

Minutes of the School Committee
Regular Meeting
Milton High School Cable Access Studio
Date: November 9, 2017

Committee Present: Dr. Kevin Donahue, Chair; Sheila Varela, Vice Chair, Margaret Eberhardt, Dr. Elaine Craghead, Ada Rosmarin and Betty White.

Staff Present: Mary Gormley, Superintendent of Schools; Glenn Pavlicek, Assistant Superintendent for Business, Janet Sheehan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Human Resources

Call to Order

The Chair called the November 9th meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:01pm.

Approve Agenda

The committee approved the agenda after moving Item 12 to #3, and re-ordering the rest of the agenda. He also inserted Item 6a under Chairs report, which will be MPEG and an inclusion quarterly report. He also inserted a new Item 5a, (previously 4A) for Student Rep intro. He also removed Item 10, Approval of Minutes. He also moved to change the wording on 9a and 9b from “reading” to “discussion.”

Citizens Speak Topic Response:

The chair recalled at the last meeting, a representative from Sustainable Milton asked the committee to review the district’s recycling policies. Dr. Pavlicek reported that there is a recycling bin in every classroom. There is also a recycling bin in every office “suite” in the district. Dr. Donahue noted that there are not enough large recycling bins at our big events. He will refer this issue to the Facilities Subcommittee. Ms. Eberhardt asked, is the goal to have an integrated bin, with three sections for each type of waste? Dr. Donahue said we should look at that with the intent of increasing recycling throughout the district.

Superintendent's Report

Topic One: Milton High School Site Council Report (Attachment) (15 minutes.) Milton High School Principal James Jette introduced the Site Council and presented the School Improvement Plan. To view the report, click this link:

https://www.miltonps.org/application/files/1915/1080/2730/MHS_Site_Council_2017.pdf Mr. Jette outlined the supports available to students at Milton High School, including the Calculus Project. Mr. Jette noted some of the MHS Highlights, including the fact that 96% of seniors were accepted to a college or university; 92% of graduating seniors took the SATs in 2016-17; PSATs are administered to all sophomores and juniors; 21 AP Placement courses are offered; a total of 636 AP exams were taken last year, with 85% of those earning a qualifying score. 100% of our students who took the DELF exam got a perfect score; and last year, MHS produced six Division 1 athletes. Mr. Jette reviewed the most recent MCAS data, with all categories above 90% in proficient and advanced. Mr. Jette also discussed the impact of the recent override on athletic

and club fees. He also talked about goals for 2017-18, including addressing the proficiency gap, the opportunity gap, the belief gap and Social Emotional Learning. Vice Principal Ben Kelly presented the next portion of the plan, which addressed the Action Steps, including pre- and post-assessment on student performance; reading comprehension and writing skills; history students working with Founding Documents; increase of Vernier Technology in science classrooms; and additional technology devices added to MHS department. There was discussion about a new program, SOCK, "Sharing Our College Knowledge," which seeks to support first-generation, college-bound students. Regarding budget requests for next year, Ms. Cahill talked about the Transitions Program request and Mr. Jette outlined additional requests: split the humanities department; add 2.0 FTE Math/Science teacher to advance STEM; restore 1.0 FTE English; addition of a health teacher; a .4 Chorus Director; and a Transitions Program. Mr. Jette showed a brief video about privilege. School Committee members commented on the presentation and Dr. Donahue congratulated the Site Council.

Topic Two: Cunningham Elementary Site Council Report (Attachment) (15 minutes.) Principal Jonathan Redden, along with his Site Council, to present the School Improvement Plan. To view the report, click here:

https://www.miltonps.org/application/files/7515/1080/2735/Cunningham_Site_Council_Presentation_2017.pdf Mr. Redden began his presentation with the school's mission statement.

