

Attention: MASC Members and Delegates

THE 70th ANNUAL MEETING
MASC/MASS Joint Conference

DELEGATE MANUAL
and 2016 Annual Report

Resort and Conference Center at Hyannis

┆ massachusetts association of school committees ┆
┆ one mckinley square, boston, ma 02109 ┆

www.masc.org

DATE November 2, 2016

Delegate Manual

The 70th 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

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President-Elect: Patrick Murphy, Barnstable

Vice President: Beverly Hugo, Framingham

Secretary-Treasurer: Devin Sheehan, Holyoke

Immediate Past President: Patrick Francomano, King Philip Reg.

Division I

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Brendan Walsh, Salem

Division II

(Co-Chairs): Jim Stockless, Framingham
Margie Ross Decter, Newton

Division III: Charlene McEntee, Plainville

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Division V: William Fonseca, East Longmeadow

Division VI: John Hockridge, North Adams

Division VII: Geoffrey Swett, Wareham

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

Division IX: Stacey Rizzo, Revere

Minority

Caucus: Denise Hurst, Springfield

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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.

2016 masc annual meeting agenda

Wednesday, November 2, 2016 • 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 2015 Annual Meeting
- Annual Reports of the Officers and Committees not Requiring Action by the Delegate Assembly
 - Report on 2016 Legislative Action
 - Annual Report of the President
 - Annual Report of the Executive Director
 - Annual Report of the Auditor
 - 2016-2017 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: Jacob Oliveira, President
Parliamentarian: Stephen Finnegan, Legal Counsel

minutes of the 2015 annual meeting

The 69th annual meeting of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc. was called to order at 3:15pm on Wednesday, November 4, 2015 at the Resort and Conference Center, Hyannis. President Patrick Franco-mano presided. MASC Legal Counsel Stephen Finnegan acted as parliamentarian. There were 132 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 2014 Annual Meeting

It was moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve the 2014 Annual Meeting minutes as they were printed in the 2015 Delegate Manual.

Recommendations for Life Membership

It was moved, seconded and voted unanimously to elect Brenda Ennis, Patricia Jehlen, Julianne Kelley and Kevin McKenzie as Life Members of the Association.

Report of the Nominating Committee

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Ann Marie Cugno, chair, reported and made the following nominations for election of officers of the Association, namely:

President-Elect—Patrick Murphy, Barnstable

Vice President—Beverly Hugo, Framingham

Secretary-Treasurer—Devin Sheehan, Holyoke

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 Jacob Oliveira moved by several motions the adoption of the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION 1—REGARDING HIGH SCHOOL STARTING TIMES

(Submitted by the Newton School Committee)

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

The resolution was approved on a voice vote.

RESOLUTION 2—POVERTY AND CHILDREN

(Submitted by the Framingham School Committee)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees will prioritize, as a matter of its public

policy agenda, and file for and support legislation that will support the eradication of poverty among children in Massachusetts and advocate for social and economic justice for students and their families that will include:

- Support for a revenue stream that supports social and economic priorities for children and families.
- Support for state programs and services that serve children at greatest social and emotional risk which are easily accessible to students and families.
- Advocacy for nutrition programs that eradicate hunger among children.
- Advocacy for healthcare including vision, hearing, dental and mental health through accessible service providers.
- Support for pre-kindergarten programs for all children.
- Advocacy for increasing educational opportunities for children to grow both inside and outside of school.

The resolution was approved on a voice vote.

RESOLUTION 3—TYING TEST SCORES TO CHAPTER 70 FUNDING

(Submitted by the Framingham School Committee)

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

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

The resolution was approved on a voice vote.

RESOLUTION 4—SUPPORT FOR AN EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE PLACEMENT PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS COVERED UNDER THE MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS EDUCATION ASSISTANCE ACT

(Submitted by the Framingham School Committee)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees file for and support legislation that will design, implement, and fund a program that will provide a more sustainable and equitable placement program for the state's homeless and McKinney-Vento students. A placement program needs to include

consideration of the social-emotional and behavioral circumstances of the student, timing of the placement in relation to budgetary considerations, proximity to the student's previously established support system, and the availability of resources the receiving district has to accommodate the student's needs.

The resolution was approved on a voice vote.

RESOLUTION 5—TAX REFORM BALLOT QUESTION

(Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

On advice of counsel, we are not providing the text of the resolution with the Delegate Manual. The text can be accessed on the MASC website at www.masc.org.

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

RESOLUTION 6—MEMBERSHIP OF A SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER ON THE BOARD OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

(Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

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

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

An amendment was offered by the delegate from Arlington to further urge the legislature that the prohibition of school committee members and licensed educators from serving on the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education be stricken from the MA General

Laws ("No appointive member of said board shall be appointed by or receive regular compensation from the department of education, or from any school system, public or independent, in the commonwealth, or serve as a member of any school committee."

MGL Chapter 15, Section 1E).

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

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

(Submitted by the Arlington School Committee)

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

The resolution was approved as presented.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS to the MASC BY-LAWS

(Referred by the Board of Directors)

I. AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VIII, Section 1

Addition of the following paragraph to Section 1: Any member of the MASC Board of Directors serving on the Board of Directors for the National School Board Association (NSBA) shall continue to serve as a voting member of the MASC Board until such time as his/her term on the MASC Board expires in accordance with these by-laws. Any member of MASC serving on the NSBA Board of Directors shall serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the MASC Board of Directors for the duration of his/her term on the NSBA Board.

The amendment passed unanimously as proposed.

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

The first sentence of Article VIII, Section 1 shall be amended by revising the first sentence as follows: The Officers, the Immediate Past President, the Division Chairmen and the Chair of the Minority Caucus, shall constitute the Board of Directors except that no employee of the Association may serve on the Board of Directors. Further, Article VIII, Section IV shall be amended by deleting the word "fourteen" and substituting the word "fifteen".

The amendment passed unanimously as proposed.

report on 2016 legislative action

This report was submitted in July, 2016 when the Legislature was in the last week of formal sessions. The



Legislature will adjourn for the year on July 31, 2016. Legislation may still be enacted during informal sessions for the remainder of the year. Several years ago the Legislature changed its rules so that 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.

2015 Resolutions

RESOLUTION 1—REGARDING HIGH SCHOOL STARTING TIMES

Pursuant to this resolution MASC supported S. 254, which calls for an independent special commission to study appropriate starting times for students in middle and high school. A hearing on this bill took place on September 16, 2015 and subsequently was reported out of the committee favorably. This bill has been revised and the number was changed to S. 2464, which passed the Senate on July 26, 2016; however, further action is required in the House.

RESOLUTION 2—POVERTY AND CHILDREN

MASC supported the recommendations of the Foundation Budget Review Commission, which addressed several matters that would have directed more money to address the issue of impoverished school children. Due to the overestimation of revenue projections the Foundation Budget Review Commission recommendations were not included in the FY 2017 State Budget.

