

**Milford Board of Education**

Business Meeting Minutes  
February 8, 2016

**Board members present:**

Claire Casey  
Michael DeGrego  
Suzanne DiBiase  
Susan Glennon, Chair  
Dr. Jess Gregory  
Walter Hagedorn  
Tom Jagodzinski  
Susan Krushinsky  
Earl Whiskeyman

**Administration present:**

Dr. Elizabeth Feser  
Jeffrey Burt  
James Richetelli  
Wendy Kopazna

**Board members absent:**

Jennifer Federico

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Glennon called the business meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. She announced Mrs. Federico would not be present. Due to the cancellation of school, the meeting agenda will be modified. No Student and Staff Recognition, Student Reports or the Instructional Highlight.

There was no Public Comment due to any members from the public being present.

**II. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Ms. Glennon began her report pointing out some upcoming events. The Board of Education will present its budget to the Board on Finance on February 18<sup>th</sup> at Parsons in Conference Room B. There will be an update on the Before and After School Care program and a Pre-K follow up at the February 22<sup>nd</sup> Committee of the Whole meeting. On Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, the TriM Honor Society induction will be held at Foran.

Ms. Glennon referred to an email from a citizen regarding two medical marijuana dispensaries which were approved in Milford. The dispensaries are licensed by the state. Planning and Zoning determines local regulations. The mayor is in the process of scheduling a meeting with residents in that area who have some concerns. Ms. DiBiase will attend the meeting. Mr. DeGrego also serves as the liaison to the Milford Prevention Council which partners with the schools on education. She suggested he keep the Board informed on their work around this topic.

Ms. Glennon informed the Board of the upcoming CAFE Day on the Hill that will be held on March 2<sup>nd</sup> if any board members have interest in attending.

Ms. Glennon called for the liaison reports.

## Approved

Mr. DeGrego reported on the Milford Prevention Council's most recent meeting. The Council discussed the rise in heroin deaths across the state. The Council is considering hosting a forum to raise awareness of this issue.

Dr. Gregory gave her report on the recent Milford Education Foundation meeting. She noted the Foundation is planning a lot of events, including the upcoming Minds in Motion on March 5<sup>th</sup> at Jonathan Law High School. In addition, MEF appreciates the implementation of the science career pathway.

Mrs. Krushinsky reported on the Permanent Schools Building Facilities Committee. Both she and Mrs. Federico attended the meeting last week. The East Shore project is near completion; however, the HVAC continues to be of concern.

Ms. Glennon reported on the PTA Council meeting. Mr. Jagodzinski and she attended. Representative Staneski was also at the meeting and shared information from the state level. Artificial turf fields and the implementation of statewide full day kindergarten were discussed.

Mr. Jagodzinski reported on the legislative breakfast hosted by CAFE last week. Dr. Feser also attended as did Senator Slossberg and Representative Staneski. Topics discussed were Special Education funding, testing with the recent changes to the law and mental health funding.

### III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Feser shared with the Board the Milford Education Foundation has awarded 11 teachers with mini grants. A breakfast will be held in May for the recipients. She publicly thanked the MEF for their continued support.

#### **2016-17 Academic Calendar**

Dr. Feser presented the Board with the 2016-17 Academic Calendar. The calendar is being presented as a first reading of the Board. The calendar will be brought back before the Board to be approved at the March Business meeting. She explained that school districts are now mandated to align their calendar to a regional calendar beginning in 2016. Milford follows the ACES calendar. The first day for students will be August 29<sup>th</sup>, a Monday, different from years past beginning school on a Wednesday. She reviewed the non-negotiable dates relative to the calendar. Those dates are:

- August 25      Regional PD Day
- August 29      Regional First Day of School for Students
- Nov. 8          Regional PD Day
- Dec. 26-Jan. 2   Holiday Recess
- Feb. 20 & 21   Winter Recess
- April 10-14    Spring Recess which includes Good Friday

The Board discussed other components of the calendar including the early release dates. Following the discussion, the Board asked administration to provide:

- A comparison of early release days for professional learning with surrounding schools
- The rationale for the three early release days at the end of the school year.

## Approved

- Ms. Glennon asked if the intent is to have school on Good Friday in the event snow days must be made up using the April vacation. Dr. Feser indicated that was not the case. The Board then suggested the practice be changed to begin taking make-up days from the Monday through Thursday of that week vs going backwards from Thursday and that Good Friday be designated a holiday. Administration will revise the wording.

### **Human Resources Report**

Mrs. Kopazna reported on the human resources activity for January. The district has received eight retirements to date.

Ms. Glennon called for a motion on the consent agenda items.

## **IV. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Ms. DiBiase made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves the Educational Specifications for the Roof Replacement project at Harborside Middle School and authorizes the Superintendent to apply for State reimbursement from the State of Connecticut Department of Administrative Services – Office of School Construction Grants (SCG).

Ms. DiBiase made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves the Plans, Specifications and Estimates for the Roof Replacement Project at Harborside Middle School.

Ms. DiBiase made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves the Consent Agenda Items 2 & 3

2. Disbursement Report

3. Consideration of Minutes

Business Meeting of January 11, 2016

Special Meeting of January 13, 2016

Special Meeting of January 14, 2016

Special Meeting of January 20, 2016

Mrs. Krushinsky seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Glennon called for a motion to go into executive session.

## **V. ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Ms. DiBiase made a motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss the Mid-Year Evaluation of Superintendent Feser. Dr. Feser was invited into the session. Mr. Whiskeyman seconded. The motion passed unanimously. (7:48 p.m.)

The meeting was called back to order at 8:54 p.m.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, Ms. Glennon asked for a motion to adjourn.

Ms. DiBiase made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Jagodzinski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approved

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Recording Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Mrs. Pam Griffin

Corresponding Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Ms. Suzanne DiBiase