

Report of the MASC NOMINATING COMMITTEE-2020

The MASC Nominating Committee met on Tuesday, June 23, 2020. Members in attendance were: Devin Sheehan, MASC Immediate Past President, Chair, Ex Officio; Beverley Griffin Dunne, Peabody/ Essex Tech. (Division I); Natasha Rivera, Maynard (Division II); Josh Amaral, New Bedford (Division III); Katherine Hennessy, Marlborough (Division IV); Dan Hayes, Shutesbury (Division V); William Cameron, Pittsfield (Division VI); Don Erickson, BayPath Reg. Voc. Tech. (Division VIII); Irene Feliciano-Sims, Holyoke (Division IX); LaTonia Naylor, Springfield (Minority Caucus). Absent: Tina Games, Monomoy (Division VII).

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 Saturday, November 7, 2020. Location to be announced.

- President-Elect: no applications were received for this position
- Vice-President: Stacey Rizzo, Revere
- Secretary-Treasurer: Mildred Lefebvre, Holyoke

Any person wishing to run from the floor shall send required notification as outlined in Article VII of the MASC By-Laws (see below) to: Massachusetts Association of School Committees, One McKinley Square, Boston, MA 02109. Attn: Stacey Rizzo, Secretary-Treasurer

In addition to submitting documents by mail, applicants must also email Secretary-Treasurer Rizzo at mascstacey@gmail.com in order that she can verify that all necessary items have been received. All required notification must be received within 35 days of the mailing date of this report.

Respectfully submitted,
Devin Sheehan, Immediate Past President
Chair, Nominating Committee

Pursuant to Article VII of the MASC Bylaws: ELECTION OF OFFICERS/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.

(over)



Pursuant to Article III (MEMBERSHIP) an active member is:

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.

Pursuant to Article VII of the MASC Bylaws: ELECTION OF OFFICERS

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 from January 1 to the following January 1. 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 that 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 officers 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.

Nominating Committee - 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. A Past President shall serve as a non-voting chair of the committee. Five members shall be Division Officers and five shall be members of school committees which are active members of the Association. The five Division officers and the five others shall be so appointed that each Division of the Association is represented.

NOMINATIONS PUT FORWARD

Nominated for Vice-President **STACEY RIZZO, REVERE**

A 10-year member of the Revere School Committee, Stacey Rizzo has been a courageous and relentless champion of equity and inclusiveness for all students, and a forceful advocate for the wide-ranging needs of minority, immigrant and transient students and families.

Describing herself as a life-long learner, Stacey has brought that commitment to her school committee service. She has been a vital contributor to the committee, serving multiple years as vice chair and secretary and on numerous subcommittees and study groups. She was also appointed to represent the district on the Board of Directors of the North Shore Collaborative.

For the past 7 years, she has also been an active member of MASC: as the district's delegate to the Association's annual meeting, as a regular participant at MASC workshops, conferences and training sessions and, since 2016, a member of the Association's Board of Directors, first as Chair of Division IX (Urban) and most recently as Chair of Division II (Metropolitan). She has taken a leading role in hosting Division Meetings and as one of the key players in developing and expanding the MASC Poverty and Equity Institute. She has also been a champion of student leader participation at MASC's Day on the Hill and

special student-focused events and represented MASC at the national level, attending NSBA Annual Conferences and as a passionate advocate for students and resources in Congressional meetings during the annual Federal Relations Network and Advocacy Institute.

Her local community has also benefited from her energy and commitment, including her service on numerous neighborhood improvement and safety committees and as an effective promoter of leadership and parent training initiatives. As a former PTA president, paraprofessional and current school committee member, Stacey has been a part of the Revere school community for the past 29 years.

Stacey has been married to the very patient John Rizzo for 34 years. They are proud parents to three successful sons and in January became blessed with two sweet and feisty granddaughters and another arriving in January 2021!

Nominated for Secretary-Treasurer **MILDRED LEFEBVRE, HOLYOKE**

Mildred Lefebvre is a school committee member for the City of Holyoke, MA. Since 2014, she has focused on ensuring equitable education to all students within the District with an emphasis on Special Education. She currently serves as the Northeast Regional Director for the National Hispanic Council of the National School Board Association. She was appointed

by the Board Members in November of 2018 and re-elected in 2019. The National Hispanic Council focuses on identifying and addressing the educational needs of the Latino/Hispanic Community, its students and families. Further, Mildred is the Chair of the Minority Caucus for the Massachusetts Association of School Committees where she continues to identify and address the current issues facing our underrepresented voices along with her colleagues.

