

A G E N D A
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
FAIRHAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
128 WASHINGTON STREET
FAIRHAVEN, MASSACHUSETTS 02719

FAIRHAVEN HIGH SCHOOL
BERNARD F. RODERICK LIBRARY
12 Huttleston Avenue, Fairhaven
Wednesday, April 13, 2016
6:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS
3. DELEGATIONS, VISITORS, ETC
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
March 23, 2016- Executive Session
March 23, 2016- Regular Session
5. PUBLIC COMMENT
6. REPORT OF THE STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
7. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
Receive retired Administrative Regulation- JCBA-R Student Residency
Receive and place on file Exhibit-JCBA-Residency Statement
Conduct an open hearing regarding FPS School Choice Participation
Vote regarding School Choice participation for the 2016-2017 school year
Discuss upcoming events:
Next School Committee Meeting is April 27, 2016
8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
9. NEW BUSINESS
Receive on first reading Revised Policy-JCBA-Student Residence
Vote to accept the Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom Grant in the amount of \$480
10. QUESTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS
11. EXECUTIVE SESSION
12. ADJOURNMENT

**FAIRHAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL RESIDENCY**

The Fairhaven School Committee received the following regulation regarding the residency and admissions of students. The staff is directed to ensure that all forms and regulations are fully executed and conform to this policy.

I. RESIDENCY

In order to attend the Fairhaven Public Schools, a student must actually reside in the Town of Fairhaven, unless one of the exceptions (set forth in Part V below) applies. The residence of a minor child is ordinarily presumed to be the legal residence of the child's parent or legal guardian having physical custody of the child. A student's actual residence is considered to be the place where he or she lives permanently. In determining residency, the Fairhaven Public Schools retain the right to require the production of a variety of records and documentation and to investigate where a student actually resides.

A determination that a student does not actually reside in the Town of Fairhaven renders the student ineligible to enroll in the Fairhaven Public Schools or, if the student is already enrolled in the Fairhaven Public Schools, shall result in the termination of such enrollment. A parent, legal guardian, or student who has reached the age of majority (18), who is aggrieved by a determination of residency may appeal the determination to the Superintendent of Schools, whose decision shall be final.

II. VERIFICATION OF RESIDENCY

Before any student is enrolled in the Fairhaven Public Schools, his or her parent or legal guardian must provide:

1. A signed Residency Statement; and
2. Proof of residency in the Town of Fairhaven (3 documents)

All applicants for enrollment must submit at least one document each from Column A, B, and C and any other documents that may be requested, including but not limited to those from Column A, B, or C (noted below). A parent, guardian, or student who is unable to produce the required documents will not be allowed to enroll into the Fairhaven Public Schools until such time they can provide the documentation.

<u>Column A</u> <u>Evidence of Residency</u>	<u>Column B</u> <u>Evidence of Occupancy</u>	<u>Column C</u> <u>Evidence of Identification (Photo ID)</u>
Record of recent mortgage payment and/or property tax bill.	Recent bill dated within the past 60 days showing Fairhaven address	Valid Driver's License
Copy of Lease	Gas Bill	Valid MA Photo ID Card
	Oil Bill	
Landlord Affidavit	Electric Bill	
Resident Affidavit	Home Telephone Bill (not cell phone)	
Section 8 Agreement	Cable Bill	
	Excise Tax Bill	

The Principal, or his/her designee, shall verify the home address and home telephone number of each student at least once during the school year. Any irregularities shall be reported promptly to the Superintendent of Schools using the "Student Residency Questionnaire" form. Parents are required to notify the school of any changes of their address or the address of the student within five days of the change.

III. ENFORCEMENT

Should a question arise concerning any student's residency in the Town of Fairhaven while attending the Fairhaven Public Schools, the student's residency will be subject to further inquiry and/or investigation. Such questions concerning residency may arise on the basis of incomplete, suspicious, or contradictory proofs of address; anonymous tips; correspondence that is returned to the Fairhaven Public Schools because of an invalid or unknown address, or other grounds.

The Superintendent may request additional documentation, may use the assistance of the School Department's Attendance Officer, and/or may obtain the services of police or investigative agency personnel to conduct investigations into student residence. The Attendance Officer and/or residency investigator(s) will report his or her findings to the Superintendent of Schools, who shall make final determination of residency.

