixed by the Board, which shall not be earlier than thirty days after the date of the mailing, by which ballots shall be returned to the Secretary-Treasurer. All ballots shall be returned to the Secretary-Treasurer. All ballots shall be opened and counted by the Secretary-Treasurer and two other officers, designated by the President, on the day following the date so fixed. The Secretary-Treasurer shall report the result to the President and the Board.

6. Voting at Meetings—All members of the Association and all members of school committees which are active members of the Association may attend and speak at any meeting of the Association. Only active members shall be entitled to vote on the election of officers or on any other matter as to which members of the Association shall have the right to vote and each active member shall have one vote. No later than seven days prior to each meeting of the Association each active member shall by written notice to the Executive Director designate one of its members as its voting delegate. All ballots and other votes cast by an active member at any Association meeting shall be cast by and only by its voting delegate or, if the delegate is absent, by its alternate voting delegate if one shall have been designated. Votes cast by active members on any question submitted by mail as provided in Article IX, section 5 of these by-laws shall be cast by vote of each active member adopted and certified in the manner by which such active member adopts and certifies its official acts.

7. Superintendents at Meetings—Any superintendent of schools employed by an active member school committee may attend any meeting of the Association and may speak if, but only if, recognized by the presiding officer.

8. Parliamentary Procedure—At all meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors Robert's Rules of Order shall be the authority for determining parliamentary procedure.

ARTICLE X - INDEMNIFICATION

The Association shall, to the extent legally permissible, indemnify each of its directors and officers and persons who serve at its request as directors or officers of another Association in which it has an interest, against all liabilities (including expenses) imposed upon or reasonably incurred by him in connection with any action, suit, or other proceeding in which he may be thereafter, by reason of his acts or omissions as such director or officer, unless in any proceeding he shall be finally adjudged not to have acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that his action was in the best interests of the Association; provided, however, that such indemnification shall not cover liabilities in compromise payment by such director or officer pursuant to a consent decree or otherwise, unless such compromise shall be approved as in the best interests of the Association, after notice that it involves such indemnification, (a) by a vote of the directors in which no interested

director participates, or (b) by a vote or the written approval of a majority of the members, not counting any member who is an interested director or officer. Such indemnification may include payment by the Association of expenses incurred in defending a civil or criminal action or proceeding in advance of the final disposition of such action or proceeding, upon receipt of an undertaking by the person indemnified to repay such payment if he shall be adjudicated to be not entitled to indemnification under these provisions. The rights of indemnification hereby provided shall not be exclusive of or affect other rights to which any director or officer may be entitled. As used in this paragraph, the terms "director" and "officer" include their respective heirs, executors, and administrators, and an "interested" director or officer is one against whom as such the proceeding in question or another proceeding on the same or similar grounds is then pending.

Like indemnification of employees and other agents of the Association (including persons who serve at its request as employees or other agents of another organization in which it has an interest) may be provided by the Association to whatever extent shall be authorized by the directors before or after the occurrence of any event as to or in consequence of which indemnification may be sought.

Any indemnification to which a person is entitled under these provisions may be provided although the person to be indemnified is no longer a director, officer, employee, or agent of the Association or of such other organizations.

ARTICLE XI - FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Association shall end on June 30 of each year.

ARTICLE XII - SEAL

The Association shall have a seal which consists of a flat-faced die with the Association's name, year of incorporation, and the word "Massachusetts" cut or incised thereon.

ARTICLE XIII - AMENDMENTS

1. Amendments by Members—These by-laws may be amended by a vote of at least two-thirds of the active members voting at any meeting of the Association called for the purpose, provided the subject matter of the proposed change has been included in the notice of the meeting.

2. Waiver by Board of Directors—The Board of Directors by a two-thirds vote of its entire number may from time to time waive any provision of these by-laws except one affecting the notice for meetings of the Association or the vote thereat and in all such instances shall within thirty days thereafter report to the members in writing the provision waived and the action taken pursuant to the waiver. Any action taken by the Board of Directors pursuant to such waiver shall have full force and effect until the next following meeting of the Association.

MASC Divisions

DIVISION I NORTHEAST

Amesbury
Andover
Beverly
Billerica
Boxford
Chelmsford
Danvers
Dracut
Georgetown
Gloucester
Groton-Dunstable Reg.
Hamilton-Wenham Reg.
Haverhill
Ipswich
Lawrence
Littleton
Lowell
Lynn*
Lynnfield
Manchester-Essex Reg.
Marblehead
Masconomet Reg.
Methuen
Middleton
Nahant
Newburyport
North Andover
North Reading
Peabody
Pentucket Reg.
Reading
Rockport
Salem
Saugus
Tewksbury
Swampscott
Topsfield
Triton Regional
Tyngsborough
Wakefield
Westford
Wilmington

