

Millbury School Committee

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK

Date: October 10, 2018

Meeting
REGULAR SESSION
Minutes

2019 JAN 17 AM 9:20
MILLBURY, MASS.

Present: Mrs. Nietupski, Chairperson, Mr. Wilbur, Vice Chairperson, Mrs. Vigneau, Mrs. Teixeira, Mrs. Lagerholm, Mrs. Bellville, Curriculum Coordinator, Mrs. Bennett, High School Principal, 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 7:02pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1. Review and Approval of the Regular Session Minutes of September 26, 2018.

Mrs. Nietupski asked for any changes, additions or deletions, to the Regular Session Minutes of September 26, 2018. Mrs. Teixeira stated she was marked absent and present. The minutes were corrected to state Mrs. Teixeira was absent. Mr. Wilbur made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 26, 2018 meeting, seconded by Mrs. Lagerholm. All approved (4-0-1).

3. Report of the Administration

a. October Enrollment Report

Mr. Myers stated that every year at this time the official enrollment data is presented to the School Committee. He also stated that DESE provided enrollment numbers from 2007-2008 school year to the present, which shows a considerable decline over the last twelve years. He stated that the enrollment numbers does not include Pre-K students. Mr. Myers stated that with the building of the new Shaw School space will open up at Elmwood and both schools will be able to do innovative opportunities. Mr. Wilbur asked if the District will consider staff reductions at the Elmwood Street School and the Junior/Senior High School considering the large dip in enrollment for the upcoming budget. Mr. Myers stated that they have not discussed the possibilities of staff reductions. He stated that they are looking at repositioning staff into co-teaching positions at the Elmwood Street School and at the high school the student numbers are down but not enough to eliminate electives. Mr. Myers stated that he would collect more specific information to report to the School Committee.

Additional Item:

Mr. Myers stated that the Millbury Parents Club will be holding their annual textile drive on October 20th at the Elmwood Street School 8:00a – 1:30p.

b. MCAS Assessment Data Presentation

Mrs. Bellville presented a Powerpoint presentation on English Language Arts and Math MCAS scores. She stated that she would present Science & Technology scores at the next meeting. She stated that when they analyze the MCAS scores they use the Guiding Questions. 1. What are we doing well? What do we need to focus more on? What are the current instructional practices, structure of our learning environments, resources and student opportunities in the areas we are doing well and the areas we need to focus on? Mrs.

Bellville stated that Massachusetts has the best public school system in the country and is always first or tied for first on the Nationwide Assessment for Student Achievement. She also stated that Millbury is on target with students meeting expectations in Massachusetts. Mrs. Bellville stated that at the Elmwood Street School they are celebrating their strengths which include: exceeded achievement targets in ELA for all students and all subgroups, improved in math for all students but exceeded target for high needs, numbers and operations, reading – key class ideas and details, and craft and structure. She also stated that they are working on improving their challenges such as: geometry, fractions and writing. These challenges are a common theme across the district. Mrs. Bellville stated that they are already working to improve these areas. Mrs. Bellville stated that at the Shaw School they are celebrating their strengths which include: exceeded achievement targets in ELA for all students, met math growth target, and met math achievement target for our lowest performing students. Shaw School challenges are: geometry/measurement & data, grade 6 statistics and probability and writing. Mrs. Bellville stated that the Junior High School strengths include: exceeded achievement targets in math for all students, met math growth targets, integration of knowledge and ideas, and key ideas and details. Junior High School challenges include geometry, statistics, and writing. Mrs. Bellville stated that the district trends celebrations include Student Growth Performance for ELA and math were high in 2018 than 2017, cohort growth, significant achievement, and growth in subgroups. The district challenges include: geometry, statistics and probability, and writing. Mrs. Nietupski stated that Millbury’s MCAS scores are average in Massachusetts and because Massachusetts is leading the world we should be very happy.

