

Milton School Committee Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2022
Via Zoom
7:30pm

Committee Present: Chair, Ada Rosmarin, Vice Chair, Dr. Elizabeth Carroll, Dr. Celina Miranda, Anna Varghese, Betty White

Absent: Member Ross Denny

Staff Present: Janet Sheehan, Interim Superintendent; Dr. Glenn Pavlicek, Assistant Superintendent for Business; Dr. Garth McKinney, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Human Resources

1. **Call to order** - 7:30pm
2. **Approve November 16, 2022 Agenda**
Approved
3. **Superintendent's Update** - Superintendent Sheehan
 - a. [Glover Elementary School Site Council Presentation](#)
Principal Karen McDavitt
 - i. Assistant Principal and Curriculum Coordinator Melissa Craven

Member White

- Can see the writing skills in the shared personalized letters, they were excellent
- Thank you for all being here this evening and sharing your presentation
- The school enrollment can be challenging
 - How do you get to know all the students personally and academically?

Principal McDavitt

- Extended ourselves in every way so our students do not feel the impact of the overcrowding
- Has not impacted the teachers, they have gotten to know all of their students
- Also use admin plus to get to know each student
- Glover is all about knowing our students and know what they need
- Delivering instruction in rooms that are not classrooms but making sure students are getting what they need

Member Varghese

- Phenomenal presentation
- Letters are beautiful, thank you for sharing
- Thank you for making all the students feel so special

Dr. Miranda

- Thank you for your thorough presentation
- Looking forward to visiting Glover

- Could you speak about Personalized Learning?
 - What does it look like for a student who needs more challenging work?

Rachel Bradford

- This curriculum we have right now is very rigorous as it is
 - There are challenging activities that are incorporated into the curriculum as well
 - Use Continental Math questions to further push the students
 - High Level thinking skills
 - Teacher are always pulling extra resources to give students what they need
 - Get to know our learners and the areas they can push themselves further

Nicole Grant

- New math curriculum is rigorous and we have wonderful resources to teach our students and to provide that extra challenging push
- Fun thing to do while they learn is Math Club - we challenge our mathematicians who really excel in our iReady assessment
- We work with students who need extra instruction as well and provide additional instruction
- Provide small group instruction for math and reading
- Focus on a lot of sound work for reading

Dr. Carroll

- Thank you all for such a heartfelt and moving presentation
- Appreciate details and how you describe personalize learning in context of the new math curriculum
- As a parent, really helpful to see from the back end how it is working
- Important to see the personalize learning to achieve the academic success
- Personalized Learning is all about the academic achievement
- Great to see the connections of our three goals
- Enjoyed hearing and learning about the student support team
- Great work by your PTO - diversifying your library
- Concerning to hear that the teachers do not have a room to take a break or to prepare work for the day, understanding it is a space issue but it is unacceptable
- Looking forward to visiting Glover

Chair Rosmarin

- Love when Glover Site Council comes and to hear how things are going
- The overcrowding has gotten worse over this year
- Did you lose an art/music room?
- You maintain such a positive environment, people and students feel supported
- Thank you for making this happen
- School Building Committee is doing everything possible to help with the overcrowding
- Happy to come to Glover and visit the classrooms

Principal McDavitt

- Yes, we do not have the space for an Art room

- We run the risk of losing good educators who may have to option to teach in an art room elsewhere
- It is far from ideal
- Kids shine in the music and art rooms so it is hard to lose the space

b. District Updates - Superintendent Sheehan

- Thanked the Glover Site Council for a delightful and outstanding presentation
- Asking parents to check the Superintendent Blog and the School Calendar for upcoming events
- Want to congratulate and thank the cast and directors of the High School Musical of the Beauty and the Beast
 - Outstanding performance
 - Considerable talent among our students
- November 17th - early release day for Parent Teacher conferences for Middle and High School and Calm Classroom Training for the elementary schools
- Reminder that the Cardinal Cushing 5k will take place on Saturday 11/19 at the Cunningham School
- School Committee Forum on November 30th at 7pm - Hybrid
 - Topic will be Safe and Supportive Schools
- Schools will be closed November 23rd - November 25th for the Thanksgiving Holiday
- Wish all of our Milton Families a Happy Thanksgiving

Dr. Carroll

- Beauty and the Beast Performance was outstanding
- MHS Theatre is funded and a parent led program
- Just wanted to let the School Committee be aware of the parent funding and perhaps School Committee can look at this down the line to help support perhaps within the budget
- Deserves support and perhaps can be a future discussion
- On a different note, DESE announced today that districts will have access to covid test upon returning from Thanksgiving break, is this something we are participating in Milton?

