

Minutes of the School Committee  
Regular Meeting  
Milton High School Cable Access Studio  
Date: January 4th, 2017

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

Not Present: Ms. Bagley Jones

**Staff Present:** Glenn Pavlicek, Assistant Superintendent for Business, Janet Sheehan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Human Resources

### **Call to Order**

The Chair called the January 4th meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:04pm

### **Approve Agenda**

The committee approved the agenda after deleting Item 7 and Item 8.

\*The chair spoke about the recent incident in which swastikas were found at Pierce Middle School. He reiterated that this is not tolerable and does not represent the core values of MPS.

### **Citizens Speak**

Jennie Mulqueen came to speak about the swastika incident. She noted that the district's response was excellent, but she's wondering what the parent engagement will be on this. She asked if the school committee consider this and asked School Committee members to support the administration and staff in engaging parents in the conversation.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Happenings: Ms. Gormley announced that Jan 12th is Preschool Information Night. January 16th is the MLK holiday, with a town wide celebration at Concord Baptist Church in Milton, sponsored by the Milton Interfaith Clergy Association. Also, K Info Night will be held on Jan 28th for those entering Kindergarten. There will be a district-wide Diversity meeting, including the Milton Public Schools diversity committees, along with CDM, from 4:30-6:30 in MHS library. Topics will include increasing diversity in athletic, music and fine arts program.

### **Chairman's Report**

Topic One: FY18 Budget Update (after meeting with Warrant Committee)

Mr. Walker said there would be a briefing for the Warrant Committee on Dec 14th. Dr. Pavlicek provided budget books to Mr. Dennehy and Ms. Dexter. Yesterday morning, Mr. Walker and Dr. Pavlicek met with those two administrators, plus Ms. Fagan. They did preliminary analysis of revenue and expenditures and concluded that the gap is \$1.5 million. Our cut is \$1.2 million. This would not be something the district could absorb and would result in many cuts. The

committee will see a preliminary budget next week and all members should all be there for this discussion. There may be talk of an override. The meeting will be at 7pm at COA.

### **Finance Subcommittee Report:**

Topic One: FY18 Fee Proposal (Attachment) (Vote). Mr. Walker referred to the handout memo for fee increases for MSE. See attachment for fee increases. Moved to approve.

**Move:** Mr. Walker

**Second:** Ms. Varela

**Vote:** 5-0-0

Topic Two: Mr. Walker moved to approve raising the maximum balance required in student activities' account. In short, the allowable balance needs to be high enough to fund the various expenses. The current maximum of \$25,000 is insufficient. The chair moved to increase the maximum to \$40,000.

**Move:** Mr. Walker

**Second:** Ms. Varela

**Vote:** 5-0-0

Topic Three: Approval of Vendor Warrants (Vote) Mr. Walker moved to approve Vendor Warrant #23 dated January 4th for \$467,793.67

**Move:** Mr. Walker

**Second:** Dr. Donahue

**Vote:** 5-0-0

Next, Mr. Walker moved to approve Warrant #25 dated December 2nd, 2016 in the amount of \$627,135.68

Move: Mr. Walker

Second: Ms. Varela

Vote: 5-0-0

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. Walker made an omnibus motion to approve the minutes of September 21, October 5 and November 9. There are no edits.

**Move:** Mr. Walker

**Second:** Ms. Eberhardt

**Vote:** 5-0-0

### **Next Meeting Agenda Items**

Ms. Varela asked to meet with Angela Burke regarding new software/Edline. She also asked for minutes/info on the subcommittee meetings. Mr. Walker said the first issue is on the next agenda. The second issue is on for February.

Mr. Walker said the feedback on the Superintendent Evaluation was outstanding. He would like to go through this with Ms. Gormley. She will present the goals for the upcoming year.

Ms. Eberhardt asked, will we have a conversation about parent engagement? She said she would like to look at the curriculum -- how do we address this? What novels do they read? How do we address these issues? How are we educating our students on this?

Dr. Pavlicek suggested adding a report from NESDEC. As promised, the NESDEC, who does our enrollment projections, will come in to give their analysis of the expanding enrollment at the elementary level. The MPS are wildly popular, and is one of four of five "hot spots" in the state for enrollment growth. Is this a bubble or a trend? Mr. Walker said he thinks it's a trend, but if we're going to make the case for a new facility, we have to be very sure of that. To be discussed on the 18th.

The chair moved to adjourn.

Move: Mr. Walker  
Second: Ms. Varela  
Roll Call Vote: 5-0-0

The Next School Committee meeting is scheduled for January 18th.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.