

Minutes of the School Committee
Regular Meeting
Milton High School Cable Access Studio
Date: September 7th, 2016

Committee Present: Leroy Walker, Chair; Kevin Donahue, Vice Chair; Sheila Varela, Margaret Eberhardt, Elaine Craghead

Not Present: Kristan Bagley Jones.

Staff Present: Mary Gormley, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Glenn Pavlicek, Assistant Superintendent for Business, Janet Sheehan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Human Resources.

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:05pm

The Chair called for a moment of silence to commemorate 9/11

Approve Agenda

The committee approved the agenda after adding item 5c (2017 school year calendar)

Citizens Speak

none

Superintendent's Report

Topic One: Personnel Updates (Attachments). Ms. Gormley introduced Glover Principal Karen McDavitt, Athletic Director Eric Karjel, K-12 PE/Health Director Noel Vigue, Tucker Elementary Curriculum Coordinator Catherine DesRoche, K-12 Fine Arts and Family/Consumer Studies Director Dawn Sykes.

Ms. Varela asked why the PE Health Director position was split off from the Athletic Director Position and it was explained that the position's responsibilities were varied. Mr. Vigue spoke about his goals -- to be a nationally recognized school district and to be hitting benchmarks above and beyond the Mass. benchmarks. The other administrators spoke about their new positions and what they plan to "bring to the table," this year. The Chair thanked everyone for coming.

Happenings: Ms. Gormley said there was a successful school opening. There have been some issues with transportation. Full Day Kindergarten began today. Summer re-registration was a success. After School music lesson registration for students in Grades 4 and older will be next

week. Open Houses are scheduled in September. Also, on Sept 19th, at BIDMC, there will be a meeting of MSAPC and the community is invited. Celebrate Milton will be held on Sunday, Oct. 2nd at Pierce Middle School. The Chair noticed a resident waiting to speak and moved Item 13 (Citizens Speak II) to the next item on the agenda.

Ms. Lisa Varela, parent of two Pierce students, came to introduce herself as a new parent. She said she would like to get involved in school activities.

Chair's Report

Topic One: New Position - PE/Health Director (Attachment) (Vote). Regarding the spreadsheet prepared by Dr. Pavlicek, the Chair moved to approve the funding of the new PE Health position.

Move: Mr. Walker

Second: Dr. Craghead

Vote: 5-0-0

Topic Two: FY18 Budget Calendar (Attachment)

The Chair discussed the schedule for the budget preparation. The Finance Subcommittee will be meeting bi-weekly. Mr. Walker said he would like to schedule a joint meeting with the School Committee and the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Varela said she likes the level of detail on this document. She felt that, with a potential override year coming up, the community needs to see the school's numbers as early as possible. The last override was eight years ago. The Chair moved to approve the FY18 Budget Calendar as presented.

Topic Three: FY17 School Calendar. Mr. Walker noted some conflicts with the schedule. There could be a problem with scheduling the Site Council visits so close to the holidays. Ms. Varela asked if it would be worthwhile to bring in two site councils at a time, earlier in the year, with areas of concern, and then to present a shorter, condensed version. Mr. Walker said he would like the Site Councils to present before December. Dr. Donahue said, perhaps the Site Councils could present an executive summary.

Finance Subcommittee:

Topic One: Fourth Quarter Report (Attachment) (Vote). Mr. Walker thanked Dr. Craghead and Ms. Eberhardt for their work on this subcommittee report. He asked members to read this closely and moved approval of fourth quarter report.

Move: Mr. Walker

Second: Dr. Craghead

Vote: 5-0-0

Topic Two: Approval of Vendor Warrants (Vote)

Mr. Walker said he had not read this warrant and requested that Dr. Craghead move approval. Dr. Craghead moved to approve Vendor warrant #9, dated September 1st, 2016 in the amount of \$220,733.55

Move: Dr. Craghead

Second: Ms. Varela

Vote: 5-0-0

Dr. Craghead then moved to approve Warrant #10, dated September 8th in the amount of \$98,340.78.

Move: Dr. Craghead

Second: Ms. Varela

Because only two members had read the Warrant, Dr. Craghead withdrew the motion.

Transportation and Traffic Safety Policy Subcommittee Report:

Ms. Varela reported on this subcommittee's "back to school" meeting with Dr. Pavlicek and Ms. Gormley. Members of the Milton PD were in attendance. They have also reached out to Mass DOT. The Safety Patrol is back in action. They would like to make Wednesdays a permanent Walk/Bike to School Day. There is a new traffic pattern at the high school. Dr. Pavlicek explained how the new traffic pattern works. Ms. Varela said the area is much safer this way. Ms. Gormley commended Ms. Varela for improving safety at the Pierce last year. The next focus will be on Glover.

Long Range Planning Advisory Subcommittee Report (Attachment)

Mr. Walker moved to change the name of the LRPAS to the "Strategic Planning Subcommittee"

Move: Mr. Walker

Second: Dr. Donahue

Discussion: 5-0-0

Dr. Donahue said the Strategic Planning Committee has produced a packet and he asked members to bring this home and read it. The purpose of the committee is to look at the district from an academic and curriculum standpoint. The initial discussion, based on submitted proposals, is centered on a previous effort to issue an RFP for a long range plan, but the cost was determined to be too high, the committee has decided to "forge our own path." Ms. Varela asked, will the report have recommendations? Dr. Donahue said that it would. They will be forming work groups in different areas. There are parent representatives who have areas of expertise who are helping out with this.

Facilities Subcommittee Report

Mr. Walker noted that this committee is very close to being finished with their report. During summer, did a walk-through of building. Within a month, a comprehensive report will be shared and should be invaluable. This will help with capital plans for the next 20 years.

Next Meeting Agenda Items

Ms. Varela asked for an update on the Google Docs project and Dr. Angela Burke's work on this.

Mr. Walker entertained a motion to adjourn.

Move: Mr. Walker

Second: Ms. Varela

Vote: 5-0-0

The meeting adjourned at 8:06pm.