Superintendent Sheehan

- To address the funding for the school play and the challenging cost
 - Were concerned about the cost of the tickets and perhaps some families were concerned too
 - Principal Cahill explained that due to the pandemic the program was not able to replenish funds
 - Cost of the tickets would help support the productions

Assistant Superintendent Dr. McKinney

- Kim Coughlin, head nurse- took care of ordering the covid testing kits for the families to have upon returning from Thanksgiving break

4. Citizen Speak (Policy BEDH-15 Minutes)

None

5. Chair's Report - Chair Rosmarin

a. Superintendent Search Update

- Busy week getting things going
- Glenn Koocher (MASC), has run a number of focus groups
 - Parent/Guardian forums
 - Was able to answer a lot of questions and will be summarizing all of the focus groups
 - Staff meetings
- Search Committee will receive a report from Mr. Koocher
- Online survey has been sent, encourage people to share comments
- Screening Committee Members
 - 3 members of the School Committee (Chair Rosmarin, Dr. Carroll, Member Varghese)
 - 4 parents out of the 40 who applied (Joanna McCarthy, Kip Brockmyre, Dr. Ceronne Daley, Tiffany Gueye)
 - Factually and staff - Principal Karen McDavitt, Brendan Bonn (Unit A), Amy Tom (Unit B), Dr. Garth McKinney (Central Office)
 - Posting went out the end of last week, looking forward to seeing the responses

6. **Finance Subcommittee Report - Member White**

a. FY24 Budget Update

- Have been meeting with Principals and Department Heads to discuss needs for the next school year
- Driven by our enrollment, the needs are significant
- Susan Maselli (Special Education) is asking for an additional 10 positions
 - Currently have 800 Special Education Students and that number changes daily
 - Students are always being evaluated and could be new moving into the district
- Met with Principal Fish and Principal Cahill
 - Principal Fish spoke about the need for an additional 7 positions at the middle school
 - Principal Cahill spoke about the need for an additional 9 positions at the high school
 - Because of our enrollment we need more teachers
- Everyone should have received a package with the details of the request
- Director of Nurses - provided the details of how many student visit the nurses office
 - Lot of medications that are being provided
 - Covid funding has helped with the nursing staff
 - moving forward we need to address the funding
 - provide screening for the children for the district

b. Approval of Vendor Warrant

Member White made a motion to approve the Vendor Warrant #17 payable 11/10/2022 in the amount of \$245,228.46 and Vendor Warrant #18 payable 11/17/2022 in the amount of \$560,599.57.

Second: Member Varghese

Roll Call Vote: 5-0-1

Member Ross Denny was absent during the vote.

c. HRS Classification and Longevity

Member White made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Finance Subcommittee that we reclassify the Grade Level of Elementary and Middle School Administrative Assistants from a Grade 3 to a Grade 4 and to increase the longevity pay for all HRS employees to \$300 after 5 years, increasing by \$50 each year thereafter.

Second: Dr. Miranda

Roll Call Vote: 5-0-1

Member Ross Denny was absent during the vote.

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Pavlicek

- Discussed Town Forecast - looking ahead
- Looking at early assumptions about revenue
- Property tax is easier to forecast as compared to local aid is more difficult to estimate
- Baseline of where revenue might be, what is inflation doing at different levels
- What it will take to roll forward
- Looking at a 2.5 million dollar deficient
- Maintain the services through the ARPA Funding, that would add a million dollars to the deficient
- Making the case of an override in the near future
- Our needs are great this year compared to years past
- Significant issue with revenue in town with the property tax
- We are in early stages at the moment

Dr. Carroll

- 2.6 million in operating budget for the town, one million deficient to is to maintain the ARPA positions
 - Is that factored in the 2.6 million or in addition?

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Pavlicek

- The one million is in addition

Chair Rosmarin

- Looking at the school committee calendar, when we will be looking at the budget?
- We have some challenges ahead

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Pavlicek

- Are on schedule for the budget discussion for the meeting in December

7. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Carroll made a motion to approve the School Committee meeting minutes dated October 26, 2022.

Second: Member White

Roll Call Vote: 5-0-1

Member Ross Denny was absent during the vote.

Dr. Carroll made a motion to approve the School Committee meeting minutes dated November 2, 2022.

Second: Member White

Roll Call Vote: 5-0-1

Member Ross Denny was absent during the vote.

8. Next Meeting Agenda Items

Updated

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

Second: Dr. Miranda

Roll Call Vote: 5-0-1

Member Ross Denny was absent during the vote.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.