

Millbury School Committee

Date: April 25, 2018

Meeting
REGULAR SESSION
Minutes

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TOWN CLERK
2018 JUL -5 AM 9:32
MILLBURY, MASS.

Present: Mrs. Nietupski, Chairperson, Mr. Wilbur, Vice Chairperson
Mrs. Teixeira, Mrs. Vigneau, Mrs. Lagerholm, Mrs. Bellville, Director of Curriculum, Mr. Bedard, Business Manager, and Mr. Myers, Superintendent of Schools

Location: Millbury Jr. /Sr. High School Media Center

Time: 7:00 pm

Mrs. Nietupski opened the meeting at 7:05pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1. School Committee Reorganization

Mr. Chris Wilbur was congratulated on his win. Mrs. Julia Lagerholm was welcomed to the School Committee. Mrs. Nietupski handed the meeting over to Mr. Myers to chair for the annual reorganization. Mr. Myers asked for a nomination for School Committee Chairperson. Mrs. Vigneau made a motion to nominate Jennifer Nietupski as School Committee Chairperson, seconded by Mrs. Teixeira. All approved (5-0). Mrs. Nietupski took the meeting back from Mr. Myers. Mrs. Teixeira made a motion to nominate Mr. Wilbur as School Committee Vice Chairperson, seconded by Mrs. Vigneau. All approved (5-0). Mr. Wilbur made a motion to nominate Mrs. Vigneau as the member authorized to sign payroll warrants, seconded by Mrs. Teixeira. All approved (5-0). Mr. Wilbur nominated Mrs. Teixeira to serve as backup to sign payroll warrants, seconded by Mrs. Lagerholm. All approved (5-0). Mr. Wilbur nominated Mrs. Vigneau as the authorized member to sign student activity warrants, seconded by Mrs. Teixeira. All approved (5-0).

2. Review and Approval of the Regular Session Minutes of April 8, 2018.

Mrs. Nietupski asked for any changes, additions or deletions to the Regular Session Minutes of April 8, 2018. Mr. Wilbur made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 8, 2018 meeting, seconded by Mrs. Teixeira. All approved (5-0).

1. Report of the Administration

a. Student Council Report

Kaylee Watkins and Jenna Nasuti updated the School Committee on the upcoming events at the Millbury Jr./Sr. High School.

b. Freshman in Action

Mr. Besian Kodra stated that the Freshman in Action day was very successful. The students worked on various projects throughout the community. He stated that he would like to see this initiative continue in each grade level until each of the students graduate from high school. He also stated that he would like to see the initiative be part of the new freshman class curriculum for 2018-2019.

c. **Senator Moore Update**

Senator Moore stated that in the last nine years this is the first time that the State has a surplus in the budget. Senator Moore stated that the Governor released his version of the FY19 budget in January 2018.

Statewide the Governor's FY19 budget proposal increases Chapter 70 aid by \$118.6 million to \$4.865 billion which reflects an increase of about 2.18% over FY18 and \$222.6 million more than FY17. The House Ways and Means budget provided \$4.872 billion for Chapter 70 aid which is a \$124.6 million increase over FY2018 – a 6 million investment more than the Governor's budget.

- In reaching its FY19 proposal, the Administration adjusted the formula by increasing assumed costs for “employee benefits and fixed chargers” by approximately 6% which has results in \$24million in new state aid.
- Notably, the Governor's budget also includes \$10 million in new funding, for a total of \$290.1 million, for Special Education Circuit Breaker to assist districts with unanticipated or unbudgeted cost of special education and out of district tuition. The House Ways & Means Committee recommends that this budget instead total \$300 million.
- \$1million in new funding for student assessments, for a total of \$32.1 million, to support teachers and schools in developing curricula based on new and revised standards and begin exploring options for extending MCAS testing to include civics and history, while continuing to fund the development of the 10th grade “Next Generation” MCAS test.
- The House recommendations also include \$90 million for charter school reimbursements, \$62.5 million for regional school transportation, and \$15 million in aid for districts receiving large numbers of students displaced by hurricanes in 2017.

The Governor's FY18 budget sets the Millbury Public School's foundation budget at \$18,304,219 which is a \$ \$589,086 increase (3.33%) over FY2018 and an \$874,373 (5.01%) increase of over FY17. The District's net minimum contribution within H1 is set at \$11,053,535, which is an increase of \$452,717 (4.27%) over FY18.

Chapter 70 aid to the District is also set to rise within H2 by \$136,369 (1.92%) over FY18 to \$7,250,684. This reflects a significant increase, about 0.57% more than the increase between FY17-FY18. The House Ways and Means budget provides an additional \$120,811 to Chapter 70 aid, totaling \$7,371,495. The District has not experienced a decrease in Chapter 70 funding since FY11. Chapter 70 aid in FY07 was \$6,392,219 about \$858,465 less than the Governor's FY19 projections, \$979,276 less than House Ways and Means. FY19 projections and with hundreds more enrolled students than currently attending the school.