3. Budget

a. October Memo FY2018 D.E.S.E. End of Year Financial Report

Mr. Bedard stated that this report must be submitted each year by all districts. It is a complete accounting of all school districts’ income, expenditures, student population, staffing and transportation. Mr. Wilbur asked if removing the special education students from the per-pupil expenditure would drop the per pupil expenditure. Mr. Bedard stated that they have looked into this. Mr. Wilbur suggested meeting with other towns to compare their special education budgets.

b. School Expenditures Quarterly Update Fiscal 2019 Budget

Mr. Bedard stated that he would go through each page of the Expenditures Quarterly Report. Mr. Bedard stated the NEASC line item for \$25,000 is for meals and lodging for the visiting teams and is a one-time cost. He stated that the School Committee supplies shows an increase and that is due to the Shaw Feasibility Committee expenses. He also stated that the District will receive a grant to offset the Special Education Director’s and clerical position salaries. Mr. Bedard stated that since July 11, 2018 eleven teachers have moved to a higher paying lane. Mr. Bedard stated that he broke down long term substitutes compared with day-to-day substitutes. He also stated that at the high school the school psychologist is on maternity leave and is not being paid but will return shortly. Mr. Bedard explained the contract in transporting three students to Norfolk Agricultural School. He stated that each surrounding towns pay the same transportation costs without any consideration as to how many students are using the transportation. In the past, one bus was needed for transportation, however, this year it has been increased to two buses. The cost of one bus was \$8,900; the cost of two buses is \$19,000. Mr. Myers stated that the transportation costs for next year must be changed to reflect the fact that Millbury sends only 3 students in compared to the number of students using the transportation from other districts.

Additional Item: Mr. Bedard stated that Bus 7 is doing well after some tweaking and the paving of Auburn Road has been completed.

Mr. Bedard stated that the white activity vehicle has been delayed by the manufacturer. He stated that due to the fact that the activity vehicle did not get delivered on time some of the sporting events earmarked to

use the vehicle had to hire a regular bus for approximately \$9,000. However, Mr. Bedard stated that due to the delay in delivery a discount will be provided.

Mr. Bedard stated that we have been advertising for a maintenance person since August. He stated that he has received only two applications. The balance will begin decreasing after we hire a maintenance person.

Mr. Bedard stated with the savings captured from the utility savings the District was able to complete special projects. Mr. Bedard stated that at a future meeting he will provide a memo to the School Committee capturing all the work completed over the summer at Windle Field.

Mr. Bedard stated that he was comfortable with the budget at this time, however, he has just been informed that the chiller at Elmwood will need some repair work for approximately \$47,000. He stated that he would soon begin the process of sending out bids for the project.

4. Old Business

a. Shaw Building Project Update

Mr. Myers stated that the Shaw Building Committee has met once since the last School Committee meeting and the focus of the meeting was reviewing educational space numbers using the guidelines set by the MSBA. He stated that the square footage of the existing gym compared to the MSBA square footage allotment is much less square footage. He stated that if we go over the MSBA guidelines for the gym the additional square footage must be paid for by the District with no reimbursement from the MSBA. The next meeting is scheduled for October 17th and is open to the public.

b. Master Plan Project Update

Mrs. Vigneau stated that the Committee's last meeting had a disappointing turn out. She stated that the people that attended the meeting placed dots on the projects they felt were good for the Town. She stated that the priorities included: the Shaw School, Senior Housing, field and park spaces.

5. New Business

a. Superintendent's Annual Goals

Mr. Myers stated that at the last meeting he had proposed four goals to the School Committee from that conversation a suggestion of adding a fifth goal around the FY2020 Budget. He stated that he would like to do a better job of continuing to meet with Town Government. He also stated that Mr. Bedard will partner with him on this goal.

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 includes a lock downs, stay in place, or relocations.

Goal 5 – In collaboration with the Leadership Team, develop a fiscally responsible FY'20 budget proposal that meets the needs of Millbury's students, is aligned with our District and School Learning plans, and is driven by our core values.

Mrs. Teixeira made a motion to accept Mr. Myers five goals for the 2018-2019 school year, seconded by Mr. Wilbur. All approved (5-0).

b. Blackstone Valley Technical High School Update

Mr. Myers revisited the topic of Blackstone Valley Tech's admission process that was first discussed at the last School Committee meeting. Mr. Myers stated that of the thirty-six Millbury students accepted had a collective average of A- last year. Twelve of them are National Junior Honor Society members. Their total collective discipline record for the past two years were two detentions. Three of the students have IEP's. Their attendance records were excellent.

