

Minutes of the School Committee
Regular Meeting
Milton High Library
Date: November 9th, 2016

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

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

Call to Order

The Chair called the November 9th, 2016 meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:02pm

Approve Agenda

The committee approved the agenda after the Chair suggested removing Item 5a, b and d; Also Item 7b; Item 9; all the minutes on Item 11; and Item 15 a and c. The Chair moved Item 4b (SEL Job Description) to the Chair's Report.

Citizens Speak

No one came forward for Citizen Speak

Superintendent's Report

In Superintendent Gormley's absence, Ms. Sheehan summarized the recent Professional Development Day, which occurred on November 8th. She said there was both school and district-wide professional development. She mentioned the National Honor Society inductions of new members and officers. She also reviewed the recent Division One signings and mentioned three MHS seniors who signed Letters of Intent: Maia Adley, Sam Jacobsak and Colette O'Leary. She also spoke about the visit from the staff of the TV show Chronicle at Tucker School today. She reviewed each school's Veteran's Day ceremonies and the upcoming Cabaret. Ms. Bagley Jones noted the recent ceremony hosted by the Parkway Methodist Church to honor the MPS leadership team.

Topic One: FY18 Budget Presentation (Attachments).

A. Tucker Elementary School Site Council came to give a presentation on Tucker School goals. Principal Elaine McNeil Girmai spoke, along with Ms. Johanna Weiss and Cat DesRoche. For budget requests, they asked for a FT Assistant Principal, a .5 Adjustment Counselor, a .5 Grade 4 Co-Taught Teacher, .5 Instructional Technology Teacher, 1.0 Preschool Coordinator, and a .5 Instructional Aides in Grades 1 and 2. There are also curriculum, materials and technology requests. Ms. Bagley Jones asked about the Saturday program and was told about how it works. Ms. Varela asked about the .5 Instructional Technology Specialist. What role would this position play? It would be to help integrate technology into the classroom. Dr. Craghead asked about the Mentoring Program. This is a program where at-risk students are paired with a staff member. Students who aren't achieving often have more than one factor affecting performance. Dr. Donahue asked about the co-taught staffing levels and was told that the regular education teacher is full time in the classroom, but the SPED teacher is not full time. Mr. Walker thanked

the Site Council for their presentation. He asked how are we troubleshooting the problem of the unreliability of internal assessments? Ms. Sheehan said multiple measures might be more predictive. There is also a curriculum analysis in process. A team of administrators recently attended a PD where this was discussed.

B. The Collicot Elementary School Site council came to the table. This included Community Member Margot Tansey, Principal Holly Concannon, teachers Zeina Hamada, Laura McDermott and parent Gretchen Duffy. Ms. Concannon talked about the number of students per grade at Collicot and how much the population has increased. She talked about staffing needs. She asked for an ELA & Math curriculum support for all staff (.5) an Assistant Principal (1.0) There was also a request for a Math Specialist, Technology Specialist, Health Aide, Office Assistant and additional Lunch Aid. They outlined requests for text, materials and supplies. Ms. Bagley Jones said she is shocked at the size of the school. Dr. Craghead asked questions about the prioritized list.

Chairman's Report

Topic One: MASC Conference Update. Dr. Craghead talked about the recent conference Mr. Walker, Ms. Varela and she attended. She said it consisted of a few days of interesting presentations. She outlined the resolutions passed during the delegate assembly, including a vote on the ballot initiative to raise the cap on charter schools.

Topic Two: SEL Job Description (Attachment) (Vote) Mr. Walker talked about the creation of a social and emotional learning specialist. He moved to approve the position.

Move: Mr. Walker

Second: Dr. Craghead

Discussion: Ms. Bagley Jones asked why 'Quincy Substance Abuse Prevention' is listed as a resource. She would like to see MSAPC listed instead. She also wanted to note that this is not creating a new position. It is accepting a grant for a part time stipend position. Mr. Walker disagreed, saying that the funding source did not determine whether it was a new position. The determining factor was whether the position has previously been on the Milton Public Schools payroll or not.

Vote: 6-0-0.

