

Milton School Committee Minutes
January 18, 2023
Via Zoom
7:00pm

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

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** - 7:02pm
2. **Approve January 18, 2023 Agenda**
Updated
3. **Superintendent's Update - Superintendent Sheehan**
 - a. Cunningham Elementary School Site Council - [Presentation Link](#) on the MPS website
 - i. Principal Dr. Jonathan Redden
 - ii. Site Council Team
 - Slides shared with the community

The School Committee thanked Dr. Redden, Site Council Team and students for their wonderful presentation.

- b. Milton Coalition, YRBS/YHS Survey Discussion -
Co-Directors Margaret Carels and Stormy Leung
 - Slides shared with the community

https://www.miltonps.org/application/files/6416/7484/4948/MHS_YRBS_Report_2022.pdf
https://www.miltonps.org/application/files/9016/7484/4952/PMS_MYHS_Report_2022.pdf
https://www.miltonps.org/application/files/3216/7484/4952/Youth_Survey_Presentation_School_Committee_2023.pdf

Dr. Miranda

- Thank you for the presentation
- Many areas of concern, glad we are looking at the data and knowing where to respond
- Students feel like they are being treated badly because of their race and sexual orientations. How do we make sure schools are a safe place and provide a sense of belonging?

Principal Cahill

- Individually we are having those conversations with students as they come up
- We have different groups/clubs that meeting after school and students have the opportunity to express concerns to their advisors of the groups
- Leaderships teams are having conversations with the advisors regarding the issues
- Offering breakfast hours for students, giving the students the option to talk and express their concerns
- Leaderships teams are working with the students to empower them and identity the students who feel like they are being treated badly and having the conversations

- Room to improve
- Using our reporting system
- Asking student to speak up, keep communications open at the high school
- Working with Claire Galloway-Jones - Diversity and Inclusion Director
 - Offering Restorative Justice Circle
 - Young women's group
 - Young men's is not running currently due to the fact that an advisor is needed
- This is a work in progress

Member Ross Denny

- Thanked the Milton Coalition for their work
- This is a community opportunity and challenge
 - We need to take responsibility to make sure that schools are safe for all students
 - Student of color or LGBTQ+ may not feel safe
 - Can not accept that others think that it's ok, it's not good enough
 - Look forward to seeing specific strategies to protect those kids that don't feel safe
- Alcohol use was reported to have gone down? Do you know why this has happened
- How do the kids know where to buy drugs?
- Any insight would be great

Stormy Leung

- Alcohol reduction reported - social access, not retail access
 - Trying to teach parents and students skills how to not put yourself in the presence of alcohol
- Youth are smart with social media - can access substances - so dangerous
- Meth - creeping into our community very slowly

Member Ross Denny

- We have had the Incident Reporting System - would love to see what is reported by schools at the next School Committee Meeting

Chair Rosmarin

- Thanked the Milton Coalition their presentation
- Work in progress
- Making a difference, see it in the data
- Comparison with the state data, take 2 years for the data to be reported

Member White

- How many students were given the opportunity to participate in the survey

Stormy Leung

- PMS
 - 540 completed survey completed
- MHS
 - 1,006
 - 66 students were excluded because they were missing too much data
 - 1,040 completed

4. Citizen Speak (Policy BEDH-15 Minutes)

None

5. Chair's Report - Chair Rosmarin

a. District Leadership Transition

- Exciting time for the Milton Public Schools
- Have a tentative agreement with Dr. Peter Burrows to become the next Superintendent of Milton Public Schools
- Since this is not on the agenda this evening, we are not able to take a vote tonight
- We have scheduled a special meeting to ratify Dr. Burrows' contract on January 23, 2023 at 7am
- Dr. Burrows will begin on July 1, 2023
 - Will plan to come to Milton for a number of days before July 1st to work on an entry plan
- Having been working with Dr. Carroll and the central office team on the transition plan for when Superintendent Sheehan leaves on Friday, Feb 3, 2023
- Plans are still being finalized
- Happy to report that Assistant Superintendent Dr. Garth McKinney has agreed to serve as Interim Superintendent between February 6, 2023 - Jul 1, 2023
- Still working out the details
 - Will take a vote on Feb 1, 2023
- Will be a brief transition, stability will be a priority
- Important events have already been scheduled for the remainder of the school year

6. Policy Subcommittee Report - Dr. Carroll

a. First Reading, Policy JIC- Student Discipline

- Clean and Redline copies provided
- Clean/updated copy shared
- Clear goal is to address the disproportionality data
- Work with our Strategic Goal - Safe and Support Schools around Equity and Learning
- Policy in accordance with our student handbook
- November 8, 2022 - State law have driven additional updates
- Will add to the next agenda for the Second Reading and a vote
- Dr. Carroll read through the changes in the Policy

Chair Rosmarin

- Wonderful sign of progress
- Great efforts put into this process
- Helpful that we are all on the same page with Restorative Justice

7. Finance Subcommittee Report - Member White

- Met this morning with the Select Board
 - Moving forward with the budget - Amy Dexter added the numbers reported last week
 - Needs were identified
 - Still need information from the Governor's Budget
- Tentative date scheduled with the Warrant Committee - Tuesday, January 31st at 7pm

a. Approval of Vendor Warrants

Member White made a motion to approve Vendor Warrant #27 payable 1/19/23 in the amount of \$357,499.04.

Second: Dr. Carroll

Roll Call Vote: 6-0-0

8. Facilities Advisory Committee Report - Member White

- Updates given on the short term needs for the preschool and kindergarten space
- Discussed the School Building Project and the Convent Proposal
- As we move forward -trying to stay focused on our current buildings
 - Bill Ritchie identifies all the needs to keep the buildings in shape
 - Capital Budget request \$750,000
 - Maintenance needs will become more significant
 - Suggested that Bill Ritchie come to School Committee

Dr. Carroll

- As we know about various facilities needs pertaining to energy, are we looking into grant programs?
- Goals and deadline approaching
- Green Community Grants and different sustainability options

Glenn Pavlicek

- Yes, Bill Ritchie is active will searching and receiving grants
- Biggest concern is maintenance, a lot can be done in house which will be a huge savings

Chair Rosmarin

- Can add Bill Ritchie to our School Committee Calendar before he retires in the spring

9. Strategic Planning Advisory Committee Report - Dr. Miranda

- Met this week
- Discussion of our three pillars of the Strategic Plan
 - Safe and Support Schools
 - Personalized Learning
 - Equity and Learning
- Glad we had the earlier presentation by Cunningham Schools
 - heard the strategic plan mentioned
- Students will receive a robust and academically rich school experiences
- Reminder that we will see shift in the experiences of individual students
- See growth in our district - high stake testing
- Performance outcomes
 - gaps will be eliminated
- Highlights of progress
 - Equity and Learning
 - Continue to have Professional Development for everyone in the district
 - Restorative Justice Coaching
 - Partnership with Diversity and Education - need educators
 - Implementing a new program
 - Claire Galloway-Jones - revising student discipline policy and looking at the metrics
 - Safe and Supportive Schools
 - SEL Leads in all schools

- Professional Development Training
- Calm Classroom
- Second Step Curriculum has been rolled out
- Personalized Learning
 - Leadership has gone through trainings
 - Analyze data to move forward
 - Personalize Learning Forum Discussion
- How can we do a better job marketing and communicating the Strategic Plan to the community

10. Next Meeting Agenda Items

Updated

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

Second: Member Varghese

Roll Call Vote: 6-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 9:45pm.