

Millbury School Committee

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Date: November 14, 2018

2019 JAN 17 AM 9:20

Meeting
REGULAR SESSION
Minutes

Present: Mrs. Nietupski, Chairperson, Mr. Wilbur, Vice Chairperson, Mrs. Vigneau, Mrs. Teixeira, Nicholas Lazzaro, Student Advisory Committee, Mrs. Bellville, Curriculum Coordinator, Ms. Ryan, Director of Pupil Services, Mr. Hall, Principal Elmwood Street School, Mr. Bedard, Business Manager, and Mr. Myers, Superintendent of Schools

Absent: Mrs. Lagerholm

Location: Elmwood Street School STEAM Room

Time: 7:00 pm

Mr. Hall conducted a tour of the Elmwood Street School.

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

Mrs. Nietupski announced that School Committee member Julia Lagerholm had a baby girl on Monday, November 12, 2018.

1. Review and Approval of the Regular Session Minutes of October 24 2018.

Mrs. Nietupski asked for any changes, additions or deletions, to the Regular Session Minutes of October 24, 2018. Mr. Wilbur made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 24, 2018 meeting, seconded by Mrs. Teixeira. All approved (4-0).

2. Report of the Administration

a. Report of the Department of Pupil Services

Grants

Ms. Ryan stated that the 240 Grant: IDEA Federal Special Education Entitlement Grant is through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. She stated that grant is to provide funds to ensure that eligible students with disabilities receive FAPE that includes special education and related services designed to meet their individual needs. The total of the grant is \$443,114; \$47,538 is used to support salaries and benefits, including a .33 Director and a .30 special education clerk, \$371,093 is used for special education transportation, \$3,030 for supplies and materials. The remaining balance \$21,453 is used to provide contractual services and professional development.

Ms. Ryan stated because this grant is federally funded, districts are required to allocate funds to support private schools and homeschooled students in the district. The District needs to determine a proportionate share of the grant to be used for Assumption School. The amount is calculated by comparing the total number of homeschooled students eligible for special education, the number of special education students at Assumption School, regardless of the community of residence. This year the proportionate share is \$4,247.

Ms. Ryan stated that the 262 Grant is an Early Childhood Special Education Entitlement Grant for eligible 3, 4, and 5 year old children receive developmentally appropriate special education and related services designed to meet their needs. \$22,583 will be used to support the salaries and benefits of .2 preschool teacher and a .8 pre-k instructional assistant. The remaining \$634 will be used for workshop registration fees for staff working with preschool students.

English Language Learners

Ms. Ryan stated that the total enrollment for the District in October of 2017 was 1,734 students. She stated that 58 of the students are active English Language Learners. Active indicates that these students require direct services from a licensed English as a Second Language teacher. She also stated that of the 1,734 students 290 were on IEP's, 80 were on 504's and of the 290 students on IEP's 19 were placed out-of-district. Ms. Ryan stated that this year's enrollment is 1,692 students. She stated that 75 are active EL's, 253 students are on IEP's with 26 of 253 are placed out-of-district, and 95 of those students have 504 plans. Ms. Ryan stated that the increase of out-of-district placements comes from move-ins whether from another district or from the Department of Children and Family Services.

Ms. Ryan stated that the decision to place a student with special needs out of district is not an easy one and is a last resort. It is also done in a thoughtful manner. She stated that when a special education Team meets, they are tasked with developing an IEP or Individualized Education Program. This document outlines the services, accommodations, modifications and placement needed for the student to access his/her education in the least restrictive environment, or placement. Ms. Ryan stated that when a Team decides to explore out of district placement it is ultimately the District's legal obligation to propose a program that will meet the child needs. She also stated that program tuitions vary in cost and the cost may increase if additional supports are needed. For example, one to one staffing is often an additional cost. Transportation is not included in the Tuition cost. Ms. Ryan stated that currently, the District has 26 students placed in out-of-district programs. These tuitions range from \$45,526 at a collaborative placement to \$159,283 at a residential program. Ms. Ryan stated that students IEP's are evaluated each year and placement may change to accommodate the least restrictive environment for that student. However, in most cases the placement stays the same. Ms. Ryan stated that Millbury's special education student numbers places us in the middle compared to our neighbors.

Ms. Ryan stated that the District's EL population consists of 25 languages, with four major languages, Arabic, Portuguese, Spanish, and Vietnamese. ACCESS testing will again be administered in January

Mr. Wilbur stated that he would like to see the out-of-district cost eliminated from the cost per pupil expenditure. He stated that the because of the increased costs of out-of-district placement the cost per pupil expenditure continues to increase and he would like the community to understand the reason for the increases.

Mr. Bedard stated that at least two of the out-of-district schools are going to have significant tuition increases for next year. Ms. Ryan stated that the District has two students in each of these schools.

b. AVC Quarterly Report

Mr. Myers stated that the Millbury Public School District are members of the Assabet Valley Collaborative and Southern Worcester County Education Collaborative and by law must issue quarterly reports on their finances, programs, and policies. He stated that AVC is managed very well. Mr. Myers stated that Auburn School District has been approved as a member of AVC. He

also stated that that AVC has always provided professional development at a discount to school districts however they are aggressively including the whole child into professional development trainings.

c. Advanced Placement

Mrs. Bellville stated that currently the District offers ten advanced placement courses; Biology, Calculus, Computer Science Principles, Chemistry, English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, Government, Psychology, Statistics, and U.S. History. Mrs. Bellville stated that the total number of students taking AP courses has increased over the past five years. She also stated that the students with scores of 3+ has also increased. Mrs. Bellville stated that currently there are 84 students enrolled in advanced placement courses, which is no longer run with the AP Collaborative. Mr. Myers stated that students enrolled in the Computer Science Principles course and Statistics did very well.

