

Milton School Committee Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting
Location: Milton Access TV Studio
Date: October 3, 2018
Time: 7 pm

Committee Present: Dr. Kevin Donahue, Chair; Sheila Varela, Vice Chair; Margaret Eberhardt, Dr. Elaine Craghead, Betty White. Ada Rosmarin was not in attendance.

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

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm, followed by a moment of silence for the recently deceased former Senator Brian Joyce.

Approve October 3, 2018 Agenda

The agenda was approved with no additions.

Citizen Speak:

Mike Zullas informed the committee of the Milton Library Foundation's Annual Gala which will occur on 10/17/2018 at the Granite Links Golf Club in Quincy. This year, Upton Bell will be speaking about his new book "Present at the Creation: My Life in the NFL and the Rise of America's Game." Those who brought the revitalization of the library will be honored as well. There will be music by students in the community. All photography will be provided by Milton students as well.

Superintendent's Report:

Topic One: On September 30th 2018, Celebrate Milton (in its 25th year) was held at the Pierce Middle School. There was an awards ceremony to recognize the community builders and town wide achievement initiatives. Note was made of the correlation between athletics and arts to student achievement, and the town's programs that involve children in these programs were given recognition. Winston Daley and Cat DesRoche were recognized for increasing participation of Tucker students in town-wide sports. Recognition was given to Laurie Stillman for launching the Milton Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition. Recognition was also given to Jerry Vitti, Becky Padera and JP Plunkett for coordinating the Challenger Baseball League in Milton and to Rev. Rachel Pettengill-Rasure and Karen Groce-Horan, co-founders of the Courageous Conversations toward racial justice.

| Topic Two: MCAS reports are in; however the results are not yet posted-. At this time as we continue to streamline efforts to consolidate the data as it continues to arrive. MCAS data is available for the public to review. Mailings will be sent out to Milton parents on Friday, October 5th, 2018.

Topic Three: There is a scheduling conflict between the Milton High School Grade 5-8 Information Night (10/4/18) and the Glover Open House. High school staff will host additional information nights during the school year so that all have the opportunity to attend.

Topic Four: On October 16th 2018, the Milton High School Boosters "Swing for Sports" Fundraiser is to be held at the Wollaston Golf Course. The School Committee extends special thanks for the donation of the facility for this event. This is the premier fundraiser for the Boosters.

Topic Five: Milton High School Financial Aid Night will be held on October 17th, 2018.

Topic Six: The next SEPAC meeting will occur at the Pierce Middle School Library on October 18th, from 7-9 pm.

Topic Seven: Monster Dash at Cunningham Park will occur on October 28th.

Topic Eight: Les Miserables – the students will perform portions of their production at next School Committee meeting.

Chair's Report

Topic One: Appoint MASC Delegate. Dr. Donahue explained that while all are invited to attend, the responsibility of the MASC delegate is to vote on resolutions.

Dr. Donahue made a motion that Dr. Craghead be appointed as the delegate and Sheila Varela will serve as an alternate.

Second: E. White

Vote: 5-0-0

Topic Two: Review MASC Resolutions (Attachment) (Vote)

Resolution 1: Regarding the arming of educators - MASC rejects the notion of providing firearms to educators.

Dr. Donahue moved to vote in support of this resolution.

Second: S. Varela

Vote: 5-0-0

Resolution 2: Regarding small and rural districts

Dr. Donahue moved to vote in support of this resolution.

Second: S. Varela

Vote: 5-0-0

Resolution 3: Elimination of the Federal Department of Education: MASC rejects the notion of combining the Federal Department of Education with any other agency or department.

Dr. Donahue moved to vote in support of this resolution.

Second: E. Craghead

Vote: 5-0-0

Resolution 4: Regional School Transportation - Eliminate Mass General Law c.71 Section 7C and authorize a deeper analysis of bidders on school transportation contracts.

Dr. Donahue moved to support this resolution.

Second: E. Craghead

Vote: 5-0-0

Resolution 5: Reporting and accountability standards

Dr. Donahue moved to support this resolution

Second: S. Varela

Vote: 5-0-0

Resolution 6: Reproductive Health Education – supports evidence based health curricula; calls upon the US Department of Education and the Executive Branch for cessation of abstinence only education.

Dr. Donahue moved to support this resolution.

Second: E. White

Vote: 5-0-0

Resolution 7: Gender Identity Inclusive Athletic Participation Policy

Dr. Donahue moved to support this resolution.

Second: S. Varela

Vote: 5-0-0

Resolution 8: Sports wagering- Shall commit a portion of revenues to sports education.

Dr. Donahue moved to support this resolution.

Second: E. Craghead

Vote: 5-0-0

Resolution 9: Access to Information for Parents and Students Who are Clients of Special Education.

Dr. Donahue moved to support this resolution.

Second: S. Varela

Vote: 5-0-0

Proposal to amend the MASC By Laws changing the submission date of resolutions from July 1 to June 1.

Dr. Donahue made a motion to support this amendment.

