

Millbury School Committee Meeting
REGULAR SESSION
Minutes

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MILLBURY, MASS.

Date: February 24, 2016

Present: Mrs. Nietupski, Chairperson; Mr. Plante, Vice Chairperson
Mrs. Vigneau, Mrs. Teixeira, Mr. Wilbur
Mr. Myers, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Bedard, Business Manager
Mrs. Bellville, Director of Curriculum
Ms. Ryan, Director of Pupil Services
Mrs. Friedman, Principal of R.E. Shaw School
Mr. Bresnahan, Asst. Principal, Millbury Jr./Sr. High School
Mrs. Thompson, Asst. Principal, Millbury Jr./Sr. High School

Absent: Ms. Gianna Okuliczki, Student Advisory Council

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Millbury Junior/Senior High School Media Center

Mrs. Nietupski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

FY 2107 School Department Budget Hearing

Mrs. Nietupski opened the meeting to the public for any comments/questions on the proposed FY2017 School Department Budget. There were no comments/questions. Mrs. Nietupski closed the public hearing.

1. Review and Approval of the Regular Session Minutes of February 10, 2016 and Executive Session Minutes of February 3, 2016 and February 10, 2016

Mrs. Nietupski asked for any changes, additions or deletions to the Regular Session Minutes of February 10, 2016. Mr. Wilbur made the motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Plante. All in favor (5-0).

Mrs. Nietupski noted any changes, additions or deletions to the Executive Session Minutes of February 3, 2016 will have to be made in Executive Session. Mrs. Vigneau made the motion to approve, seconded by Mrs. Teixeira. All in favor (5-0).

Mrs. Nietupski noted any changes, additions or deletions to the Executive Session Minutes of February 10, 2016 will have to be made in Executive Session. Mr. Plante made the motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Wilbur. All in favor (5-0).

2. Report of the Administration

a. Student Council Report

Millbury seniors Paige Tarasiak and Anna Army updated the Committee on recent and upcoming events at the Millbury Junior Senior High School.

b. 2015-2016 Wendy's Heisman Scholarship Award

Mr. Myers introduced Ryan Ward of the Class of 2016 and congratulated him as the 2015 Wendy's High School Heisman Scholarship Award winner. Ryan received this award based on his academic, athletic, and leadership achievements. He was also the male student-athlete chosen to represent the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the 22nd annual Wendy's High School Heisman National Finals.

As part of this award, Ryan received a \$1,000 donation for the school. He plans to attend Bryant University in the fall, where he will play baseball. This summer, Ryan will play for the Worcester Bravehearts. He will be the first player from Millbury to join the team.

Ryan shared his experience with the Committee, and noted his preference that the \$1,000 scholarship in his name be for a senior on the Millbury Jr./Sr. High School baseball team. Mrs. Nietupski and Mr. Plante presented Ryan with a commemorative plaque.

c. Shaw School Data Meeting Update

Mrs. Friedman, Principal of the R.E. Shaw School, provided the Committee with an update on how the Shaw teachers are using assessment data to identify and develop interventions for individual students in need of support. This update supports the School Committee's second goal to ensure that data is used to effectively support student growth and achievement.

Mrs. Friedman stated the staff are meeting regularly and are working on a methodical approach to meet individual student's strengths and weaknesses. Vocabulary is the common theme for the reading and math specialists moving in a linear fashion. Mrs. Friedman noted that they are also working with Elmwood and their instructional coach, Mrs. Trahan.

Mr. Myers noted administrators have attended other school data meetings to adopt best practices.

d. Update/Status of Snow Days Used

Mr. Myers updated the Committee on the number of snow days used to date. As of February 18, 2016, the District has cancelled school twice due to inclement weather and unsafe travel conditions. There have been no delayed openings yet this year. He noted that last year, the District cancelled school five times and had a 2-hour delayed opening four times.

e. Substance Abuse Awareness Panel and Resource Fair

Mr. Myers updated the Committee on a collaborative effort between the District, Senator Michael Moore, and the Millbury Board of Health to provide a Substance Abuse Panel and Resource Fair at Millbury high school featuring guest speaker Chris Herren on April 27th. Advertisements will be forthcoming and the event will be free and open to the public. It will begin at 5:00 p.m. in the auditorium with supports available from local agencies and service providers. Chris Herren, former Boston Celtics basketball player, will be speaking at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium. He will also be presenting to the high school students during the school day. Mr. Myers noted the generous sponsorship made possible by Senator Moore's office, Spectrum Health Systems, and AdCare Hospital of Worcester. Donations are still being sought to support the goal of creating a fund to supply naloxone for all schools and first responders.

