

**Milton School Committee Meeting Minutes  
School Choice Open Public Hearing  
Followed by Regular School Committee Meeting  
Via Zoom  
May 11, 2022**

Committee Present: ; Chair Ada Rosmarin, Vice Chair Dr. Elizabeth Carroll, Beverly Ross Denny, Dr. Celina Miranda, Annamma Varghese, Betty White

Staff Present: James Jette, Superintendent of Schools; Janet Sheehan, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Human Resources; Amy Dexter, Assistant Superintendent for Business

**1. Call to order the School Choice Open Public Hearing - 8:30pm**

a. School Choice Presentation - Superintendent Jette

**Inter-District School Choice**

- Chapter 76, Section 12B of the Massachusetts General Laws details the terms and conditions of Inter-District School Choice.
- The Milton School Committee has a policy, Policy JFBB, regarding School Choice.

**How does Inter-District School Choice Work?**

- The Inter-District school choice program allows a parent/guardian to enroll his/her child in a school district that is not the child's home school district.
- Prior to declaring themselves a School Choice district with the state, the school district would determine how many seats were available to be offered and at what grades they would be available.

**Inter-District School Choice**

- Each year the Milton School Committee must vote on whether or not to participate in the School Choice Program.
- This vote must be submitted to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education prior to June 1, 2022.

**Inter-District School Choice**

- If the Milton School Committee voted to participate in School Choice, a student enrolled in the Milton Public Schools through this program would have the right to remain in the system until graduation.
- Historically, The Milton School Committee has voted not to participate in the Inter-District School Choice Program

Chair Rosmarin

- Open Hearing
  - asked the audience if anyone wishes to speak on the subject
  - No hands raised at this time
- Will be taking a vote at the School Committee meeting following this School Choice Open meeting

b. Policy JFBB, School Choice

**JFBB**

**SCHOOL CHOICE**

It is the policy of the Milton Public Schools to admit non-resident students under the terms and conditions of the Interdistrict School Choice Law (M.G.L. 76: 12B) and under the following local conditions:

1. That by May 1 of every school year, the administration will determine the number of spaces in each school available to choice students.
2. That by June 1 of every school year, if consideration is being given to withdraw from the provisions of the school choice law, a public meeting will be held to review this decision.
3. That resident students be given priority placement in any classes or programs within the Milton Public Schools.
4. That the selection of non-resident students for admission when the number of requests exceeds the number of available spaces be in the form of a random drawing. There will be two (2) drawings for this purpose. The first will take place during the last week of the current school year but no later than July 1<sup>st</sup>. The second will be conducted during the week immediately preceding the opening of the next school year and will be based on the possibility of unexpected additional openings.
5. Any student who is accepted for admission under the provisions of this policy is entitled to remain in the Milton Public Schools until the graduation from high school except if there is a lack of funding of the program.
6. The School Committee affirms its position that it shall not discriminate in the admission of any child on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, gender conformity, gender transitioning, transgender status, gender variance, ancestry, athletic performance, disability, pregnancy, pregnancy related condition, academic performance or proficiency in the English language.

LEGAL REFS: M.G.L. 71:6; 71:6A; 76:6; 76:12; 76:12B  
BESE Regulations 603 CMR 26:00

Original adoption: November 1, 2004  
Readopted: November 9, 2016

First and Second Reading for Reapproval: August 13, 2018

## **2. Adjourn from School Choice Hearing**

- Since there are no comments or questions Chair Rosmarin adjourned from the meeting.

Chair Rosmarin made a motion to adjourn from the Open School Choice Hearing.

