

**Milton School Committee
Regular Meeting
Milton High School Library
June 8, 2010**

Committee Present: Lynda-Lee Sheridan, Chair, Glenn Pavlicek, Vice Chair, Chris Huban, Mary Kelly, Kristan Bagley-Jones and Denis Keohane

Staff Present: Mary Gormley, Superintendent, John Phelan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Personnel, Matthew Gillis, School Business Administrator

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mrs. Sheridan reported that prior to tonight's meeting a reception was held honoring this year's retirees. The Committee acknowledged Patricia Turner, William Baino, Paul Ajemian, Beverly Quinn and Deborah Sinrich for their years of dedication to the Milton Public Schools. Aidan Cooper, Denise Kelly, Dr. Dore Korschun and Barbara Leuer were unable to attend. On behalf of the Committee, Mrs. Sheridan also thanked The Sixteenth String Quartet for providing the music for this reception. The students performing this evening included Kaleigh McNeil, Brendan Hayward, Emily Carpenter and Elizabeth Mann.

2. Approval of June 8, 2010 Agenda

Mrs. Bagley-Jones verified that the April 30, 2010 minutes of the Health and Wellness Safety Subcommittee were included in tonight's packets. Mrs. Sheridan added a Chairman's Report to the agenda. With the consent of the Committee, Mrs. Sheridan approved the agenda for June 8, 2010 with this addition.

3. Citizen Speak (Policy BEDH-Residents may speak for up to 3 minutes)

No one came forward to speak.

4. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made to approve the School Committee minutes from the Open Hearing for School Choice held on May 18, 2010.

Move: G. Pavlicek

Second: K. Bagley-Jones

Vote: 4-0-0

*Mr. Keohane and Ms. Kelly were not present for the voting of these minutes.

5. Superintendent's Report

Ms. Gormley proudly introduced Dr. Karen Spaulding as the new Principal of the Cunningham Elementary School. Ms. Gormley reviewed Dr. Spaulding's resume and noted the tremendous contributions she has made to Pierce Middle School in her position as Assistant Principal/6-8 Math & Science Coordinator. Personally and professionally, Ms. Gormley stated that she is very pleased to announce this appointment. Dr. Spaulding responded that she is honored to be appointed as the Principal of Cunningham. She praised the students of the Milton Public Schools and thanked the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, the leadership team, teachers, administrators and parents for the support they have given her.

Before ending the Superintendent's report, Ms. Gormley provided the following updates:

- A final athletic update was given and this information will be included in the next Email Blast.
- Letters have gone out for all Kindergarten school assignments; all teacher assignments (K-5) will be mailed out in mid-August; and 1st grade French Immersion and English assignments are complete. The Finance Subcommittee continues to discuss the Kindergarten aide issue.
- The last day of school for students in grades 1-12 will be June 21, 2010 and the last day for Kindergarten students will be June 19, 2010.
- Summer school information and summer reading requirements are posted on the website. Summer reading requirements will be detailed in the next Email Blast.

Christopher Masalsky, Milton Foundation for Education Funded Grant Writer

Mr. Masalsky presented a summary of the various grants that have been funded; grants that are pending and discussed some future grant possibilities. His presentation detailed the time lines throughout the year for the various grants. Mr. Masalsky welcomes any ideas from the public with regard to grant opportunities. He can be reached via email @ cmasalsky@miltonps.org. With regard to some of the grants described by Mr. Masalsky, Ms. Kelly inquired about possible personnel and health insurance implications. If there were to be personnel or health insurance implications, Ms. Kelly stated that the Finance Subcommittee would have to address those issues.

Mr. Masalsky explained the Secure our Schools Grant which the School Department is working on in conjunction with the Milton Police Department. Ms. Gormley reviewed for the Committee and the public that the School Department had received a quote of approximately \$175,000 to install security cameras both inside and outside Milton High School. Mr. Masalsky wrote a grant proposal in which four funding sources were asked if they would be able to contribute \$50,000 each to help with the cost of installing security cameras. The School Building Committee has replied that it will be able to contribute \$50,000; two of the funding sources were unable to contribute at this time; and the Copeland Family Foundation has replied that it will contribute \$50,000 only if we can raise the balance. Information regarding the need to raise these funds was included in a recent Email Blast and several individuals have agreed to meet with Ms. Gormley and Mr. Masalsky regarding grant opportunities. Mr. Masalsky reported that the Secure our Schools Grant application must be submitted by a law enforcement agency. He is working closely with the Milton Police Department and expects to know the status of this grant by August.

