

**Millbury School Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Date: June 9, 2010

Present: Mrs. Leslie Vigneau, Chairperson, Mr. Art Corey, Vice Chairperson, Mr. Plante, Mrs. Nietupski, Mr. Clawson, Mr. Bedard, Business Administrator, and Mrs. Hitchcock, Superintendent

Location: Millbury High School Media Center

Time: 7:00 pm

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MILLBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Approval of Regular Session Minutes

Mrs. Vigneau asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 26, 2010 meeting. Mrs. Vigneau stated that the words as amended should be added under the Approval of Regular Session Minutes on the first page. She also stated that the School Committee will return to open session to adjourn the meeting must be added on the last page according to Robert's Rules. Mr. Clawson made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 26, 2010 with the corrections and Mr. Corey seconded the motion. All approved (5-0).

Approval of Executive Session Minutes

Mrs. Vigneau asked for a motion to approve the Executive Session minutes from the May 12th meeting. Mr. Corey made a motion to accept the minutes and Mr. Plante seconded the motion. All approved (5-0). Mrs. Vigneau asked for a motion to approve the May 24th Executive Session minutes. Mr. Corey made a motion and it was seconded by Mr. Clawson. All approved (5-0). Mrs. Vigneau asked for a motion to accept the May 26th Executive Session minutes. Mr. Corey made a motion and it was seconded by Mr. Clawson. All approved (5-0).

Report of the Administration

Mrs. Hitchcock stated that she was pleased to introduce Mr. Mark Sutphen, Mr. John Hillier and the 7th and 8th grade students that participated in the Wheelabrator Symposium in Sunset, Florida. The students gave a PowerPoint presentation about the energy project they made. They also demonstrated their homemade bicycle that generates electricity. Mrs. Hitchcock also stated that Mr. Trivedi had received a \$4,000 grant to install solar panels on the catwalk. Mr. Trivedi stated that this green energy will be used to light the sign in front of the high school and will be used to charge the floor cleaning machine.

Mrs. Hitchcock stated that a copy of the Blackstone Valley Educational Collaborative, Promising Practices submitted by Mr. Rawley regarding Robotics Competition was included in the School Committee members' packets.

Mrs. Hitchcock stated that 131 Kindergarten students, as of last Wednesday, were registered for the fall. She stated that she would keep the School Committee informed as the enrollment changes. Mrs. Hitchcock stated that they were able to research back to 2004 to get class sizes. Mrs. Hitchcock stated that the overall grade class sizes in 2011 will change marginally. Mrs. Vigneau asked Mrs. Hitchcock to provide the class sizes after the eliminated positions at the next meeting.

Mrs. Hitchcock stated that Community Reading Day at the Shaw Elementary School and the Elmwood Street School was a wonderful program. She stated that she would like to extend a tremendous thank you to Mrs. Bastarache, Elmwood Street School librarian for all her hard work. Mrs. Vigneau also thanked Mrs. Bastarache and stated that it was a lovely day.

Mrs. Hitchcock stated that the High School Graduation was a very lovely evening. She stated that it was held at Mechanics Hall and that 141 out of 147 students graduated. The six students that did not graduate are enrolled in summer school and will receive their diplomas at the end of the program. Mrs. Hitchcock also stated that Millbury High School Graduations are booked at Mechanics Hall through 2015. Mrs. Vigneau also stated that the Graduation was wonderful and that she enjoyed seeing previous Millbury High School students as the Masters of Ceremonies. She stated that Ms. Erin Dromgoole had done a wonderful job and that her niece Sarah Vigneau was President of the graduating class. She stated that the only negative of the evening was the audience clapping during the student biographies. She asked that Mrs. Hitchcock send a thank you letter to Ms. Erin Dromgoole from the School Committee.

Mrs. Hitchcock stated that the Millbury High School Summer School has a new director, Mr. Keith Servant. Mr. Servant has worked in the program for the past 11 years. The program will begin on June 28th and end of July 23rd. Mrs. Hitchcock stated that it is a very successful program and that 100% of the students have passed their courses in the past. The cost this year, which is the same as last year, will be \$130.00 for Millbury residents and \$150.00 for outside residents.

