

**Minutes of the School Committee
School Choice Open Public Hearing
Milton High School Cable Access Studio
Date: May 11, 2016**

Committee Present: Leroy Walker, Chair; Kevin Donahue, Vice Chair; Kristan Bagley-Jones (arrived late) Sheila Varela, Margaret Eberhardt, Elaine Craighead.

Student Reps: Michael Sullivan

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 11th meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:01pm.

Mr. Walker explained school choice and asked if anyone from the public would like to express an opinion. Dr. Donahue moved to not accept the school choice option for the FY17 school year. Mr. Walker asked for a recommendation from the Superintendent. She agreed with Dr. Donahue.

Move: Dr. Donahue

Second: Ms. Varela

Vote: 5-0-0

**Minutes of the School Committee
Regular Meeting
Milton High School Cable Access Studio
Date: May 11, 2016**

Committee Present: Leroy Walker, Chair; Kevin Donahue, Vice Chair; Kristan Bagley-Jones (arrived late) Sheila Varela, Margaret Eberhardt, Elaine Craighead.

Student Reps: Michael Sullivan

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

Call to Order

Mr. Walker called the regular meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:08pm.

Approval of Agenda

Under Superintendent's Report, the Chair moved to strike Item A (to be taken up at May 25th); and to add two items under Chair's Report, Item D (School Committee member vacation schedule and Item E (Private School Approval Request Update). Also, under Finance, he noted that for the Third Quarter Report, there will be a discussion, but no vote. Dr. Donahue asked to

remove the second reading of the Security Camera Policy. With those changes, the agenda was approved.

Superintendent's Report

Ms. Gormley deferred Happenings and said there will be a Field Trip update at the next meeting.

Chairman's Report

Topic One: New School Committee Orientation Packet (Attachment) Mr. Walker said he provided the packets to all members, and still owes the new School Committee members the Policy Books. Mr. Walker said he will give suggestions as to what policies need to be looked at right away. He asked Dr. Pavlicek to provide a roster for each school, with staff by title and name. Dr. Pavlicek said it is in the packet.

Topic Two: Need and Priorities FY17 (Attachment). Mr. Walker said this list was created during the override discussion, but given the amount of work involved in this document, Mr. Walker felt it was important to allow the new School Committee members the opportunity to look at this, and also decide if there are still one or two priorities the Committee would like to fund if there are funds available. At the next meeting, he suggested the members try to reach consensus about which items to fund, even without the override.

** Note Ms. Bagley Jones arrived here.

Ms. Varela asked if we will strike FDK, and Mr. Walker said yes. Ms. Bagley Jones asked, is everything on the list that was on there before? Mr. Walker said, in deference to our new members, we should discuss again. School Committee members asked questions about specific items on the list. Mr. Walker asked if, in future budgets, we could try to plan for unanticipated expenses.

Topic Two: School Committee Vacation Schedules: Mr. Walker explained that for this year's School Committee retreat, Glenn Koocher, of the MASC is available again this year to facilitate. Mr. Walker asked School Committee members to email their vacation schedules for July and August. Mr. Walker said he is open to mid-week or weekend.

Topic Three: Private School Approval Request Update. Mr. Walker noted that the Committee has a request from an individual to open a new private school in town. He said he spoke with Mr. Koocher and asked for any information he might have on this topic. In tandem with the work of the Policy Subcommittee, the committee should have a more specific proposal at the next meeting with detail on how to proceed.

Finance Subcommittee:

Topic One: Town Meeting Update. Mr. Walker said the discussion on the MPS budget was well received and the presentation was well-received. The vote was 278-1. Other School Committee members gave their positive feedback on the presentation. Dr. Pavlicek noted that the Capital

Needs Budget was recently approved. There is a plan to renovate the track at Brooks Field this summer. This would mean shutting down the field for 4-6 weeks. Also, funding was approved and plans are underway to create additional parking behind the Field House. Funding for network infrastructure was also included in the capital budget, as well as security cameras for the elementary schools. Ms. Bagley Jones asked about the turf on Brooks Field and whether it will be refurbished. Dr. Pavlicek said the turf is in good shape. This funding is for the track alone.