RESOLUTION 3—TYING TEST SCORES TO CHAPTER 70 FUNDING

MASC sought to amend S.250 and H. 458, which were refiled by the Association that concerned the reporting of MCAS for approved 766 schools. These bills were reported favorably by the Committee on Education on July 23, 2015 and at the time of this report were in the Senate Ways and Means Committee.

RESOLUTION 4—SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS COVERED UNDER THE MCKINNEY- VENTO HOMELESS EDUCATION ASSISTANCE ACT

This resolution resolved that MASC support legislation that will fund a program that will bring stability for the state's homeless and McKinney- Vento students. MASC supported budget amendments to fully fund the

homeless students account, and we collaborated with the Office of the State Auditor in these efforts. Due to the shortfall in state budget revenue projections the Legislature rejected our efforts to dramatically increase state funding for this program.

RESOLUTION 6—MEMBERSHIP OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER ON BOARD OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

MASC in response to this resolution testified before the Education Committee on H.375 that sought to add a teacher to the Board. The testimony supporting the bill was conditioned on adding an amendment that would include a school committee member as a member of the Board. This bill has not been enacted.

2014 Resolutions

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

In response to this resolution MASC filed H.508. This bill would 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 on April 6, 2016 H.508 was merged with H.4141 and was reported favorably to the House Ways and Means Committee.

RESOLUTION—2 UNIVERSAL QUALITY PRE- KINDERGARTEN ACCESS

MASC supported H.462 that would establish 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 was the subject of a hearing on Sept. 16, 2015. The reporting date on this bill was extended through June 17, 2016.

RESOLUTION 6—UNFUNDED MANDATES AND NEW TESTING

In response to this resolution, MASC filed H.376. This legislation imposes a moratorium on new educational mandates and establishes a task force to streamline and consolidate existing mandates. This legislation was heard on September 30, 2015. MASC in consultation with the State Auditor's Office has supported anti-mandate language in the FY 2017 State Budget that was inserted into the Senate version of the budget; however, it did not make it into the conference committee report. Recently, the anti-mandate provision was included in the Senate version of the Municipal

Relief bill. At the time of this report a conference committee has been appointed and MASC has supported the anti- mandate provision with the Conferees; however, they have not yet reported the bill.

Prior Year Resolutions

LOCAL APPROVAL OF CHARTER SCHOOLS; APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNING BOARDS OF CHARTER 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 resides. 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 and also 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. A hearing on all charter school legislation took place on October 13, 2015. The Senate voted in April of 2016 on an omnibus charter school bill that included the MASC-sponsored legislation requiring local approval of any new Commonwealth Charter Schools. As you know the Charter School issue is the subject of a ballot question in the fall of 2016.

CONCERNING THE APPROVAL OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS

MASC refiled H.391, An Act Relative to School Improvement Plans, to address this resolution. The 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. As a result of this amendment, superintendents now approve school improvement plans. H.391, 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.

The Senate passed this bill on July 18, 2016 and the House laid the bill before the Governor the following day. The Governor returned the bill with amendments on July 23, 2016 and MASC is reviewing the amendments and consulting with the sponsors to determine our course of action. If possible MASC will resolve this matter by July 31, 2016.

Stephen Finnegan, Esq.
MASC General/Legislative Counsel

report of the president

While many in the education community have been portrayed as either reformers or defenders of the status quo, school committees continue to be the beacon of reason and thoughtful support for the children of the Commonwealth. As school committee members, we are not



just another special interest group advocating for a particular cause; we are elected or appointed officials that continuously fight to raise the public debate to support our schools, our communities, but most importantly – our students.

Gone are the days of school committees simply setting policies, passing budgets and hiring a superintendent. With increasing income inequality and correlating poverty that has a direct effect on the ability of our students to learn, to state and federal mandates that consume more and more of our educators' time and energy, coupled with fewer and fewer resources to address the challenges we face, school committee members must be advocates beyond our local districts.

In Massachusetts, that advocacy platform is MASC.

As a member-driven organization, MASC has been actively engaged on education policy issues that impact our students at the state and national levels, while at the same time changing the way we communicate to our membership and to the public.

Highlighting the inequities created by charter schools, MASC produced a thoughtful policy paper entitled "Who is Being Served" and presented our findings before the legislature and through various media outlets. This report found that charter schools are not serving students with complex special educational needs and English Language Learners. These findings, coupled with the precipitous drain on school and municipal budgets and the lack of accountability to communities that fund charter schools, lead MASC to address these issues through the legislative process. Working with our friends in the legislature, many of the accountability issues highlighted by MASC were addressed in a bill crafted and passed by the State Senate.

Through that same reform bill, the State Senate recognized and put in place a plan to adopt the recommendations put forward by the Foundation Budget Review Commission. MASC's Immediate Past President Patrick Francomano, as a member of that commission, successfully pushed to increase district reimbursement for high-risk children and students of special education, and a more equitable and accurate calculation of staff and retiree

health insurance. These recommendations, through MASC's advocacy, were included in the final Senate legislation.

On the national policy front, MASC partnered with the National School Boards Association (NSBA) on the successful repeal of No Child Left Behind, which was replaced by the Every Student Succeeds Act. This bipartisan legislation, signed by President Obama, ensures more flexibility for states and local school districts. MASC is now actively engaged in the implementation of this law to ensure that the intentions of our lawmakers are not lost through the regulatory process.

MASC continues to highlight the differences between our urban, suburban and rural school districts. This past year, under the leadership of Berkshire County Division VI Chair John Hockridge, MASC has partnered with school districts within that region to form the Berkshire County Education Task Force (BCETF), created to find solutions to the declining enrollment and programming challenges within Berkshire County schools. The task force is a model of collaboration between school, municipal, non-profit, and private sector partners that other areas of the Commonwealth can follow to address regional challenges.

This year, MASC has greatly expanded our presence on social media through Twitter, Facebook and even Instagram. Educational events are now reported in real time, equipping our membership with updates as they are happening. Our social media presence has even expanded our ability to comment through more traditional media outlets. MASC is now considered the go-to organization to comment on educational policy discussions by journalists from major newspapers and broadcast media.

As an organization, MASC implemented by-law changes approved at the 2015 delegate assembly by creating the newly formed Minority Caucus and adding a seat on our board of directors for the chair of that caucus. We understand that diversity is a strength, and our organization's programming and leadership should reflect the students we serve in our classrooms.

These efforts, along with the continued professional development we provide to our members, could not have been accomplished without our competent and responsive MASC staff and our dedicated board of directors.

Thank you for your support of MASC and for being strong advocates for the students of the Commonwealth.

Jacob Oliveria
MASC President

report of the executive director

As MASC approaches its 70th year, I want to express sincere thanks to the membership for supporting the Association in so many ways. Our staff and your Board of Directors have worked hard to earn your trust.



