

Minutes of the School Committee
Regular Meeting
Milton High School Cable Access Studio
Date: May 25, 2016

Committee Present: Leroy Walker, Chair; Kevin Donahue, Vice Chair; Kristan Bagley-Jones, Sheila Varela, Margaret Eberhardt, Elaine Craghead.

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 May 25th meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:01pm.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Walker handed out written copies of the evening's motions. Also, the following changes were made to the agenda: Under Chair's Report, Mr. Walker added Item 6e, (Information on activities of public officials in support of or in opposition to ballot questions.) Under Item 9, he removed 9a, (minutes of April 13, 2016), and under Item 13, Executive Session, he removed Item 13b (MOU with Milton Police Department.) With those changes, agenda was approved.

Transportation & Traffic Safety Subcommittee Report

Topic One: Fifth Grade Safety Patrol. Ms. Varela introduced Transportation Director Jake Smith, who spoke about the new Safety Patrol. Students introduced themselves and talked about why they volunteered for the patrol. School Committee members thanked the students for their efforts.

Superintendent's Report

Topic One: Field Trip Approvals. Ms. Sheehan introduced the upcoming field trips which require approval.

a. Cunningham Grade Five Future Problem Solvers (Attachment) (Vote) This group is going to Michigan for a competition on June 2-5. Final approval request form has been submitted. Mr. Walker moved to approve

Move: Mr. Walker

Second: Dr. Craghead

Vote: 6-0-0

b. Future Business Leaders (Attachment) (Vote). Mr. Sheehan said that MHS teacher AJ Melanson will bring a group of students to Atlanta for a competition. All required forms have been submitted, including an itinerary. Dr. Donahue moved to approve.

Move: Dr. Donahue
Second: Ms. Varela
Vote: 6-0-0

Happenings: Ms. Gormley said that tomorrow night is the MFE's Teacher of the Year ceremony. She announced the names of those teachers who have won. She also announced the activities for "Senior Week," including Honors Night, Boosters Banquet, and the SEPAC meeting and annual elections. On June 8th, the School Committee will recognize all Milton Public Schools volunteers in the MHS courtyard. On June 16th, the committee will recognize this year's teachers, administrators and staff who are retiring. Also, June 23rd is the last day of school.

Chair's Report

Topic One: FY17 Needs and Priorities (Attachment) (Vote). Mr. Walker spoke about how and why the list was developed. Ms. Varela would like to take the increased nursing support off the list. She said this would be covered by Medicaid. Dr. Pavlicek explained how the nursing budget is designed. The chair declined Ms. Varela's request and explained that Ms. Varela could identify nursing support as one of her priorities. Dr. Craghead suggested that for Item #4 "increased learning opportunities," she would like to split into two pieces, given the price. Each School Committee member offered their top two priorities for the list. Mr. Walker made a motion to restore the history teacher to the team structure at middle school; restore 40 hours a week of art and music at elementary school; and try to identify funding for nursing support without specifying what that source of funding would be.

Move: Mr. Walker
Second: Ms. Varela

Discussion: There was some discussion about funding for these priorities. Ms. Varela asked for a breakdown of how many minutes are spent on art and music in elementary schools. Discussion ensued regarding priorities. Mr. Walker clarified the motion: to restore the history teacher to the team structure at the middle school; to add back the 45 minutes of art, music, PE and health; and to restore nursing support without specifying what that source of funding would be.

Vote: 6-0-0

Topic Two: FY17 School Committee Calendar (Attachment) (Vote) Mr. Walker said he is not prepared to vote on this, but would like to discuss. Would like to schedule one or two July School Committee meetings.