Second: Ms. Ross Denny

Roll Call Vote: 6-0-0

**Milton School Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Via Zoom**  
**May 11, 2022**

Committee Present: ; Chair, Ada Rosmarin, Vice Chair, Dr. Elizabeth Carroll, Beverly Ross Denny, Dr. Celina Miranda, Annamma Varghese, Betty White

Staff Present: James Jette, Superintendent of Schools; Janet Sheehan, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Human Resources; Amy Dexter, Assistant Superintendent for Business

**1. Call to order the Regular May 11,2022 Milton School Committee Meeting - 8:45pm**

**2. Approve May 11, 2022 Agenda**

Approved

**3. Superintendent's Report - Superintendent Jette**

a. District Updates

- Increase of Covid cases
- Every Wednesday we report to the State, today we reported 12 positive staff members and 73 positive students
- As of May 11th, since September 1st we have had 199 staff test positive and 1227 students
- Many counties are in the red zone
- Spoke with Caroline Kinsella - increase in the positive rate
  - She reports Milton every two weeks
- Cases reported are only cases with PCR test not the at home test
- Continue to be mask optional
- Continue with our mitigation strategies
- Encourage anyone with a concern to wear a mask
- Routine hand washing, remind all parents you can opt into testing program (home tests available)
- Please do not send your child to school to be tested
- Monitor on a daily basis
- More information available in the blog tomorrow
- Ask people to really follow the guidance

Dr. Carroll

- Just a reminder to wear the mask day 6-10 after testing positive

Superintendent Jette

- 253 students honored in the High School Auditorium

- 6 Students recognized - Boys and Girls State
- Century Club 114 students (recognized unweighted class rank)
- 127 inducted for the National Honor Society, 3.7 GPA (unweighted)
- Nice to see all the students and their families
- Junior Book Awards - member of junior class recognized for their scholastic achievements
- Congratulations to all

Chair Rosmarin

- Congratulations to all the students

Superintendent Jette

- New contracts have been signed for the July 1st
  - Director of Diversity Equity and Inclusion - Claire Galloway-Jones
  - Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Human Resource - Dr. Garth McKinney
  - More information to follow in the Superintendent Blog

Chair Rosmarin

- Can they both join a School Committee Meeting to be introduced to the community

Superintendent Jette

- Will definitely ask and follow up

Superintendent Jette

- Also starting our search for our interim Principal of the Tucker Elementary School
- First meeting will be tomorrow afternoon

#### **4. Chair's Report - Chair Rosmarin**

##### **a. School Choice Recommendation**

- Chair Rosmarin asked Superintendent Jette for his recommendation

Superintendent Jette

- Recommendation at this time not to move forward with the School Choice
- We already have an increase of enrollment and have space issues already
- Limited of what we can do in our spaces
- 130 pre-k students coming in for the fall
- 349 registered kindergarten, that doesn't included the move in's that happen in August
- It would be difficult to participate in School Choice

Ms. White

- Are there any in the area besides Avon that participate in School Choice

Superintendent Jette

- Believe Brockton participates

Chair Rosmarin

- Received a spreadsheet that includes School Choice decisions
- Brockton and Randolph participate

Dr. Miranda

- Have we always run into this dilemma of the capacity issue

Superintendent Jette

- Yes

Chair Rosmarin made a motion that Milton not be a school choice district for the FY23 school year.

Second: Ms. White

Roll Call Vote: 6-0-0

b. South Shore Educational Collaborative Representative

Chair Rosmarin made a motion to appoint Superintendent Jette to represent the Milton Public Schools as a Board Member for the South Shore Educational Collaborative for the 2022-2023 school year.

Second: Ms. White

Roll Call Vote: 6-0-0

**5. Finance Subcommittee Report - Ms. White**

a. Approval of Vendor Warrants

Ms. Ross Denny made a motion to approve Vendor Warrant #42 dated April 14, 2022 in the amount of \$409,432.61.

Second: Dr. Carroll

Roll Call Vote: 5-0-1

(Ms. White abstained from the vote)

Ms. White made a motion to approve Vendor Warrant #44 dated April 19, 2022 in the amount of \$157,273.68.

Ms. White made a motion is made to approve Vendor Warrant #45 dated April 28, 2022 in the amount of \$585,389.05

Second: Dr. Miranda  
Roll Call Vote: 6-0-0

**6. Next Meeting Agenda Items**  
Updated

Chair Rosmarin made a motion to adjourn the School Committee Meeting.

Second: Ms. White  
Roll Call Vote: 6-0-0