

Minutes of the School Committee
Regular Meeting
Milton High School Cable Access Studio
Date: Wednesday, October 5th, 2016

Committee Present: Leroy Walker, Chair; Kevin Donahue, Vice Chair; Kristen 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 meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:04pm.

Approve Agenda

The committee approved the agenda after the Chair suggested deleting Item 4c (Diversity Report); reversing the order of Items 4d and 4e (Annual Report and Happenings); deleting Item 5a (School Committee Goals); Item 7 (Health & Wellness Subcommittee Report); Item 8 (Strategic Planning Subcommittee); and Item 9 (Approval of Minutes). Later in the meeting, the Chair deferred Item 5b (FY18 Budget Process)

Citizens Speak

Dennis Slaughter noted that the Leadership team of MHS will receive the Parkway Methodist Church's award this year. He named Ms. Gormley, Dr. Pavlicek, Ms. Sheehan and all six principals from MPS as the recipients of this award. Next, MHS teacher Billy Donovan came to speak about the Milton High School Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony and invited the public to attend.

Superintendent's Report

Topic One: FY18 Budget Resources

- A. Pierce Middle School Site Council (Attachment). Mr. Walker talked about the charge to each Site Council and the School Committee's desire to hear from Principals and their Site Councils during the budget process. Dr. Karen Spaulding introduced the members of the Site Council who were present, teacher Jeff Stoodt and parent representative Emily Duffy. Dr. Spaulding outlined the mission of Pierce, noted the addition of the Health Teacher and the restoration of the team model at Pierce; as well as support for science education as a result of the FY17 budget process. She listed the various grants received by PMS in the past year, which totaled \$66,540. She outlined the school improvement goals: Improve Science, Increase Academic Achievement and Growth for All Students; Maintain a Safe and Supportive Learning Environment. She outlined the positions requested to support her FY18 mission, which include restoring the Dean of Students to an Assistant Principal; a Dedicated PMS Inclusion Specialist; add a .5 Adjustment Counselor; and a District Wide Social Emotional Learning Director. She also listed the texts and materials needed to support the mission; as well as the Professional Development required. At the conclusion of the presentation, Ms.

Varela asked if making the Dean of Students an assistant principal would help with teacher evaluations. Dr. Spaulding said it would. Ms. Craghead asked if the list of requests was prioritized. Dr. Spaulding replied that they are not prioritized yet. Ms. Bagley Jones asked about the SEL and adjustment counselors. Dr. Spaulding said there has been an increase in students with mental health needs.

- B. Milton High School Site Council (Attachment). Vice Principal Ben Kelly, Guidance Director Karen Cahill and teacher representative Jen Troy came to present their School Improvement Plan. Mr. Kelly introduced his colleagues. The High School is looking to restore a 1.0 English teacher and add 1.0 history teacher. Karen Cahill talked about a new proposed "Transitions Program," to help students who are returning to MHS after a crisis or extended absence due to illness, injury or hospitalization. For texts, materials and supplies, they are requesting the purchase of history textbooks and Spanish books. For technology support, Jen Troy talked about computer replacement. They would like to eliminate athletic user fees. Currently, it is \$250 per sport and club fees are \$40 for one club and \$100 for two or more clubs. Dr. Craghead asked for cost estimates for all items. Ms. Eberhardt asked about personnel needs at MHS. Student Rep Michael Sullivan asked if the athletic fee reduction would also affect crew and hockey, Ms. Bagley Jones would like to see life skills introduced. Mr. Walker said this "falls short of what I'm looking for." The request for 11 positions is not linked to any expected outcomes or improvements in student performance. Mr. Walker also asked if the requests were prioritized. Mr. Kelly said he was not prepared to prioritize at this point. He did not want to pit one department against the other.

Topic Two: MCAS/PARCC (Attachment) Data Specialist Vy Vu, Mathematics Director K-12 Michelle Kreuzer, Math & Language Arts Curriculum Coordinator Catherine DesRoche; Pierce Principal Dr. Karen Spaulding, Collicot Elementary Principal Holly Concannon; Math & Language Arts Curriculum Coordinator Amy Gale made a joint presentation to the School Committee. Mr. Walker said at the next meeting, he would like to hear the principals talk about experience and lessons learned at their schools and review data which tracks the same cohort 5-8-10th grade. Dr. Donahue said we should pay attention to our comparisons. He noted that CPI indexes are going up and our gaps are closing. Mr. Walker thanked the team for coming out.

Happenings: Wally the Green Monster came to the elementary schools to support Walk to School. Ms. Varela described the event as a huge success. Ms. Bagley Jones talked about the Substance Abuse meeting on Tuesday night. Ms. Gormley thanked Ms. Bagley Jones and Deb Milbauer. Celebrate Milton was huge success. Model UN was great experience for our high school students. On 10/11, Boosters will host Swing for Sports. Ms. Gormley read the memo from MIAA which commended MHS for having for NO student athletes or coaches disqualified for the entire year.

Topic Four: Annual Report (Attachment) Ms. Gormley said this is a very thorough report, which summarizes all the accomplishments of each of our schools, as well as all the district-wide departments. It will be voted at the next meeting.

Chairman's Report

Topic One: School Committee Goals (Attachment) (Vote) Mr. Walker said he would like to defer discussion of this and take the vote next week.

Topic Two: FY18 Budget Process. Mr. Walker talked to chair of the Board of Selectmen and is pleased that they are in sync. The selectmen did vote to ask town departments to submit a contingent budget and a non-contingent budget. Mr. Walker said he will press for a joint WC/SC meeting on Nov 9th. Ms. Varela asked about a timeline and there was discussion about future dates.

Finance Subcommittee:

Topic One: Approval of Vendor Warrant. Dr. Craghead moved to approve Warrant #12 dated Sept 16, 2016 in amount of \$555,485.46

Move: Dr. Craghead

Second: Ms. Varela

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

Next, Dr. Craghead moved to approve Warrant #14 Oct 6, 2016 in the amount of \$750,858.81

Move: Dr. Craghead

Second: Ms. Varela

Vote: 5-0-1 (Walker abstained)

Next Meeting Agenda Items

Ms. Varela asked for an update on the Blue Hills Bank financial literacy program.

Also, it was noted that Ms. Sheehan is working on the Edline report.

Regarding the space/classroom issue, a representative from NESDEC will be visiting the district in the next week.

There was a request for a PCG UPDATE.

The chair moved to adjourn to executive session for the purpose of discussing Negotiation Strategy for Non Union personnel and 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: 5-0-0 (Ms. Bagley Jones was out of the room)

The meeting adjourned at 9:55pm