d. Virtual High School

Mrs. Bellville stated that the Virtual High School offers 10 specialized classes. The classes include Advanced Trigonometry, Animal Behavior and Zoology, Art History, Criminology, Java Programming, Music Fundamentals of Composition, Number Theory, Pre-Veterinary Medicine, Portuguese, and Video Game Design. These courses are singletons, which the District would not be able to offer. Mrs. Bellville stated that 12 students are enrolled in the Virtual High School, ten students are taking one class and two students are taking two classes. She also stated that there are 15 available seats and that according to the agreement between the District and the Virtual High School Mr. Mara is teaching Algebra II.

e. Election Day Update

Mr. Myers stated that 64% of registered voters for a total of 5,825 residents voted on November 6, 2018. Mr. Myers noted that there was no school on the day of the election. He stated the parking was somewhat challenging at times due to professional development at the high school. Mr. Myers stated that Mrs. Davolio did her usual "great job".

Additional Item: Mr. Bedard stated that the multi-functioning bus was delivered of today. He stated that it would be ready for Winter sports.

4. Budget

a. School Choice Tuition Revolving Account

Mr. Bedard stated that he sent a memo to Mr. Andrew Vanni, asking him to set up a new revolving account entitled "School Choice Tuition" for the FY2018-2019 school year. Currently we have five out of district students attending Millbury Jr. /Sr. High School with a potential of \$25,000 - \$30,000 on an annual basis. Mr. Myers stated that one challenge in opening seats through School Choice is that we decided too late. Mrs. Nietupski stated that School Choice would be put on the January School Committee agenda.

b. Disposal of Surplus Marching Band Uniforms

Mr. Bedard stated that the old band uniforms are over 25 years old and hold no value. He recommended that the School Committee vote to declare this surplus property. Mr. Wilbur made a motion to declare the old Marching Band uniforms surplus property, seconded by Mrs. Vigneau. All approved (4-0).

c. Aftercare After School Rates for 2019-2020 School Year

Mr. Bedard recommended to increase the Aftercare rates by \$7.00 per week effective with the start of the new school year August 2019. In addition, he recommended to increase the Before Care rates by \$5.00 per week effective August 2019. Mrs. Vigneau made a motion to increase the Aftercare rate by \$7.00 per week and the Before Care rates by \$5.00 per week, seconded by Mr. Wilbur. All approved (4-0).

d. FY20 Budget Planning Meeting

Mr. Bedard reported on the FY20 Budget Planning meeting with Mr. Marciello and Mr. Vanni stating that a discussion took place regarding a technology warrant and repairing the athletic track at the high school. He stated that the meeting was very constructive and cordial.

5. Old Business

a. Shaw Building Project Update

Mr. Myers stated that module three has been completed and a Preliminary Design Project has been submitted to the MSBA for approval. The Preliminary Design Project has several options along with cost estimates for the Shaw Elementary School. Mr. Myers also stated that a Public Forum will be held on November 15, 2018 at 6:30pm at the Shaw School.

b. Master Plan Project Update

Mrs. Vigneau stated that the Committee has not had a meeting since her last report.

6. New Business

a. Financial Management Planning Committee

Mr. Bedard stated that the Financial Management Committee would like a School Committee member to serve. Mr. Wilbur was nominated and he agreed to serve on the Financial Management Planning Committee.

b. Jr./Sr. High Transition Plan

Mr. Myers stated that High School Principal, Mrs. Tara Bennett has accepted another position. He stated that Mr. Sean Gilrein a retired principal and superintendent will become the interim principal on December 21st. Mr. Myers stated that he is highly qualified and has tremendous experience. He stated that Mrs. Bennett will continue through the December break.

7. Executive Session

The School Committee will vote to move into Executive Session, in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A Section 21 (a) 3: To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government's bargaining or litigating position, and the Chair so declares.

Mrs. Vigneau – Yes

Mrs. Nietupski – Yes

Mrs. Teixeira – Yes

Mr. Wilbur – Yes

8. Adjourn

Mrs. Nietupski stated that the open meeting would adjourn after the Executive Session without further discussion.

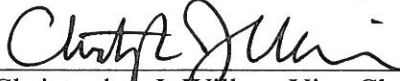
Next Meeting:

November 28, 2018 – Public Forum 7:00p
Millbury Jr. /Sr. High School Media Center

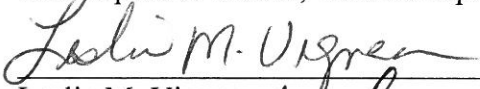
Respectfully submitted,
Donna Freitas
Donna Freitas
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Approved:

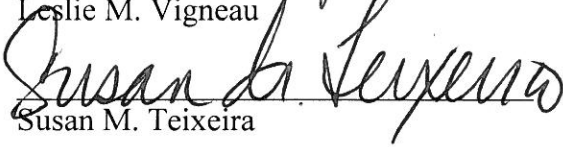
Jennifer B. Nietupski, Chairperson



Christopher J. Wilbur, Vice Chairperson



Leslie M. Vigneau



Susan M. Teixeira

Julia Lagerholm

Items in Packet:

- Agenda
- Regular Minutes 10/28/2018
- Memo – Aftercare Rates 2019-2020
- Memo- School Choice Tuition Revolving Account
- Memo- Disposal of Surplus Marching Band Uniforms