

**Millbury School Committee Meeting
REGULAR SESSION
Minutes**

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MILLBURY, MASS.

Date: April 11, 2012

Present: Mrs. Vigneau, Chairperson, Mr. Corey, Vice Chairperson, Mr. Clawson, Mrs. Nietupski, Mrs. Hitchcock, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Bedard, Business Manager

Absent: Mr. Plante

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Millbury Junior Senior High School Media Center

1. Approval of the Regular Session Minutes of 3/14/2012 and Executive Session Minutes of 3/14/2012

Mrs. Vigneau requested a motion to approve the Regular Session Minutes of March 14, 2012. Mr. Clawson made a motion to accept seconded by Mr. Corey. All in favor (4-0). Mrs. Vigneau requested a motion to approve the Executive Session Minutes of March 14, 2012. Mr. Corey made a motion to accept seconded by Mr. Clawson. All in favor (4-0).

2. Report of the Administration

a. Introduction of Ms. Robyn Thornburg – Black History Month Essay Winner

Mrs. Hitchcock introduced Robyn Thornburg, a 10th grade student, who recently received 1st placed in the Black History Month Essay Contest. She was one out of twenty-one semifinalists from throughout New England. Ms. Thornburg recited her essay for the audience and acknowledged her sister and parents who were in attendance.

Mrs. Hitchcock reported on the 6th annual Art in the Valley celebration taking place on Friday and Saturday, April 6 and 7. Mrs. Hitchcock spoke at the event which included seventeen art teachers from the Blackstone Valley. Over 360 pieces of art work were displayed and the event was very well attended. Mrs. Hitchcock acknowledged Mr. Bedard's help in obtaining the display panels and art teacher Lorna Pezanelli for organizing the event. Mrs. Vigneau requested a congratulatory letter from the committee be sent to Lorna Pezanelli.

Mrs. Hitchcock also reported on the Windle Field clean up day held on Saturday, April 7. The event was organized by Jessica Sharon, a ninth grade student at Millbury Junior/Senior High School and a member of the Blackstone Valley Youth Leadership Academy. With the help of volunteers, they cleaned the field, removed trash and scrubbed the bathrooms and kitchen. Mrs. Hitchcock thanked Jayne Davolio for mentoring Jessica. Jessica is planning to do this at least once a year with follow up dates to come.

b. Establish Fall Timeframe for Report on School Improvement Plans

Mrs. Hitchcock spoke to the Chairperson's request for the principals to talk on their School Improvement Plans. Mrs. Hitchcock requested this take place in the fall of 2012 (*end of October or early November*) when principals can report on the progress of their goals from this year along with their goals for the coming school year. Mrs. Vigneau requested the school councils be invited to attend at that time.

c. Student Government Day Reminder and Plans – Friday, April 27, 2012

Mrs. Hitchcock informed the committee that the Student Government Day will begin at 9:00 a.m. Lunch for the students and town members will take place at noontime. The students will be shadowing from 9:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. and the School Committee Meeting will take place at 10:00 a.m. in the high school media center. Mr. Lyon will provide a list of participating students.

d. Graduation: Friday, June 8, 2012 @ 7:00 p.m. Mechanics Hall

Mrs. Hitchcock notified the committee of the date of graduation. The guest speaker will be Dr. Robert Polselli, Head of Technology in the Norwalk School District and a Millbury High School graduate.

Mrs. Hitchcock also reported on 58 students who applied to Blackstone Valley Tech. Only 18 were accepted representing a 31% acceptance rate.

Mrs. Hitchcock stated the Millbury High marching band will accompany the Little League Parade on Sunday, April 22 at 1:00 p.m. There will be no vocalist this year.

3. Budget

a. Unemployment Deficit (\$ 56,901.30) will be Covered by Town Manager

Mr. Bedard has had a conversation with the Town Manager who agreed to take care of any unemployment deficit this year through journal entries. The original projected amount of \$56,901.30 appears to be around \$40,000 for the rest of the year since claims have come in for less than anticipated.

4. Old Business

Mrs. Vigneau mentioned she has received great reports on the Shaw trip to Camp Bourndale and the High School play. She supports Mr. Macdonald's Fancy Fridays as outlined in the recent edition of the "Reflector."

