

Milford Board of Education
Business Meeting and Live Streamed on YouTube
Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2022

Board members present:

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

Administration present:

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Glennon called the board meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Jonathan Law auditorium. By a roll call, nine (9) Board members were present.

II. STUDENT REPORTS

Jackson Wartars presented the student report for Law. David Gaetano and Arezoo Ghazagh presented the report for Foran.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. CHAIR'S REPORT

Ms. Glennon told the Board she has received Ms. Holly Mulrenan's resignation as she will fill the vacant seat on the Board of Aldermen. She will replace Marty Hardiman.

The Board meetings going forward will be held at Parsons in the Boardroom until further notice.

She called for liaison reports.

Mr. Fowler reported on the Permanent School Facilities Building Committee. Of note, the BOA has assigned Joseph A. Foran project to the committee.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Instructional Highlight: PK-12 Science

Dr. Fedigan, assisted by Dr. Thomas Nobili and Mrs. Lisa Swanson narrated a brief presentation highlighting the district's science work. Teachers Ms. Betty Craigan and Ms. Deb Rogers assisted during hands-on science demonstrations. The presentation offered an inside view of the science curriculum, instruction and assessment, learning environments, and professional learning relative to prek-12 science and how it is aligned with the national standards and the vision of the learner.

High School Graduation Dates, 2022

Dr. Cutaia told the Board that high school graduations are typically held on the last two days of school. The last day for the 2021-22 school year is June 20, 2022. Therefore, Foran is scheduled to graduate on June 17 and Law on June 20. Both ceremonies will be held at 5:15.

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education establishes a graduation date of Friday, June 17, 2022 and Monday, June 20, 2022, for the senior classes of Joseph A. Foran and Jonathan Law High Schools respectively. Graduation ceremonies should begin at 5:15 p.m. for both high schools. Mrs. Ratner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Policies for a 2nd Reading

Dr. Cutaia presented Board policy 5144.2 Use of Exclusionary Time Out Settings to the Board for approval.

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves Board policy 5144.2 Use of Exclusionary Time-out Settings as presented. Mrs. Ratner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Cutaia then spoke to the changes to policies 4118.11/4218.11 Nondiscrimination, 5131.91 Hazing, 5131.911 Bullying Prevention and Intervention/Teen Dating Violence and 6115 Ceremonies and Observances.

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves Board Policy 4118.11 Nondiscrimination as presented. Mrs. Ratner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves Board Policy 5131.91 Hazing as presented. Mrs. Ratner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves Board Policy 5131.911 Bullying Prevention and Intervention as presented. Mrs. Ratner seconded.

Mr. De Young said he appreciated the changes in the policy, however, he would like to see a separate policy for cyberbullying in the future.

With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves Board Policy 6115 Ceremonies and Observances as presented. Mrs. Ratner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Food Service Financial Report July 1, 2021, to February 28, 2022

Mrs. Faustich reported on the mid-year financial report for Food Services, July 2021-February 2022. The district continues to provide meals to students at no cost due to the pandemic. However, this has not been extended by the government and with the rise in costs, the lunch price could increase for the upcoming school year.

Healthy Food Certification and Food Exemptions

The District has participated in the National School Lunch Program for many years. Each year the Board is required to certify that all food items sold to students will or will not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards.

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves the implementation of the Healthy Food option: Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, that certifies all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school 1 Public schools include all public schools, regional educational service centers, the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS), charter schools, interdistrict magnet schools, and endowed academies. Mrs. Ratner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education will move to allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food and beverage items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the food and beverage sales. Mrs. Ratner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Phase 3 Security Projects Acceptance as 100% Complete

Mr. Richetelli told the Board the five security upgrade projects have been approved by the Permanent School Facilities Building Committee and need to be approved by the Board in order to be submitted for reimbursement.

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education accepts the Security Upgrade Project – Hardened Entranceway at John F. Kennedy Elementary School (State Project #084-210-A) as 100% complete. Mrs. Ratner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education accepts the Security Upgrade Project – Hardened Entranceway at Mathewson Elementary School (State Project #084-212-A) as 100% complete. Mrs. Ratner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education accepts the Security Upgrade Project – Hardened Entranceway at Orange Avenue Elementary School (State Project #084-209-A) as 100% complete. Mrs. Ratner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education accepts the Security Upgrade Project – Hardened Entranceway at East Shore Middle School (State Project #084-208-A) as 100% complete. Mrs. Ratner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education accepts the Security Upgrade Project – Hardened Entranceway at Joseph A. Foran High School (State Project #084-211-A) as 100% complete. Mrs. Ratner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Human Resources Report

Ms. Kopazna presented the Human Resources Report for March. Included in the report were the personnel changes, job postings, retirements, resignations/terminations and stipend appointments.

Disbursement Report

Mr. Richetelli presented the Disbursement Report for March and answered board questions.

Quarterly Budget Report

Mr. Richetelli highlighted areas of the budget report that may raise concerns, mainly due to the pandemic. However, he assured the Board the year will conclude with a balanced budget.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves Consent Agenda Items:

Consideration of Minutes:

March 14, 2022 Business Meeting

March 28, 2022 Committee of the Whole Meeting

Mrs. Ratner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. BOARD COMMENT

Mrs. Ratner told the Administration she is pleased to see parent universities, music family night, etc.

Ms. Doyle congratulated her niece Caroline for being named as youth governor of New England and Bermuda by the key club. Additionally, she thanked the administration for the opportunities available to the kids.

Mr. De Young thanked Ms. Glennon, Mr. Fowler and Mrs. Petroske for getting the Board meetings back to in person.

Approved

Ms. Glennon said she was happy to attend plays in person again. She also thanked the staff at Jonathan Law staff and Blessing for their work in making the meetings successful at Law over the past months.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fowler made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Ratner seconded. Seeing no objections, Ms. Glennon adjourned the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

Recording Secretary: _____
Mrs. Pam Griffin

Corresponding Secretary: _____
Mr. Andrew Fowler