Upon an initial determination by the Superintendent of Schools that a student is actually residing in a city or town other than the Town of Fairhaven, the student's enrollment in the Fairhaven Public Schools shall be terminated immediately.

IV. PENALTIES

In addition to termination of enrollment and the imposition of other penalties permitted by law, the Fairhaven Public Schools reserve the right to recover restitution based upon the costs of educational services provided during the period of non-residency.

V. EXCEPTIONS

1. The Residency Requirements Shall Not Apply to the Following:

- a. Students enrolled in the High School under special programs approved by the School Committee, such as educational exchange programs;
- b. Acushnet Tuition paying students
- c. Children of non-resident employees of the Town of Fairhaven, who meet the conditions established in the Agreement with the Fairhaven Educators' Association.
- d. Students who are entitled to attend the Fairhaven Public Schools under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

2. Extraordinary Circumstances:

- a. Tuition Basis
Students already enrolled in the Fairhaven Public Schools who move out on or after February 1st of a given school year, or in the case of 8th graders and Fairhaven High School seniors who move out on or after October 1st of a given school year, may complete the current school year with prior approval from their building principal.
- b. Tuition Waivers
At the discretion of the Superintendent or his designee, tuition may be waived.

VI. POTENTIAL WAIVER WHEN RESIDENCY IS IN TRANSITION

For students whose residency is in transition, the following exceptions to the general policy may apply, with prior written approval from the Superintendent of Schools:

1. Pending Purchase of Dwelling

The children of families who have a signed and accepted Purchase and Sale Agreement to purchase and reside in a dwelling in the Town of Fairhaven may be enrolled up to 30 calendar days in advance of the time actual physical residence occurs. If actual residence occurs later than 30 days after enrollment, students may be asked to leave the Schools until actual residence occurs.

2. Construction of New Dwelling

Children of families which are building a primary residence in Fairhaven may enroll in the Schools at the beginning of the school year if they have obtained a certificate of occupancy from the Town.

3. Residence in Rental Properties

Children of families who plan to rent a primary residence in Fairhaven may enroll in the Fairhaven Public Schools 30 days prior to taking possession of the rental property, as evidenced by a signed lease/Landlord Affidavit and evidence of financial commitment.

VII. NOTIFICATION

The Fairhaven Public Schools residency requirements, verification procedures, and consequences of falsifying or misrepresenting residency will be published in the Fairhaven Public School Committee Policy Manual, and published in each school handbook.

Legal Reference: M.G.L. Chapter 76, Section 5

School Committee Received: September 26, 2007

**Fairhaven Public Schools
Residency Statement**

School Committee Exhibit- JCBA

I/we, the parent(s), legal guardian(s) or responsible adult of _____,

(Print student's full name)

hereby certify as follows:

1. I/we wish to enroll the above named student in the Fairhaven Public Schools. I/we understand that pursuant to Massachusetts law and Fairhaven Public School Committee Policy, students who actually reside in the Town of Fairhaven may attend the Fairhaven Public Schools and students who do not actually reside in the Town of Fairhaven may not attend the Fairhaven Public Schools.
2. I/we hereby certify that effective _____, 20____, the above named student is/will be residing at the following address in Fairhaven, Massachusetts, with:

Printed Name(s) of Parent(s)/Guardian(s)/ Responsible Adult(s)

