

Milford Board of Education

Virtual Business Meeting and Live Streamed on YouTube

Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2021

Board members present:

Adam De Young
Andrew Fowler
Susan Glennon (Chair)
Rita Hennessey (Arrived at 7:20)
Emily McDonough Souza
Warren Pawlowski
Una Petroske
Betsy Ratner
Nicole Wasson
Cindy Wolfe Boynton

Administration present:

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Glennon called the virtual board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. By a roll call, nine Board members were present. Ms. Glennon noted Ms. Hennessey had a work conflict and would arrive a little late. She then led the Board in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. STUDENT REPORTS

Ben Carlson and Daniya Chopra offered a report from Foran. Angel Santiago and Alexis Broderick offered a report from Law.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. INCOMING AND OUTGOING STUDENT LIAISONS

Ms. Glennon thanked the student liaisons for keeping the Board up to date on high school happenings throughout the school year. She wished them well after graduation.

Foran and Jonathan Law outgoing liaisons introduced the 2021-22 student liaisons to the Board. The 2021-22 Board liaisons are: Aidan King and Jackson Waters from Law and David Gaetano and Arezoo Ghazagh from Foran.

V. CHAIR'S REPORT

Ms. Glennon informed the Board that the Board of Aldermen approved the budget. She reminded the Board members of the summer meeting dates. After conferring with Health Director Deepa Joseph, Dr. Cutaia informed her there have been no changes to the health protocols for Milford. Ms. Glennon advised the Board she is hoping resume to in-person meetings beginning with the August 23rd Board meeting. Modifications might need to be made to the Board room to accommodate the spacing requirements. She noted that MASA contract negotiations begin in July.

She called for liaison reports.

Mr. Fowler said the Permanent School Facilities Building Committee met to discuss Pumpkin Delight.

Ms. Ratner updated the Board on the work of the Milford Prevention Council. New banners will be displayed throughout Milford. Drug Bring Back day was a success. She also spoke about a grant.

Ms. Glennon said the PTA Council Lifetime Achievement Award will go to Jean Kovacs this year. There will be a celebration soon.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Instructional Highlight – Middle School Redesign Schedule

Dr. Fedigan introduced members of the Middle School Schedule Revision Committee who narrated a presentation which explained the group's progress to date, the process being used, research findings, priorities and initial steps toward implementation of an innovative, revised middle school schedule that will support those priorities and the model for HQI as well as will advance the competencies and indicators outlined in our school system's Vision of the Learner.

Math coaches shared examples that demonstrated how acceleration has impacted instruction and will help students to master the level of instruction to promote them to the next level.

Next steps include running mock schedules through power school to be certain all needs will be met and conducting an impact analysis before making a final recommendation to Dr. Cutaia. A communication plan will be developed for MS stakeholders. Additional work would then be done to prepare teaching and learning staff for implementation of the new schedule. It is anticipated this will be a multi-phased rollout.

Dr. Cutaia indicated she will keep the Board informed of the progress.

Board Policies for a Second Reading

Dr. Cutaia explained four policies need to be rescinded as the information is contained in the Acceptable Use Policy. Those policies are: Electronic Mail (P4118.4), Social Networking (P4118.41), Web Sites/Pages (P6141.322) and Use of Computers (P6156.2).

Ms. Glennon called for a motion.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education rescinds Board policy 4118.4 Electronic Mail. Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote of 10-0, the motion passed.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education rescinds Board policy 4118.41 Social Networking. Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote of 10-0, the motion passed.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education rescinds Board policy 6141.322 Web Sites/Pages. Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote of 10-0, the motion passed.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education rescinds Board policy 6156.2 Use of Computers. Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote of 10-0, the motion passed.

Dr. Cutaia presented two policies that were brought to the Board at the April committee of the whole meeting. They are ready for approval.

Ms. Glennon asked for a motion.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves Board policy 6162.6 Copyright Law Compliance. Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote of 10-0, the motion passed.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves Board policy 6172.4 Title I Parental and Family Engagement. Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote of 10-0, the motion passed.

Human Resources Report

Ms. Kopazna presented the Human Resources Report for April. Included in the report were the personnel changes as well as stipend appointments. Of note, 20 retirements have been submitted to date.

Approval of Various School Building Projects

Mr. Richetelli explained the building projects that have been approved the Permanent School Facilities Building Committee and will need the Board's acceptance of each project as complete. The Board is required to approve each project to start the application process for reimbursement.

Ms. Glennon said six motions will be needed.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves the Educational Specifications for the Expansion, Alterations, Security, Code Compliance and Other General Improvements Project at Pumpkin Delight Elementary School and authorize the Superintendent to apply for State grant reimbursement from the State of Connecticut Department of Administrative Services – Office of School Construction Grants and Review (OSCGR). Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote of 10-0, the motion passed.

Mrs. Petroske made a Motion that the Milford Board of Education approves the Educational Specifications for the Security Upgrade Project – Hardened Entranceway at Live Oaks Elementary School and authorize the Superintendent to apply for State reimbursement from the State of Connecticut Department of Administrative Services – Office of School Construction Grants and Review (OSCGR). Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote of 10-0, the motion passed.

Mrs. Petroske made a Motion that the Milford Board of Education approves the Educational Specifications for the Security Upgrade Project – Hardened Entranceway at Calf Pen Meadow Elementary School and authorize the Superintendent to apply for State reimbursement from the State of Connecticut Department of Administrative Services – Office of School Construction Grants and Review (OSCGR). Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote of 10-0, the motion passed.

Mrs. Petroske made a Motion that the Milford Board of Education accepts the Security Upgrade Project – Hardened Entranceway at Orchard Hills Elementary School (State Project #084-204-A) as 100% complete. Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote of 10-0, the motion passed.

Mrs. Petroske made a Motion that the Milford Board of Education accepts the Security Upgrade Project – Hardened Entranceway at The Academy (State Project #084-0205-A) as 100% complete. Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote of 10-0, the motion passed.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education accepts the Security Upgrade Project – Hardened Entranceway at Jonathan Law High School (State Project #084-206-A) as 100% complete. Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote of 10-0, the motion passed.

Ms. Glennon thanked Mr. Fowler and Mr. Pawlowski for representing the MBOE on the Permanent School Facilities Building Committee.

Disbursement Report

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

VII. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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

Consideration of Minutes:

April 12, 2021 Business Meeting

April 26, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting

Mr. Fowler seconded the motion. By a roll call vote of 10-0, the motion passed unanimously.

VIII. BOARD COMMENT

None.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Petroske made a motion adjourn. Mr. Fowler seconded. With no objections, Ms. Glennon adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Recording Secretary: _____
Mrs. Pam Griffin

Corresponding Secretary: _____
Mrs. Una Petroske