

Minutes of the School Committee  
Regular Meeting  
Milton High School Cable Access Studio  
Date: March 16, 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 March 16th meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:04 pm

Mr. Zullas began with a moment of silence in memory of Jack Lanigan and Katelisa Etienne.

### **Approve Agenda**

The committee approved the agenda after deferring Item 8 (Health and Wellness Subcommittee Report) and Item 10a (minutes of Jan 6, 2016)

### **Citizens Speak**

The Milton Foundation for Education came to talk about their April 9th event at Lombardo's. Daryl Elliott, Bill Resnick, Eileen Heller, and Angie VanAllen all came to talk about the event. They also discussed the Jeep Raffle and improvements to the Wildcat Wellness Center. Ms. Padera asked about what other types of equipment would be added. Ms. Pauris put in a grant to ask for cardio, jump boxes, ropes. Bikes, treadmills, etc.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Topic One: The LifeSmarts Team of Sindhu Banarjee, Nolan Carvalho, Liam Chase, Harry Kong and Brandon Musto came along with Coach Paul Arenberg. Mr. Arenberg introduced the team. To reach the National Championship, they have to qualify online and through state championship. The team talked about their GoFundMe page and their other fundraising efforts.

Topic Two: Field Trip Approval: The LifeSmarts team submitted a final approval request. They have submitted a detailed itinerary of the trip. The team will miss two days of school and will be supervised at all times. The chair entertained a motion to approve.

**Move:** Mr. Walker

**Second:** Ms. Padera

**Vote:** unanimous

Topic Three: Mr. Redden introduced the members of the site council. His presentation began with the assessment data. The site council talked about their improvement goals, as well as

various projects, including an outdoor garden and a school newspaper. To view the presentation, click here: <http://www.miltonps.org/documents/CU2016ImprovementPresentation.pdf>

Happenings: Ms. Gormley read upcoming events, including Art & Music in our Schools month; the Tucker Cunningham Teams are heading to the State Bowl for FPS; and the Glover/Tucker spelling bee at Pierce.

### **Chairman's Report**

Topic One: Conflict of Interest report. Mr. Zullas said that Dr. Pavlicek has disclosed that there may be a conflict of interest. His sister-in-law has interviewed (and has been appointed) to serve as a psychologist for the MPS for the SPED office. Although he did not hire her and is not her supervisor, Dr. Pavlicek will sign the payroll. Mr. Zullas requests authority from the Committee to acknowledge acceptance of this disclosure. Mr. Zullas suggested that someone other than Dr. Pavlicek should sign the payroll involving his sister-in-law.

Mr. Walker moved to authorize the chair to sign the disclosure

**Move:** Mr. Walker

**Second:** Ms. Padera

**Vote:** 6-0-0

### **Finance Subcommittee:**

Topic One: FY17 Budget. Chairman Zullas recused himself from this conversation and stepped out of the room, as one of his children may be entering kindergarten and could benefit from free FDK. Dr. Pavlicek discussed the gas bills, which he said has resulted in lower energy bills. In addition, the total tuition due to Blue Hills Regional is significantly less than expected. The net effect was an offer from the Warrant Committee to the School Committee, which proposed that these two savings could combine to offset the cost of FDK. The Warrant Committee could increase the district budget by \$50,000, and the district could re-allocated \$100,000. Dr. Pavlicek said that if this is a path we wish to do down, we need to increase our contingent budget request by \$1,000,000. Dr. Pavlicek suggested that, in order to fund the other \$25,000, the district could charge the full cost (rather than the current .5) of one custodial salary towards Community Schools.

Ms. Padera entertained a motion: (1) to increase the non-contingent request of the schools by one million dollars for a total of \$43,614,300 with \$950,000 of those funds to come as a once time appropriation and (2) to use the additional funds together with \$75,000 of utility savings and \$25,000 in custodial services to be charged off to Community Schools in order to eliminate tuition for the FDK program.

**Move:** Ms. Padera

**Second:**

Discussion: Ms. Varela asked Dr. Pavlicek to explain how moving the custodial salary would work. He explained that given the amount of usage, the equivalent of one custodian is not

unreasonable. They're an adjunct operation in the schools, but part of the schools. Mr. Walker said we all agree that this is a one time opportunity we should not pass up, but he would like to ensure that the district is covering the operating expenses. The Blue Hills money is one time, so he would like to be sure that we fully fund this in future years. He proposed an amendment to read "to create a custodian who is 100% dedicated to Food Service (rather than Community Schools) and that salary is fully funded through food service revolving fund; and to use this position, along with the energy savings. Propose to accept the Warrant Committee proposal. He would also like to be able to fund one or more of the items on the prioritized list from the budget discussion.

*Amendment made by Mr. Walker: "to create a custodian who is 100% dedicated to Food Service, and that salary is fully funded through food service revolving fund; and to use this position, along with the energy savings."*

Amendment was seconded by Dr. Donahue

**Vote** on the motion to amend: 6-0-0  
The amendment has been approved.

**Vote** on the motion to approve the original motion, with the amendment: 6-0-0

Ms. Gormley thanked the School Committee for this vote and said this was a monumental day for the town of Milton.

Mr. Zullas re-entered the room.

Topic Two: Powers and Sullivan DESE End of Year Report Audit (Attachment)

Mr. Walker moved to accept the Powers and Sullivan End of Year Report Audit.

**Move:** Mr. Walker

**Second:** Mr. Zullas

**Vote:** 6-0-0

Topic Three: Vendor Warrants.

Dr. Pavlicek introduced Warrant #37 of March 10th for \$445,383.63.

**Move:** Mr. Walker

**Second:** Ms. Varela

**Vote:** 6-0-0

Dr. Pavlicek said there are two transfers for group health insurance. In the past, these appeared on warrants. charge back a percentage of group health insurance.

First transfer: The amount of \$61,900.80 to Group Health Insurance from Full Day K revolving account.

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

Second: transfer \$67,008.80 from Community Schools revolving account

**Move:** Mr. Walker  
**Second:** Ms. Padera  
**Vote:** 6-0-0

The Committee agreed to defer Policy, Transportation and the minutes of January 6<sup>th</sup> until a future meeting.

Dr. Donahue inquired about an additional April meeting. There is one scheduled on April 6th; we could add another meeting on April 13th. It was decided to quickly look at the Policy Subcommittee item.

### **Policy Subcommittee**

Topic One: First Reading Home Schooling Policy IHGB. Dr. Donahue submitted for first reading. Mr. Zullas asked, other than the language that has been struck, is the policy unchanged? Dr. Donahue said yes -- the “red-marked” language has never been in the policy and is an edit. Mr. Walker asked, how many homeschooled children do we have? Ms. Gormley said there are four in the district.

The Second reading of this policy will be on April 6th. Transportation has been deferred to April 6th.

The Chair entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Negotiation Strategy for Collective Bargaining with AFSCME, negotiation Strategy for Collective Bargaining with MEA; and the approval of minutes and to adjourn directly from Executive Session and not return to Open Session.

Move: Mr. Zullas  
Second: Ms. Padera  
Roll Call Vote: 6-0-0

The meeting adjourned at 9:35pm.