

Minutes of the School Committee
Regular Meeting
Milton High School Access Studio
Date: February 24th, 2016

Committee Present: Michael Zullas, Chair; Becky Padera, Vice Chair; Kristan Bagley-Jones, Leroy Walker, Sheila Varela, Kevin Donahue.

Student Reps: Grace Varela

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

Call to Order

The Chair called the February 24th meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:07pm.

Mr. Zullas spoke of the recent passing of Caitlyn Clavette and asked for a moment of silence.

Approve Agenda

The committee approved the agenda after moving the Chair's Report to #4 and the Superintendent's Report to #5. Also, the chair added two item under the Chair's Report as item B (4b) -- Long Range Planning Subcommittee review and vote; and Item 4C -- Inclusion Task Force, review and vote.

Citizens Speak: none

Chair's Report

Topic One: Presentation of MASC awards. The Massachusetts Association of School Committee's General Counsel, Steve Finnegan, was in attendance to give out annual awards.

Mr. Zullas noted that on August 6th, three members of our community were singled out by the MASC for awards. Mary Kelly, Lynda-Lee Sheridan and the MFE and its co-presidents were singled out. The Friend of Public Education was given to Mary Kelly. The Community Leader for Public Education was given to Lynda-Lee Sheridan; and the Outstanding School Partner was given to Milton Foundation for Education, Co-Presidents Patti Elliott and Denise Queally.

Topic Two: Long Range Planning Subcommittee and review. Nine members will be on this committee: two School Committee members, Mr. Walker and Dr. Donahue. In addition, members will include Ms. Gormley, Mr. Jette, Dr. Spaulding, Dr. McNeil-Girmai; and three community members and/or subject matter experts -- Steve Paxia, Spencer Blasdale, CEO of SchoolWorks, and Dr. Michael Milton, dean of College of Ed at UMass/Boston. The chair moved to approve the list of nominees.

Move: Mr. Zullas
Second: Mr. Walker
Vote: 6-0-0

Topic Three: Task Force Representative. The administration has put together an inclusion task force, and one School Committee member has will serve on this. Mr. Walker has agreed to be the designee. Mr. Zullas moved to approve Mr. Walker as the School Committee representative to the task force.

Move: Mr. Zullas

Second: Ms. Bagley Jones

Vote: 6-0-0

Superintendent's Report:

Topic One: Field Trip Approval. Ms. Sheehan said we usually have two readings of field trip proposals, but both boys and girls track team are going to NYC on March 11 and therefore, the process must be expedited. Ms. Sheehan read details of the trip, which Included information on the safety of the students. Ms. Gormley talked about the fundraising in the spring. Mr. Walker moved to approve the field trip.

Move: Mr. Walker

Second: Mr. Zullas

Vote: 6-0-0

Happenings: Ms. Varela updated the committee on athletic news.

The chair moved to adjourn and to reconvene as part of a joint meeting with the Warrant Committee. He also made an announcement, stating that two weeks ago, he announced his intention to run for School Committee. However, he has decided to re-think this decision, and may look at other opportunities to serve. He announced that he will not be a candidate for re-election. The chair moved to adjourn.

Move: Mr. Zullas

Second: Dr. Donahue

Vote: 6-0-0

The meeting adjourned at 7:43pm.