During the year, MASC expanded its communications and social media capacity not only by increasing significantly the frequency of communications and sharing of information, but by providing an unprecedented level of general, legislative and legal bulletins, policy updates, and resource materials for members. Association staff were involved in two dozen superintendent searches with full consultation, technical assistance, and guidance. We have more than 50 districts participating in on-line policy management. MASC personnel provided on-site, professional development and orientation to over 600 school committee members. And during the day, in the evening, and on weekends MASC members have reached out to our staff for guidance when they need it. We are heartened by the growing attendance at the annual joint convention with the school superintendents each November in Hyannis which, in 2015, was the most comprehensive and diverse in decades.

In addition to meeting the continuing expansion of requests for service from MASC, the Association was able to mobilize school committee members around public policy matters including charter school reform, school finance, special education, and the abusive and excessive regulation of school districts and staff. The State Senate responded to the call for charter school reform by working closely with MASC to develop the most extensive proposal for accountability and fair finance. Both houses collaborated to expand Chapter 70 funding, support special education, and, despite the sluggish economy, to preserve and protect many important line items.

MASC is an independent affiliate of the National School Boards Association (NSBA) which, during the past year, won an unprecedented victory in Congress, advocating successfully for mandatory consultation with local school boards in the implementation of the new Every Student Succeeds Act. While, regrettably, the new legislation simply shifts authority from a distant bureaucracy in Washington to a hostile educational regulatory system in Massachusetts, it does signal a recognition by the national legislature that the administrative agencies must defer to those closer to the clients—in our case, students, teachers, administrators and school committee members.

This year Massachusetts hosted the NSBA national convention in Boston and more than five thousand colleagues from across America who were welcomed by MASC President Jake Oliveira, the first member of MASC to serve on the NSBA Board of Directors in 20 years. Later, at the NSBA national advocacy meeting, MASC was able to articulate the importance of municipalities as the real laboratories of change and school committees in particular as among

those who know best about how to guide city, town, and regional districts. NSBA and MASC also jointly mourned the loss of 44-year Agawam School Committee member Roberta Doering who served as both MASC and NSBA president during her exemplary service to her town, state, and national organization.

Looking ahead, MASC will be working with the Secretary of State and Attorney General on Open Meeting and public records regulatory changes, with the US Attorney on response to violence, and with various state agencies involved in the “wraparound” services that support the children’s services safety net. This recognizes the initiative that MASC has fostered to recognize that schools alone cannot improve outcomes for children. In the year ahead, we also plan to offer our members expanded services that will include an electronic meeting management program. We are grateful to our members who have been part of our initiative on Social and Emotional Learning, on one hand, developing an MASC work group, and, on the other hand, collaborating with several other associations representing principals, superintendents, educational collaborators, and professional consultants to help students deal with the stress and pressure of testing, economic and social pressures, and the challenge of life in the 21st century. We have also convened another group on high school start times. In collaboration with our NSBA colleagues, we hope to attack the problems of equity and poverty as a way of laying a foundation for future student success. We encourage interested new members to join in. This year we also welcomed the inauguration of the MASC Minority Caucus.

It is always a pleasure to meet with members and to have them acknowledge the members of the MASC staff with whom they interact. This includes Operations Coordinator Sam Cheesman who is usually the first voice you hear when you call our office. Kari MacCormack, our graphic designer, prepares a lot of the materials you receive. Nanette Olsen, Member Services Coordinator, responds to many of your policy inquiries and requests for information on superintendent searching. Communications Director, Jenifer Handy oversees our communications activities and the state convention. Carol Grazio sends out the bills, manages the office and business operations. We welcomed to our field staff Tracy Novick to organize our social media activities, joining our veteran field directors who include Jim Hardy who covers Southeastern MA and doubles as MASC Director of Training and Development, Mike Gilbert who oversees policy and member services in Northeast MA, Dorothy Presser who conceived and directs District Governance training and member services in Worcester County, and Pat Correia who, in collaboration with Liz Lafond, cover Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin, and Berkshire Counties. General and Legislative Counsel Steve Finnegan has served the association for almost 40 years as our attorney and chief lobbyist.

Glenn Koocher
MASC Executive Director

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, 2016 and 2015, 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, 2016 and 2015, 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 29, 2016

Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc.

Statements of Financial Position

June 30, 2016 and 2015

Assets	2016	2015
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents, including interest-bearing accounts of \$305,311 and \$1,347,160, respectively	\$ 354,456	\$ 1,388,207
Investments, at fair value	1,040,970	-
Accounts receivable	99,240	64,566
Prepaid expenses	21,689	24,398
Total current assets	<u>1,516,355</u>	<u>1,477,171</u>
Property and equipment, at cost:		
Office condominium	331,476	331,476
Furniture and equipment	130,660	143,328
	<u>462,136</u>	<u>474,804</u>
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(276,171)</u>	<u>(268,086)</u>
Net property and equipment	<u>185,965</u>	<u>206,718</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 1,702,320</u>	<u>\$ 1,683,889</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current liabilities:		
Accrued expenses	\$ 23,780	\$ 24,816
Deferred revenue	-	44,553
Total current liabilities	<u>23,780</u>	<u>69,369</u>
Unrestricted net assets	<u>1,678,540</u>	<u>1,614,520</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 1,702,320</u>	<u>\$ 1,683,889</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc.

Statements of Activities

Years Ended June 30, 2016 and 2015

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Unrestricted net assets:		
Revenues:		
Dues	\$ 1,039,543	\$ 1,022,696
State conference	375,109	334,443
Management Information for School Committees	61,000	60,200
Publications	117,449	118,415
Conferences and workshops	36,365	37,975
Subscriptions	168,560	165,830
Policy publications	172,625	170,485
Plaques and miscellaneous	32,616	33,086
MASC search service	157,909	120,974
Grant income	-	377
Net unrealized gain on investments	27,078	-
Interest and dividend income	17,110	4,759
Total revenues	<u>2,205,364</u>	<u>2,069,240</u>
Expenses:		
Programs:		
State conference	516,068	489,152
Management Information for School Committees	2,029	2,646
Publications	245,787	219,816
Conferences and workshops	429,380	384,027
Policy publications	227,074	207,401
MASC search service	90,867	85,714
District governance support	3,778	3,447
Total program expenses	<u>1,514,983</u>	<u>1,392,203</u>
Administrative	626,361	599,452
Total expenses	<u>2,141,344</u>	<u>1,991,655</u>
Increase in unrestricted net assets	64,020	77,585
Unrestricted net assets - beginning of year	<u>1,614,520</u>	<u>1,536,935</u>
Unrestricted net assets - end of year	<u>\$ 1,678,540</u>	<u>\$ 1,614,520</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc.

