

**Minutes of the School Committee**  
**Open Budget Hearing**  
**Milton High School Access Studio**  
**Date: March 2, 2016**

**Committee Present:** Michael Zullas, Chair; Becky Padera, Vice Chair; Sheila Varela, Kevin Donahue.

**Not present:** Kristan Bagley Jones, Leroy Walker

**Student Reps:** Michael Sullivan, Kaylie Pentland (fill-in.)

**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 2, 2016 meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:05pm.

Open budget hearing. Mr. Zullas explained that, by statute, they are required to hold an Open Budget Hearing. This meeting has been published in the Milton Times and the budget has been made available. This year, there are two budgets – a contingent budget and a non-contingent budget. The first speaker was Mr. Queally. He asked about full day kindergarten and about the transitions classroom and stressed the importance of both. Ms. Padera explained that the transitions classroom is for students who are coming back to school after injury, addiction or mental health issues. Ms. Varela urged parents/guardians to contact the Milton Board of Selectmen and the Warrant Committee if they would like to advocate for the school budget.

Mr. Zullas adjourned the Open Budget Hearing.

**Minutes of the School Committee**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Milton High School Access Studio**  
**Date: March 2, 2016**

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

**Student Reps:** Michael Sullivan, Kaylie Pentland (fill-in.)

**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 2, 2016 meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:15pm.

Superintendent Gormley noted that Mike Sullivan had some exciting news. Mr. Sullivan reported that he has been invited to attend the Air Force and Army summer seminars, and has also been invited to visit the Naval Academy in Annapolis.

**Citizen's Speak:** no speaker

**Approve Agenda:** Mr. Zullas moved to defer the Policy Subcommittee Report and the Approval of Minutes. He also moved Item 5a up higher in the agenda. With those changes, he declared the agenda approved.

\*note: Mr. Walker arrived at this point.

### **Chair's Report:**

Topic One: PCG Report (Attachment) Anna d'Entremont, Project Manager; Allie Panetta, Data Analyst; and Annelise Eaton, Data Analyst came to present a report on the Special Education Department. Ms. d'Entremont gave the presentation, which included detail on an improvement plan. The consulting group was hired to find areas of improvement. They praised the district's teaching staff, collaboration, inclusion and work in the classrooms. Areas of improvement included better "data capture," improved focus on closing the special education achievement gap. To view the presentation, click here:

[http://www.miltonps.org/documents/MPSSpecialEducationreview\\_Finalrevised21816.pdf](http://www.miltonps.org/documents/MPSSpecialEducationreview_Finalrevised21816.pdf)

After the report, School Committee members asked questions of the presenters. Dr. Donahue noted that the "transitions protocol" needs work. Mr. Walker noted that the 6<sup>th</sup> grade shows a cap in ELA and Math and asked why this is occurring. Ms. d'Entremont noted that this could be addressed through referrals. He also said the percentage of students in French on IEPs changes significantly between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, and asked why. Ms. d'Entremont said this is a time when students get referred. It's later than their peers in the English program, and this should be addressed to get students identified earlier.

Topic Two: Follow Up on SPED Task Force. Mr. Zullas listed the members of this task force, which include: Mr. Walker, Michelle Connolly, Bob Rietz, Dave Perdios, Jenny Mulqueen, Kathy Fagan, Sara Truog, Kevin Lenane, Dr. Angela Burke, Kelly Herbert, Lindsey McMann, Christina Mahon, Larry Jordan, Kelly Horton-Predonis, Kelly Losi, Shannon Gallagher, Jonathan Redden and Tracy Grandeu. Ms. Connolly spoke on behalf of the SEPAC board, and thanked the administration for the PCG review.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Topic One: Pierce Middle School Site Council (Attachments). Principal Dr. Karen Spaulding came to the meeting, along with Teacher Representatives Sara Pullia and Jeff Stoodt; and Parent Representatives Abigail Callahan. Dr. Spaulding discussed Math Investigations, Pierce Academy and reviewed PARCC results. They also brought several Pierce students, who

showcased their poetry books. To view the presentation, click here:

<http://www.miltonps.org/documents/PierceMiddleSchoolSiteCouncilPresentation030216.pdf>

After the presentation, School Committee members commended the site council for their work and commented on the School Improvement plan.

### **Chair's Report (continued)**

Topic Three: (moved from the Chair's Report above) Social Emotional Learning Task Force (Attachment) (Vote): Mr. Zullas noted that the MASC has convened a task force to address Social Emotional Learning and would like representation. Mr. Zullas nominated Kristan Bagley Jones to be the School Committee representative on the Social Emotional Learning Advocacy Task Force.

**Move:** Mr. Zullas

**Second:** Ms. Padera

**Vote:** 6-0-0

Topic Four: Political Rally. Mr. Zullas noted that last Saturday, the Bernie Sanders campaign approached the MPS to rent facilities to hold a political rally. After consulting with local law enforcement and ensuring that the campaign would be charged for use of the facilities and that any other campaign would be treated the same, the event was organized. Mr. Zullas thanked all those who were involved with the organization and planning of this event.

### **Superintendent's Report (continued)**

Topic Two: South Shore Collaborative (Attachment) (Vote). Ms. Gormley asked Tracy Grandeau, director of Pupil Personnel, to speak on this topic. Ms. Gormley noted that the committee voted to withdraw from the CHARMS collaborative in June. They are now asking for a vote to join the South Shore Collaborative, based on the services they can offer students.

**Move:** Mr. Walker

**Second:** Dr. Donahue

Discussion: Ms. Bagley Jones asked which programs we use the most and was told MPS uses Quest, Mini-School and South Shore High School. The collaborative's main campus is in Hingham. Mr. Zullas noted there is no cost.

**Vote:** 6-0-0

### Happenings

### **Finance Subcommittee Report**

Topic One: FY17 Budget. Ms. Varela asked for a timeline about a potential override. Mr. Walker said it is difficult to come up with a timeline. Dr. Pavlicek reported that the Warrant Committee is meeting at the same time as the current School Committee meeting and will have a

recommendation for the Board of Selectmen on Tuesday. Mr. Walker said there was a good deal of back and forth regarding Full Day Kindergarten, and the prioritized list. Mr. Walker also said there have been very good discussions with PTO members and parents/guardians on the budget. It was agreed that this topic would have to wait until the vote on next Wednesday.

Topic Two: Approval of Vendor Warrants (Vote) Dr. Pavlicek introduced Warrant #35 dated February 25 for #540,577.71.

**Move:** Mr. Zullas

**Second:** Ms. Padera

**Vote:** 5-0-1 (Mr. Walker abstained)

### **Next Meeting Agenda Items**

The chair moved to go into Executive Session for the purpose of Negotiation Strategy with MEA and AFSCME the discussion of which in open session could be detrimental to the district's bargaining position; and approval of minutes, not to return to regular session.

**Move:** Mr. Zullas

**Second:** Ms. Padera

**Roll Call Vote:** 6-0-0

The meeting was adjourned at 10:17pm.