Senator Moore stated Chapter 70 funds look solid. Senator Moore stated that he does not see Chapter 70 funds decreasing. The Governor set the per pupil expense for minimum aid at \$20.00, the House set it at \$30.00 per pupil. The year before per pupil expense was at \$35.00 and the year before that it was at \$55.00 per pupil. Senator Moore stated that he is working towards raising that amount. Senator Moore stated that the Senate is working towards high school students in public and private schools taking college courses to earn credits towards their college graduation.

4. Budget

- a. Mr. Bedard stated that he included cherry sheets which represents all aid to the town. It shows the history of past Chapter 70 school aid amounts. A discussion took place regarding the increase in Chapter 70 funds of \$120,811 from the House recommendation. Mr. Myers stated that some of the positions that had to be cut to reach the 2.51% will be reinstated with the additional funds. He

stated that the .4 French Teacher position will be increased to a .6 French Teacher and the teaching position that was cut has been reinstated. Junior High School sports has been reinstated. We replenished \$15,000 of the \$20,000 cut made to the Security Camera line. Mr. Myers stated that he had spoken to both the Town Manager and the Town Finance Director and they are both very wary of us taking the additional Chapter 70 funds to increase our budget to 3.07% and they would like to see the School Committee vote on the 2.51% increase. Mr. Myers stated that after listening to Senator Moore he feels that the increase is very stable. Mr. Wilbur stated that the School Committee should consider to not reinstate the teaching position that has been cut and eliminate the \$100,000 coming from free cash towards the School Department budget. Mrs. Nietupski stated that this would affect next year's 2020 budget. The Medicaid Warrant was discussed. Mr. Myers stated that if Chapter 70 funds are reduced there will be a special town meeting in the fall and the School Department will have the exact numbers and will make appropriate cuts. Mr. Myers stated that the Town Manager has said in the past that all additional funds would go into the School's budget. However, he has also said that additional funds will be split between the Town and School, and he has also stated that depending on circumstances the Town will keep all additional funding. Mr. Wilbur made a motion to approve the FY2019 budget with a 3.07% increase over FY2018 budget, seconded by Mrs. Teixeira. All approved (5-0).

Mrs. Nietupski asked Mr. Bedard to notify the Town Manager of the vote and she stated that she would notify the Finance Committee.

5. Old Business

a. Master Plan Update

Mrs. Vigneau stated that the Committee had received 821 surveys. A meeting is scheduled for May 3rd at which, they will begin discussing public forums.

b. Shaw Project Update

Mr. Myers stated that our OPM developed and submitted a RFS for a Design or Architecture Firm. He stated that after the MSBA approves the RFS they will begin advertising. Mr. Myers stated that they are on schedule to have the interested firms visit and tour the Shaw School on May 16th. The firms will submit their proposals by early June.

c. Revised FY2019 Calendar – Vote Required

Mrs. Bellville stated that there are conflicts with next spring's MCAS testing dates and 1/2 day professional development days. The State recently released the MCAS schedule. She proposed that the School Committee consider moving the 1/2 day on Tuesday, March 26th to March 19th. Mr. Wilbur made a motion to approve moving the 1/2 professional development day from March 26th to March 19th, seconded by Mrs. Teixeira. All approved (5-0).

6. New Business

a. Set Timeline for Superintendent's Evaluation

Mr. Nietupski stated that by May 18th the Superintendent will have his Body of Evidence submitted to the School Committee. She also stated that all individual evaluations must be submitted to the aggregator by May 30th. Mrs. Nietupski agreed to be the aggregator. She stated that she would have the individual evaluations aggregated by June 6th and will return them to the members for comments. She also stated that Mrs. Julia Lagerholm may participate in the evaluation process however, her opinions may not be included this year. Outgoing School Committee member, Mr. Plante according to Mr. Myers contact has a right to participate in the evaluation process. Mrs. Nietupski stated that the evaluations will be sent to the Superintendent on June 8th and will be discussed during the June 13th meeting.

6. Executive Session

7. Adjourn

Mrs. Nietupski asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Wilbur made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Mrs. Lagerholm. All approved (5-0)

Next Meeting:

May 9, 2018 – Millbury Jr./Sr. High School Media Center at 7:00pm

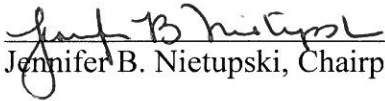
Respectfully submitted,

Donna Freitas

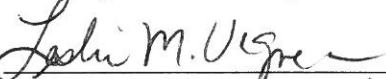
Donna Freitas

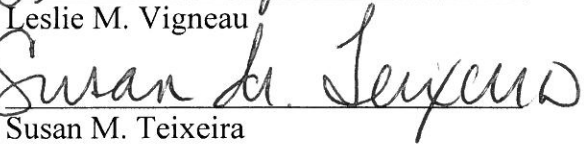
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Approved:


Jennifer B. Nietupski, Chairperson

Christopher J. Wilbur, Vice Chairperson


Leslie M. Vigneau


Susan M. Teixeira

Julia Lagerholm

Items in Packet:

Agenda

Regular Minutes 4.8.2018

FY2019 School Calendar

Email

Superintendent's Comments

Handouts:

Leadership Team Potential Budget Reductions Worksheet

Cherry Sheets