3. Budget

a. FY 2107 School Department ATM Warrant Articles

Mr. Bedard provided a list and explained the four School Department Capital Project Warrant Articles that are recommended for FY2017 and will require a vote, along with two other Warrant Articles that require a vote every year.

The four Capital Project Warrant Articles are:

School Department Elmwood Boilers Replacement Project Warrant Article

Mrs. Nietupski requested a motion to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds and / or borrow the sum of \$190,000 to fund for the School Department for the Elmwood Street School boilers replacement project, or take any action thereon. Mr. Plante made the motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Wilbur. All in favor (5-0).

School Department Athletic Field Bleachers Warrant Article

Mrs. Nietupski requested a motion to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds and / or borrow the sum of \$75,000 to fund for the School Department for athletic field bleachers, or take any action thereon. Mrs. Vigneau made the motion to approve, seconded by Mrs. Teixeira. All in favor (5-0).

School Department Technology Warrant Article

Mrs. Nietupski requested a motion to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds and / or borrow the sum of \$114,000 to fund the School Department for district classroom and lab computers and technology equipment, or take any action thereon. Mr. Wilbur made the motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Plante. All in favor (5-0).

School Department Technology Warrant Article

Mrs. Nietupski requested a motion to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds and / or borrow the sum of \$70,000 to fund for the School Department for district portable computer labs and technology equipment, or take any action thereon. Mrs. Teixeira made the motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Plante. All in favor (5-0).

The customary Warrant Articles are:

Student Parking Fees Revolving Account Warrant Article

Mrs. Nietupski requested a motion to reestablish the article (To see if the Town will vote pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 to establish a Revolving Fund for the student Parking Fees for the purposes and subject to the following conditions: (a) to be the depository for student parking fees as allowed by law, under the jurisdiction of the Millbury School Committee, (b) to fund expenses associated with the maintenance and improvement of the parking areas, including wages for part-time employees, as well as for supplies, materials and contractual services, as appropriate, and (c) to authorize the maximum amount to be expended from this fund in Fiscal Year 2017 to be Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000), and (d) to have the Millbury School Committee be the only authority to expend monies from this fund, or take any action thereon. (Millbury School Committee) Mr. Wilbur made the motion to approve, seconded by Mrs. Vigneau. All in favor (5-0).

School Department Medicaid Warrant Article

Mrs. Nietupski requested a motion to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$97,486 for expenses and revenue generated from the Municipal Medicaid Reimbursement Program to the FY 2017 School Department Budget, or take any action relative thereto. Mr. Plante made the motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Wilbur. All in favor (5-0).

b. Approval of the FY 2017 School Budget

Mr. Bedard referenced the summary sheet for the FY 2017 School Budget for \$20,647,200 minus \$97,486 (Medicaid warrant article), for a total budget of \$20,549,714.

Mrs. Nietupski requested a motion to approve the FY 2017 School Budget of \$20,549,714. Mr. Wilbur made the motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Plante. All in favor (5-0).

Mr. Bedard informed the Committee that a letter has been sent to Representative Naughton, Jr. of the Public Safety Committee; Millbury Town Manager, Bob Spain; Senator Michael Moore, and Representative Paul Frost in support of Massachusetts Senate Bill 1290 that would assign costs of the fines due to expired

inspection certificates for elevators and stage lifts to the contracted maintenance company responsible for the equipment.

Mr. Bedard noted that a second water fountain is being donated and installed in the Millbury High School weight room by the Aquarion Water Company of Millbury. A vote to accept the donation by the Committee will follow once the equipment is received.

Mr. Bedard informed the Committee of a meeting with the Town Planning Board for improvements to the WAN (wide area network) towers on all three school buildings. The project needs Planning Board approval before it can proceed.

The following donations/grants totaling \$3,135 have been received to help students with financial hardships to attend the Camp Bournedale trip in April. A vote to accept is required by the Committee. Mrs. Vigneau abstained from the vote on the donation from the Millbury Women's Club, as she is a current member.

Mrs. Nietupski requested a motion to accept the donation of \$400 from Mr. and Mrs. Aspinwall.

Mr. Plante made the motion to accept, seconded by Mr. Wilbur. All in favor (5-0).

Mrs. Nietupski requested a motion to accept the donation of \$400 from the Millbury Women's Club.

Mr. Wilbur made the motion to accept, seconded by Mr. Plante. All in favor (4-0-1).

