

**Milton School Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**July 29, 2022**  
**Via Google Meet**

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

Staff Present: Amy Dexter, Assistant Superintendent for Business; Garth McKinney, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Human Resources

Absent: James Jette, Superintendent of Schools

**1. Call to order - 7:06am**

**2. Citizen Speak (Policy BEDH-15 Minutes)**

None

**3. Chair's Report - Chair Rosmarin**

- Discussion/ Vote for Acting Superintendent
- Last three weeks have been challenging for the Milton Public Schools, since we learned of a situation involving Superintendent James Jette
- Worked closely with our attorney Joseph Emerson to navigate the process that we must follow to address the situation
- Wanted to let the public know the School Committee is taking this situation very seriously
- Due to the nature of personnel and legal matter it is not appropriate for the School Committee to comment
- Understanding it can be troubling but ask for the community's patience, and ask that the privacy be respected of all involved
- At the School Committee Meeting on July 26, 2022, the School Committee voted to continue Superintendent Jette's Administrative Leave with pay until at least September 1, 2022 when the School Committee will meet again
- This action should not be viewed as disciplinary or any indication of adverse findings relative to Superintendent Jette or his actions
- Today we need to discuss and determine our process of the selection of an Acting Superintendent of the Milton Public Schools
- Aware open day 2022-2023 School Year is in one month
- As a School Committee, it is our responsibility to support the Milton Public School staff, and be prepared to welcome back the 4,400 students
- Important clarification "Acting Superintendent" and "Interim Superintendent"

- Acting Superintendent - absent from their role for any reason an Acting Superintendent may be needed to fill in
- Interim Superintendent - leaves their role as a Superintendent
- Today we need to identify an Acting Superintendent
- Have been in touch with the Milton Times who incorrectly described what we are seeking to do, and corrections have already been made in the online edition and printed corrections will be done next week
- The choices before us are:
  - Conduct a search through the MASC/MASS of retired Superintendents.
    - Could take a couple of weeks
  - Or could select somebody we know and available to step in
    - Reached out to former Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Human Resources Janet Sheehan
    - Graciously accepted with willingness to step in as Acting Superintendent if the School Committee chooses.
    - Read background of Janet Sheehan
  - Opening Day for the 2022-2023 school year is August 29, 2022 and time is of the essence

#### Member Ross Denny

- Pleased Janet Sheehan is willing to come back and serve in the interim role
- Wealth of experience working with our Administrators as well as being part of our hiring process
- Would be a smooth transition to the start of the school year
- In support of the decision

#### Chair Rosmarin

- Note that the position will be “Acting Superintendent”

#### Member White

- Pleased that Janet Sheehan is willing to step in at this difficult time
- Reassuring to Central Office, faculty, staff and families that Janet Sheehan is familiar with the district
- Supports this decision

#### Dr. Carroll

- Agree with Member White and Member Ross Denny
- Considering the complexity of our situation, this makes the most sense for our school leaders, staff and families
- The priority has to be the smoothest possible transition into the start of the school year

- While the other situation gets resolved, given the legal process we are in takes time that is not in our control
- Glad that Janet Sheehan is willing to once again sacrifice her retirement and support the Milton Public Schools
- Supports the decision
- Looking to identify who is willing to step up for the next few weeks
- For this moment in time, cannot think of a better solution

Dr. Miranda

- Time is of the essence and commend Janet Sheehan for stepping up and provide stability during a very challenging time
- Relationships already in place
- Complicated process
- In favor of the decision of Janet Sheehan to be Acting Superintendent

Member Varghese

- Also in support of the decision of having Janet Sheehan come back
- Served the community for years
- Glad she is available to step up
- Grateful to have her back

Chair Rosmarin made a motion to appoint Janet Sheehan as Acting Superintendent for the Milton Public Schools.

Second: Member Ross Denny

Roll Call Vote: 6-0-0

Chair Rosmarin moved to adjourn from the School Committee Meeting.

Second: Member White

Roll Call Vote: 6-0-0

School Committee Adjourned at 7:23am.