No. Street Apt/Unit No. Fairhaven, MA Zip Code

Home Telephone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

3. I/we acknowledge that I am/we are required to notify the Fairhaven Public Schools or the above student's school, in writing, of any change in said student's address within five (5) calendar days of such change of address. I/we acknowledge that I/we will be required to provide the Fairhaven Public Schools with proof of residency documentation upon entering Kindergarten or First day of School, Grade six (6) and Grade nine (9). Failure to provide such documentation will be grounds for immediate disenrollment.
4. I/we acknowledge that if we are enrolled in the Fairhaven Public Schools under a Resident Affidavit, I/we will be required to provide the Fairhaven Public Schools with proof of residency documentation at the beginning of each school year in which we are enrolled under a Resident Affidavit. Failure to provide such documentation will be grounds for immediate disenrollment.
5. I/we acknowledge that if we are enrolled in the Fairhaven Public Schools under a Lease Agreement, I/we will be required to provide the Fairhaven Public Schools with proof of residency documentation on the expiration date of the lease. Failure to provide such documentation will be grounds for immediate disenrollment.
6. I/we understand that this *Residency Statement* will be relied upon by the Fairhaven Public Schools for the purpose of determining the above student's eligibility to attend the Fairhaven Public Schools on the basis of residency. If said student is enrolled in the Fairhaven Public Schools based upon the information provided and it is subsequently determined that the student does not actually reside in Fairhaven, I/we understand that the student's enrollment in the Fairhaven Public Schools will be promptly terminated and I/we will be jointly and severally liable to the Fairhaven Public Schools for the student's tuition for the full academic year(s).

7. *I/we* further certify that *I am/we* are the parent(s), legal guardian(s) or responsible adult of the above student.
8. *I/we* understand that all students must reside in the Town of Fairhaven (Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 76, sec 5 every person shall have a right to attend the public schools of the town where he/she actually resides, subject to the following section. No School Committee is required to enroll a person who does not actually reside in the town unless said enrollment is authorized by law or by the School Committee. Any person who violates or assists in the violation of this provision may be required to remit full restitution to the town of the improperly-attended public schools. No person shall be excluded from or discriminated against in admission to a public school of any town, or in obtaining the advantages, privileges and courses of study of such public school on account of race, color, sex, religion, national origin or sexual orientation. Amended by st.1971, c.622, c.1; st.1973, c.925, s.9A, st.1993, c.282; st.2004, c.352, s.33)
9. *I/we* understand that if all required residency document(s) cannot be obtained at time of registration, then my child will hold a provisional residency status. This residency status can only be granted by the building principal. This status can be held for a maximum of 30 days. After the 30th day without the required residency document(s), the child will be disenrolled immediately.

Signed under the pain and penalties of perjury on this _____ day of _____, 20__ :

Parent/Guardian/ Responsible Adult

Principal's Signature / Authorized Designee

This form and proof of residency must accompany this form with at least one document from each of the following three columns: A, B, and C.

Column A <u>Evidence of Residency</u>	Column B <u>Evidence of Occupancy</u>	Column C <u>Evidence of Identification (Photo ID)</u>
Record of recent mortgage payment and/or property tax bill with parent/guardian name	Recent bill dated within the past 60 days showing Fairhaven address and name	Valid Driver's License or Valid MA Photo ID Card of all custodial parent/guardians with whom the child resides
Copy of Lease with parent/guardian name with mortgage/property tax bill	Gas Bill, Electric Bill, Oil Bill, Excise Tax Bill, Cable Bill, Phone Bill, Car Insurance Bill, Health Insurance Statement with address	Valid Passport
Landlord Affidavit with mortgage/property tax bill		
Resident Affidavit with mortgage/property tax bill		

Revised: March 2016

STUDENT RESIDENCE

1:0 POLICY STATEMENT

- 1:1 Massachusetts General Laws require that all students attending the public schools must attend schools in the district where they actually reside. The Fairhaven Public School Committee adopts the following policy and guidelines (“Requirements for Admission to the Fairhaven Public Schools”) regarding the residency and admissions of students to the Fairhaven Public Schools. The staff is directed to ensure that all forms and regulations are fully executed and conform to this policy.
- 1:2 Since Fairhaven does not participate in School Choice, only students who actually reside in the Town of Fairhaven may attend the Fairhaven Public Schools. “Residence” is a place where a person actually lives. Unless expressly permitted under the approved guidelines, temporary residence in the Town of Fairhaven solely for the purpose of attending the Fairhaven Public Schools is not considered “residence” for admissions to the Fairhaven Public Schools. The Fairhaven School Committee recognizes that it may be in the best interests of students who change their residence from Fairhaven after the third marking period, to continue attending school in Fairhaven for the remainder of the year when such relocation may cause emotional, physical, and/or academic problems in accordance with Administrative Regulation JC-E.
- 1:3 In determining residency, the Fairhaven School Committee retains the right to require the production of a variety of records and documentation and to investigate where a student actually resides. The Fairhaven School Committee retains the right to use the assistance of the School Resource Officer’s and/or may obtain the services of police or investigative agency personnel to conduct the investigations into student residence. The Resource Officer, police and/or residency agency investigator (s) will report his/her findings to the Superintendent of Schools, who shall make the final determination regarding residency. Students found to be in violation of the residency policy may be dismissed immediately from the Fairhaven Public Schools and the parent(s), guardian(s) or responsible adult may be jointly and severally liable to the Fairhaven Public Schools for the student’s tuition for the full academic year(s). The Fairhaven Public School District may also impose other penalties on the family such as legal fees incurred by legal action and the withholding of certain scholarships and prizes. A parent, legal guardian, or student who has reached the age of majority (18), who is aggrieved by a determination of residency, may appeal the determination to the Superintendent of Schools, whose decision shall be final.

