

Milford Board of Education

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

April 24, 2017

Board members present:

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

Administration present:

Dr. Elizabeth Feser
Jeffrey Burt
James Richetelli

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Glennon called the committee of the whole meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Glennon told the Board the Parent Involvement Report will be given annually, in the spring. She turned the meeting over to Dr. Feser, who then turned it over to Mr. Burt.

II. PARENT INVOLVEMENT REPORT

Mr. Burt told the Board there will be a presentation on how the district is addressing parent involvement. The report given will include survey data, beliefs, focus areas and goals.

Mrs. Krois shared the parent survey data with the Board. The district reviews the survey data over the summer and plans ways that will enhance parent involvement throughout the district. The Board has adopted a priority which encourages parent/community relationship. *Parent, community and business relationships will be built and supported recognizing that they contribute to increased learning for all students.* Principals and teachers have this priority embedded into their goals.

At the district level, principals work collaboratively with the PTA/Os to plan and schedule events. Newsletters, weekly updates, art shows, concerts, theatrical performances are new methods to promote the parent involvement.

Principals and teachers shared efforts they have made to encourage parent involvement. Some examples are family fun nights, math workshops, theme weeks, student faculty basketball games, display monitors, recognition ceremonies and more. The presentation is on file.

The parent involvement report will be shared out annually.

III. UPDATE ON SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL CURRICULUM

Mrs. Spaziano was joined by staff to provide the Board with an update on how the district is addressing the social and emotional needs of students. Social and emotional learning for students focuses on the development of managing emotions, setting positive goals, showing empathy, maintaining positive relationships and to make responsible decisions. Social and emotional learning aligns directly to the Board Priority #1: *Our school will be safe, orderly and caring places that support and promote student learning and positive relationships*. Research demonstrates that districts that focus on SEL see an average increase of 11% on standardized test scores.

Mrs. Spaziano reviewed the work the district has done this year, as well as shared next steps. The presentation is on file.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Laura Fucci – 418 Anderson Avenue – She commended the Administration for a great presentation. It is great to hear from the front line. It is important to have the whole team involved in the school climate.

Natalie Osborne – 51 Lambert Drive – Thanked the Administration for addressing social and emotional curriculum.

Kerri Rowland – 161 Beach Avenue – Mrs. Rowland has a daughter who is new to special education. She complimented Mrs. Swift for her planning and placement. As a coach for girl's hockey, she is with students often and for long periods of time. She believes that coaches should be a part of learning and sharing out of the social and emotional curriculum.

Konstantza Popova – 49 Cinnamon Road – Ms. Popova is the parent of a child in the school system, and she works Yale University. She believes the district is moving forward in a very positive approach. She is glad her daughter will be able to be a part of this program.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. DiBiase made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Federico seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Recording Secretary: _____
Mrs. Pam Griffin

Corresponding Secretary: _____
Ms. Suzanne DiBiase