Second: S. Varela

Vote: 5-0-0

Topic Three: Revised 2018-2019 Milton School Committee Subcommittee/Advisory Committee List (Attachment)

Health and Wellness Advisory Committee: Dr. Donahue expressed that he would like to make sure that the members of the Health and Wellness Advisory Committee are officially empanelled, and their names were read into the record: Sheila Varela, Ada Rosmarin, Jacqueline Morgan, Noel Vigue, Mary Gormley, Janet Sheehan, Dr. Karen Spaulding, James Jette, Holly Concannon, Margaret Gibbons, Caroline Kinsella, Vicki McCarthy, Laurie Stillman, Scott Devlin, Richard Guarino, Ryan Madden, Marti McKenna, Alexandra Rene, Eliza O'Donnell.

Ms. Varela discussed that it is difficult for Ms. Rosmarin to attend, but she and Dr. Donahue agreed that she should remain a member of the committee.

Dr. Donahue moved for approval of the above members as those of the Health and Wellness Advisory Committee.

Second: S. Varela

Vote: 5-0-0

Ms. White noticed the Inclusion Task Force was not included on the list. She is a member of this task force. Ms. White will send the members' names to Dr. Donahue so this can be added to the list of subcommittees/advisory committees.

Transportation and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee: Ms. Varela noticed that Karrie Forgues is still listed as a member and she is no longer available; however Brain Canavan has children in both Pierce and Cunningham schools and is willing to participate.

Dr. Donahue made the motion to strike Karrie Forgues from the Transportation and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee.

Second: S. Varela

Vote: 5-0-0

Finance Subcommittee Report

Topic One: FY19-22 Capital Requests (Attachment) (Vote)

Pierce Middle School, FY20. Dr. Craghead presented the Capital Request for 1:1 Chrome Books in classrooms. She reported that there was a school needs survey that was completed by school staff, and the results of this survey were presented to the committee, which included a review of technology. This review outlined the need for increased Chrome Books. The subcommittee voted in favor of the capital expense request \$375,300. Ms. Varela asked if parents should be asked to supply Chrome Books, and whether children should be responsible for transporting the Chrome Books. She also asked whether this equipment is used daily. The student representative in attendance commented that they aren't used every day but it is nice to have them on hand. The committee agreed that transporting the Chrome Books would increase the rate of damage and loss. Per Dr. Spaulding, the technology will be incorporated into all the classes throughout the day. Google Cloud will be used so children can access materials whether they are using their home or school machine. Dr. Donahue noted that this year is the last year that E rate will reimburse the purchase of wireless access points.

Facilities capital request for FY20 – Dr. Craghead reported that all items on the request are dire needs and essential to maintain safety and security; therefore, this was approved by the committee. Facilities total for FY20: \$583,000.

Dr. Craghead made a motion that we accept the technology and facilities capital requests for FY20: \$375,300 and \$583,000 respectively.

Second: K. Donahue

Vote: 5-0-0

Other school capital requests will be voted upon at the individual meetings with Site Councils.

Topic Two: Approval of Vendor Warrants (Vote)

Dr. Craghead made a motion to approve vendor warrant Number 13 dated October 4, 2018 in the amount of \$396,741.

Second: S. Varela

Vote: 4-0-1 (E. White abstain)

Old Business

Dr. Donahue asked if the DRA arrangement was executed. Dr. Pavlicek explained that we did receive a breakdown of all fees, but the arrangement has not yet been signed.

Citizen Speak Topic Response

Not applicable

Next meeting agenda Items- discussion/planning

Update on Digital Citizenship: Ms. Eberhardt and Dr. Craghead are concerned about how technology is being used in the early years. They would like more suggestions about what our policies and procedures should be regarding the use of technology in schools, and what the recommendations are regarding screen time for different stages of development. This may need to be presented early next year due to other agenda items.

Update on Health and Wellness- Ms. Varela will give an update next meeting.

School Committee Site Visits: Superintendent Gormley asked what we can do to engage the parents who may be in attendance at each School Committee site visit. Ms. Varela says we should have an open forum for each school community, and suggested perhaps the schools should poll their school community (parents and students) to uncover what they would like to discuss as part of the site meetings. Dr. Donahue agreed that we should develop a list of items that are of mutual interest to address between both School Committee members and the community as well.

Ms. Varela asked that students from Les Miserables come to the next meeting to perform.

Standard subcommittees and advisory committee updates will also be provided.

Milton High Boosters- Ms. Varela would like to invite the Boosters to the next meeting. Discussion ensued regarding the Boosters, their role, and how they use the monies raised in fundraising. Ms. Eberhardt raised the question of whether this is the appropriate forum for this. Superintendent Gormley shared that the Boosters would like to meet with her four times this year, and that Ms. Varela is invited to attend.

Citizen Speak

Not applicable

Dr. Donahue entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Negotiation Strategy for Non-Union and Union Personnel and to adjourn directly from Executive Session and not return to Open Session.

Second: S. Varela

A Roll Call vote was taken.

Vote: 5-0-0

Adjourn into executive session at 7:59 pm.