

Approved

Milford Board of Education

Board Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2015

Board members present:

Michael DeGrego
John DeRosa
Suzanne DiBiase
Jennifer Federico
Susan Glennon, Chair
Dr. Heidi Gold-Dworkin
C. Robert Satti, Jr.
Earl Whiskeyman

Administration present:

Dr. Elizabeth Feser
Michael Cummings
Wendy Kopazna
Susan Kelleher

Board members absent:

Anthony Piselli

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Glennon called the business meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board of Education Room at Parsons Government complex. She then asked that everyone join in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the pledge, Ms. Glennon announced Mr. Piselli was ill and would not be in attendance.

Ms. Glennon turned the meeting over the Dr. Feser for recognition.

II. STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION

Dr. Feser recognized the fourth and fifth grade students who placed in the Fire Prevention Poster contest. Each county selects the top four students and forwards the posters to the state for submission. The end result is a state calendar with the fire poster winners. Milford's winners are:

Grade 4

Arlene Banavong	3rd Place	Meadowside
Dylan Soule	2nd Place	Meadowside
Mallory Janik	1st Place	Orchard Hills

Grade 5

Anthony Fino	3rd Place	Meadowside
Gabrielle Fino	2nd Place	Meadowside
Kimberly Costes	1st Place	Pumpkin Delight

The next recognition of the evening was given to students who participated, and placed in the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Essay Contest. Each year DAR sponsors a contest where students write history essays. This year, there were two; one at the elementary level about "A child's journey through Ellis Island", and one at the high school level about "Joining Christopher Columbus on his voyage to the new world". Recognized were:

Emilia Russell, 5 th grade	2nd Place
Makalei Bliss, 5 th grade	1st Place
Robert McGinnis, 11 th grade	Honorable Mention
Lyric McVoy, 11 th grade	Honorable Mention

Dr. Feser and the Board congratulated the students.

III. STUDENT REPORTS

Sofya Calvin and Kelsey Kopazna presented the report for Jonathan Law. Tyler Porcello and Shaina Arsenault presented the report for Joseph A. Foran High School.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VI. CHAIRS REPORT

Ms. Glennon announced the resignation of Mrs. Laura Fucci. She then announced the Democratic Town Committee has chosen Mrs. Claire Casey, who resides in the 5th district will serve the remainder of the term. In addition, Mr. C. Robert Satti, Jr. will serve as the Majority Leader for the Board of Education. She asked for a motion.

Mr. Satti made a motion that the Board of Education approve Mrs. Claire Casey as Mrs. Fucci's replacement as a Board of Education member representing the 5th district, and serve the remainder of the term. Mr. DeRosa seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Glennon announced the upcoming meetings.

February 11, 2015 - A Board Workshop with consultants from Milone and MacBroom who will present its redistricting recommendations to the Board at Jonathan Law High School.

February 17, 2015 – A Board Workshop dedicated to redistricting with public comment, also at Jonathan Law.

February 23, 2015 – The Board's Committee of the Whole meeting at City Hall dedicated to redistricting with public comment.

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

Ms. Glennon turned the meeting over to Dr. Feser for the Superintendent's report.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Instructional Division Highlight

Dr. Feser informed the Board that every month the administration will provide a presentation showcasing work, projects or programs that are happening in the school district. This month, a new course offering titled App Design I and II was the highlight.

Ms. Justine LaSala, Supervisor of Science and Technical Arts along with teachers Ms. Martinich and Mr. Czarnecki narrated a presentation. Mr. Czarnecki and Mrs. Martinich explained the course prepares students for richer computer science courses. Milford is one of only 30 pilot sites across the United States with 22 being in CT. Law and Foran are among 22 those CT pilot sites. In 2016-17 the course will be offered at

Advanced Placement level. The teachers explained the mechanisms of the program, while students were on hand to share their classroom experiences, including some of the apps they developed, such as a Milford 375th anniversary app.

Concussion Policy and Administrative Regulation

Dr. Feser reported to the Board that following the January Board meeting, she met with Dr. Carlson, medical advisor to Milford Public Schools. She learned of the Connecticut State Board of Education's release of the "Concussion Education Plan and Guidelines for Connecticut Schools." She requested that the approval be delayed until administration can review the guidelines and ensure the policy meets the criteria provided by the state. This policy needs to be in place by July 1, 2015.

2015-16 Academic Calendar

Dr. Feser presented the 2015-16 Academic Calendar as a first read. She reminded the Board that a regional calendar will be mandated in 2016-17. The calendar presented has three major changes; a Thursday start for students, three professional development days prior to the start of school with the intent to use one of them for K-5 orientation and shifting to a Monday-Tuesday break in February vs the current Friday-Monday break Milford has been using. The first day of school for students would be on Thursday, August 27th. The details of the orientation have not been finalized.

Mr. Whiskeyman noted that ACES has a late start for the 2016-17 school year.

Mrs. Federico suggested an orientation be held in the evening so working parents could attend.

Human Resources Report

Mrs. Kopazna reported on Human Resources Report for January.

Mrs. Federico asked how open teacher positions are being handled. Mrs. Kopazna explained there is a process in place which begins with substitutes being placed in the position.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Satti made a motion to approve Consent Agenda items:

1. Disbursement Report
2. Consideration of Minutes
 - a. January 12, 2015 Business Meeting
 - b. January 14, 2015 Special Meeting
 - c. January 15, 2015 Special Meeting
 - d. January 21, 2015 Special Meeting

Mr. DeRosa seconded. The motion passed unanimously

IX. NEW BUSINESS

None.

X. BOARD COMMENT

Approved

Ms. Glennon provided a brief background on new Board member Mrs. Casey. She has lived in Milford for 26 years and has two children; one of which is a sophomore at Foran. She teaches fifth and sixth grades at St. James in Stratford.

Being no further comments, Ms. Glennon asked for a motion to adjourn.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Satti asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. DeRosa seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Mrs. Pam Griffin
Recording Secretary

Mr. C. Robert Satti, Jr.
Corresponding Secretary