Statements of Cash Flows

Years Ended June 30, 2016 and 2015

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Increase in unrestricted net assets	\$ 64,020	\$ 77,585
Adjustments to reconcile increase in unrestricted net assets to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:		
Depreciation	22,022	21,930
Net unrealized gain on investments	(27,078)	-
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(34,674)	4,334
Prepaid expenses	2,709	5,624
Accrued expenses	(1,036)	731
Deferred revenue	(44,553)	41,053
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	<u>(18,590)</u>	<u>151,257</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchase of property and equipment	(1,269)	(6,849)
Purchase of investments	(1,013,892)	-
Net cash used by investing activities	<u>(1,015,161)</u>	<u>(6,849)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(1,033,751)	144,408
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>1,388,207</u>	<u>1,243,799</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>\$ 354,456</u>	<u>\$ 1,388,207</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, 2016 and 2015, 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, 2016 and 2015.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Investments are carried at fair value, as determined by quoted market prices with the change in fair value being reported in the statement of activities. Realized gains or losses on the sale of investment securities are computed by the specific identification method. Interest is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

Fair Value Hierarchy

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America have established a hierarchical framework which prioritizes and ranks the level of market price observability used in measuring investments at fair value. Market price observability is impacted by a number of factors, including the type of investment and the characteristics specific to the investment. Investments with readily available active quoted prices or for which fair value can be measured from actively quoted prices generally will have a higher degree of market price observability and a lesser degree of judgment used in measuring fair value.

Investments held by the Association are measured using inputs from one of the three levels of the fair value hierarchy. Inputs are broadly defined as assumptions market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability.

The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are as follows:

Level 1 – Valuation is based on quoted prices in active markets for identical assets. Valuations are obtained from readily available pricing sources for market transactions involving identical assets.

Level 2 – Valuation is based on observable inputs other than Level 1 prices, such as quoted prices for similar assets; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets.

Level 3 – Valuation is based on unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets. Level 3 assets include financial instruments whose value is determined using unobservable inputs to pricing models, discounted cash flow methodologies, or similar techniques, as well as instruments for which the determination of fair value requires significant management judgment or estimation.

In certain cases, the inputs used to measure fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In such cases, an investment's level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The Association's assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment and considers factors specific to the investment.

The Association recognizes transfers between levels at the end of the reporting period as if the transfer occurred on the last day of the reporting period. There were no transfers during the years ended June 30, 2016 and 2015.

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, 2016 and 2015, depreciation expense amounted to \$22,022 and \$21,930, respectively.

The City of Boston has assessed the office condominium at \$1,134,000 as of January 1, 2015.

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 consisted 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, 2016 and 2015, 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, 2013.

2. INVESTMENTS

The investments of the Association are reported at fair value and consist of the following as of June 30, 2016.

Mutual funds \$ 1,040,970

The Association held no investment as of June 30, 2015 or during the year then ended.

The composition of the investment return as reported in the statement of activities for the years ended June 30, 2016 and 2015, are as follows:

	Unrestricted	
	2016	2015
Income on investments, consisting of dividends and interest	\$ 13,892	\$ -
Net unrealized gain on investments	27,078	-
Return on investments	<u>40,970</u>	<u>-</u>
Interest on cash equivalents and temporary investments	3,218	4,759
Total return on investments	<u>\$ 44,188</u>	<u>\$ 4,759</u>

Fair Value Hierarchy

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value.

Mutual funds: Valued at the net asset value of shares held at year end.

The preceding methods described may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although the Association believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

Investments at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis

The following table presents the fair value hierarchy, as described in Note 1, for major categories of investment assets as of June 30, 2016:

Description	June 30, 2016			Fair Value
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
Mutual funds:				
Fixed income	\$ 312,060	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 312,060
Domestic equity	578,567	-	-	578,567
International equity	150,343	-	-	150,343
Total	\$ 1,040,970	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,040,970

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,	
2017	\$ 16,428
2018	5,476
	<u>\$ 21,904</u>

Lease expense under all operating leases amounted to \$41,830 and \$34,036 for the years ended June 30, 2016 and 2015, 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 2016 and 2015). 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, 2016 and 2015 amounted to \$54,387 and \$53,318, respectively.

4. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated subsequent events through August 29, 2016, 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 2016-2017	REVENUES/ EXPENDITURES 2015-2016 (unaudited)
1. Dues (including memberships)	\$1,091,500.00	\$1,056,642.64
2. Subscriptions	167,500.00	168,560.00
3. Policy Updates from Dues	53,000.00	53,375.00
4. General Laws from Dues	121,000.00	110,845.00
5. Council of School Attorneys	30,000.00	29,300.00
6. Publications	10,000.00	6,604.00
7. Policy Service	100,000.00	119,250.00
8. Annual State Conference (inc. advertisements)	350,000.00	364,493.75
9. Day on the Hill	20,000.00	17,825.00
10. Interest and Dividends	20,000.00	4,024.69
11. Investment Gain - Vanguard	40,000.00	40,311.01
12. Plaques/Recognition Awards	1,200.00	220.55
13. Advertising income (included in other categories)	—	—
14. Conferences/Workshops	12,000.00	1,865.00
15. M*I*S*C	60,000.00	61,000.00
16. MASC Search Service	107,000.00	152,909.61
17. Division Income	—	—
18. Offset BOD Expense (Reimbursement)	—	8,498.58
19. NE Regional NSBA Meeting	—	—
Totals	\$2,194,000.00	\$2,205,364.00

EXPENSES

1. Salaries	\$861,193.00	\$776,953.84
2. Payroll Expenses (Paychex)	2,900.00	3,138.65
3. Payroll Tax Expenses (FICA/Medicare)	65,881.26	57,167.57
4. Pension Fund	43,059.65	56,227.00
5. Bank Services Charges	—	3.93
6. Employee Insurance (reimb.; AD&D; Life)	82,952.28	71,951.02
7. Staff Recruitment/Temp Staff	15,000.00	20,314.76
8. Legislative Counsel	49,000.00	47,000.00
9. Legislative Research	—	—
10. Legislative Reporting Service	4,300.00	4,158.00
11. Legal Counsel	50,000.00	46,000.00
12. Legal Services	12,000.00	10,104.35
13. Auditor	33,000.00	30,180.00
14. Accounting Services	2,800.00	2,500.00
15. Staff Expense	44,000.00	33,301.80
16. Staff Professional Development	4,500.00	3,932.55
17. Board of Directors	32,000.00	54,293.35
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	51,635.87
22.	Professional Development: NSBA Annual Convention	35,000.00	29,490.15
23.	Professional Development: NSBA President's Retreat	7,500.00	—
24.	Memberships	51,000.00	35,779.20
25.	Roberta Doering/Past Presidents Scholarships	3,500.00	5,500.00
26.	State Conference	230,000.00	262,585.02
27.	Day on the Hill	24,000.00	20,325.19
28.	Division/Committee Expense	14,000.00	12,284.79
29.	Publications	80,000.00	81,849.91
30.	Policy Service	47,000.00	59,871.91
31.	Office	36,000.00	41,916.71
32.	Equipment Lease	42,000.00	41,829.91
33.	Equipment Maintenance	5,000.00	2,062.94
34.	Postage	66,000.00	64,225.00
35.	Condo fees	37,000.00	30,669.00
36.	Custodial service	6,700.00	5,958.00
37.	Insurance	12,000.00	8,697.00
38.	Unemployment Compensation	450.00	—
39.	Telephone	15,000.00	10,223.85
40.	Electricity	7,500.00	6,605.20
41.	Gas	3,250.00	1,792.94
42.	Capital Improvements/Depreciation	25,000.00	25,000.00
43.	Plaques/Recognition Awards	4,650.00	4,488.10
44.	M*I*S*C	2,500.00	2,028.78
45.	Conferences/Workshops	10,000.00	9,353.63
46.	MASC Search Service	37,000.00	42,751.90
47.	Council of School Attorneys	22,000.00	20,014.88
48.	Technology	13,500.00	13,500.00
49.	Bad Debt Expenses	4,000.00	39.20
50.	Other Expenses	—	26,826.00
51.	COSCAP (Board Secretaries) Expenses	1,000.00	1,326.64
52.	District Governance	—	3,778.39
52.	Salaries - DGAP	—	—
	Totals	\$2,183,363.19	\$2,141,344.00
	Net Income	10,363.81	64,020.00