Mrs. Nietupski requested a motion to accept the donation of \$1,000 from Millbury Savings Bank.

Mr. Plante made the motion to accept, seconded by Mr. Wilbur. All in favor (5-0).

Mrs. Nietupski requested a motion to accept the donation of \$760 from the Millbury Youth Group.

Mrs. Vigneau made the motion to accept, seconded by Mrs. Teixeira. All in favor (5-0).

Mrs. Nietupski requested a motion to accept the \$500 Cultural Grant.

Mrs. Vigneau made the motion to accept, seconded by Mrs. Teixeira. All in favor (5-0).

Mrs. Nietupski requested a motion to accept the donation of \$75 in memory of Marjorie Shaw.

Mr. Wilbur made the motion to accept, seconded by Mr. Plante. All in favor (5-0).

Thank you letters will be sent to all donors for the Camp Bournedale trip, Aquarion Water Company for the water fountain, and Jeri Stead for her letter in support of the Shaw School building project.

4. Old Business

a. Graduation Requirements Policy IKF – Second Reading and Approval – Vote Required

Mrs. Nietupski asked for any changes to the Graduation Requirements Policy IKF, and requested a motion to approve as written. Mrs. Teixeira made the motion to approve, seconded by Mrs. Vigneau. All in favor (5-0).

5. New Business

a. Camp Bournedale Overnight Field Trip – Vote Required

Mrs. Friedman showed a PowerPoint and provided an overview of the Camp Bournedale overnight trip and the blog that was created for parents. She acknowledged an unnamed staff member, who is responsible for fund raising for the trip. Mrs. Friedman requested formal approval for the overnight trip from the Committee. Mrs. Nietupski requested a motion to approve. Mr. Wilbur made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Teixeira. All in favor (5-0).

b. Reschedule April 27, 2016 School Committee Meeting

Mr. Myers requested the Committee consider rescheduling the April 27th meeting due to a conflict with the Substance Abuse Awareness Panel and Resource Fair scheduled at the high school that evening. The Committee agreed to reschedule to Thursday, April 28, 2016.

c. Review of the 2017 School Calendar - Draft

Mr. Myers provided a draft copy of the 2016-2017 school calendar. This draft reflects recent tentative agreements with the MTA regarding the start and duration of the school year. The following elements will need to be finalized:

- Scheduled full and half-day professional development sessions aligned with other districts
- School start date on August 24th during the last full week of August, as discussed with the Millbury Teachers' Association
- Last day of school for students on June 9 (*with no snow days*) eliminating one day from the school calendar

The Committee will review and accept the final FY 2017 school calendar at a future meeting.

6. Executive Session

At 7:50 p.m., Mrs. Nietupski requested a roll call vote to move into 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 options in anticipation of upcoming collective bargaining with the Millbury Teachers' Association.*

Mrs. Teixeira - Yes

Mrs. Vigneau - Yes

Mrs. Nietupski - Yes

Mr. Plante - Yes

Mr. Wilbur - Yes

7. Future Topics/Events

- Elmwood Data Meeting Update (*anticipated 3/9/2016*)
- State Budget Update with Senator Moore (*anticipated 4/13/2016*)
- Lions Club Request to use Windle Field (*anticipated 3/9/2016*)
- Statement of Interest to MSBA – Vote Required (*anticipated 3/9/2016*)
- Approval of FY 2017 School Calendar

- 8. Next Meeting:** February 25, 2016 – 5:00 p.m. Policy Subcommittee Meeting (rescheduled)
March 9, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. Millbury Jr./Sr. High School Media Center

9. Adjourn

The regular meeting session will be adjourned following executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Femino

Sandra Femino

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Approved:

Jennifer B. Nichols

Leshia M. Yegor

Susan Seymour

Chris Miller

Items in Packet:

Draft of February 10, 2016 Regular Session Meeting Minutes

Draft of February 3, 2016 Executive Session Meeting Minutes

Draft of February 10, 2016 Executive Session Meeting Minutes

FY 2017 School Department ATM Warrant Articles

School Committee Draft FY 2017 Budget

Graduation Requirements Policy IKF

Draft of School Calendar 2016-2017

Letter from R Bedard to Rep. Naughton dated 2/16/2016

Memo from M Friedman dated 12/16/2015 Re: donations/grants for Camp Bournedale trip

Memo from M Friedman dated 12/16/2016 Re: Shaw Elementary Student Activity Account

3 Letters Re Resolution Calling for Full Funding for Chapter 70