DIVISION II METROPOLITAN

Acton-Boxborough
Arlington
Ashland
Bedford
Belmont
Boston*
Brookline
Burlington
Cambridge*
Carlisle
Chelsea
Concord-Carlisle
Dedham
Dover
Dover-Sherborn
Everett*
Framingham
Holliston
Hopkinton
Lexington
Lincoln
Lincoln-Sudbury
Malden
Maynard
Medfield
Medford
Medway
Melrose
Milton
Millis
Natick
Needham
Newton
Norwell
Norwood
Revere
Sherborn
Somerville
Stoneham
Sudbury
Walpole
Waltham*
Watertown
Wayland
Wellesley
Weston
Westwood
Winchester
Winthrop
Woburn

DIVISION III SOUTHEAST

Abington
Acushnet
Attleboro*
Avon
Bellingham
Berkley
Braintree
Bridgewater-Raynham
Reg.
Bristol-Plymouth
Brockton*
Canton
Cohasset
Dartmouth
Dighton-Rehoboth*
Duxbury
East Bridgewater
Easton
Fairhaven
Fall River*
Foxborough
Franklin
Freetown
Freetown-Lakeville
Halifax
Hanover
Hingham
Holbrook
Hull
King Philip Reg.
Kingston
Lakeville
Mansfield
Marshfield
Marion
Mattapoisett
Middleborough
New Bedford*
Norfolk
North Attleborough
Norton
Old Rochester
Pembroke
Plainville
Plymouth*
Plympton
Quincy
Randolph
Rochester
Rockland
Scituate
Seekonk
Sharon
Silver Lake Reg.
Somerset
Somerset-Berkley Reg.
Stoughton
Swansea
Taunton
West Bridgewater
Westport
Weymouth
Whitman-Hanson
Wrentham

DIVISION IV CENTRAL

Ashburnham-
Westminster Reg.
Athol-Royalston
Auburn
Ayer-Shirley Reg.
Berlin
Berlin-Boylston
Blackstone-Millville Reg.
Boylston
Brimfield
Brookfield
Clinton
Douglas
Dudley-Charlton
Fitchburg
Gardner
Grafton
Harvard
Holland
Hopedale
Hudson
Leicester
Leominster*
Lunenburg
Marlborough
Mendon-Upton
Milford
Millbury
Narragansett Reg.
Nashoba Reg.
Northborough
Northborough-
Southborough
Northbridge
North Brookfield
North Middlesex Reg.
Oxford
Quabbin Reg.
Quaboag Reg.
Shrewsbury
Southborough
Southbridge
Spencer-East
Brookfield Reg.
Sturbridge
Sutton
Tantasqua Reg.*
Uxbridge
Wales
Wachusett Reg.
Webster
Westborough
West Boylston
Winchendon
Worcester*

MASC Divisions continued

DIVISION V CONNECTICUT VALLEY

Agawam
Amherst
Amherst-Pelham Reg.
Belchertown
Chesterfield-Goshen
Chicopee*
Conway
Deerfield
Easthampton
East Longmeadow
Erving
Frontier Reg.
Gateway Reg.
Gill-Montague Reg.
Granby
Granville
Greenfield
Hadley
Hampden-Wilbraham Reg.
Hampshire Reg.
Hatfield
Holyoke
Leverett
Longmeadow
Ludlow
Mohawk Trail Reg.
Monson
New Salem-Wendell Reg.
Northampton*
Orange
Palmer
Pelham
Pioneer Valley
Ralph Mahar Reg.
Shutesbury
South Hadley
Southampton
Southwick-Tolland
Springfield*
Sunderland
Ware
Westfield
Westhampton
West Springfield
Whately
Williamsburg
Worthington

DIVISION VI BERKSHIRE

Adams-Cheshire Reg.
Berkshire Hills Reg.
Central Berkshire Reg.
Farmington River Reg.
Hancock
Lanesborough
Lee
Lenox
Monroe
Mount Greylock Reg.
New Ashford
North Adams
North Berkshire
Union #43
Pittsfield
Richmond
Southern Berkshire Reg.
Tyringham
Williamstown

DIVISION VII CAPE & ISLANDS

Abington
Barnstable
Bourne
Brewster
Carver
Dennis-Yarmouth Reg.
Eastham
Edgartown
Falmouth
Martha's Vineyard
Mashpee
Monomoy Reg.
Nantucket
Nauset Reg.
Oak Bluffs
Orleans
Provincetown
Sandwich
Tisbury
Truro
Wareham
Wellfleet
Upisland

DIVISION VIII VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL

The numbers in parentheses indicate the MASC geographic division that the listed vocational technical school is a member of.