5. New Business

a. Presentation of Proposed 2012-2013 School Calendar

Mrs. Hitchcock referred to the proposed calendar in the packet. The calendar mirrors this year's calendar with one significant difference. Students will start on Monday, August 27th and have Friday, August 31st off to extend the Labor Day holiday weekend. Kindergarten will start on Tuesday, August 28th and preschool starts on Wednesday,

August 29th. June 14th will be the last day of school with five days allotted for inclement weather. Mrs. Hitchcock proposed a vote for the approval of the 2012-2013 calendar. Mrs. Nietupski made a motion to approve seconded by Mr. Corey. All in favor (4-0).

Mrs. Hitchcock presented information on the Wheelabrator Symposium taking place in Sunrise, Florida. Nine 7th and 8th grade students from Millbury Junior High School will be presenting their environmental project on alternative methods to salting the roads in our community. The trip takes place from April 30 to May 3, 2012. Mr. Hall, Mr. Sutphen, Mr. Hillier and two female chaperones will accompany the students. The trip is funded by Wheelabrator Technologies. Transportation to and from the airports will be provided by American Coach and Knights Limousine. Mrs. Hitchcock recommended the committee vote on approval of the trip. Mr. Corey made a motion to approve the trip seconded by Mrs. Nietupski. All in favor (4-0).

Mr. Corey requested to revert back to the statistics on students applying to Blackstone Valley Tech. He questioned the criteria for acceptance? Mrs. Hitchcock stated student's attendance and behavior along with an admission exam are considered. Mr. Corey's concern is with the 27 students who were not accepted. Mrs. Hitchcock concurred the problem is statewide and that it is a big disappointment for students who are not accepted.

Mrs. Vigneau asked Mr. Clawson to join her at the podium. She presented him with a plaque commemorating his 20 years of service to the School Committee. Mr. Clawson was also proclaimed an honorary Woolie. Mr. Clawson noted that he has seen many changes since he was appointed to the committee in 1992. He acknowledged meeting many friends, administration, teachers, and staff who are all doing their best for the kids in the town of Millbury. His highlight every year was the graduation ceremony and seeing students' progress. Mr. Clawson introduced Janet, his wife of 38 years, who attended the meeting.

Mrs. Vigneau asked if there were any questions from the public regarding school on Good Friday. Mrs. Hitchcock noted that having school on Good Friday is a decision made from the school committee.

6. Executive Session

The School Committee will vote to move into Executive Session under MGL, Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a) (5) to discuss the investigation of criminal misconduct.

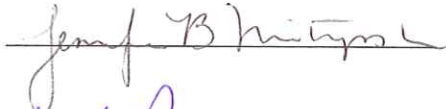
Mrs. Vigneau requested a roll call vote to move into Executive Session: Mr. Corey – yes, Mrs. Vigneau – yes, Mr. Clawson – yes, Mrs. Nietupski – yes.

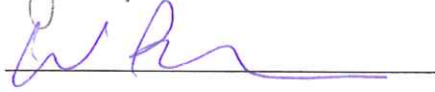
7. Next Meeting **April 25, 2012** **MHS**
 May 1, 2012 **Town Meeting – MHS**

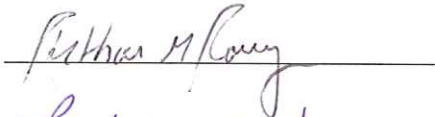
Respectfully submitted,

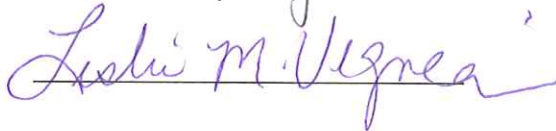
Sandra Femino
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Approved:









Items in Packet:

Draft of Regular Session Minutes of 3/14/2012

Draft of Executive Session Minutes of 3/14/2012

Letter from R. Bedard to Town Manager dated 3/15/2012 on FY2013 School Operating Budget voted on by School Committee on 3/14/2012

Draft of 2012-2013 School Calendar

Copy of "Reflector" Spring 2012

Vacancy Postings (2)

Items Distributed at Meeting:

Copy of Black History Month Essay by Robyn Thornburg

Copy of Field Trip Request and Information on Wheelabrator Symposium