

Milton School Committee Meeting Minutes
March 1, 2023
Via Zoom
7:00pm

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

Staff Present: Dr. Garth McKinney, Interim Superintendent; Dr. Glenn Pavlicek, Assistant Superintendent for Business

1. **Call to order** - 7:00pm
2. **Approve March 1, 2023 Agenda**
Approved
3. **Superintendent's Update**
 - a. Special Education Presentation - [Presentation link on the MPS website](#)
 - i. Director of Pupil Personnel Susan Maselli & Team

Member White

- Asked a question about the student's age out at 22? If the student's birthday is mid school year do they finish the school year?
- Can you explain Post Adult Education?

Sue Maselli

- Vocational training, self care, community skills and transition planning
 - Launch after 12th grade (ages 18-22)
 - Remain in the program until the day before they turn 22, that would be the students last day
 - Adult agencies provide case workers and provide adult services

Member Varghese

- Asked a question regarding the slide on Special Educational Enrollment
 - Can elaborate on Parents Choice?
- Slide 15 - Student Support Team
 - Can you speak to the PMS number of referrals have increased?

Sue Maselli

- (Parent Choice) Parents have chosen to enroll their child in a private school setting
 - Can still choose to access Special Ed Services

Sue Maselli

- Pierce Data Increased
 - Comparable to last year
 - Based on scheduling
 - Middle School referrals are watched

Dr. Miranda

- Thank you for all of the amazing work
- Can you explain Internal and External discipline removal?
- Tucker to increase the number of students to stay at their home/neighborhood school?

Sue Maselli

- Internal Discipline - Showed Pierce Data
 - Students remain in school suspension
 - Work on their school work but separate from the classroom setting
- External Discipline - Not coming to school
 - Time away from the building
- Tucker
 - Increase in enrollment at Tucker
 - A lot of families have to move into Milton in the Tucker neighborhood
 - Trying to provide families their home/neighborhood school option
 - Provide additional Special Education services
 - Co-Taught classes at every level (asking for this option in the budget next year)
 - Potential have the option to stay at Tucker
 - Build support and resources
 - Families want to stay in their neighborhood schools

Dr. Carroll

- Appreciate all the work you and your team have done
- So much effort
- Focused on the goal and there has been progress
- High School removal question
 - Can you characterize the removals?

Adina Schecter

- Students are in a high needs program
- One day removals for mistakes
- Struggle with a few students
- Not seeing an increase of violence at the high school level

Sue Maselli

- In district programs
 - High level needs
 - A few students have experience removal but making a commitment to working with the students
 - Access services

Dr. Carroll

- Discipline Policies
 - Goal is academic achievement
 - Don't want the students to miss time with their teachers

Member Ross Denny

- Given the decline in discipline, is this due to the interventions?

Sue Maselli

- The data is direct impact of Adina's work
- Incredible to observed how she interacts with students
- Great success this year, building restorative models
- Staff have made the commitment and have conversations with students

Member Ross Denny

- Would love this to continue in Milton's work and not just through funding programs
- Ensure that this success continues

Sue Maselli

- Anticipate these areas will be requirements for the state

Claire Galloway-Jones

- Sustaining the work
- Continue equitable work
- Hiring Equity Coaches

Member Varghese

- Numbers are going up year over year and now we are at 20% with our highest area of increase being Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD) at 24.6%. When we plan budgets, are we forecasting for this growth?

Sue Maselli

- When looking at the historical trends and enrollment, when I came to the district in 2018 I had questioned how the state collects data
 - When the state collects the data on the enrollment, it looks at different factors
- 2017-2018 numbers may represent where we were, may have been a little bit higher
- Shared that a few years ago when I came to the district
- Also curious at that total number
- Can see the jump during the Covid Year
- We know we need to continue to plan for post Covid related learning
- Need to think of it as a marathon and constantly give kids the opportunity to double dip back on the early skills
- Increase enrollment related to SLD is that we are better at diagnosing students earlier
 - New research
 - New assessment tools
- We recognize that students in that group were impacted by Covid and early learning
- Anticipate that both variables are related by that number has growth
- What we do to support our students
 - We have expanded our language base programing
 - Started with a co-taught classroom at Glover
 - Opened self contained classrooms
 - Expending to Pierce in the fall
- These are not part of our asks in the budget
- Thoughtful use of our resources

- Already planning for that change in growth and enrollment
 - Most has been planned through consideration of how we distribute our resources
 - The ask is coming in for the intensive learning model for Tucker
 - And the Autism strand support is growing out of our preschool
 - Asking for space to expand over the years
 - Numbers are growing
- b. District Updates - Dr. Garth McKinney
- Unity Night - Tucker Community
 - Successful Event
 - PMS DEI Event
 - Faculty, staff and parents are committed to the work
 - Watch for upcoming event dates in the Superintendent Blog and school calendars

4. Citizen Speak (Policy BEDH-15 Minutes)

None

5. Policy Subcommittee Report - Dr. Carroll

a. Second Reading, Section D, Fiscal Policies

Dr. Carroll made a motion to approve the second reading of the following policies:

1. Policy DA, Fiscal Management Goals
2. Policy DB, Annual Budget
3. Policy DBD, Budget Planning
4. Policy DBG, Budget Adoption Procedures
5. Policy DJA, Purchasing Authority

Second: Member White

Roll Call Vote: 5-0-1

Chair Rosmarin was absent during the vote.

6. Finance Subcommittee Report - Member White

- Finance Subcommittee met yesterday
- Senator Walter Timilty sent an email asking for specific funding request
- Discussion of ideas
- Will meet with the leadership and continue discussion and they submit a proposal to Senator Timilty

a. Approval of Vendor Warrants

Member White made a motion to approve Vendor Warrant #33 payable in the amount of \$521,144.16 on 3/2/23.

Second: Member Ross Denny

Roll Call Vote: 5-0-1

Chair Rosmarin was absent during the vote.

b. Community Schools Director Salary Increase

- As discussed in Executive Session

Member White made a motion to increase the salary for Community Schools Director Martha Sandoval to \$100,000 retroactive to July 1, 2022.

Second: Dr. Miranda

Roll Call Vote: 5-0-1

Chair Rosmarin was absent during the vote.

7. **Approval of Minutes** - Dr. Carroll

Dr. Carroll made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2023 School Committee Meeting.

Second: Dr. Miranda

Roll Call Vote: 5-0-1

Chair Rosmarin was absent during the vote.

8. **Next Meeting Agenda Items**

Updated

Dr. Carroll made a motion to adjourn from the School Committee Meeting.

Second: Member Ross Denny

Roll Call: 5-0-1

Chair Rosmarin was absent during the vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.