Mr. Myers stated that Pathfinder in Palmer has 32% of their graduating class attending higher education. He stated that their applicants are scored on academics = 40, attendance = 10, discipline = 10, recommendation from guidance counselor = 15 and interview = 25 points. Pathfinder offers two Advanced Placement classes: calculus and statistics.

Mr. Myers stated that Bay Path in Charlton has 56% of their graduation class attending higher education. Applicants are scored by Academics = 30, attendance = 25, Discipline 30, Recommendation from guidance counselor = 5 and interview = 10 points. Mr. Myers stated that Bay Path offers nine AP classes: physics, calculus, English literature, English composition, environmental science, statistics, computer science, US History parts I and II. Bay Path is also an Early College High School and offers college credit for ENG 101: English Composition I and PSY 101: Intro to psychology.

Mr. Myers stated that Assabet Regional Vocational in Marlborough has 51% of the graduating class attending higher education, Montachusett Regional has 59% attending higher education, and Nashoba Valley in Westford has 65% attending higher education.

Mr. Myers stated that Blackstone Valley Tech scores applicants by academics = 30, attendance = 15, discipline = 15 recommendation from guidance counselor = 15, and interview = 25 points. He also stated that BVT offers nine Advanced Placement classes: physics, calculus, biology, chemistry, English literature, English composition, Spanish, U.S. History Parts 1 and 2. Mr. Chet Hanratty represents the Town of Millbury on the BVT School Committee. He also stated that that this admission policy includes a presentation to 8th graders during the school day and a tour of BVT during the school day, and an open house in the evening.

Mr. Myers stated that Auburn allows 8th grade students to tour Bay Path during the school day. Sutton and Grafton do not. Sutton arranges for students to attend BVT's tour after dismissal on a ½ day of

school. Grafton arranges for students to attend the tour after a regular school day. Mr. Myers stated that he leans towards the way in which Grafton and Sutton tour BVT.

Mr. Myers stated that in an article titled "Help Needed," last week's Worcester Business Journal noted that Massachusetts has the highest rate of unfilled construction jobs in the nation. Worker gaps are most severe for carpenters, framing crews, electricians and roofers.

Mr. Myers stated that in the Millbury High School graduating class 10 students were pursuing vocational training of those 10 students 6 applied to BVT and 1 was accepted.

The School Committee stated that they would like Mr. Chet Hanratty to attend an upcoming School Committee meeting.

6. Executive Session

The School Committee will vote to move into Executive Session, in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A Section 21 (a) 2, to conduct strategy sessions in preparations for negotiations with non-union personnel and to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with non-union personnel.

Mrs. Teixeira – YES

Mrs. Lagerholm – YES

Mrs. Nietupski – YES

Mr. Wilbur – YES

Mrs. Vigneau – YES

7. Adjourn

Mr. Wilbur made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50p and it was seconded by Mrs. Lagerholm. All approved (5-0).

Next Meeting:

October 24, 2018 – Shaw Elementary School Media Center at 7:00pm
Tour of the Shaw Elementary School at 6:30pm

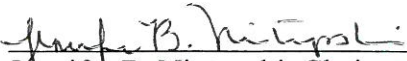
Respectfully submitted,

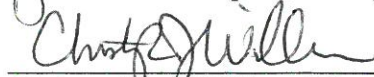
Donna Freitas

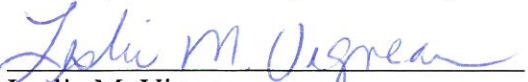
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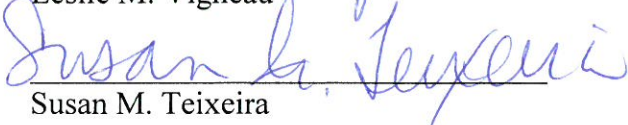
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Approved:


Jennifer B. Nietupski, Chairperson


Christopher J. Wilbur, Vice Chairperson


Leslie M. Vigneau


Susan M. Teixeira

Julia Lagerholm

Items in Packet:

Agenda
Regular Minutes 10/10/2018
Memo FY2018 D, E.S.E. End of Year Financial Report
School Expenditures Quarterly Update Fiscal 2019 Budget