Assabet Valley (4)
Blackstone Valley (4)
Blue Hills (2)
Bristol County Ag. (3)
Cape Cod (7)
Essex Tech. (1)
Franklin County (4)
Greater Fall River (3)
Greater Lawrence (1)
Greater Lowell (1)
Greater New Bedford (3)
Minuteman (2)
Montachusett (4)
Nashoba Valley (4)
Norfolk County Ag. (3)
Northeast Metropolitan (1)
Northern Berkshire (6)
Old Colony (3)
Pathfinder (5)
Shawsheen Valley (1)
Smith Vocational (5)
Southeastern (3)
Southern Worcester County (4)
South Middlesex (2)
South Shore (3)
Tri-County (3)
Upper Cape Cod (7)
Whittier (1)

DIVISION IX URBAN

Division IX membership is also open to smaller communities that are, in their judgment, "urban in character."

Attleboro*
Beverly
Boston*
Brockton*
Brookline
Cambridge*
Chelsea
Chicopee*
Everett*
Fall River*
Fitchburg
Framingham
Gardner
Gloucester*
Haverhill
Holyoke
Lawrence
Leominster*
Lowell
Lynn*
Malden
Marlborough
Medford
Melrose
Methuen
New Bedford*
Newburyport
Newton
North Adams
Northampton*
Peabody
Pittsfield
Quincy
Randolph
Revere
Salem
Somerville
Springfield*
Taunton
Waltham*
Westfield
Woburn
Worcester*

* Denotes academic district with a vocational-technical school.

MASC division reports

DIVISION 1–Northeast

Division 1 was among those that organized special meetings to discuss Joint Conference resolutions with the membership and to incorporate a specific discussion about testing for the PARCC and the Common Core standards as guests of the Wilmington School Committee. In addition, special education has continued to be a priority for discussion among the members. New division members were also welcomed at the recently constructed Essex Technical School where the year's first new member orientations were held. The division also cosponsored the Suburban Coalition program that included presentations by the newly elected Lt. Governor Karen Polito that outlined some of the priorities of the governor's positions on education in the Commonwealth. Sen. Karen Spilka, and Sen. Jamie Eldridge were also part of the panel that presented information and fielded many questions from school committee members and other local elected officials. A special focus for the division this year was on technology in schools, a topic that has taken on additional concerns around the interest in virtual schools/classrooms and the computer-based PARCC assessments. Division Co-Chair Evelyn Thoren represented the Association on the state Advisory Committee for the Office of Digital Learning where technology in the classroom and online schools were discussed and regulations initiated.

Respectfully submitted,
Evelyn Thoren, Chelmsford, Co-Chair
Dina Sullivan, Triton Regional, Co-Chair

DIVISION 2–Metropolitan

The division collaborated in the scheduling of a joint meeting with the suburban coalition to address several important items including Chapter 70 funding and the pending work of the special commission. Lt. Governor Karen Polito, Sen. Karen Spilka, and Sen. Jamie Eldridge attended as did 75 school committee members from across Eastern and Central Massachusetts. Earlier in the year, also in collaboration with the Suburban Coalition, UMASS professor Maurice Cunningham, Michael Widmer of the MA Taxpayers Foundation, and Rep. Tom Conway spoke to the financial implications of the 2014 elections. At the state convention in November 2014, members elected a new slate of officers including Jim Stockless of Framingham as Chair, Marjorie Ross Decter of Newton as Vice Chair, and David Ela of Everett as Secretary-Treasurer. Among the priority issues identified by members were advocacy for public policy, student stress, cultural competency and the relationship to violence in schools, school safety, suicide, collective bargaining and student mobility.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Stockless, Framingham, Chair

DIVISION 3–Southeast

Division III led the way with the first meeting scheduled primarily to review the resolutions before the Delegate Assembly and to address issues related to special education. More than 50 division members engaged in a lively discussion over the merits of PARCC vs. MCAS, state budget priorities, charter school reform, and student social and emotional wellbeing—topics which also carried over into the state convention session for the group. At the conference in November members addressed innovations, including the “Jumpstart” program that gives kindergarteners in Plainville an early week before the start of school. In March, new division members and some veterans joined for a regional new member orientation at King Philip Regional High School as guests of that district and again later in the spring for an orientation at Plymouth North as guests of the Plymouth School Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlene McEntee, Plainville, Chair

DIVISION 4–Central

More than 40 division members joined with their colleagues for the division meeting at the Joint Conference in Hyannis. We welcomed Angela Yildiz of the Berlin-Boylston Regional School Committee as our Secretary. During the Spring, we were notified that our Vice Chair, Mike Barbaro from the Winchendon School Committee had stepped down upon his election to the office of Selectman. Good luck Mike. In addition, our Division cosponsored meetings held in conjunction with the Suburban Coalition. Although the “Winter of ‘15” disrupted the schedule for a meeting originally scheduled, Division Members continue to focus on regional issues including transportation, special education, school finance, and the final stages of implementation of anti-bullying regulations. Our Fall programming will include a September workshop on the Opiate Crisis and an October discussion of teacher preparation at the college level of Common Core. The division also cosponsored two New Member Orientation sessions, including welcoming 40 new division regional members as guests of Assabet Vocational Technical School Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
B. Ellen Holmes, Ashburnham-Westminster Reg., Chair