- a. Summer Retreat. Mr. Walker has two dates to propose, either Thursday August 18th or Aug 25th. Discussion ensued. Another proposed date was August 22nd. Mr. Walker noted that at the Retreat, there are three tasks: assessment of district performance; district goals, Superintendent goals. Mr. Walker asked for a timeline on PARCC and MCAS data availability.
- b. The 2016-17 Meeting Schedule. Mr. Walker reviewed the upcoming schedule. He asked the School Committee members to think about doing Site Council presentations earlier, since that could influence the committee's thinking about the budget. He would like school

improvement plan presentations to be more interactive. Ms. Bagley Jones asked to “clear the schedule” for the Substance Abuse Council town forum in October. She also asked for a Health & Wellness subcommittee report in early September. Dr. Pavlicek noted that the Technology Plan no longer needs approval.

Topic Three: School Committee Subcommittee Assignments (Attachments) (Vote) Mr. Walker passed out Subcommittee assignments. He moved to approve the list with the changes of Ms. Bagley Jones moved off the Policy Committee; and the correction of “Donovan” to “Donahue.”

Move: Mr. Walker

Second: Ms. Varela

Vote: 6-0-0

Topic Four: School Committee Appointment of Curriculum Review Committee. Private School Approval Request (Attachment) (Vote) Mr. Walker said he spoke with MASC General Counsel on this topic and there were two recommendations.

Mr. Walker made the following motion: “In order to assist the School Committee in complying with its obligations under MGL Chapter 76, Section 1, I move to designate Ms. Gormley and Ms. Sheehan, along with Collicot Principal Holly Concannon to review the application of the Wilson-Kindelan School, Inc. and to make a recommendation to the School Committee as to whether the proposed instruction in all the studies required by law equals in thoroughness and efficiency, and in the progress made therein, that in the Milton Public Schools.” Mr. Walker said this is an important first step.

Move: Mr. Walker

Second: Ms. Varela

Vote: 6-0-0

Topic Five: Info on Activities of Public Officers Regarding Ballot Questions. Mr. Walker noted that School Committee members got a legal bulletin on MASC rules regarding a school committee's making a recommendation on ballot questions. He asked members to look at the bulletin. There is no action required, but members should read it carefully. It is relevant especially for a ballot override.

Finance Subcommittee:

Topic One: Third Quarter Report (Attachment) (Vote). Mr. Walker moved approval for the report.

Move: Mr. Walker

Second: Dr. Craghead

Vote: 6-0-0

Topic Two: Approval of Vendor Warrants (Vote) Dr. Pavlicek introduced two warrants. One signed, one not. The unsigned warrant was deferred for approval at a subsequent meeting.

Warrant #47, dated May 19th in the amount of \$420,986.15 was moved for approval by Mr. Walker.

Move: Mr. Walker

Second: Ms. Varela

Vote: 6-0-0

Policy Subcommittee Report:

Topic One: Second Reading, Security Camera System Policy (Attachment) (Vote) Dr. Donahue said there has not been any substantive change on this policy. He explained changes and moved to approve.

Move: Dr. Donahue

Second: Mr. Walker

Discussion: Dr. Craghead asked, why aren't classrooms listed as public or private? If they are considered private, then they should be listed as such. Dr. Donahue said it is not the School Committee's intent to put cameras in classrooms. Mr. Walker said we should ask legal counsel about this issue and revisit. Dr. Donahue withdrew the motion.

Topic Two: Second Reading, Policy Adoption Policy. Dr. Donahue moved to adopt.

Move: Dr. Donahue

Second: Mr. Walker

Vote: 6-0-0

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of April 27th, 2016 (Attachment) (Vote)

Move: Mr. Walker

Second: Ms. Varela

Vote: 6-0-0

Next Meeting Agenda Items

Ms. Bagley Jones suggested a Health & Wellness subcommittee report.

Dr. Donahue suggested several Policy items

Ms. Varela asked for an update from Blue Hills Bank on the Personal Finance Program. She also said she would like to report out on the School Supplies Fundraiser being organized by the Pierce PTO.

Mr. Walker entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Negotiation Strategy for Non Union Personnel and to adjourn directly from Executive Session and not return to Open Session.

Roll Call Vote: 6-0-0

The meeting adjourned at 8:49pm.