

Milford Board of Education

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
November 28, 2016

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
Mrs. Carole Swift

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Glennon called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Burt delivered a PowerPoint presentation (on file) which included the history of the Enrichment program, the Gifted and Talented law and its vision. Enrichment teachers Tom Stack, Elizabeth Stoltenberg, Stephanie Plunkett and Meghan Kim were present to share learning experiences with the Board. In conclusion, Mr. Burt emphasized the intent is to strengthen the program and maximize the potential growth for students.

III. CAREER PATHWAYS UPDATE

Mr. Burt reminded the Board members of the factors that assisted Administration in the recommendation to offer the Entrepreneurship and Business Management pathway. Community members and staff were solicited for their input. The pathway will begin in the 2017-18 school year. The pathway will be supported by many career fields and will be easily implemented with MPS' current course work.

Mr. Burt further said that the program will be phased into the curriculum. There will be some budget implications that will include curriculum writing, materials and professional development. Administration will review the budget needs when the proposed 2017-18 budget is presented to the Board in January.

Ms. Glennon asked if any Board members disagreed with Administration's recommendation. All Board members were in agreement with the Entrepreneurship and Business Management pathway to be offered to students.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Approved

Lori Ann Seluga – 156 Clark Hill Road – Ms. Seluga is the parent of a sixth grader at East Shore. Her son is in the enrichment program for three periods a week. She would like to see an increase of time spent in the program.

Kiera Pena – 84 Overhill Road – Ms. Pena is a student in the enrichment program. She enjoys the challenges the program offers.

Nicole Pena – 84 Overhill Road – Ms. Pena is Kiera's mother. She believes the program allows for the creative non-traditional aspects of the mind to work.

Joelle Coretti – 314 West Rutland Road – Ms. Coretti attended the enrichment program 30 years ago. It was a wonderful education experience that students will remember for life. However, she feels there is not enough dedicated space for the program.

Ben Warters – 70 Oak Ridge Lane – Mr. Warters is a former student in the enrichment program, who was bussed to Calf Pen Meadow to participate in the program. He urged the Board to revisit classroom space dedicated to the program.

Ellie Warters – 70 Oak Ridge Lane – Ms. Warters is the mother of two students who have participated in the program. She noted that her son, Ben started his own business, Oak Ridge Productions based on what he learned from his experience in the program. It is a very good program, however, dedicated classroom space is very important.

Kris Seluga – 156 Clark Hill Road – Mr. Seluga urged the Board to continue the enrichment program. In fact, he would like to see it expanded.

Ashley Grant – 31 Winthrop Court – Ms. Grant is the President of MAGE and expressed her support for the program.

Ester Wilson – 34 Wall Street – Ms. Wilson read a letter to the Board that her daughter penned. She loves the program and its benefits.

Jackson Warters – 70 Oak Ridge Lane – Mr. Warters is a student in the enrichment program. He would like to see more time added to the program.

VI. ADJOURN

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Recording Secretary: _____
Mrs. Pam Griffin

Corresponding Secretary: _____
Ms. Suzanne DiBiase

Approved