

Minutes of the School Committee

Milton High School Cable Access Studio

Reorganizational Meeting of the Milton School Committee prior to the Regular Meeting of the Milton School Committee

Date: April 25, 2018

Committee Present: Dr. Kevin Donahue, Chair, Sheila Varela, Vice Chair, Dr. Elaine Craghead, Ada Rosmarin and Betty White. Not present: Margaret Eberhardt.

Staff Present: Mary Gormley, Superintendent of Schools; Janet Sheehan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Human Resources. Not present: Dr. Glenn Pavlicek, Assistant Superintendent for Business.

Superintendent Mary Gormley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. She noted that the Committee would proceed in accordance with the School Committee Organizational Meeting Policy (BDA). Superintendent Gormley asked School Committee members for nominations for the position of School Committee Chair. Dr. Elaine Craghead nominated Dr. Kevin Donahue and Committee members voted unanimously to support the nomination. Superintendent Gormley asked if there were any other nominations for the Chair position and no additional nominations were offered.

Dr. Donahue accepted the nomination and said that he appreciated the vote of confidence. Superintendent Gormley asked for a roll call vote from members Dr. Elaine Craghead, Dr. Kevin Donahue, Sheila Varela, Ada Rosmarin and Elizabeth White. There was a unanimous vote in favor of Dr. Donahue's position as School Committee Chair.

Chairman Dr. Donahue then presided over the election of the Vice Chair. Sheila Varela was nominated and all members present voted to close the nominations. Member Varela accepted the nomination and a roll call vote by members Dr. Elaine Craghead, Dr. Kevin Donahue, Sheila Varela, Ada Rosmarin and Betty White were all unanimous in favor of Sheila Varela's position as Vice Chair of the School Committee.

The organizational meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Minutes of the School Committee

Milton High School Cable Access Studio

Regular Meeting April 25, 2018

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

Staff Present: Mary Gormley, Superintendent of Schools; Janet Sheehan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Human Resources. Not present: Dr. Glenn Pavlicek, Assistant Superintendent for Business.

Call to Order: The Chair called the regular meeting to order at 7:10pm.

Approve April 25, 2018 Regular Milton School Committee Meeting Agenda: The agenda was approved after the Chair removed Item 9 (Strategic Planning Advisory Committee Report) and adding Item 5c (Spring Presentation Dates.)

Citizen Speak (Policy BEDH – 15 minutes) -- None

Superintendent's Report

Topic One: Guests of the Superintendent

a. Middle and Elementary School Future Problem Solvers, Coaches Nicole Lauria, Justine Novak and Thuy Nguyen. Ms. Gormley asked the coaches to describe the program and the competitions the students have participated in. School Committee members congratulated the coaches and the students for their hard work.

b. Pierce Middle School Clean Energy Day, Curriculum Coordinator Christie Chiappetta and Pierce Principal Dr. Karen Spaulding came to speak about the recent Clean Energy Day. The school received a grant of \$9,000 to host this event after school. More than 100 students came to participate in the event, which included keynote speakers Bill White of Offshore Wind; Michael Murphy, director of Water Innovation; and Katie McDonald of Greentown Labs in Somerville. Ms. Chiappetta described the challenges which took place at this event, which were all STEM-based. Ms. White said she was able to attend this event and was impressed by the caliber of the event, which focused on clean energy and the environment. Ms. Gormley also asked for an update on the Regional Science Fair. Eight Pierce students brought projects to this fair.

*note: Ms. Eberhardt arrived at this time.

Topic Two: ELL Update, Coordinator Alysa Buchanan came to give a presentation on English Learner Education. She gave an overview of the program, discussed eligibility for services, previewed the demographics of the English Learner population. She also gave information on how many languages are spoken in the Milton Public Schools, and reviewed service delivery guidelines. She also went over assessment data on the ELL students and talked about how to transition students out of the ELL program. To view the report, visit this site: https://www.miltonps.org/application/files/9015/2535/6943/ELE_School_Committee_April_25_2018_FINAL.pdf

School Committee members asked questions of Ms. Buchanan after the presentation. Ms. White asked about how to service students who have ELL needs, as well as special education needs. Dr. Donahue asked if the changing linguistic diversity in town has changed the amount

of resources required. Ms. Buchanan said enrollment is increasing, and also the district is seeing some students who come to Milton who have not had access to formal education.

Happenings: MHS Cabaret will take place tomorrow night. This Saturday night is the MFE Celebration; the Pierce Golf Tournament is this weekend; and on May 1st, Milton Summer Enrichment registration opens.

