

October 12, 2022

To: MERSD School Committee (SC)

From: Avi Urbas, Director of Finance & Operations

Copy: Pam Beaudoin, Superintendent of Schools

Re: Financial Package for 10/18/22 School Committee Meeting

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Hello, MERSD School Committee.

Attached please find financials for the 10/18/22 School Committee Meeting. We have two Accounts Payable (AP) vouchers, V1015 and V1016.

**V1015:** main AP voucher totaling \$438,401. Some highlights:

- Facilities:
  - \$26K to Gale Associates for work performed to date on the \$54K contract for design services, through and including preliminary design and permitting phases. The team is slated to appear before the Conservation Commission later this month, which is a key step towards finalizing design. This project is funded by Stabilization reserves.
  - \$4.7K to Habeeb & Associate Architects for initial 10% payment on \$47K contract for the EES/MSHS Facility Index Condition study, funded by Stabilization reserves. The goal is to wrap up this project during the upcoming budget season so a quantifiable assessment of our facilities can inform our capital asset planning/budgeting process.
  - \$4.6K to Jeffrey's Creek for 2<sup>nd</sup> invoice on site clean up at the new EES playground, bringing total paid to date to \$12.2K. Total quote for services was \$16K, but seeding has yet to occur due to watering restrictions.
  - \$2.9K to EKB for repair of a concrete drain pipe at EES adjacent to the soccer field. We continue to address smaller (but still important) drainage issues, including scoping and repair of multiple underground pipes behind and to the side of the school. As discussed, a systemic drainage solution for the soccer field is required, which could be included as part of an eventual building project. The Habeeb report will hopefully provide an estimate of the potential cost for a systemic, stand-alone drainage solution.
  - \$2.4K to FieldTurf for first of two maintenance visits at Hyland Field. This is in line with prior year cost and includes grooming and smaller repairs.
  - \$5.3K to All Seasons Septic for cleaning of drain lines at all 3 buildings.
- Administration:
  - \$12K to John Guilfoil for annual cost of contracted communications/public relations services. This is a new service for MERSD. Guilfoil primarily serves the municipal market including smaller town governments, school districts, police/fire departments that are not large enough to have an in-house Public Information Officer.
- Curriculum & Technology
  - \$6K to Axis technology solutions for final month of outsourced tech support. The FY23 budget included reinstatement of an in-house IT support technician role. Although it took longer to fill than we had hoped, we have filled the position, effective 10/1.
  - \$22K to Curriculum Associates funded by the federal ESSER III COVID grant for iReady assessment system (\$11K) and professional development (\$10K). The ESSER III grant required an emphasis on learning loss from COVID and implementation of iReady will

help MERSD to better identify students in need and help to provide targeted remediation options.

- \$4.6K to Ockers for battery backup solution for on premises IT servers. Power in this region has been prone to somewhat frequent outages and this will keep our network running when that occurs. The prior solution was original to the MSHS building and is past due for replacement, putting our network at risk.

**V1016:** monthly payment of \$340 to Center for Medicare & Medicaid Service for small number of legacy retirees that MERSD migrated to Medicare after initial eligibility from our significantly more costly retiree plan.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Avi Urbas