committee reports requiring no action

REPORT OF THE REGIONAL SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

This year the Committee focused on the following issues: Refiled Legislation (Stabilization, Regional School Bonus Aid, Regions as Fiscal Agent, Voc Ed Studies, and Special Education Stabilization Accounts), the hearings, debate and final report of the Foundation Budget Commission, Regional School Committee member responsibilities regarding warrants and Regional School Transportation funding. The latter rose to our attention with Governor Baker's filing of An Act to Modernize Municipal Finance and Government. Contained in this legislation was the additional insertion of the clause, "subject to appropriation"; this time in the original covenant of Chapter 71, Section 16C. Unfortunately, this section passed, and the intentions of the original authors were ignored. On a more positive note, Senator Anne Gobi and Representative Kimberly Ferguson serve as the Chairs of the Regional Schools Caucus, and bring a vast amount of experience to their roles. Together, they have sponsored several pieces of legislation crucial to regional school district governance which have successfully moved through the Legislature. Representative Ferguson was also an active member of the Foundation Budget Commission, and made sure to share up to date information with us.

Another area of concerns for regions was the impact of the shift from "Low Income" to "Economically Disadvantaged". While the change was touted as having no negative impacts on districts, the actuality was very different. While the financial situation of families in our regions did not change, suddenly some students' circumstance fell out of the newly established "Economically Disadvantaged". Together with groups such as MassBudget, the Committee worked with the Legislature's Joint Education Committee and the Regional Schools Caucus to provide the necessary data

on its negative impact on Chapter 70 and MSBA, as well as federal programs such as Title I and E-rate. This advocacy will continue in the new academic year.

Our February meeting was our annual conference call with Chris Lynch, Jay Sullivan and Roger Hatch of DESE regarding the release of the Governor's budget. Our discussions are candid and open, and we appreciate the opportunity to have this opportunity immediately following the budget release. Additionally, we were fortunate to work with Melissa King and Michelle Griffin of DESE on workshop programming such as using the online tools to understand the Chapter 70 notebook and the status of collaboratives in the Commonwealth in regards to general educational transportation. We wish to extend our best wishes upon the retirement of Chris Lynch for her care and commitment to regions and the students and communities we serve.

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!

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

recommended for life membership

MICHAEL CASE

A member of the Central Berkshire Regional School Committee, Michael Case has represented MASC as Division VI Vice Chair, a member of the Nominating Committee, and as one of the Association's representatives on the Berkshire County Educational Task Force. Mr. Case has also helped to organize several Division meetings and New Member orientations in Berkshire County and worked to build membership and regional alliances.

In addition to his diligent and attentive work for the Association and its members, Mr. Case brings an extremely diverse background of dedicated public service at many levels. He is a 33-year veteran of the US Army, including two tours of duty in Vietnam, and as a member of the Army Reserve he was called to active duty in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Iraq. He was also part of the Katrina Rescue Recovery team in New Orleans and spent two decades with the Pittsfield Police Department. Mr. Case also serves on Board of Selectmen in the town of Washington, MA.

A Pittsfield native, he earned his B.S. in Government and Public Administration from American University in Washington DC and his Masters in Police Administration from American International College in Springfield, MA.

CHARLES FLAHIVE

Charles Flahive has spent a lifetime in public education and the last decade as a member of the Blue Hills Regional Technical Vocational School Committee, where he is currently serving as Chair. During that time he has also represented MASC on several Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) committees, including their Finance Committee, Election Board and Games Officials Committee. He has also represented MASC on the Legislative Committee of the Massachusetts Secondary School Administrators Association (MSSAA), and has served as a resource to MASC and advocated for MASC issues as an active member in Division VIII.

A 45-year member of the Westwood Public School community, Mr. Flahive was a teacher, assistant principal, high school principal and Summer School Director. He also served as Program Coordinator for the Northeastern University-Westwood Satellite Program.

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*
Brenda Ennis, Oxford
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*
Patricia Jehlen, Somerville
Julianne Kelley, Wachusett Reg.
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
Kevin McKenzie, Nashoba Reg. Voc. Tech.
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
Frank Tyrrell, North Shore Reg. Voc. Tech.
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 Wednesday, June 22, 2016. Members in attendance were Patrick Francomano, MASC Immediate Past President, Chair Ex Officio; Evelyn Thoren, Chelmsford (Division I); Margie Ross-Decter, Newton (Division II); Chris Ghilarducci, Berkley (Division III); Angela Yildiz, Berlin-Boylston (Division IV); Irene Feliciano-Sims, Holyoke (Division V); Michael Case, Central Berkshire Reg. (Division VI); Donald Ericsson, Bay Path Reg. Voc. Tech. (Division VIII); Joshua Amaral, New Bedford (Division IX); Mildred Lefebvre, Holyoke (Minority Caucus). Division VII was unable to attend.

What follows is the slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee to be voted on by the delegates at the Annual Meeting of the Association, which will be held on Wednesday, November 2, 2016 at the Resort and Conference Center in Hyannis.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Francomano, MASC Past President, Chair, Ex Officio

NOMINATED FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT

BEVERLY HUGO, FRAMINGHAM

Serving her fourth term on the Framingham School Committee, Beverly Hugo is a product of and staunch proponent for public education. She has been praised by her colleagues for her focus, experience and leadership in ensuring the best interests of all students. She is committed to fiscal responsibility to taxpayers and is respected for her local, state and national advocacy for adequate funding and supports. Positive outcomes for all students is always first and foremost in her work. She believes that a label or an address should not determine a child's path to educational, career or life's opportunities.

Currently serving as Vice President of MASC, she previously served as the Division II (Metropolitan) Chair. Ms. Hugo has maintained an active role on various MASC committees (Budget; Legislative; Advocacy; Resolutions; Personnel) while frequently participating in state and national professional development events, including NSBA's annual convention; the Federal Relations Network (at which she was a previous speaker about Turnaround Schools); the Equity Symposium and at MASC's Day on the Hill and annual conferences, at which she has represented her district for several years as a delegate to the annual assembly and as a presenter on Gifted and Talented Education, PARCC/MCAS Testing, and Student Social and Emotional Wellness. For the past three years, Ms. Hugo has authored many resolutions that were voted upon favorably during the annual Delegate Assemblies, some of which have been enacted into law. She was recently appointed by Governor Baker to serve on his Local Government Advisory Commission.

