

Millbury School Committee

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Date: September 26, 2018

2019 JAN 17 AM 9:19

Meeting
REGULAR SESSION
Minutes

MILLBURY, MASS.

Present: Mrs. Nietupski, Chairperson, Mr. Wilbur, Vice Chairperson, Mrs. Vigneau, Mrs. Lagerholm, Mrs. Teixeira, Nicholas Lazzaro, Student Council Representative, Mrs. Bellville, Curriculum Coordinator, Ms. Ryan, Director of Pupil Services, Mr. Bedard, Business Manager, and Mr. Myers, Superintendent of Schools

Absent: Mrs. Teixeria

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

Time: 7:00 pm

Mrs. Nietupski opened the meeting at 7:02pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1. Review and Approval of the Regular Session Minutes of September 12, 2018.

Mrs. Nietupski asked for any changes, additions or deletions, other than to correct Mrs. Lagerholm as absent, to the Regular Session Minutes of September 12, 2018. Mrs. Vigneau made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 12, 2018 meeting, seconded by Mrs. Nietupski. All approved (4-0).

2. Report of the Administration

a. Update on Home Schooled Students

Mrs. Bellville stated that parents must submit a letter of intent to home school their child, along with a home plan for review. There are currently 13 students that are approved to be home school for the 2018-2019 school year. Mrs. Bellville stated that parents of students after the age of sixteen do not need to submit a home plan for approval unless the student is involved in athletics or other extra curriculum activities.

b. Millbury Students Attending Blackstone Valley Tech

Mr. Myers stated that traditionally since 2014 the number of students applying to Blackstone Valley Tech have been steady until this year there was an uptick of 62 ninth grade students. Thirty six students were accepted. Those students collectively averaged an A- last year, 12 of them were National Junior Honor Society members, their total collective discipline record for the past two years was 2 detentions, 3 of the students had an IEP, they collectively averaged a 90, and their attendance records last year were excellent. Mr. Myers stated that Blackstone Valley Tech has the highest MCAS scores in Blackstone Valley and it is referred to as a high performing school. Mr. Myers stated that he disagrees that Blackstone Valley Tech is a high performing school, he stated that they only accept high performing students. He stated that some students that would highly benefit from learning a vocation are not being accepted to the school because they are not high academically performing students or have had past attendance or discipline issues. Mr. Myers stated that an article in the Worcester Business Journal stated that the state of Massachusetts has currently the highest rate of unfilled construction jobs in the nation, including carpenters, framers, electricians and

roofers. Mr. Myers stated that the Blackstone Valley Tech class of 2017 had 83% of the students go on to higher education. Mr. Myers stated that the tax payers of Millbury are paying the per pupil expenditure which is extremely high but we are also paying a portion of the debt for the renovation of Blackstone Valley. Mr. Myers stated that other 12 districts superintendents have expressed their concern regarding the application process and have pleaded with Mr. Fitzpatrick to consider admitting some students that don't meet with the criteria. The state of Massachusetts approves the application process being used by Blackstone Valley Technical School and Mr. Fitzpatrick plans to continue forward with the application process.

c. Changes to District and School Accountability Reporting

Mrs. Bellville stated that the Massachusetts Department of Secondary Elementary Education will be using a new district and school accountability system beginning fall of 2018. She stated that last year's scores cannot be compared to other scores the district has received in the past and that the text should serve as a baseline for districts. Mrs. Bellville stated that schools and districts overall classifications will be Requires Assistance or Does Not Require Assistance. She also stated that absenteeism will negatively affect scores. There are no excused absences if you are not in school you are absent. If a child has been provided a tutor for more than 3 hours per day that child will not be included in the absenteeism for the school. Mrs. Bellville also stated that there are new accountability indicators in grades 3-8 and at the high school. She also stated that student growth percentile will provide a measure of how a student changed from one year to the next relative to other students with similar scores. Mrs. Bellville stated that she would present the MCAS scores at the next meeting.

Additional Item: Mr. Myers stated that the upcoming Deceminal Accreditation visit will begin on October 21st and end on October 24th. He stated that the Committee wanted to meet with the School Committee on Sunday to ask certain questions. He stated that all School Committee members will receive an invitation. Mr. Myers stated that the District should receive the full report after January 1st.

4. Budget

a. Cruzzin' Dreams Donation

Mr. Myers stated that Cruzzin' Dreams very generously donated \$420.00 for the high school to provide speakers for special programs that supports health and safety of students. Mrs. Vigneau made a motion to accept the \$420.00 from Cruzzin' Dreams, seconded by Mr. Wilbur. All approved (4-0). A thank you letter will be sent.

b. Budget Timeline 2019-2020

Mr. Myers stated that the Budget Timeline meets the dates outlined in the Town Charter and meets the state's requirements. He also stated he would like to call it a Statement of Needs until the final numbers are ready to be submitted to the Town Manager. The Timeline states that on January 9th the proposed budget will be submitted to the School Committee; that will be changed to the proposed Statement of Needs will be proposed to the School Committee. Mrs. Nietupski stated that she would like Mr. Myers if possible to set a goal not to exceed a 2.5% increase. Mrs. Lagerholm made a motion to accept the presented timeline, seconded by Mr. Wilbur. All approved (4-0). Mr. Bedard will post the schedule to the website.