On behalf of the Committee, Mrs. Sheridan thanked Mr. Masalsky for this presentation. It was requested that this presentation be posted on the website. Ms. Gormley suggested the possibility of Mr. Masalsky having his own link on the website so the public can see what is being done with regard to grants and the chart presented tonight can be updated on a regular basis. ***Please note that the chart presented at this meeting has since been posted on <http://miltongrants.blogspot.com/p/grant-grid.html>**

6. Chairman's Report

On behalf of the School Committee, Mrs. Sheridan thanked Dr. John Drottar, Principal, Vice Principals Alan Cron and Yolanda Beech, the Milton High School faculty and the many parent volunteers who helped to make all of the senior events so successful. Mrs. Sheridan extended the Committee's gratitude to Student Representatives Charlie Rosmarin, Ben McCarthy and John Sovino for their involvement in School Committee meetings. The Committee wished Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Rosmarin success in their college careers and hopes to see Mr. Sovino back next year.

Mrs. Sheridan reported that this will be the last televised School Committee meeting for this school year. A Volunteer Reception is planned for June 15, 2010 at the Cunningham/Collicot cafeteria and the School Committee Retreat will be held on June 24, 2010.

7. Health and Wellness Safety Subcommittee Report

Ms. Bagley-Jones thanked the Administration, the leadership team and the members of the Health and Wellness Safety Subcommittee for their involvement in the effort to keep students safe, particularly through this time of graduation. The subcommittee meetings will resume in the fall and will be held on Fridays at noon. If any community member would like to join, Ms. Bagley-Jones can be contacted via email @ kbagleyjones@miltonps.org. Ms. Bagley-Jones reminded the Administration, School Committee members and the public that Milton Hospital is sponsoring a walk on June 12, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at Milton Hospital. She encouraged everyone to attend and mentioned that high school students will be able to receive community service hours for participating in this event.

8. Policy Subcommittee Report

Mr. Huban reported that this is the second reading for the Anti-Bullying Policy and the ACG Grievance School Committee Policy. Mr. Huban thanked Milton High School Vice Principal Alan Cron and the members of the Bullying Prevention Committee for the work they did on the Anti-Bullying Policy. Mr. Huban informed the Committee and that the Anti-Bullying Policy has been reviewed by Legal Counsel.

Motion was made to approve the second reading of the Anti-Bullying Policy.

Move: G. Pavlicek

Second: M. Kelly

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Huban noted that the ACG Grievance School Committee Policy was revised to include a designated Complaint Officer. John Phelan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Personnel will act as the Complaint Officer.

Motion was made to approve this revision to the ACG Grievance School Committee Policy.

Move: K. Bagley-Jones

Second: G. Pavlicek

Vote: 6-0-0

Mrs. Sheridan requested that the Policy Subcommittee look into the possibility of developing a policy around high school graduation and exchange students. She explained that the Rotary Club is very active in bringing students here on an almost annual basis. Mr. Huban replied that the Policy Subcommittee will take this matter under advisement and will respond before the start of school next year.

Ms. Gormley reported that she had also asked Mr. Huban to discuss another new policy with the Policy Subcommittee. With so many new news/community websites being developed in the town there is a need to have a policy regarding who provides information, what information will be provided, etc. so that information can be communicated effectively. Moira Downes has offered to work with the Policy Subcommittee to come up with such a policy. With the Chairman's approval, Mr. Huban stated that the Policy Subcommittee will respond to this before the start of school next year.

Ms. Kelly recommended that the School Committee contact the MASC regarding the adoption of the new Anti-Bullying Policy and forward them a copy. Mr. Huban will handle that request.

9. Finance Subcommittee Report

Ms. Kelly reported that the Finance Subcommittee continues to work on the Full Day Kindergarten budget and funding issues. With regard to the Kindergarten aides (aides were reduced to half-time through the budget process), Ms. Kelly stated that the Finance Subcommittee feels it may be possible to increase the aides to .6 or so but a final decision cannot be made until information is received regarding grant funding from the state. Ms. Gormley recognized the School Committee and the Finance Subcommittee for the work they have done in this matter. Parents had communicated their concerns regarding these reductions to both School Committee members and the Administration and the Finance Subcommittee understood the desire to increase the time aides would be available. The goal would be to increase the aides to .7 or .8 and the elementary principals are in the process of preparing information for the Finance Subcommittee as to what a Kindergarten day looks like. The Finance Subcommittee will continue to discuss this matter at its meeting on Thursday evening. At that time information on grant funding should also be available.

The Finance Subcommittee continues to look at the forecast for the end of the year in terms of finances and will report out at a future meeting. Ms. Gormley added that this can be addressed at the Thursday evening Finance Subcommittee meeting.

10. Next Meeting Agenda Items

The following matters were suggested for discussion topics at the School Committee Retreat:

- New Open Meeting Law requirements
- Start planning for the Superintendent's Evaluation
- Review and update School Committee goals and coordinate School Committee goals with the Superintendent's goals

Motion was made to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations and to adjourn directly from Executive Session and not to return to Open Session.

By a roll call voice vote, the School Committee voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations and to adjourn directly from Executive Session and not to return to Open Session.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.