Members of the Site Council took turns with the presentation, including the most recent data from the Next Generation MCAS. They presented the 2017-2020 School Improvement Goals, including the implementation of a comprehensive English Language Arts curriculum. They also discussed how to plan and deliver appropriate math lessons for students. Another goal is to create a school-wide system of support that include proactive strategies for defining, teaching and supporting appropriate student behaviors. They also showed a video from Cunningham school, which shows "What Makes Cunningham Unique." The video featured the flexible seating program as well as the mindfulness program. Site Council members outlined their Budget Requests, which included curriculum, personnel and technology needs, as well as space and traffic concerns. Members of the School Committee commented on the presentation. Ms. Varela asked about Everyday Math, wondering if teachers access the online aspects of this program. Ms. Rosmarin asked about the extended learning time and asked where/when this is happening. She was told that, for the past few years, they have used "beyond the bell" learning for students who might benefit from that.

Happenings: (10 minutes) Student Reps presented a brief Athletic Report from Milton High, including updates on various sports teams and the three current Letters of Intent for D1 Athletics.

Chair's Report

*The chair said quarterly reports will be presented at the next meeting.

Topic One: MASC Conference Update: Ms. Varela said there was much debate on Resolution One, which dealt with school census data. The date was moved up from the original March date. All other resolutions passed.

Topic Two: FY19 Budget Update. Dr. Donahue said that there is a preliminary meeting with the Warrant Committee on 11/20, which will be an introductory meeting. He said he reached out to the chair of the Warrant Committee, regarding his subcommittee meeting. More to come on that. Next week, there will be a Capital Planning Committee meeting to discuss capital requests from the town. Dr. Pavlicek noted that he met with the Town Administrator and the Town Accountant, along with Bill Ritchie and AJ Melanson.

Finance Subcommittee Report

Dr. Craghead said she would forgo the report and go directly to approval of Vendor Warrants.

Topic One: Approval of Vendor Warrants (Attachment) (Vote) (10 minutes.) Dr. Craghead moved approval of Vendor Warrant #18 dated Nov 22nd in the amount of \$453,358.30

Move: Dr. Craghead

Second: Ms. Varela

Vote: 5-0-1 (White abstained)

Strategic Planning Advisory Subcommittee Report (15 minutes)

Topic One: Vision Statement (Attachment) (Vote) Ms. Rosmarin read the Vision Statement to the entire committee. She moved to approve the statement.

Move: Ms. Rosmarin

Second: Dr. Donahue

Vote: 6-0-0

Health & Wellness Subcommittee Report

Ms. Eberhardt noted there was a meeting on 10/27. Topic included the presentation with Chief King; and discussion about underage drinking and ideas on how to support parents. They also watched a video on the power of “yet,” at the most recent meeting.

Policy Subcommittee Report (Attachments) (Votes)

Ms. Eberhardt introduced the first two policies for discussion.

Second Reading/Discussion, Policy BDE, Subcommittees of the School Committee. On this policy, changes were made in the first paragraph. Clean copies are in front of members.

Second Reading/Discussion, Policy BDF, Advisory Committees to the School Committee. On #4, the Committee Chairperson will appoint the Chair and the members of the advisory committees.

Ms. Eberhardt noted that there was no discussion of quorums and presence of School Committee members. Dr. Donahue noted that in the past, there has been confusion about the composition of

committees if, for example, not enough School Committee members were present at one of these.

Second Reading, Policy BHE, Use of Electronic Messaging by School Committee Members.

Move: Dr. Donahue

Second: Ms. White

Vote: 6-0-0

Second Reading, Policy IJND, Access to Digital Resources. Ms. Eberhardt noted that this is included in the student handbook.

Move: Ms. Varela

Second: Dr. Craghead

Vote: 6-0-0

Re-Approval of Policy IJNDD, Social Networking Policy of the Milton Public Schools

Move: Ms. White

Second: Ms. Varela

Vote: 6-0-0

Second Reading, Policy JIH, Searches and Interrogations

Move: Ms. Varela

Second: Ms. White

Vote: 6-0-0

Next Meeting Agenda Items

MPEG, Inclusion, Site Council. Ms. Gormley asked if Mr. Melanson should attend and was told yes. Ms. Varela asked for Traffic & Safety Subcommittee.

The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn.

Move: Ms. White

Second: Ms. Varela

Roll Call Vote: 6-0-0

The Next School Committee meeting is scheduled for November 15th.

The meeting adjourned at 10:14pm.

MD