

Millbury School Committee Minutes

DATE: March 9, 2011

Present: Mrs. Vigneau, Chairperson, Mr. Corey, Vice Chairperson, Mr. Plante, Mr. Clawson, Mrs. Nietupski, Mrs. Hitchcock, Superintendent, Mr. Bedard, Business Administrator, Mr. Hall, Jr. High Asst. Principal

Location: Millbury Memorial Junior/Senior High School

Time: 5:30 P.M.

Mrs. Vigneau brought the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

There were approximately forty people, primarily teachers, in attendance.

Approval of the Regular Session Minutes

Mrs. Vigneau asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 9 and February 16, 2011 meetings. Mr. Corey made a motion to accept the minutes and Mrs. Nietupski seconded the motion. All in favor (5-0).

Approval of the Executive Session Minutes

Mrs. Vigneau asked for a motion to approve the minutes of December 7, 2010 and January 13, 2011. Mr. Corey made a motion to accept the minutes and Mr. Plante seconded the motion. All in favor (5-0).

Mrs. Vigneau asked for a motion to approve the minutes of February 15, 2011. Mr. Clawson made a motion to accept the minutes and Mrs. Nietupski seconded the motion. Mr. Plante and Mr. Corey abstained. In favor (3-0).

Report of the Administration

July 4th Windle Field Use

Ron Marlborough asked the School Committee to consider allowing the Lions Club exclusive use of Windle Field and the club house for the annual carnival and fire works. The dates would start on June 25, 2011 and run through July 11, 2011.

Mrs. Vigneau noted that in past the Lions Club left the field in great condition and ran a very good program. Mrs. Vigneau asked for a motion. Mr. Clawson made a motion to allow the Lions Club exclusive use of Windle Field for their July 4th celebration from June 25th to July 11, 2011. Mr. Corey seconded the motion. All approved (5-0).

Youth Leadership Presentations

Mrs. Hitchcock introduced Jenny Quan, an eighth grade student selected to represent the Millbury School District at Deval Patrick's second inauguration held on January 8th. Jenny spoke of her experience with 351 students throughout Massachusetts school

districts at the event. She noted they gathered into five groups and were given tasks to complete. The groups covered hunger relief, children in hospitals, the environment, etc. Jenny noted the groups surpassed their goals for the day, listened to Deval Patrick's inauguration speech and met new friends. Jenny thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Mrs. Hitchcock introduced Angel Ossorio, an eighth grade student who attended the National Young Leaders State Conference February 10th through February 13th. Angel noted he had an amazing experience meeting students from Rhode Island and New Hampshire. He noted the conference concentration was working with other people. Mrs. Vigneau congratulated both students on their nominations.

Mrs. Hitchcock noted that she will be presenting at the next School Committee meeting a draft Policy of Service Animals in School in order to have a policy in place as soon as possible. She noted the purpose of the policy is to ensure we are not allowing pets into the building that may carry germs. Currently only dogs are allowed.

Snow day plan

Mrs. Hitchcock mentioned that after consulting with the Leadership Team, barring another snow day, she won't be recommending a make-up snow day. Currently, school ends June 23rd. On June 24th we will not be able to hold Professional Development Day as previously anticipated. The Principals have assured her there will be building-based projects the staff can do such as curriculum work, team work, issues around children being placed in the right classroom next year, etc. Mrs. Hitchcock also noted the other reason to leave the schedule as it is now, is that the Commissioner is not willing to move MCAS back, so it won't be helpful to add additional instructional days.

Mrs. Hitchcock spoke to the School Committee about a request by the Millbury Parents' Club for new members. She addressed the need for new members to assist with disseminating information and fundraising. She noted in the past the club has raised \$50,000 a year to be added to the school budget for field trip transportation. It is a great forum to learn more information about the schools. Anyone interested can call Tricia Desmarais at 508-865-6166. Mrs. Vigneau noted the Millbury Parents' Club is a wonderful program, where she met a lot of people in town. Mrs. Nietupski noted she was currently a member, but is one of those parents whose child is a senior, so she will soon be leaving the club.