DIVISION 5–Connecticut Valley

Advocacy was the focus of attention for division members who, following their meeting at the state convention, reconvened two weeks later in Holyoke to discuss important and anticipated state legislation for the

upcoming session. Members identified not only budget and finance, but also charter schools, the increasing burden of state regulations, special education, mobile and economically vulnerable students, and student achievement in general. Two well attended orientations were held in Northampton and Gill-Montague and an initiative has been mounted to reestablish the Franklin County Caucus.

Respectfully submitted,
Devin Sheehan, Holyoke, Chair

DIVISION 6–Berkshires

In addition to the annual new member orientation in Lenox in September, division members hosted House Education Chair Alice Peisch in October and joined with the county legislative delegation in a meeting at the Pittsfield High School Auditorium where a full range of issues were discussed and debated. There was great interest in the work of the recently created Foundation Budget Review Commission, unfunded mandates, education regulation, and the trending of student populations over the past two decades. Division VI hosted their June Annual Legislator Forum in Lee with 75 school committee members & school administrators in attendance. This was preceded and followed by a series of division meetings in Dalton with members of the delegation, with the division officers coordinating the efforts of what became a formal working group to address declining enrollment and district options. These have been extremely frank meetings that have included the entire legislative delegation and follow on the earlier research in Berkshire County and in other parts of the state to examine strategies to keep the districts strong.

Respectfully submitted,
John Hockridge, North Adams, Chair

DIVISION 7–Cape and Islands

Division VII organized around major public policy concerns, including charter school reform, and also around the logistical concerns that contribute to student achievement. The division held a series of meetings during the year including a well attended legislative breakfast organized in collaboration with the Cape Cod Collaborative that included five members of the legislative delegation and over 50 school committee members and other local elected officials to discuss concerns specific to the region. These included declining populations and over-regulation, but also a highly detailed analysis among the members of the pending issues around Common Core and PARCC assessments. The content included a discussion of the PARCC assessment in comparison with the Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium system. There is a concern among the membership that the state has not focused

on preparation of teachers to confront a new era of assessment and evaluation. For that reason, a second division meeting in May included representatives of the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to hear feedback on the rollout of education evaluation and strategies for training teachers in an era of Common Core, performance-based evaluation, and unpredictable economics.

Respectfully submitted,
Geoffrey Swett, Wareham, Chair

DIVISION 8–Vocational-Technical

Division 8 represented MASC at the Skills USA state competition where several members served as judges and facilitators. In addition to the 17 gold medalist national champions recognized by MASC in vocational skills last year, more than 20 will receive awards in 2015 as the best in the United States in their fields. More than 75 division members met in Hyannis at the state convention around the range of vocational priorities and developed a position paper on national concerns for the NSBA Federal Advocacy meeting in Washington where the Perkins Vocational Education Act proposed reauthorization was highlighted. Division 8 co-sponsored three new member orientations and hosted a session at the newly constructed Essex Technical School in the spring.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Davis, North East Metropolitan
Voc. Tech., Chair

DIVISION 9–Urban

In addition to cosponsoring three new member orientations and joining with the Suburban Coalition to organize two significant regional meetings, Division 9 members were in the forefront of the debate over student social and emotional well being, charter school reform, special education, social media, and student academic performance—all of which were raised at division meetings and implemented as part of the advocacy work of urban members. A special division meeting was organized in collaboration with Sen. Patricia Jehlen on the issue of Chapter 70 reforms. Shortly thereafter over 50 members attended a session on March 28 as guests of the Medford School Committee that addressed alternatives to testing and strategies for student well-being featuring Jack Schneider of Holy Cross College on factors, other than testing, for assessing student performance and on why these alternatives to standardized examinations are important to students.

Respectfully submitted,
Paulette Van der Kloot, Medford, Chair

NOTES

AMENDMENT FORM

Please indicate which Resolution you are proposing an amendment to, and use the space below to give the language of the proposed amendment.

Resolution 1—Regarding High School Starting Times

Resolution 2—Poverty and Children

Resolution 3—Tying Test Scores to Chapter 70 Funding

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

Resolution 5—Tax Reform Ballot Question

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

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

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

[illegible]

NOTES

**Massachusetts Association of
School Committees**
One McKinley Square
Boston, MA 02109
www.masc.org

FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BOSTON, MA
PERMIT NO.
58830

2015 Delegate Manual • 69th Annual Meeting