Beyond her commitment to improving public education, Mildred is an engaged professional in Western Massachusetts. Mildred has served as a Licensed Practical Nurse for the past 23 years. As a LPN, she has held various health care roles which have included management, quality assurance and teaching. She currently works as a Visiting Nurse, caring for clients in the community. Her role as a Visiting Nurse has been educating clients on disease process and medication management to ensure that they continue to live lives productively in the comfort of their homes. She teaches and encourages clients to become self advocates of their health and maintenance. She is currently enrolled at Holyoke Community College and was accepted for this Fall 2020 into the LPN to RN Program. Her focus is on mental health as it is a growing concern for our children.

Mildred is the mother of five children ranging in ages from 14-27. She has learned resiliency, perseverance, and grit as she has worked to support her own children who suffer from mental health illness. She has seen firsthand the years of struggles and barriers placed before them. She has spent countless hours learning about and advocating for the issues that faced her children. Mildred has taken the commitment that she had for her own children's success and worked hard to help other families that were struggling. When she is confronted with a problem or new issue as a school committee member, she works to ensure that students receive the supports they needed in the educational setting. Mildred understands the role of a "Mom" in an IEP meeting and has advocated to ensure that the role of the parent is as important and valuable as that of the professional. Collectively, these experiences and her time on the Holyoke School Committee have helped inform Mildred's personal motto of education: "Our children are our future - Invest in the future and reap the rewards."

President 2020-21

B. ELLEN HOLMES

ASHBURNHAM-WESTMINSTER REGIONAL

In her twenty-third year as a member of the Ashburnham-Westminster Regional School Committee, Ellen Holmes has been in the forefront of MASC's drive to advocate for regional school issues, including concerns surrounding transportation, funding and governance. As MASC's President-Elect, she

has been a strong proponent for MASC positions on several pivotal Department of Education commissions and working groups, including the Safe & Supportive Schools Commission, Committee of Practitioners, Education Stakeholders Working Group, Adolescent Literacy Task Force and Pilot Schools Conference. Ms. Holmes has also been a forceful advocate on several MASC subcommittees, including Student Assessment; Legislative; Special Education; Advocacy; MIAA-Lacrosse (Boys & Girls); and Regional Schools, for which she served as chair 2004-2018. She has also represented MASC at the State House as a member of the Local Government Advisory Council ('08;'09;'19;'20;'21). In Boston, she has lobbied the legislature for adequate education funding, charter school reforms and regional school district needs.

A frequent participant at MASC events, Ms. Holmes has appeared on a number of Joint Conference Panels on topics including Superintendent Searches, Special Education-Autism, Regional School governance, budgeting and transportation, Rural Schools, Budget Oversight. Previously as Division IV chair, Ms. Holmes organized critical issue panels on the Opiate Crisis, the Foundation Budget Review Commission recommendations, and MSBA & MA DOER as well as MASC Delegate Assembly and Resolutions Clinic, Special Education Legal Issues, Charter School Funding, Special Education Transportation, GIC, PARCC and "What's Driving Education – Access/New Ideas to Fuel Transportation Fleets. She has also served as a Techspo Judge at the Massachusetts Skills USA competition for eleven years.

On her local committee, she has served as Secretary; chair of the following Committees: Superintendent Search (and Administrator '03 & '15), Legal Services ('01-present), Sick Leave Bank ('09- present), Technology (1999 – '02), Superintendent Evaluation (1999 & 2003) and Investment ('17-). She has also been a member of Sick Leave Bank, Technology, Transportation, Legislative Liaison, Interscholastic Athletic, Budget, Full Day K, Policy Sub, School Committee Handbook, District Wellness Committee, and AVRSC Representative on Ashburnham Infrastructure Committee, CAPS Collaborative (Vice Chair) and Keystone Collaborative. Ms. Holmes also serves as President of Oakmont Youth Soccer, Secretary of the Gordon E. Erickson Memorial Fire Rescue Foundation, participant in the Westminster Town Benefit, Church Deacon and Chair of the Investment Financial Advisory Committee and the Yankee Street Fair in addition to her role as Church Moderator of the First Congregational Church of Westminster.

A proud graduate of Seekonk High School, Wheaton College (BA) and Providence College (MA), Ms. Holmes and her husband, Roger Hoyt, are parents to three children, two of whom are on the autism spectrum and are civil engineering college graduates.