Chair's Report

Topic One: Superintendent's Mid-Cycle Review (Attachment) (Vote) Dr. Donahue tabled the updated goals to the next meeting.

Topic Two: Reappointment of Subcommittees and Advisory Committees (Attachment) (Vote) Dr. Donahue asked if anyone wanted to move around among the committees. He asked for updated preferences by the second meeting of May. Ms. Varela asked about the upcoming meeting schedule. Dr. Donahue asked to re-vote the current array of committees. He moved approval of current list of advisory committee and subcommittees.

Move: Dr. Donahue

Second: Ms. Varela

Discussion: Ms. Rosmarin made a friendly amendment to add Michelle Kreuzer to the Strategic Planning Advisory Committee. Dr. Donahue accepted this amendment.

Vote: 6-0-0

Topic Three: Spring Presentation Dates

Regarding the Spring Community Meetings to discuss enrollment, space needs, etc., Dr. Donahue said the current dates do not work. He asked School Committee members to contact the Superintendent's Office to provide dates that work for them, after Town Meeting. Ms. Varela asked Ms. Gormley to provide a calendar of May and June dates with school events.

Finance Subcommittee Report

Topic One: Approval of Vendor Warrants (Attachment) (Vote) Dr. Craghead moved to approve Vendor Warrant #42 dated April 19th, 2018 in the amount of \$844,300.99.

Move: Dr. Craghead

Second: Dr. Donahue

Vote: 6-0-0

Policy Subcommittee Report

Topic One: First Reading of Policy IJNDB. Ms. Eberhardt moved to have a First Reading of Policy IJNDB, Milton Public Schools Internet Acceptable Use Policy. This is a reconfigured policy from

the one that the School Committee approved years ago. The two changes are in red, and refer to the fact that all students will be provided with a network ID and password. Also, all miltonps.org email accounts may be accessed and examined by administrators. She said this is a very important policy. Ms. Rosmarin asked how this would be communicated with parents. Will it be part of the student handbook? Ms. Eberhardt said yes, it would be, and it will also be presented at PTO meetings.

Topic Two: First Reading, Policy IJNDD, Social Networking of the Milton Public Schools. Ms. Eberhardt said this is more geared towards staff and acceptable use of digital media. Ms. White asked, does MPS give cell phones to administrators, principals, etc.? Ms. Gormley said yes, the principals can communicate with one another and families via cell phone. Ms. Eberhardt thanked Charlene Roche for her help with keeping all of this year's policies straight.

Transportation Advisory Committee Report

Ms. Varela updated the committee about the most recent meeting. She said she has been planning a meeting with the Town-wide Traffic Commission. She asked Ms. White to update the committee on the most recent meeting. Ms. White said the Glover School Principal presented traffic concerns around arrival and dismissal and student safety. The Traffic Commission said we don't qualify for a traffic light or other changes because it's not an all-day issue. They thought a four-way stop sign will make the situation worse. There's a huge amount of traffic on Brook Road. The Commission said they would look at a solution for the parking situation, including the possible use of the empty lot between Glover and Turner's Pond. At Tucker, the Mass DOT is looking at the entire Blue Hill Avenue and has an open public comment period. Possible solutions could be sidewalk bump-outs, more visible painting, etc. Dr. Donahue asked whether putting a traffic light at Brook Road/Canton Ave that could be changed during school hours was discussed. Ms. White said she would like to see this type of traffic light that is only active during school arrival and dismissal times.

Approval of Minutes (Attachment) (Vote)

Topic One: Minutes of March 21, 2018. Dr. Donahue moved to approve the minutes of March 21st.

Move: Dr. Donahue

Second: Ms. Varela

Edits: Ms. Craghead asked, on Page 3, under District Improvement Goal, second paragraph, Under #4, change "enhance and improve" to include quotes. Also, in the next line, she would like the word "directly" added to Technology Improvements.

Vote: 6-0-0

Next Meeting Agenda Items: Class Rank, Curriculum Update, Strategic Plan for 5/2. Ms. Gormley added School Choice and possibly Policy. Ms. Eberhardt asked about the private school that plans to open.

Citizen Speak (Policy BEDH – 15 minutes)

The chair moved to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of Approval of Executive Session minutes, not to return to Open Session.

Move: Dr. Donahue

Second: Ms. Varela

Roll Call Vote: 6-0-0

The meeting adjourned at 9:26pm.