She recently completed her fourth term as Chair of the Framingham School Committee, having served two terms as Vice Chair. She has served on numerous subcommittees including Finance; Policy; Collective Bargaining; Health Advisory Council; Academic Data Dashboard; and as Chair of the Superintendent Search Committee. For the past six years, she has been the Legislative Liaison to MASC, fostering productive relationships with state and federal legislators, and previously served for four years on the Board of Directors of the Education Collaborative (TEC). She was recently elected as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Suburban Coalition, a group of municipal and school leaders that advocates

for adequate resources for public school districts throughout Massachusetts.

Ms. Hugo also serves on a wide range of committees and volunteer programs including as the current Chair of the Democratic Town Committee; the Metrowest STEM Education Network Advisory Board; as a director and judge for the Future Problem Solving International Program and, as well as serving her 24 year as grade 4-12 coach for the MA Future Problem Solving International Program (in which a Framingham Team placed sixth in the world recently). 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 Auxiliary.

A graduate of the Boston Public Schools- Girls' Latin School, UMass-Amherst, followed by postgraduate studies at Boston University, Ms. Hugo has taught in the Boston and Brookline Public Schools. She is married to her best friend and ardent supporter, Michael, an environmental attorney, and is the proud mother of three amazing children – Carly, Mark and Matt.

NOMINATED FOR VICE PRESIDENT

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 MASC Board of Directors 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 conferences, served as Holyoke's representative in the MASC Delegate Assembly, and presented on Roles and Responsibilities for Charting the Course. He has attended and participated in Day on the Hill, multiple NSBA Annual Conferences, and the NSBA Advocacy Institute. 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 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.

NOMINATED FOR SECRETARY-TREASURER DEBORAH DAVIS, NORTHEAST METROPOLITAN VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL

A 19-year member of the Northeast Metropolitan Vocational Technical School Committee, Deborah Davis has been a stalwart and effective champion for high quality 21st century vocational programs for all students. She has been a member of the MASC Board of Directors since 2009, when she was elected chair of the vocational division (Division VIII), having previously served as its vice chair and secretary. She has also served on a number of MASC Committees including Resolutions and Nominations as well as being a representative to NSBA's Federal Relations Network and the MA Interscholastic Athletic Association.

Ms. Davis has also attended and presented at numerous MASC conferences, serving as Northeast Metro's representative to the Delegate Assembly, and chaired sessions on vocational education best practices at the annual joint conference. She has also attended multiple NSBA Annual Conferences,

the Federal Relations/Advocacy Institute and earlier this summer the newly formed NSBA Equity Symposium.

On her school committee, she has served as secretary and chair of the Committee as well as chair of its Nominating, Budget and Hall of Fame Committees. She has also been an active member of the Woburn Little League Board of Directors and chaired the Woburn High School All-Night graduation party for the past ten years.

A graduate of Northeast Metro Tech. (drafting and design), Davis received a degree in Architectural Engineering from Wentworth Institute of Technology. Professionally, she has been vice president of Timberlane Construction, a designer for In/Ex Design Group and is the owner of the Deborah P. Davis Architectural Design firm. She also works in guest relations at TD Garden and as a gate agent for Delta Airlines.

PRESIDENT 2017: PATRICK MURPHY, BARNSTABLE

Patrick Murphy is a 13-year member of the Barnstable School Committee having been elected four times town wide and has served as chair for three years and vice-chair for six years., Murphy also currently serves on the MASC Board of Directors as President-Elect, previously serving as Vice-President, Treasurer/Secretary plus two years as Chair of Division VII (Cape and Islands). Murphy is an appointed member of the Local Governance Advisory Committee which meets monthly with the Governor/Lt. Governor and local municipal officials.

After a twenty-year career in the private sector with various technology firms, Mr. Murphy made a career change and became a licensed school business official. He currently serves as Director of Finance and Operations for the Falmouth Public Schools. He is an active member in the Massachusetts School Business Officials association.

For the past several years, Mr. Murphy has been at the forefront of efforts to raise awareness of Cape-wide concerns related to declining 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, and the Cape's legislative delegations, Murphy has helped to lead an effort to gather, analyze and present data to better understand the current challenges faced by districts on the Cape. As a member of the Board of Directors, Murphy has been a driving force for the recent legislative initiative and MASC charter school data analysis related to changing Commonwealth Charter School governance.

Over the years, he has also been extremely active at the community level in various board leadership roles. His leadership in numerous Cape Cod associations include the Chamber of Commerce, United Way, Technology Council, Workforce Investment Board which have focused on regional solutions to area concerns and challenges.

Patrick has been married for 26 years to Karen Murphy, a long time school teacher. They have two daughters Norah (18) and Fiona (15) who have been successfully educated by the Barnstable Public Schools.

report of the resolutions committee

The MASC Resolutions Committee met on July 6, 2016 to consider the resolutions proposed by member districts for consideration at the 2016 Annual Meeting of the Association. Members present were: Patrick Murphy (Barnstable), Chair; Paulette Van der Kloot (Medford); Jason Frasier (Silver Lake Reg.); Mildred Lefebvre (Holyoke); Irene Feliciano-Sims (Holyoke); Margaret Driscoll (Melrose); Geoffrey Swett (Wareham); William Fonseca (East Longmeadow); Kathleen Kelley (Cambridge); Devin Sheehan (Holyoke); Patrick Francomano (King Philip Reg.).

The following resolutions were moved forward by the Resolutions Committee and approved by the MASC Board of Directors at their meeting on July 6.

RESOLUTION 1–FOUNDATION BUDGET

(Submitted by the MASC Resolutions Committee)

WHEREAS a special Foundation Budget Review Commission (FBRC) reported its recommendations in 2015 the General Court and to the public, and

WHEREAS among the recommendations were those to calculate more accurately the costs of students in special education and health insurance costs for employees and retirees, and

WHEREAS several recommendations of the members of the Commission to establish adequate and equitable funding for school districts remain unresolved, and

WHEREAS there remains a broad consensus that the overall calculations used to establish the “Foundation Budget” for city, town and regional school districts remain significantly understated and, in the opinion of MASC and its members violates the letter and spirit of the ruling of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court in the 1993 McDuffy Case,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that MASC calls upon the legislature to enact the recommendations of the Foundation Budget into law, and further,

- that the legislature order the Commission to reconvene in order to conduct further deliberations and make such recommendations as the FBRC may propose, and further
- that the FBRC shall address and make recommendations toward the overall accuracy of the adequacy of the overall Foundation Budget

RESOLUTION 2–TAX REFORM BALLOT QUESTION

(Submitted by the MASC Resolutions Committee)

On advice of counsel, we are not providing the text of the resolution with the Delegate Manual. The text and rationale can be accessed on the MASC website at www.masc.org or on the MASC mobile app.

