

**Milford Board of Education**

Meeting Minutes  
March 19, 2012

**Board members present:**

Tracy Casey  
Suzanne DiBiase  
George Gensure  
Susan Glennon  
Dora Kubek  
James Maroney  
Beverley Pierson  
Christopher Saley  
Mark Stapleton  
Earl Whiskeyman

**Administration present:**

Dr. Elizabeth Feser  
Michael Cummings  
Wendy Kopazna  
Annaliese Spaziano

**Board members absent:**

Suzanne DiBiase

**Others present:**

Floyd Dugas, Esq.  
Christopher Hodgson, Esq.  
Peter Ruppert, CEA  
Mary Ellen Coloski, MEA  
Mary Peterson, grievant

The Milford Board of Education held a board level grievance hearing on Monday, March 19, 2012 in the Board Room at the Parsons Complex. Mrs. Casey called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.

Mrs. Casey asked everyone at the table to introduce him or herself.

Attorney Floyd Dugas asked Attorney Christopher Hodgson, representing the Administration, to begin.

Attorney Hodgson gave an opening statement indicating that the Board must determine whether it will agree with or sustain the grievance. He stated that the grievance was an issue of just cause. He then distributed a set of documents to the Board, and others seated at the table, related to the grievance and reviewed them with the Board. He then called upon Annaliese Spaziano, Director of The Academy, who gave a statement describing the incident, her investigation, the follow-up, and the rationale for the discipline. Board members were given an opportunity to ask questions. Attorney Hodgson then made a closing statement.

Mr. Peter Ruppert, CEA Uniserve Representative, was then called upon by Attorney Dugas. Mr. Ruppert cross-examined Mrs. Spaziano. He then distributed a set of documents to the Board, and others seated at the table, and reviewed them. He then presented his case for the grievant's actions. Board members were given an opportunity to ask questions.

Mr. Maroney made a motion to adjourn to executive session. Dr. Stapleton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. (9:06)

Approved

Chairman Casey called the meeting back into order at 9:36.

**Mr. Maroney made a motion to deny the grievance. Dr. Stapleton seconded. The motion passed 8-1 (No-Pierson).**

Mr. Maroney made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Stapleton seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

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James Maroney  
Recording/Corresponding Secretary