

Milford Board of Education

Business Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2018

Board members present:

Ray Arnold
Claire Casey
Adam De Young
Jennifer Federico
Scott Firmender
Rita Hennessey
Susan Glennon, Chair
Warren Pawlowski

Administration present:

Dr. Anna Cutaia
Dr. Amy Fedigan
Christine Kennedy
Wendy Kopazna
Jim Richetelli

Board members absent:

Craig Zentkovich

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Glennon called the business meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. in the Board of Education Room.

II. STUDENT REPORTS

Maggie Cummings and Ryan Demarco presented the student report for Foran. Bella Carroll and Cameron Asmussen presented the report for Jonathan Law.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Cathy Berni – 96 Centennial Drive – She reminded the Board the public is looking at the budget. She is happy to see the budget process beginning now.

IV. CHAIR'S REPORT

Ms. Glennon told the Board the Committee of the Whole meeting would be held on September 24. All Board members should have received the adopted budget books.

Ms. Glennon called for liaison reports. There were none.

Ms. Glennon turned the meeting over to Dr. Cutaia for the Superintendent's Report.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Cutaia introduced Supervisor of Student Development, Mrs. Annaliese Spaziano to give a highlight on the recent workshop held to rejuvenate the staff.

Instructional Highlight: 1Day4Day1

Mrs. Spaziano reported Milford Public Schools partnered with the Milford Education Foundation to provide an entire day of professional learning for teachers and staff at no cost to them. The workshop

offered stations which centered on self-care: healthy minds, bodies and soul to prepare staff to begin the school year. A short video was shared.

Back to School Report

Dr. Cutaia provided the Board with a Back to School Report. Of note was the implementation of a new bus tracker app, twitter alert system, the rollout of the Spanish curriculum for grade six, facilities work, and summer curriculum work.

Given there were four early dismissals during the first week due to heat, a Board member asked about measures that might be considered to keep the schools cool.

A discussion ensued.

Mr. Richetelli explained the strategies in place to keep children and staff comfortable during extreme weather conditions. Air conditioning all schools would be a large expense and would have to be part of the capital improvement plan put forward to the Mayor.

Proposed 2019-20 Budget Priorities and Assumptions

Dr. Cutaia presented the budget priorities and assumptions to the Board for a first reading.

The following changes were requested on the Priorities:

Add “arts” to bullet #2 “Sustaining core instructional program;”

Incorporate the last bullet on SROs into the first bullet to encompass safe and orderly environment.

The following changes were requested on the Assumptions:

To the health insurance bullet add language to reflect this relates to over 65 retirees;

Bullet that points to special education out-of-district. Delete the sentence regarding the State budget crisis.

The bullet that references “enrollment” should have language that reflects the trend of the declining enrollment.

Add a bullet that has a savings percentage estimate for the substitute reduction.

The priorities and assumptions will be submitted for approval, with the recommended changes, at the October business meeting.

Human Resources Report

Mrs. Kopazna reported on the human resources activity for August, as well as the fall coaching appointments. There are only a few remaining positions that need to be filled.

Disbursement Report

Mr. Richetelli shared the Disbursement Report for August 2018. The report contains expenditures over \$1,500.

Administration was asked to provide details on item 198728 Chester Technical Services in the amount of \$30,960.00.

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

VI. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Mrs. Federico made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves Consent Agenda Items: Consideration of Minutes:

August 27, 2018 Business Meeting

Mr. Firmender seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

None.

VIII. BOARD COMMENT

None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Federico made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Firmender seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Recording Secretary: _____
Mrs. Pam Griffin

Corresponding Secretary: _____
Mrs. Jennifer Federico