

**Milford Board of Education**

**Business Meeting and Live Streamed on YouTube**

**Meeting Minutes**

November 8, 2021

**Board members present:**

Adam De Young  
Meghan Doyle  
Andrew Fowler  
Susan Glennon (Board Chair)  
Emily McDonough Souza  
Warren Pawlowski  
Una Petroske  
Betsy Ratner  
Cindy Wolfe Boynton

**Administration present:**

Dr. Anna Cutaia  
Dr. Amy Fedigan  
Wendy Kopazna  
Jim Richetelli  
Chris Brown

**Board members absent:**

Rita Hennessey (excused)

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Glennon called the board meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. By a roll call, nine Board members were present. Ms. Glennon said Mrs. Hennessey would not be in attendance. Ms. Glennon then led the Board in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Glennon reviewed housekeeping which included wearing masks at all times while inside a school building and during public comment. This is in compliance with the Governor's executive orders and guidance from the Health Department.

**II. STUDENT REPORTS**

David Gaetano presented the report for Foran. Jackson Warters and Aidan King presented the report for Law.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Glennon read the Public Comment statement.

Dolores Hannon - 110 Beach Avenue - Mrs. Hannon congratulated the Board on the recent election. She expressed concerns about the methodology of the Board Resolution that was approved in December. She encouraged the Board to make connections with the Milford community.

Erin Coyle - 55 Commerce Lane - Ms. Coyle has two children that attend a parochial school. She feels the community failed the children because they were not in school five days last year. She is also concerned about how the children are being taught.

Renee Casey – 31 Riverside Dr. - Ms. Casey told the Board many parents are concerned with the curriculum. She will continue to be vigilant to see a change and an increase in enrollment. She thanked the Board for their hard work.

Dr. Matt Paterna – Milford Resident - Dr. Paterna feels the vaccine should be a choice.

Raquel Bonessi - 83 Beach Avenue - Ms. Bonessi congratulated the elected Board members. She told them the proof will be what we see in our schools.

Nicole O’Neil - 54 Bryan Hill Road - Enrolled her daughter in private preschool so her daughter could attend school five days a week. She shared various survival rates for children who get COVID. She wonders if the masks can be removed.

#### **IV. CHAIR’S REPORT**

Ms. Glennon recognized Mr. Pawlowski on his final meeting with the Board. She thanked him for his contribution during the past four years.

Ms. Glennon shared the swearing in will take place on November 15, 2021. The Board will hold its Organizational meeting on November 22<sup>nd</sup>, at Jonathan Law, followed by an orientation. December 13th will be the first business meeting of the new Board.

Ms. Glennon called for liaison reports.

Mrs. Ratner provided a report on Milford Prevention Council.

Mr. Fowler said the Permanent School Building Facilities Committee met and approved school building projects that will be discussed later in the meeting.

Ms. Glennon told the Board she attended PTA Council. Family engagement was discussed at the meeting.

She then turned the meeting over the Superintendent for her report.

#### **V. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Dr. Cutaia asked for a moment of privilege to thank Mr. Pawlowski for all of his work over the four years he served on the Board.

##### **Instructional Highlight - Graduation Statistics and Results in Advanced Placement, Smarter Balanced Assessment and SAT**

Dr. Fedigan shared the 2021 student achievement results with the Board. Her presentation provided a comprehensive snapshot of the history of standardized assessments and what their purpose is in education. The district assessments scores have remained flat, however, the pandemic was a factor as students were not in the classroom. She also reviewed the AP results, graduation statistics and the number of students who were accepted into top tier colleges.

Looking ahead, the district will continue its work on formative assessments, professional development and the curriculum revision cycle which are leading indicators that will transform teaching and learning and align to HQI and the Vision of the Learner.

The Administration answered questions from the Board.

### **Summer Projects**

Mr. Bradbury shared a pictorial presentation of the school projects that were completed over the summer.

### **Human Resources Annual Report**

Ms. Kopazna provided the Board with an overview of the human resources activities over the past year. The report included staffing, training, labor/employee relations, benefits/leaves of absence and record keeping. She said there is still a shortage in substitute teachers even though the daily rate of pay was increased from \$95 to \$125 a day.

### **Human Resources Report**

Ms. Kopazna presented the Human Resources Report for October. Included in the report were the personnel changes as well as stipend appointments.

### **Disbursement Report**

Mr. Richetelli presented the Disbursement Report for the month of October. The report continues to call attention to COVID related expenses in yellow.

### **Board Policies**

Dr. Cutaia presented three policies for approval by the Board. The policies were reviewed and discussed at the October committee of the whole meeting. At that meeting, two versions of the Individualized Education Program/Special Education were presented and discussed.

Administration has submitted a new policy that ensures the district is in compliance with current federal and state laws. The Board was in agreement with the new policy.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves the Individualized Education Program/Special Education Program policy 6159 as presented. Mr. Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves the Drugs, Tobacco, Alcohol policy 6164.11. Mr. Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves the Preschool Students with Disabilities policy 6171.2 as presented. Mr. Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of Various School Building Projects**

Mr. Richetelli presented three school building projects for approval by the Board. The Board has included the projects in its CIP and they have been included in the City's CIP. The Board must approve them in order for the Administration to seek reimbursement from the state.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves the final drawings, project manuals and professional cost estimate in the Unifomat II format for the School Security Infrastructure Upgrades at Live Oaks Elementary School, submitted by Silver Petrucelli & Associates dated September 1, 2021. Mr. Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves the final drawings, project manuals and professional cost estimate in the Unifomat II format for the School Security Infrastructure Upgrades at Calf Pen Meadow Elementary School, submitted by Silver Petrucelli & Associates dated September 1, 2021. Mr. Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education accepts the Partial Roof Replacement Project at Jonathan Law High School (State Project # 084-0207-RR) as 100% complete. Mr. Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## **VI. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

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

Consideration of Minutes:

October 11, 2021 Business Meeting

October 25, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting

Mr. Fowler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **VII. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION: DISCUSSION OF SALARIES FOR NON-CERTIFIED/NON-UNION EMPLOYEES**

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education adjourns to executive session for discussion of salaries for non-certified/non-union employees. Invited in are Dr. Cutaia, Mr. Richetelli, Ms. Kopazna and Mr. Giancola. Mr. Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously. (9:45 p.m.)

Ms. Glennon called the meeting back into public session at 10.25 p.m.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves the sum of \$195,942.00 to be used for salary increases for non-union employees at the discretion of the Superintendent for 2022-2023. Mr. Fowler seconded.

Mr. De Young commended the Administration for their forward thinking within the IT department.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **VIII. BOARD COMMENT**

Mr. Fowler offered congratulations to the incumbents. He wished Mr. Pawlowski a bright future. He then extended prayers to the family of a former staff member who experienced a tragedy.

Mr. Pawlowski thanked the Board for their kind words. He thanked Dr. Cutaia and all those behind the scenes. He is confident his children are in good hands. It has been a pleasure representing the third district and hopes to do it again.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Petroske made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Fowler seconded. Seeing no objections, Ms. Glennon adjourned the meeting at 10:31 p.m.

Recording Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs. Pam Griffin

Corresponding Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs. Una Petroske