

Milford Board of Education

Meeting Minutes
February 24, 2014

Board members present:

Michael DeGrego
John DeRosa
Suzanne DiBiase
Laura Fucci
Dr. Heidi Gold-Dworkin
Susan Glennon, Chair
Anthony Piselli
Christopher Saley
Earl Whiskeyman

Administration present:

Dr. Elizabeth Feser
Michael Cummings
James Richetelli

Board members absent:

Tracy Casey

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Glennon called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. She then announced that Mrs. Casey was absent due to a work related conflict.

Ms. Glennon turned the meeting over to Dr. Feser.

II. COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS AND THE INSTRUCTIONAL CORE

Dr. Feser explained the meeting focus will be on the work that is in place, and the work that is to be done relative to the curriculum and assessment tests. The administration will address some of the questions that arose from the January Committee of the Whole meeting. Importantly, what our assessments will look like and how we will prepare the students to take the new tests.

Dr. Feser then asked Mr. Cumming to introduce the staff members present who would assist in the presentation. Present were John Scalice (Supervisor of Student Development), Dave St. Germain (Supervisor of Media Services), Justine LaSala (Supervisor of Science and Technical Arts), Ralph Barberio (Supervisor of Social Studies and World Languages), Lisa Swanson (Supervisor of Math and Business), Shannan Carlson (Assistant Principal of Harborside), Jennifer Sinal (Supervisor of English and Language Arts) and Gail Krois (Supervisor of District Improvement).

Mr. Cummings then delivered a PowerPoint presentation that linked the work around the instructional core to the preparedness to the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC). He began with a brief review of the Instructional Core, which includes the Mission and Vision statements of the Milford Public Schools, and three vertexes that are critical to the learning. The Instructional Core is the continuous process of improvement involving the teacher, student and content. The curriculum sets the student knowledge expectation and will align to the national Common Core State Standards.

Approved

The supervisors present not only talked about the work going on in their departments, but about the specific performance tasks that demand a higher level of thinking.

Ms. Glennon called for a recess at 8:15 p.m.

Ms. Glennon called the meeting back to order at 8:25 p.m.

Mrs. Krois then spoke about the instructional framework and the revisions that have been made.

Mr. Cummings stated the administration is reviewing the graduation requirements to ensure they are current with state laws and the district's vision and mission.

Mr. Cummings then spoke about the student supports in place. The district has implemented the Extended Day Program at JFK and Pumpkin, summer programs, SRBI and the belief systems. He stated that the programs are being monitored and tweaked. He further explained the intent is to provide the Board a full update at a future meeting.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ed Vanchot – 858 New Haven Avenue – Mr. Vanchot has three children in the system. He wanted to be “put on record” for providing documents regarding the long range plan that should be distributed to the Mayor, Board of Aldermen, Mrs. Jagoe, Dr. Feser and Mr. Richetelli. He then cautioned the Board not to reduce a teacher to a facilitator. Children are inspired by teachers.

Ms. Glennon thanked him for the documents.

Christopher Lickteig – 76 Wooster Street - Mr. Lickteig has two children in the system. He said a lot of work has been done in the departments with great passion. However, he feels some of the goal has been and will be missed. He also believes the way math is being taught is confusing. When the test comes out, the tools and resources are no longer available. Common Core was adopted, not voted on. A lot of states are now trying to fight or bend what is going on. He urged that Milford look at this in serious context.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Fucci a motion to adjourn. Mr. DeRosa seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Mrs. Pam Griffin
Recording Secretary

Ms. Laura Fucci

Approved

Corresponding Secretary