2:0 DEFINITIONS

- 2:1 Resident Students are defined as those fulfilling the requirements of Section 1:2 above.
- 2:2 Non-Resident Students are defined as a child of a non-resident staff member. Acushnet Students are defined as those Acushnet students whose attendance at Fairhaven High School is covered under the Acushnet Tuitioned Students Agreement.
- 2:3 Future Resident Students are defined as children of future residents, who have signed a contract to buy, build, or lease a residence in Fairhaven.

2:4 Vocational, Occupational, and Career Training Students are defined as those attending Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School, Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School, Bristol County Agricultural School, or SPED Training Programs.

3:0 CONDITIONS

3:1 The Superintendent or his/her designee in his/her discretion may permit the attendance of students who do not yet, or who no longer, reside in the district, if circumstances warrant. The request must be made in writing with supporting reasons for the request. The Superintendent's decision is final without further referral to the School Committee.

Approved: May 24, 1961

Revised: November 8, 1972
April 13, 2005
September 27, 2006
September 26, 2007



249 Lakeside Ave., Marlborough, MA 01752
508.443.1703 info@aginclassroom.org

February 12, 2016

Laurie Hellstrom and Kim Katz
Wood School
16 Raymond St.
Fairhaven, MA 02719

Dear Laurie and Kim,

Congratulations! The Mini-Grant Committee of Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom is pleased to award \$800 to your school for your project proposal entitled "**Growing Together: The FitzGerald Community Garden.**" Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$480 payable to your school. This represents a partial payment of 60% of your award. To be eligible to receive the final \$320 (40%), you must have completed your project and submitted a final report to MAC.

All MAC mini-grant award recipients are required to:

- 1) **Use MAC, Inc. logo and this statement:** "This project was funded by Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom" on all publicity announcements. (A file of the logo will be emailed to you.)
- 2) Supply a **midyear summary** (250 words max) that describes the current status of your project. **(Due date: September 1, 2016)**
- 3) Submit a **final report** when your project is finished. The final report should be a written narrative that describes your mini-grant project in depth and provides details about how you met your objectives. Photographs, copies of newspaper articles, program brochures, project tasks completed or other relevant items are welcome. **(Date due: February 15, 2017)**
- 4) Include with the final report a **brief summary of your project that MAC can share** with teachers and other interested affiliated groups.
- 5) **Email** all communications to minigrants@aginclassroom.org. No snail mail, please.

Feel free to contact MAC by either email or telephone. You may also phone me at 508-207-7899 or e-mail me at marianhazzard@gmail.com. We will do our best to answer your questions or find resources for you and look forward to working with you!

Sincerely,

Marian Hazzard, Chair
MAC Mini-Grant Committee

cc. Bobbie Oles, President
MAC Board of Directors

Enclosure: check: \$480

CASH ONLY IF ALL CheckLock™ SECURITY FEATURES LISTED ON BACK INDICATE NO TAMPERING OR COPYING

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SANTANDER BANK NA
57515/110

Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc.
249 Lakeside Ave.
Marlborough, MA 01752

2/2/2016

\$**480.00

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Wood Elementary School

Four Hundred Eighty and 00/100***** DOLLARS

Wood Elementary School
c/o Laurie Hellstrom & Kim Katz
16 Raymond Street
Fairhaven, MA 02719

MEMO

60% mini grant

[Signature]

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Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc.

2508

Wood Elementary School

2/2/2016

480.00