

Minutes of the School Committee
Regular Meeting
Milton High School Cable Access Studio
Date: September 6th, 2017

Committee Present: Chair, Dr. Kevin Donahue, Chair, Sheila Varela, Vice Chair, Margaret Eberhardt, Dr. Elaine Craghead, Ada Rosmarin, 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 September 6th meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:03pm.

Approve Agenda

The committee approved the agenda after removing Item 6a (Approval of Vendor Warrants) and Item 14 (Executive Session)

Citizens Speak: Noel Vigue, director of PE/Health for MPS, spoke about the upcoming PARENT speaker series. He discussed Ms. Warner's upcoming talk and reviewed the schedule with upcoming speakers for the 2017-18 school year. Ms. Gormley said that Mr. Vigue should be commended for pulling this PARENT series together.

Superintendent's Report

Topic One: Social Emotional Learning Presentation (Attachment). SEL Facilitator Laurie Stillman came to speak about her Needs Assessment project. To view her presentation, click here:

<http://www.miltonps.org/documents/NEEDSASSESSMENTschoolcommitteefinal.pdf>

Ms. Stillman explained what Social Emotional Learning entails, by discussing the Whole Child and the Whole School concept. She said there interest and support for SEL from the school community. The SEL needs a coherent vertical strategy for articulating, implementing and assessing SEL competencies. She said top priorities include professional development. Staff would like to learn more about assessments used in the field, and how to build community partnerships. Currently, there is not sufficient capacity to address Behavioral Health needs. She recommended that the School Committee expand the mission of the current Health & Wellness Committee to become the Social Emotional, Health and Wellness Committee. She would also like a SEL Learning Community, more PD release time, and the chance to integrate SEL practice into all disciplines. Let's have more student-driven approaches to address YRBS issues. Let's work with the community to develop options for non-school days and for addressing substance misuse. We should attend to faculty's health and emotional needs, and investigate structured play for recess. Dr. Craghead commended Ms. Stillman for the tremendous amount of work. Ms. Rosmarin liked the recommendation about adding SEL to the Health & Wellness Committee.

Ms. Rosmarin asked Ms. Stillman to outline her other accomplishments. Ms. Stillman said she was asked by Ms. Gormley to develop a draft action plan. She wrote a weekly newsletter articles for the E-Blast. She is working on developing a sports clinic at Tucker to get more children of color into athletics. She worked with Mr. Jette, Mr. Kelly and Mr. Madden about chemical awareness program. Ms. Gormley said that Ms. Stillman has done tremendous work and has also been awarded a grant which will help the MPS for the next two years.

Happenings: K and Preschool classes started this week. Dr. Pavlicek and Jane Barrett are to be commended for planning out the bus routes. Ms. Gormley thanked the aides who helped out. She also recognized Emily Martin and the Selectmen's office who are coordinating donations for Houston flood victims. Ms. Gormley mentioned the PARENT speaker series, and gave information on new portal and new website. Open Houses will be held in the next few weeks.

Topic Two: Approval of School Physician. When Dr. Bonacci retired many years ago, Dr. Midura took over. School districts are required to keep a physician on staff. Now, Ms. Gormley would like to recommend a new physician, Dr. Patricia Guglietta. Ms. Gormley asked for School Committee approval. Dr. Donahue moved to approve the appointment of Dr. Patricia Guglietta for the 2017-18 school year.

Move: Dr. Donahue

Second: Ms. Varela

Vote: 6-0-0

Chairman's Report

Topic One: Edited School Committee Calendar (Attachment). Dr. Donahue presented the edited School Committee 2017-18 calendar with September and October dates moved around. He will bring another version to next week's meeting with the subcommittees filled in.

Finance Subcommittee:

Dr. Craghead said there have been no meetings.

Policy Subcommittee:

Topic One: First Reading Policy BBA, School Committee Powers and Duties (Attachment). Ms. Eberhardt gave first reading for BBA, regarding School Committee Powers and Duties. There are only minor changes from the original policy. All changes made are in blue ink. Dr. Donahue said, in the past, do we have a supervisory role? This clarifies the issue that the School Committee is not responsible for evaluation of staff.

Topic Two: First Reading Policy BBB, School Committee Membership and Term of Office (Attachment). Regarding BBB, this is an edited version of the prior policy. The subcommittee changed the title and added a paragraph.

First reading of these policies is concluded.

Strategic Planning Subcommittee

Ms. Rosmarin said that Dr. Spaulding recently attended a meeting of this subcommittee. They are updating the vision statement for the district. Dr. Spaulding and Dr. McNeil-Girmai will move that forward. This morning, we decided instead of duplicating efforts, we will start by sending liaisons to meetings.

Transportation and Traffic Safety Subcommittee

Ms. Varela noted that meeting dates are set for the year. Each school's reps are in place, except for Pierce and Tucker. Those with questions should contact Ms. Varela for more information. The subcommittee will look at Glover for better solutions. She asked Dr. Pavlicek about the new crosswalk situation at Cu/Co. Dr. Pavlicek said it's clearer now with the new lines drawn and there has been good police presence the first few days.

Old Business

Dr. Donahue asked if members liked the addition of the time stamps on the agenda. All agreed that it was helpful.

Next Meeting Agenda Items:

Ms. Gormley asked for the closeout for the FY17 and the FY18 budget items getting done. The budget calendar is on its way. Regarding Capital Requests, please add a meeting with Bill Ritchie and Bob Pattison. If Health and Wellness meets in the interim, we can add them, but Ms. Eberhardt thinks it won't. Add Policy to the next agenda.

The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn.

Move: Dr. Donahue

Second: Ms. Varela

Roll Call Vote: 6-0-0

The Next School Committee meeting is scheduled for September 27th.
The meeting adjourned at 8:24pm