

Millbury School Committee Minutes

DATE: April 27, 2011

Present: Mrs. Vigneau, Chairperson, Mr. Corey, Vice Chairperson, Mr. Plante, Mr. Clawson, Mrs. Nietupski, Mrs. Hitchcock, Superintendent, Mr. Bedard, Business Administrator, Mr. Fleming, Building Principal

Location: Millbury Memorial Junior/Senior High School

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Mrs. Hitchcock brought the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

There were approximately 50 people present.

Approval of the Executive Session Minutes

Mrs. Hitchcock asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 31 and April 13, 2011 meetings. Mr. Corey made a motion to accept the minutes and Mrs. Vigneau seconded the motion. All in favor (5-0).

Reorganization of the School Committee

Mrs. Hitchcock congratulated Mr. Corey on his re-election to the Millbury School Committee. Mrs. Hitchcock asked for nominations for Chairperson. Mr. Clawson nominated Mrs. Vigneau for Chairperson. Mrs. Hitchcock asked if there were any other nominations for Chairperson. As none were given, Mrs. Hitchcock asked for a vote. Mr. Corey motioned to have Mrs. Vigneau School Committee Chair, Mr. Clawson seconded the motion. All in favor 5-0.

Mrs. Vigneau asked to have a nomination for Vice Chairperson. Mr. Clawson nominated Mr. Corey and Mr. Plante seconded the motion. All in favor 5-0.

Mrs. Vigneau asked for someone to be nominated to go down to town hall weekly and sign payroll. Mrs. Nietupski nominated Mrs. Vigneau and Mr. Plante seconded the motion. All in favor 5-0.

Mrs. Vigneau asked the Committee if the School Committee meeting schedule should remain the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. Mr. Clawson motioned to have the current schedule remain the same. Mr. Corey seconded the motion. All in favor 5-0.

Report of the Administration

Presentation on the State 2012 Budget by Senator Michael Moore

Mrs. Hitchcock introduced Senator Michael Moore. The Senator wanted to provide the School Committee with state budget information that was voted on a week and a half ago.

The Local Aid numbers that will be released will provide at least a bare minimum support. The total will be down because there is no Federal Stimulus Monies next year. This year \$221 million dollars will be set aside for Chapter 70. He noted that the state is facing a 1.5 to 1.9 billion dollar deficit. Medicaid is up but state receipts are up. Federal stimulus monies used to fill this void. He noted basic Chapter 70 monies will not change, and we can plan our budget on those numbers. Mrs. Vigneau thanked Senator Moore for coming.

Report of the Student Council

Mr. Joseph Fleming, Principal of Millbury Memorial Junior/Senior High School, introduced Kaitlyn Twomey, Treasurer of the Student Council. Kaitlyn discussed the upcoming events of April and May. She noted the Senior Semi will be on April 29th and the Junior Prom will be on May 13th. She noted a group of students along with Mr. Palano, will be going to Auburn High School to attend the Humanities Scholars Collaborative Program tomorrow evening. The AP tests begin next week. Rachel's Challenge will be presented during the day today and this evening for students and parents. She noted Rachel's Challenge encourages compassion and kindness for our fellow students. She noted the English Department's efforts to enhance the district goals with summer reading initiatives and virtual high school, the taping of courses to facilitate learning, and a trip to the ASA Waters Mansion by Mrs. Raffa's class on May 14th. Ms. Twomey also noted that so far the Boys' Varsity Baseball's record is 5-2, Girls' Varsity Softball 4-3, the Boys' Varsity track 4-2, and the Girls' Varsity Track 6-0 undefeated record. Mrs. Vigneau thanked Ms. Twomey for a wonderful presentation.

Follow-up on Senator Moore

Mrs. Hitchcock wanted to follow-up on Senator Moore's comments. She noted that in terms as to how it applies to Millbury, as it stands now, the total town budget reduction is \$345,754 for 2012. As a result the figure discussed originally, if the schools have to absorb 60%, will be \$207,000 cut from the budget for the following year.

FY2012 School Calendar Recommendation

Mrs. Hitchcock noted that her recommendation, based upon principals thoughts, were to go for a full day on Friday, December 23rd as the disruption of a half day of classes would be a problem. Mrs. Vigneau asked for a motion. Mr. Clawson made a motion to accept the 2011-2012 school calendar as is. Mrs. Corey seconded the motion. All in favor 5-0.

New Head football coach

Mrs. Hitchcock informed the School Committee and the audience of the hiring of a new Head Football Coach, Mr. Ray Richards, Jr. Mr. Richards is a graduate of Millbury High School, and is currently Assistant Coach of the Varsity Football Team at Narragansett Regional High School. Mr. Friedman, Mrs. Vasil and Mr. Fleming all strongly recommended him. He will continue to teach at Narragansett while coaching for us.

MTA Request to Speak on Educational Matters

Mrs. Vigneau asked Mr. Lyon if he would like to speak. Mr. Jeffery Lyon, President of the Millbury Teachers Association, went to the podium but declined to speak as he has been told legally he cannot speak about the negotiations.

Old Business

Third Reading of Use of Animals in Schools Policy – vote required

Mrs. Hitchcock presented the third reading of the policy for Use of Animals in the Schools. Mrs. Vigneau asked if there were any questions or discussions. Mrs. Vigneau then asked for a motion to accept the policy. Mr. Corey made a motion to approve the third reading of the Use of Animals in Schools Policy. Mr. Clawson seconded the motion. All in favor (5-0).

New Business

Vote to Change the Language in the SWCEC Collaborative Agreement

Mrs. Hitchcock described the Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative that Millbury belongs to. She noted that it is made up of surrounding communities and the members are Superintendents of those communities. The Collaborative provides Special Education programming and a potential for saving money with bulk-purchases. The Collaborative would like to change the agreement to have the word annually removed so that leadership remains in effect until the Superintendent changes. Also, because there are more members, instead of quorum at four the Collaborative wants to change it to eight representing for a majority. Mrs. Hitchcock recommend that this be approved. Mrs. Vigneau asked for a motion to approve the new SWCEC Collaborative Agreement. Mr. Corey motioned to accept the agreement. Mr. Clawson seconded the motion. All in favor 5-0.

Mrs. Vigneau thanked the Committee for their confidence in her and hoped the Committee would have a good year.

Executive Session

At 7:19 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 Packet:

Executive Session Minutes of March 31 and April 13, 2011