RESOLUTION 3–CHARTER SCHOOL REFORM

(Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

On advice of counsel, we are not providing the text of the resolution with the Delegate Manual. The text and rationale can be accessed on the MASC website at www.masc.org or on the MASC mobile app.

RESOLUTION 4–SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING OF STUDENTS

(Submitted by the MASC Resolutions Committee)

WHEREAS various factors including the impact of poverty, family status, other social issues and academic pressures have contributed to a marked increase in the levels of stress and anxiety among students at all grade levels, and WHEREAS the expansion of standardized testing to a wider range of students and these tests to establish ratings for schools and districts has contributed to the growing concern among educators that students are exhibiting complications of adding stressful factors to their lives both inside and outside of school, and

WHEREAS advocates for students, including school committee members, school leaders, teachers and parents have identified that an effective strategy for children is to address social and emotional learning (SEL) by various tactics, and

WHEREAS in response to the demand for SEL, initiatives have been organized by several stakeholder groups including a collaboration of MASC, MASS, MIAA, MS-SAA, MESPA, MOEC, and Teachers 21, and, in addition, a separate working group within MASC to identify available resources, new strategies, and tactics to promote the social and emotional well-being of children,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees shall be directed to deploy such resources of the Association independently and in collaboration with other organizations to gather resources, identify strategies, and improve public awareness of the importance of addressing student social and emotional well-being, and further that

- MASC shall give consideration to such public policy initiatives that prioritize action by stakeholders and stakeholder groups, in collaboration with expert behavioral and health care providers, as the most effective entities for addressing strategies that are in the best interests of children.

MASC presidents, 1947-2016

- 1947-48: **Ethel Troland**, Malden
- 1948-49: **Winston B. Keck**, Shrewsbury
- 1949-50: **Charlotte Roads**, Marblehead
- 1950-51: **George Harper, Jr.**, Williamstown
- 1951-52: **Elmer Poole**, Dartmouth
- 1952-53: **Thomas H. Moriarty**, Fitchburg
- 1953-54: **Honore F. Savaria**, West Springfield
- 1954-55: **Hazel Johnson**, Stoneham
- 1955-56: **Theodore C. Sargent**, Swampscott
- 1956-57: **Charles F. Johnson**, Tyringham
- 1957-58: **Haskell C. Freedman**, Newton
- 1958-59: **John T. McDonough**, Springfield
- 1959-61: **Shirley R. Lewis**, Taunton
- 1961-62: **Philip C. Weissbrod**, Lenox
- 1962-64: **Alton S. Cavicchi**, Plymouth
- 1964-66: **Charles T. Sweeney**, Quincy
- 1966-68: **Edward L. Butler**, Duxbury
- 1968-70: **Helen A. Bowditch**, Worcester
- 1970-71: **Robert L'H. Miller**, Danvers
- 1971-72: **Hugh R. Boyd**, Stoneham
- 1972-73: **John Canavan, Jr.**, Winthrop
- 1973-74: **Margaret Jacques**, Grafton
- 1974-75: **Paul Ambler**, Natick
- 1975-76: **John Silva**, Hull
- 1976-77: **Gertrude Florini**, Beverly
- 1977-78: **Joseph Savery**, Lee
- 1978-79: **Robert Jacobsen**, Williamstown
- 1979-80: **John Raftery**, Hull
- 1980-81: **Charlotte Scott**, Nashoba Valley Voc. Tech.
- 1981-82: **Doris Krensky**, Plymouth Carver Reg.
- 1982-83: **Mary Whitney**, Fitchburg
- 1983-84: **William A. Carey, Jr.**, Arlington
- 1984-85: **Frank Hegarty**, Avon
- 1985-86: **John Coleman**, Beverly
- 1986-87: **Roberta Doering**, Agawam
- 1987-88: **Christopher Kennedy**, Quincy
- 1988-89: **Norman Doyle**, Newburyport
- 1989-90: **Carol Grazio**, Pentucket Reg.
- 1990-91: **Francis Elliott**, Quaboag Reg.
- 1991-92: **Lynne Sullivan**, Newton
- 1992-93: **Winthrop Farwell**, Brockton
- 1994: **Carl Petersen**, Salem
- 1995: **Janice Mills**, Mashpee
- 1996: **Albert Roderick**, Falmouth
- 1997: **Scott McDuffy**, Brockton
- 1998: **Brian O'Connell**, Worcester
- 1999: **Lynn Ryan**, Assabet Valley Voc. Tech.
- 2000: **Nancy Stinger**, East Longmeadow
- 2001: **Robert Gass**, Randolph
- 2002: **Rosemary Sandlin**, Agawam
- 2003: **Carol LePrevost**, Lee
- 2004: **Paul Schlichtman**, Arlington
- 2005: **Kenneth Pereira**, Upper Cape Cod Reg. Voc. Tech.
- 2006: **Maurice Hancock**, Brockton
- 2007: **Joseph Santos**, Ludlow
- 2008: **Ellen Furtado**, Swansea
- 2009: **Debra (Bibeau) LaValley**, Amesbury
- 2010: **Kathleen Robey**, Marlborough
- 2011: **Dorothy Presser**, Lynnfield
- 2012: **Penny Blackwell**, Upper Cape Cod Reg. Voc. Tech.
- 2013: **Mary Jo Rossetti**, Somerville
- 2014: **Ann Marie Cugno**, Medford
- 2015: **Patrick Francomano**, King Philip Reg.
- 2016: **Jacob Oliveria**, Ludlow

MASC By-laws as amended through November 4, 2015

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

1. **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
- Minority Caucus

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 and the Chair of the Minority Caucus shall constitute the Board of Directors except that no employee of the Association may serve on the Board of Directors. 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.

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

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 fifteen 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
Mattapoissett
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
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
Mohawk Trail Reg.
Monroe
Mount Greylock Reg.
New Ashford
North Adams
North Berkshire
Union #43
Pittsfield
Richmond
Rowe
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
Upland

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

School Committee members met in November 2015 at the state conference and elected Brendan Walsh of Salem and Evelyn Thoren of Chelmsford as co-chairs and Margaret Kane of Wilmington as Secretary -Treasurer. At this year's conference there will be an election for a new co-chair and a new secretary-treasurer for Division I, since both Ms. Kane and Ms. Thoren are stepping off. Division I also sponsored a new member orientation at the recently opened Essex Technical High School. Division I and Division II cosponsored a panel discussion at Newton High School on "Late Start for High School Students." Among the other issues raised during the year, and at the conference meeting, were concerns about charter school funding, Chapter 70, socio-economic and emotional situations, and preserving the special education circuit breaker appropriation for FY 2017.

Respectfully submitted,
Brendan Walsh, Salem, Co-Chair
Evelyn Thoren, Chelmsford, Co-Chair

DIVISION 2–Metropolitan

At the Joint Conference annual meeting, the topics of social and emotional learning and early high school start times were raised as working groups were initially conceived to deal with them following on to the decision of the Delegate Assembly to do so. During the year, in addition to collaborations with several other committees on special meetings during the year, Division leaders and members convened both a task force on Social and Emotional Learning, and also met on high school start times to review best strategies around delaying start times to improve health and wellness while addressing scheduling concerns including athletics and other extra-curricular activities. The Division joined with several others in the special meeting on the Foundation Budget in Framingham in collaboration with the Suburban Coalition.

Respectfully submitted,
James Stockless, Framingham, Co-Chair
Margie Ross Decter, Newton, Co-Chair

DIVISION 3–Southeast

As it has done in the past, and in response to member requests, the division hosted a special meeting on association resolutions and public policy prior to the state conference. The division organized a very successful meeting of over 40 division members and a host of other educators on the topic of the opioid crisis as guests of Somerset Berkeley Regional High School. Legislative leaders also attended the meeting with former division chair and current House Majority Leader Patricia Haddad addressing the group. They addressed general public policy, strategies to manage the crisis, and the special work that schools can do to keep children safe from addictive substances.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlene McEntee, Plainville., Chair

DIVISION 4–Central

Our Joint Conference meeting in Hyannis had over fifty members in attendance. We welcomed Jackie Ryan of the Tantasqua Regional School Committee as our new Division Secretary joining myself, Ellen Holmes, Chair (Ashburnham-Westminster) and Angela Yildiz, Vice Chair (Berlin-Boylston). Based on the great feedback from members, we moved to holding meetings on Saturday mornings. Division members continue to focus attention on programming addressing school finance (the Division co-sponsored the Suburban Coalition Meeting this past May on the Foundation Budget Review Commission), the opioid crisis (spring follow up program with parents and practitioners) and school construction (Building Sustainability with MA DOER and MSBA). Our fall programming will include workshops addressing Ballot '16: The Impact on Public Education and Using Social Media Effectively. The division also cosponsored two New Member Orientation Sessions. Please let your division officers know of programming ideas or hosting opportunities in your district. See you in Hyannis!

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

DIVISION 5–Connecticut Valley

The division hosted three meetings during the year, including two in collaboration with other divisions. On October 15 at Lower Pioneer Valley Collaborative where divisions VIII and IX also participated, members discussed common core standards issues and vocational education. At the state convention, a special election resulted in the appointment of William Fonseca of East Longmeadow as Chair, Wendy Rua as Vice Chair, and Dr. Jose Izzari of West Springfield as Secretary Treasurer. The meeting also focused on student testing. Division leaders organized a new member orientation in Northampton and later in the year, also in Northampton, held a special meeting on social media and provided a legislative update.

Respectfully submitted,
William Fonseca, East Longmeadow., Chair

DIVISION 6–Berkshires

MASC Division VI has been leading an in-depth look at the future of education in the Berkshires, specifically as it relates to declining school enrollments, near flat financial resource support at the local, state and federal level, and the resulting declining curriculum offerings for its student population. Continuing the efforts begun in 2015, the Berkshire County Education Task Force (BCETF), comprised of school committee chairs, educators, former and current school superintendents, municipal leaders, and local business leaders from all sections of Berkshire County, has been meeting every three weeks formulating strategies to address the significant challenges faced by the county's school districts. The Division VI led effort has contracted with the UMASS Donahue Institute to do a two phase look

at the current and future education infrastructure - with the end goal to provide implementable recommendations to municipalities and school districts on regional, shared services and school consolidation modeling options that will offer long-term financial sustainability for Berkshire County school districts and enhanced educational opportunities for its students. BCETF has received financial support from local private and public sources and state funds through efforts of the Berkshire County legislative delegation. BCETF made many presentations of its efforts and goals to key stakeholder groups throughout the year, and to Governor Baker in August.

Division VI also hosted its Annual Berkshire County Legislative Forum providing the opportunity for school committee members, school administrators and other stakeholders to have dialogue with their legislators. A Charting the Course orientation for new and veteran school committee members was held in September and a special second orientation for northern Berkshire County elected officials in January.

Respectfully submitted,
John Hockridge, North Adams, Chair

DIVISION 7—Cape and Islands

After a well attended gathering at the state convention, the division proceeded to hold two additional sessions during the year. At a special legislative breakfast held in collaboration with the Cape Cod Collaborative during the winter, members raised the issue of strategies for declining enrollment and charter school reform with the Cape Cod delegation. Later in the year, the division presented a special program on Competency/Mastery Based Education, a relatively new concept that shifts priority from formal grades to individual student proficiencies and an update from DESE on "MCAS 2.0" content and timing.

Respectfully submitted,
Geoffrey Swett, Wareham, Chair

DIVISION 8—Vocational-Technical

Division VIII members turned out in force for the state convention hosting a large set of roundtable discussions and covering the spectrum of technical school issues. During the year, the division cosponsored three new member orientations, including a large session as guests of the Cape Cod Technical School. Because of the statewide constituency, the division cosponsored several programs in Holyoke, Worcester, Framingham, and Danvers as well as two forums on the opioid crisis. The division boasted a distinguished record of success for its students. The division cosponsors the Texpo segment of the Skills USA competition from which over 20 students went on to national championships in their fields. Division VIII members also brought their unique issues to the attention of legislators during the Chapter 70 meeting with lawmakers held in collaboration with the Suburban Coalition.

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

DIVISION 9—Urban

The division sponsored a special meeting with legislators around the issue of testing and assessment that focused on legislative strategies. Held in collaboration with Divisions 1 and 2, and as guests of Medford High School, members also prioritized student social and emotional wellbeing as a function of, among other things, the volume of testing. Because of the nature of their constituencies, Divisions IX and the Minority Caucus collaborated with several others at meetings on the topic of substance abuse, equity, poverty and student achievement for children at social and economic risk. In addition, Division IX in collaboration with the Suburban Coalition joined a special meeting on the Foundation Budget at the Sheraton Framingham Conference Center. We are currently exploring how we can develop a wider "urban presence" similar to how the superintendents work with their "Urban Superintendents Working Group."

Respectfully submitted,
Paulette Van der Kloot, Medford, Chair-2015
Stacey Rizzo, Revere, Chair-2016

MINORITY CAUCUS

The Minority Caucus was organized during the 2015-16 year. The goal was to encourage the development of minority school committee membership and to provide professional development and advocacy on behalf of all MASC members focusing on the concerns of underserved constituencies. The plan was to emulate some of the discrete caucuses organized under the auspices of NSBA. After an initial period of development, a group of minority school committee members and allies met at the 2015 Joint Conference to create an action plan. In December, the Board of Directors designated an interim leadership team to drive the agenda pending an election. An initial call for nominations was circulated and a nominating committee presented the first slate of officers. On May 7, a slate of officers was produced to include Denise Hurst of Springfield as Chair, Mildred Lefebvre of Holyoke as Vice Chair, and Virginia Sims of Assabet Valley as Secretary-Treasurer. The Caucus cosponsored several division meetings in the Spring and will be planning its advocacy work going forward.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Hurst, Springfield, Chair

Notes

**Massachusetts Association of
School Committees**
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