

Millbury School Committee

RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK

Date: October 12, 2016

Meeting  
REGULAR SESSION  
Minutes

17 APR -7 AM 9:33  
MILLBURY, MASS.

Present: Mrs. Nietupski, Chairperson; Mr. Plante, Vice Chairperson  
Mrs. Vigneau, Mrs. Teixeira  
Mr. Myers, Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Bedard, Business Manager  
Ms. Ryan, Director of Pupil Services  
Mrs. Bellville, Director of Curriculum

Absent: Mr. Wilbur

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: High School Media Center

Mrs. Nietupski called the meeting to order at 7:05pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1. Review and Approval of the Regular Session Minutes of September 28, 2016.**

Mrs. Nietupski asked for any changes, additions or deletions to the Regular Session Minutes of September 28, 2016. Mrs. Teixeira made the motion to approve the minutes from the September 28, 2016 meeting, seconded by Mrs. Vigneau. All in favor (4-0).

**2. Report of the Administration**

- a. **Shaw School Update:** Mr. Myers gave an update on the Raymond E. Shaw Elementary School project. He stated that four members of the MSBA Senior Study Team came and asked and answered questions for about 45 minutes and then went on a tour of the building. Mr. Myers stated that they brought the team into classrooms, the cafeteria, and the gym but they also showed them the unconventional spaces that were used for small group learning and testing such as; the teachers' lounge, hallways, and storage rooms. Mr. Myers stated that the team was aware of the mechanical limitations of the building. Mr. Myers also informed the team of the new building sites and the impact this would have on the school. He also thanked Mr. Fran King, Chairman of the Board of Selectman, Mr. Bernie Plante, acting Town Manager, and Katie McKenna, Director of Financing for coming to the Shaw School for the Senior Study. Mr. Myers stated that he should hear back from the team in December with their recommendations of how we should proceed.
- b. **Update on the Envirothon Team:** Haley Wales, Vice President and Megan Lawson President of the Envirothon Team 2016 updated the School Committee on the team's accomplishments and upcoming events.
- c. **Update on the Student Advisory Council**  
Nick Lazzaro gave an update on the Student Advisory Council and Emily Beaumier reported on fundraising and working on their mission statement.

- d. **Introduction of Mrs. Rachel Decatur, the new Millbury Parent's Club President:** Mr. Myers introduced Mrs. Rachel Decatur, the new Millbury Parents Club President to the School Committee. Mrs. Decatur shared with the Committee the goals and requests for financial assistance of the Millbury Parents Club. She also stated that fundraising has become difficult over the years. Mrs. Nietupski thanked Mrs. Decatur for becoming the President and offered to make any announcements regarding fundraising events during a School Committee Meeting.
- e. **October 1<sup>st</sup> Enrollment:** Mr. Myers stated that there was a decrease in class size for Pre-K and Kindergarten. He does not believe that this is a trend just a blip in enrollment. The other grades show a slight gain and a large group went to Blackstone Valley Tech this year. Mr. Myers said that he would provide resources regarding class size and monthly reports as to Millbury's class sizes each month. He also stated that the difference between the enrollment numbers at the beginning of the year and the October 1<sup>st</sup> numbers is that the schools have received official notification of students withdrawing after the first day and this reflects the number of students reported. This report is the official report we send to the state. He also mentioned that he will be meeting with the town planner to review all the new residential building permits since there is a lot of new home construction. This will affect future enrollment projections.
- f. **Data Team Meetings Update** – Mrs. Bellville provided the School Committee a brief overview of recent PLC and data meetings at the Jr./Sr. High School, R.E. Shaw Elementary School, and Elmwood Street School. The implementation of collaborative data meetings directly supports two of the District's improvement initiatives.
1. Use assessment data and clear benchmarks to inform curriculum, drive instruction, and promote continuous student growth and build a shared culture of data-driven dialogue focused on enhancing instructional practices.
  2. Ensure that data is used to effectively support student growth and achievement.

Mr. Myers stated that he has seen common vocabulary being used regarding data meetings. He stated that data can sometimes be a personal issue and that it reflects a teacher's practice. This can result in difficult conversations. Mr. Myers stated that Millbury has come a long way using data to help adjust curriculum for better results.

### 3. Budget

- a. **Disposal and Sale of Surplus Volleyball Equipment** – Mr. Bedard stated that the Millbury School Department had recently purchased a new volleyball netting and floor anchoring system for the Volleyball team which has different anchor locations in the gymnasium floor. The old volleyball netting system is still operational but has different tie down locations and is no longer useful to us. Mr. Mara, Athletic Director, Millbury High School, has been in contact with the Oxford Public Schools' Athletic Director because Oxford has an interest in buying the old system. Both Athletic Directors agree that the value of the system is \$1,200.00. Mr. Bedard stated that he has also been in contact with the Oxford business office and they are willing to purchase the unit.

Mrs. Nietupski asked for a motion to approve declaring the volleyball netting and floor anchoring system surplus property. Mrs. Vigneau made a motion to declare the equipment surplus property and Mr. Plante seconded the motion. All in favor (4-0). Mrs. Nietupski asked for a motion to allow the Business Office to sell the volleyball equipment to the Oxford Public Schools for \$1,200.00. Mr. Plante made a motion and it was seconded by Mrs. Vigneau. All in favor (4-0). Mrs. Vigneau asked if the funds from the sale would revert to the Town's General Fund. Mr. Bedard stated that yes the funds would be reverted to the Town's General Fund.

- b. Mr. Bedard also recommended to the School Committee to accept the \$430.00 from the “Cruzzin Dreams” Classic Car Show. This is the eleventh year that this donation has been made. Donated funds have been used to provide guest speakers, supplies and special programs educating students about the value of making healthy and safe decisions. Mrs. Nietupski asked for a motion to accept the funds from the car show. Mrs. Vigneau made a motion to accept the funds and it was seconded by Mrs. Teixeira. All in favor (4-0). Mrs. Nietupski stated that these funds were used for the Chris Herron Project.

Mrs. Nietupski requested a thank you letter to be sent.

#### **4. Old Business**

Mrs. Teixeira stated that the Policy Committee members see an end in sight at the last meeting the Committee discussed Negotiations and Personnel. She stated that the next meeting will be used as a clean-up meeting and they will be going over the Acceptable Use Policy for students. It was also stated that access to all policies will be online.

Mrs. Nietupski stated that she received an email from Mr. Wilbur regarding an email he was sent from the Northbridge School Committee stating that they were sending a letter on behalf of the Blackstone Valley area Schools and that nothing was on file from the Millbury School Department. Mrs. Nietupski stated that she thought when Mrs. Vigneau brought this up in August and the Committee stated that a letter was sent in support of Senator Moore’s bill to control the growth of the charter schools and reconfigure funding so that the funds used for more charter schools did not drain the public schools, however that bill did not pass. Mrs. Nietupski stated that this letter showed we are in support of no on question 2. Mr. Plante made a motion to have a discussion regarding question 2. It was seconded by Mrs. Vigneau. All in favor (4-0).

A discussion took place regarding how each School Committee member felt regarding question 2. Each member was personally opposed to question 2. Mrs. Nietupski stated that if question 2 passed there could be twelve new charter schools per year indefinitely. She also stated that Massachusetts schools were world ranked. Mrs. Nietupski stated that charter schools could establish themselves in any community whether or not the charter school represented the community and are under no local control. Mr. Plante made a motion for the School Committee to vote to not support question 2 and was seconded by Mrs. Teixeira. All in favor (4-0).

Mrs. Nietupski stated that she would write an email to the Chairperson of Northbridge and let him know that they could include Millbury on the letter.

#### **5. New Business**

Mrs. Nietupski stated that Mr. Myers included three articles in their packets regarding class sizes because one of the School Committee goals is to investigate school choice. Mrs. Nietupski stated that they would discuss the articles at the meeting in December.

- 6. Next Meeting:** October 26, 2016 – Shaw Elementary School Media Center 6:30pm Tour/7:00pm meeting  
November 17, 2016 – Policy Subcommittee Mtg. @ Supt.’s Conf. Room 5:00 p.m.

## 7. Adjourn

At Mrs. Nietupski requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Plante and it was seconded by Mrs. Vigneau to adjourn the meeting at 8:00pm. All in favor (4-0).

Respectfully submitted,

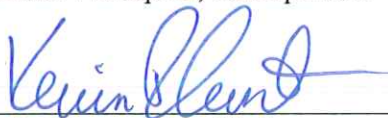
*Donna Freitas*

Donna Freitas

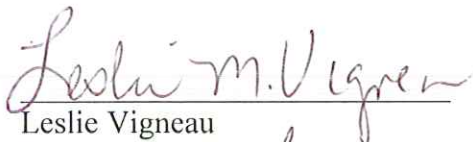
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Approved:

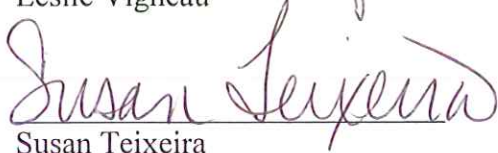
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Jennifer Nietupski, Chairperson



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Kevin Plante, Vice Chairperson

  
Leslie M. Vigneau

Leslie Vigneau

  
Susan Teixeira

Susan Teixeira

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Christopher Wilbur

### Items in Packet:

Draft of Regular Session Minutes of September 28, 2016

Superintendent's Report

Memo – Mr. Bedard regarding Disposal and Sale of Surplus Volleyball Equipment – Vote Required

Envirothon Team 2016 Presentation

District Faculty & Staff Newsletter

Thank you letter – Mr. Paul Hedlund

October 1<sup>st</sup> Enrollment

BBC News

Does Class Size Count?

The Tennessee Study of Class Size in Early School Grades

### Handouts at the Meeting:

Upcoming Events – October

Millbury Parents Club – Request for Funding