Mrs. Hitchcock stated that they had received about 20 applications for the interim Junior/Senior High School Principal position. She stated that six individuals out of the 20 were qualified with the appropriate experience. They will begin the interviewing process starting next Monday and Tuesday. Mrs. Vigneau asked if a member of the School Committee should be on the Interviewing Committee. Mrs. Hitchcock stated that a School Committee member would be welcome, however, she felt that next year when a full search for a new Junior/Senior High School Principal began a School Committee member should be on that Interviewing Committee. She also suggested Mrs. Nietupski may want to be on the Interviewing Committee as she has a high school student.

Budget

Mr. Bedard stated that he is recommending to the School Committee to approve the French River bids. He stated that they are very similar to last year, a collaborative of 15 - 18 school districts will bid together to get the best prices. The items are copy paper, school supplies, computer supplies, athletic supplies, and school lunch supplies. Mrs. Vigneau asked if there was a motion to approve the French River bids. Mr. Clawson made a motion to approve the bids and Mr. Corey seconded the motion. All approved (5-0).

Mrs. Hitchcock and Mr. Bedard updated information regarding the Capital Improvement Projects' list. Mrs. Hitchcock explained to the new School Committee members that this list is for the entire District based on priority made by the Principals. She also stated that this list was made so that the School Department was ready in case any money becomes available in the future. Mr. Bedard stated that changing the interior doors at the Shaw School to ADA compliance is an ongoing project. Engineers are working on the fire code requirements and blueprints. Mr. Bedard stated that they are getting everything ready to bid out the project. He also stated that they are replacing one section of lockers at the high school which were not replaced during the renovation. He stated that they have implemented training of the new transportation routing software. This will allow us to make more efficient bus routes and better communicate the routes. At the Elmwood Street School, we are repairing a fence in the back playground which will be done by the end of the month. The work on the stage lift at the Shaw School has been completed; it has passed the state inspection, and has been used by the students at Shaw. At the high school the auditorium ceiling was painted during school vacation. The lighting at the high school was calibrated during school vacation. Mr. Bedard also stated that the High School Drainage Project Phase II will be done by the end of the month. He also stated that the Martin Street abutters have been notified.

Mrs. Hitchcock stated that making the interior doors at the Shaw School ABA Compliance has been needed for quite awhile. She stated that the medically fragile students that use walkers or wheelchairs cannot open the doors unless they are accompanied by an adult. The students need doors that open automatically. Our goal is to make the students as independent as possible. This project was on a Warrant Article last year but had to be taken off due to budget restraints. Mrs. Vigneau asked if the Food Service Revolving Account could cover the costs of the cafeteria's list. Mr. Bedard stated that he thought it could, however, the Food Service Department bought two pieces of big equipment and a new point of sale software program last year.

Mrs. Hitchcock stated that a new Head Football Coach had been hired. His name is Ryan Matson, he is the former Assistant Football Coach at David Prouty High School and WPI.

Old Business

Nothing to Report.

New Business

Nothing to report.

Mrs. Hitchcock stated that in the School Committee's packets a spreadsheet was included regarding unfunded teaching positions. She stated that she had heard concerns that one school had taken a larger hit than the other schools. Mrs. Hitchcock stated that in 2009 - 2010 Elmwood Street School lost a .5 Assistant Principal position and a music teacher retired. The Shaw Elementary school lost a Physical Education teacher and a Math Coach. The high school lost a 0.8 Math teacher, 0.2 Web Publishing teacher, a 0.5 Physical Education teacher, and a 0.2 music teacher. The 2010 - 2011 projections are Elmwood School will lose 2 Classroom teachers, The art, library, and tech positions have been reduced to 0.6, 1.5 aides, and a .5 custodian. The Shaw School will lose the Reading Coach, 0.4 clerical and 0.5 custodial position. The high school will use 2 teachers (due to retirement). The District will lose .5 Director of Curriculum, 0.5 Director of Facilities, and a maintenance/grounds position. Mrs. Hitchcock stated that the staff members' positions being eliminated received their letters on Thursday.

Mrs. Judy Bastarache, 35 West Main Street asked about the vote on Activity Fees. Mrs. Vigneau stated that this item was not on the agenda and would be discussed. She also stated that this item was part of the negotiation with the teachers. Mrs. Bastarache stated that this should not be between the School Committee and teachers rather between the townspeople and the School Committee.

Mrs. Vigneau stated that they would be going into Executive Session for contract negotiations and would return to open session to adjourn the meeting only. Mr. Plante - yes, Mr. Corey - yes, Mrs. Vigneau - yes, Mr. Clawson, - yes, and Mrs. Nietupski - yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Lane
School Committee Clerk