Mrs. Hitchcock shared some wonderful news she received today. That two community businesses have offered to sponsor the Robotic Team on their trip to Orlando, Florida in April. Wheelabrator Millbury, Inc. has donated \$4,500 and Millbury Saving Bank \$2,000. Mrs. Vigneau requested thank you letters be sent to the two businesses from the School Committee.

Budget

Mrs. Vigneau asked if there were any discussions regarding the FY12 Budget. She noted no discussion, so she mentioned the budget will continue as it stands.

Mrs. Hitchcock noted she had a conversation with Mr. Spain. He mentioned the warrant article is not included as part of \$345,754 deficit, that the warrant article is above and beyond the \$345,754 deficit. Mrs. Hitchcock noted that no discussion has been held on a formal basis as to how this deficit will be split. Mrs. Vigneau asked if we want to contact the Board of Selectmen to meet. Mrs. Hitchcock said she would be happy to contact Bob Spain and the Board of Selectmen to schedule a meeting sometime after the 14th. Mrs. Vigneau thought that would be a good idea.

Fuel Efficient Vehicle Policy – Replacement Plan

Mr. Bedard noted that Millbury is trying to become a green community, so the Fuel Efficient Vehicle Policy needs to have added to it a fuel efficient vehicle replacement plan indicating that the vehicles shall not be recycled from one department to another unless the vehicle meets the fuel efficiency ratings, so that we will not have non-energy efficient vehicles on the road. Mrs. Vigneau noted that in past we received vehicles from senior center to help with a few things and wondered if this plan would affect that. Mr. Bedard noted that if they are exempt from this policy like buses it would be ok, but if they are on the exempt list it won't. Mr. Clawson mentioned that if that were true, and they were not exempt, it would only be for a short time because they would have to follow the same policy and purchase fuel efficient vehicles. Mr. Bedard agreed that in 10 years all energy vehicles would be fuel efficient.

Mrs. Vigneau asked for a motion to approve the Fuel Efficient Vehicle Policy – Replacement Plan. Mr. Corey made a motion to accept the Replacement Plan. Mr. Plante seconded the motion. All in favor (5-0)

Radon Testing

Mr. Bedard mentioned as part of our normal procedures of maintenance that the EPA recommends Radon testing in all three schools as well as Dorothy Manor. He planned to do a non-intrusive testing of some ground level or basement level classroom in the next two weeks. Mrs. Vigneau noted it sounds good and thanked Mr. Bedard.

Old Business

Mrs. Vigneau noted that on Sunday, March 6th, Destination Imagination was held at the Millbury Memorial Junior/Senior High School most of community showed up at some point. She mentioned that our staff was present raising money for various clubs and it was a great day and a wonderful community event. She thanked the staff for their help and participation. Mrs. Hitchcock was proud to note that two of our high school teams came in first and will be going to state championship on March 26th in Massachusetts. Mrs. Hitchcock was pleased that our facility and custodial staff received lots of compliments. Estimates of people attending were 1200 during the course of the day. Mrs. Hitchcock is meeting with Vicky Smith on Monday for a debriefing with a possibility of doing it next year.

Mrs. Vigneau thanked Mr. Bedard for the letter to the sheriff, and asked if he hears anything further, please let the School Committee know.

New Business

Mrs. Vigneau mentioned the School Committee is putting together a Trivia Team for Saturday Night, and noted that in the packet there is information from the Massachusetts Association of School Committee.

At 6:00 P.M. Mrs. Vigneau stated that in accordance with Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a) (3) of the MA General Laws, the Millbury School Committee will vote to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Plante- yes, Mr. Corey – yes, Mrs. Vigneau – yes, Mr. Clawson – yes, Mrs. Nietupski – yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela O'Toole
Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

Items in Packets:

- Regular Session Minutes of 2/9/11 and 2/16/11
- Executive Session Minutes of 12/7/10, 1/13/11, 2/15/11
- Memo- Town of Millbury Fuel Efficient Vehicle Policy – Replacement Plan
- Memo – Millbury Lions Club re July 4th
- Letter – to Mr. Spain re FY12 School Operating Budget
- e-mail – Trivia contest
- Letter – Sheriff's Office thank you
- Letter – MTA re concern regarding breach of ground rules
- Letter – Mr. Confalone thank you
- Policy – Animals in Classroom from Health and Human Services
- Job Postings

Approved:




