

Later in the meeting, board members addressed the proposed budget. Finance Director Marc Brocklehurst noted that the state was likely to cut \$41 billion from the education budget. He recommended going with the 10% reduction scenario. There would not be a decrease in salaries, but it would require the use of \$400,000 from reserves.

Board member Megghan St. Aubyn asked if there were additional cuts beyond the use of reserves. Brocklehurst said there were cuts in professional education services, supplies, and building repairs. This includes technical services, gifted and talented services, exceptional student services and marketing services. Supplies would include curriculum, art supplies, and band supplies. Board member Melanie Strop indicated parents could help with supplies but asked how cuts in professional education services would affect kids. Strop said this budget is hard but gave kudos for keeping teachers. President Mark McWilliams noted that MA will have to take a hard look at a lot of things and reach out to the community for help. McWilliams confirmed that previously approved pay raises and bonuses were canceled. Strop told teachers that this in no way reflected on their worth to the board.

The MA board unanimously approved the proposed 2020-21 budget with a 10% decrease.

Plans for next year

Herrera is focused on preparing for next year. She said MA is looking at various scenarios, from a full return, to online at home, or something in between. She said that some parents won't want kids exposed, so MA will have to consider how to deal with some students at home and some in the building. She said she is glad the middle school and high school enrollment is small, so they can deliver individual learning plans for each student. She said MA does have extra space in the secondary school, so it can implement social distancing. There is also extra space in the elementary school slated for labs, gifted and talented, and a tech lab that could be used for social distancing as well.

She noted that next year's enrollment is 943 full-time equivalent (FTE). MA has lost some students and gained some via enrollment and disenrollment. MA is tracking disenrollments due to relocation, job loss, moving, and concern about kids going to school. There are three students whose Individual Education Plans (IEPs) are being reviewed to see if MA has the right resources. There are 71 students on a list who have expressed interest but have not yet accepted a seat. There are open seats in all grades except kindergarten. Parents who are making decisions cannot tour, meet teachers, or see classrooms at this time so are delaying their decisions.

SAAC update

Board member Chris Dole reported that the School Accountability and Advisory Committee (SAAC) has been busy catching up on delayed meetings. Two meetings were held in April covering four major items:

- The mid-year survey was forwarded to the board

for informational purposes only. The participation rate was low but showed a positive response to the school's character emphasis as well as communication from teachers and outstanding teachers/staff. Concerns included food choices, limiting tech time, and whether middle school would get lost in the opening of the new campus.

- The Family-School-Community Partnership review was completed and looks at the school on six different standards: welcoming families, communicating effectively, supporting students' success, speaking for every child, sharing power, and collaborating with the community. Scores, which include ratings of emerging, progressing and excelling, were provided to the deans.
- The Uniform Improvement Plan (UIP) is submitted every two years and updated in between. The UIP shows some plateaus in fourth-grade reading. Assessment Coordinator Marty Venticinque helps the SAAC and teachers understand how to read the data and explains what tools are available to create a learning plan for each student.
- The SAAC initially hoped to add questions to the End-of-Year Survey on eLearning but did not do so. The questions were the same as in the previous year and closed on May 11. The next meeting was held on May 18, and results will be presented to the board in June.

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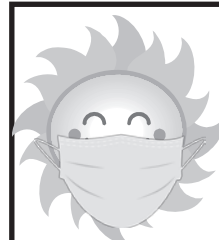
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