Topic Two: Third Quarter Report (Attachment) Mr. Walker said he would take questions about this, but there will not be a vote. He noted that these quarterly reports and the Vendor Warrants are two very useful pieces of information that tell a great deal about the finances. Ms. Bagley Jones noted that the information about the grants is really helpful. Ms. Eberhardt asked about the line item on Transportation Costs, which are over \$100,000. Dr. Pavlicek said this line item is for SPED buses. At the end of last year, we had 48 out-of-district placements and other children in town who qualify for transportation. This year, there are 54 out-of-district placements.

Topic Three: School Resource Office Recommendation (Attachment) (Vote) This cost is for salary for School Resource Officer Chris Potts. The Chair entertained a motion to approve.

Move: Ms. Bagley Jones

Second: Ms. Varela

Discussion: Ms. Bagley Jones noted that this is not a new position, and Ms. Gormley noted that Officer Potts works at both Pierce and MHS. Both Officer Potts and Officer Poles are also available to all six principals. If issues arise, these two officers respond.

Vote: 6-0-0

Topic Four: Approval of Vendor Warrants. Dr. Pavlicek noted that since the committee last met, two warrants have been signed. They are #44 on April 28th for \$206,915.13 and Warrant #45 of May 5th in 335,844.97

Mr. Walker moved to approve Warrant #44

Move: Mr. Walker

Second: Ms. Varela

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Walker moved to approve #45

Move: Mr. Walker

Second: Ms. Varela

Vote: 6-0-0

Policy Subcommittee Report

Topic One: Security Camera Policy is deferred to next meeting.

Topic Two: First Reading, Policy Adoption. BGB

Dr. Donahue talked about the way the School Committee approves policies. The method has been a two-step process. There is typically a First Reading, with no vote taken and possibly edits suggested. Then there is a Second Reading, which incorporates the edits, after which a vote is taken. Dr. Donahue said the committee wanted to streamline this process, especially for those policies which required very little change. He referred to the handout which outlines the changes to the policy approval process. He moved to approve these changes, with the addition of a third bullet to read: "with the concurrence of Chair of School Committee, Chair of Policy Subcommittee and Superintendent, a second reading could be waived.

Move: Dr. Donahue

Second: Mr. Walker

Discussion: Last fall, we had a discussion about Residency Policy and it took several weeks to get it through, despite the minor changes and no objections. Discussion ensued. Ms. Bagley Jones asked Ms. Gormley for a historical recommendation. Ms. Gormley said she has never had input from the public regarding the first/second reading issue. Dr. Donahue noted that if School Committee members felt the need to have a second reading, that would be fine. Ms. Eberhardt asked if these are amended policies in which you would waive the first reading? Dr. Donahue said it could be either.

Vote: 6-0-0

Ms. Bagley Jones noted that on the MASC website, there is an easy and accessible way to view policies and asked other School Committee members to look at it, and perhaps Milton could duplicate it.

Facilities Subcommittee Report

Topic One: Contract for Facilities Management Plan (Attachment) (Vote) Mr. Walker said that in September, the Facilities Subcommittee recommended an RFP for a facilities management plan to be funded from the Facilities Revolving Account. The bids have come in, and the Chair moved to approve the appointment of Drummey, Roseanne Anderson to award this contract and authorize the Chair to sign it.

Move: Mr. Walker

Second: Dr. Donahue

Discussion: Ms. Varela wanted to clarify whether this plan would be strictly for the schools. Mr. Walker said that yes, it is for the schools only. Dr. Donahue asked for the expected timeline and Mr. Walker said it is expected to take approximately three months.

Vote: 6-0-0

Next Meeting Agenda Items

There will be a Transportation Subcommittee update and also the Safety Patrol students will be invited. Policy Subcommittee will have second reading of camera policy and a discussion of the Private School Approval Policy. Finance Subcommittee will present a Third Quarter report. The Needs and Priorities list will be discussed. Mr. Walker would like to approve the new School Year Calendar. Ms. Gormley noted that the Field Trip Approval list will be available. Ms.

Varela asked if in the next few weeks, the Finance Education Program from Blue Hills Bank could be invited.

The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn.

Move: Mr. Walker

Second: Ms. Varela

Vote: 6-0-0

The Next School Committee meeting is scheduled for May 25th.

The meeting adjourned at 7:56pm.