5. Old Business

a. Shaw Building Project Update

Mr. Myers stated that Turowski2 Architecture did an existing conditions report on the Shaw School to see if it was possible to do a renovation on the existing building. He stated that the reporting team

complimented the staff on the cleanliness of the building. He stated that the windows were very inefficient, steel door entry ways are not solid anymore, does not meet insulation requirements and there is no vapor barrier. He also stated that there is an active brook running under the foundation of the building, there is another brook that skirts the foundation and another that runs against foundation. Mr. Myers stated that asbestos was found in the exterior of the building, lead paint is on ceilings and evidence of past mold was found. Mr. Myers stated that some of the Feasibility Committee members and school leaders toured three schools on September 20th, The Leroy Wood Elementary School in Fairhaven, Irwin M Jacobs Elementary School, New Bedford, and Carver Elementary School in Carver which will allow the team to learn about facility features that might be considered for the Shaw School.

Master Plan Project Update

Mrs. Vigneau stated that the Committee will hold their last public forum meeting on October 4th from 7:00p – 9:00p in the high school. She stated that land use and zoning, housing, transportation, sustainability, economic development, historic and cultural resources, town facilities and services, and open space, recreation and natural resources will be discussed during the forum. Mrs. Vigneau also stated that childcare services will be offered along with door prizes and refreshment.

6. New Business

a. Superintendent's Annual Goals

Mr. Myers presented his draft goals to the Committee. He stated that he welcomed any feedback or changes to the goals

Goal 1 - In collaboration with the District Leadership Team and the District's exSEL team, participate in year two of the exSEL Network to implement a plan to integrate social/emotional learning by building SEL knowledge and skills and incorporating performance data to adjust the district's SEL. Mr. Myers stated that Millbury has pulled together a productive working group lead by Mrs. Bellville. He stated that there is more work to be done and would like to continue to participate in bringing social and emotional well-being to students. Mr. Myers stated that he would like to run another community book read.

Goal 2 – Meet all MSBA requirements/benchmarks for the feasibility study of the Raymond E. Shaw Elementary School. Mr. Myers stated that he would complete the action steps needed to move forward and would continue to update the Committee and families at home regarding the completion of a requirement.

Goal 3 – Increase consistency and effectiveness of supervision and evaluation practices across the district. Mr. Myers stated that evaluators across the district calibrated to increase effectiveness and feedback is of high quality on goal setting so that all evaluators are looking for the same expectation. He stated that there are sample goals which would allow teachers to adopt a set of objectives and to follow a template. Mr. Myers stated that learning walks would be continued across the district.

Goal 4 – In collaboration with the District Safety Committee, further improve and reinforce safety protocols across the District and update/add safety enhancements to school facilities. Mr. Myers stated that a reunification will take place at the movie theater. He stated that the emergency preparedness plan is not necessarily what the teacher would look for during a relocation so laminated sheets are in the teacher's go bags with user friendly instructions to use during lock downs, stay in place, or relocations. Other elements in the plan will be added to the student and/or teacher handbooks.

Mr. Wilbur stated that Mr. Myers should add a goal in connection with the FY2020 Budget because the teacher's contract will be negotiated this year and to find ways to deal with the always increasing special education budget.

Mrs. Nietupski would like an update on AP status and virtual classroom to be added to future topics. She also stated that the next School Committee will be held at the Millbury Jr. /Sr. High School at 7:00pm with a tour of the school at 6:30pm.

7. Executive Session

8. Adjourn

Mr. Wilbur made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm and it was seconded by Mrs. Lagerholm. All approved (4-0).

Next Meeting:

October 10, 2018 – Millbury Jr. /Sr. High School Media Center at 7:00pm
Tour of the Millbury Jr. /Sr. High School at 6:30pm


Respectfully submitted,

Donna Freitas

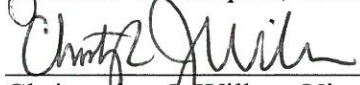
Donna Freitas

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

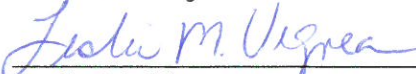
Approved:



Jennifer B. Nietupski, Chairperson



Christopher J. Wilbur, Vice Chairperson



Leslie M. Vigneau

Susan M. Teixeira

Julia Lagerholm

Items in Packet:

Agenda

Regular Minutes 9/12/2018

Memo – Changes to District and School Accountability Reporting

Handouts

2018 MCAS Accountability Changes PowerPoint

Status of Home School Students

Master Plan Flyer