Finance Subcommittee:

Topic One: Vendor Warrants

Dr. Craghead moved to approve Warrant #14 of Oct 6, 2016 in the amount of \$750,848.81

Move: Dr. Craghead

Second: Ms. Varela

Vote: 6-0-0

Move to approve Warrant #16 of Oct 20, 2016 in the amount of \$247,708.68

Move: Dr. Craghead
Second: Mr. Walker
Vote: 6-0-0

Move to approve Warrant #17 of Oct 27 in the amount of \$542,462.00

Move: Dr. Craghead
Second: Ms. Bagley Jones
Vote: 5-0-1 (Mr. Walker abstained)

Move to approve Warrant #18 of Nov 3 in the amount of \$189,273.49

Move: Dr. Craghead
Second: Ms. Varela
Vote: 5-0-1 (Mr. Walker abstained)

The last warrant was deferred to the next meeting.

Health & Wellness Subcommittee

Ms. Bagley Jones gave an update from this subcommittee. She read some comments from the attendees from the "Safeguarding Our Kids In Risky Times."

Policy Subcommittee Report

Dr. Donahue asked to invoke the expedited policy approval process.

Topic One: First and Final Reading, MPS Substance Abuse Prevention, Deterrence and Intervention Plan (Attachment) (Vote) Dr. Donahue handed out copies of guidelines from the State. Two edits to this policy were suggested on page 4. First edit: In the second bold paragraph which begins "planning and oversight," add the word "school" in front of the word "committee." The second edit: At the bottom of Page 4, after the words, "except as.." strike everything from the word "noted" through the end of that line, and paragraph that concludes with the words "epipen." And replace "per policy JLCCA-R" (our medication administration policy.)

Ms. Bagley Jones requested a joint meeting of the Policy and H&W Subcommittees to work on this policy. Dr. Donahue moved approval of the policy.

Move: Dr. Donahue
Second: Mr. Walker
Vote: 5-0-1 (Ms. Bagley Jones abstained)

Topic Two: First and Final Readings (Attachment) (Vote) Dr. Donahue invoked the expedited policy approval process.

Policy ACAA, Sexual Harassment
Policy ACA, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Gender
Policy ACG, Compliant Procedure, Resolution of Discrimination Complaints
Policy ACH, Bullying Prevention

Policy GB, Equal Employment Opportunity
Policy GCF, Professional Staff Hiring
Policy IFC, Diversity Policy
Policy IHA, Basic Instructional Program
Policy JB, Equal Educational Access
Policy JFAA, Residency Policy
Policy JFBB, School Choice
Policy JG, Admission to Course of Study
Policy JLD, Guidance Program
Policy JMA, Student Awards/Scholarship
Policy JO, Employment of Students

Dr. Donahue noted that we are coming up on our sixth-year review and the Justice Department Civil Rights Division will be looking at these policies to see if we have the language that protects gender identity. The edits have been submitted to Counsel.

*The only changes are to state that Superintendent Janet Sheehan is the person of record where it should indicate a person to whom a complaint should be directed. Also, there is a typo on Policy GCF, where there is a missing "g" in front of the word "gender." Dr. Donahue moved approval of the above policies.

Move: Dr. Donahue

Second: Ms. Varela

Vote: 6-0-0

Ms. Varela commended Dr. Donahue for his work on this.

Strategic Planning Subcommittee Report

Dr. Donahue said there was a recent kickoff planning meeting for "Phase One" of the Strategic Planning process. The Subcommittee is off to an excellent start. Dr. Craghead asked if there would be more sessions like on Monday night. Dr. Donahue explained that the subcommittee has stakeholders, with three working groups. Those working groups will have subsequent meetings and report back to the Subcommittee and the full School Committee.

Ms. Bagley Jones asked about the 11/16 School Committee meeting. She cannot attend. She would like to be there for goals and the Superintendent Evaluation and asked to defer the discussion. Mr. Walker said that Ms. Gormley will sit with Ms. Bagley Jones this week to go over the evaluation process. Mr. Walker said the schedule will be two weeks from the date of the presentation to get completed forms back to Mr. Walker. Then, there will discussion of the document at the Dec 7th meeting.

Mr. Walker reminded the committee that goals are due next week. He said the H&W goal was drafted over the weekend with Ms. Bagley Jones. He is working with Ms. Sheehan and Mr. Jette and Ms. Gormley to craft the goal that talks about additional levels at Freshmen and Sophomore levels, and this should be sent out next week.

Next Meeting Agenda Items

The Chair entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Negotiation Strategy for MEA and AFSCME and to adjourn directly from Executive Session and not return to Open Session.

Move: Mr. Walker

Second: Ms. Varela

Roll Call Vote: 6-0-0

The Next School Committee meeting is scheduled for November 16th.
The meeting adjourned at 9:31pm.