

Milford Board of Education

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
October 24, 2016

Board members present:

Claire Casey
Michael DeGrego
Suzanne DiBiase
Jennifer Federico
Susan Glennon, Chair
Walter Hagedorn
Tom Jagodzinski
Susan Krushinsky
Earl Whiskeyman

Administration present:

Dr. Elizabeth Feser
Jeffrey Burt
James Richetelli
Carole Swift

Board members absent:

Dr. Jess Gregory

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Glennon called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. She announced Dr. Gregory was ill.

II. 2017-18 CAREER PATHWAY UPDATE

Mr. Burt and Ms. LaSala presented Administration's recommendations for a second career pathway to be implemented in the 2017-18 school year. This decision comes after obtaining feedback from the public, through a Community Conversation held with members of the community, a teacher survey, student focus groups, and review of the Milone and MacBroom survey that was conducted in spring of 2014. Of the feedback provided, five pathways emerged. Of the five, Administration narrowed down the options to two, Medical and Health Sciences and Entrepreneurship and Business Management. While both offer a variety of career field choices, the Entrepreneurship and Business Management pathway is better aligned to the interests in Milford. Administration recommends the addition of the Entrepreneurship and Business Management pathway based on student interest, feasibility of implementation, existing course work and staffing. Some career fields supported by the pathway include start-ups, small business ownership & operation, consultant, business administration, retail, marketing, finance, human resource officer, business or financial analyst, account management, general business management, productivity management and market research.

Following the update, Dr. Feser told the Board approval would be sought at the November business meeting to allow proper budgeting for next year.

III. COMMUNITY RELATIONS POLICIES, 1000 SERIES

Policy 1313 Gifts to School Personnel by Outside Contractors

When discussing policy 1313 "Gifts to School Personnel by Outside Contractors", the Board asked Dr. Feser to canvas the building principals to see if there have been issues with gifts given to staff. Dr. Feser reported that she met with the president of the administrators' union. He has not been made aware of any

issues or concerns around gifts given to staff by outside contractors or parents/guardians. In addition, the gifts are not monitored as there is no way of holding staff accountable.

The Board added language to include gift cards that are considered cash, such as VISA, Mastercard and American Express.

Following the discussion, Ms. Glennon called for a motion to approve the policy.

Ms. DiBiase made a motion that the Board of Education approves Policy 1313 Gifts to School Personnel by Outside Contractors as amended. Mrs. Federico seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Policy 1323 Donations and Gifts

The Board asked that the very same language used in Policy 1313 referring to “*gift cards that are considered cash, such as VISA, Mastercard and American Express*” be added to Policy 1323. In addition, the fourth paragraph will move to be the second paragraph in the policy.

Ms. Glennon called for a motion to approve the policy.

Ms. DiBiase made a motion that the Board of Education approves Policy 1323 Donations and Gifts as amended. Mrs. Federico seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Glennon called for a motion to approve the remaining policies in the 1000 series.

Ms. DiBiase made a motion that the Board of Education approves Policies 1411 Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies, 1416 Fiscal Authority and 1500 Relations Between Area, State, Regional and National Associations and the Schools. Mrs. Federico seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Glennon thanked the Board for their work in reviewing the policies. The 5000 series will be reviewed beginning with a block to be presented for a first reading at the November business meeting.

IV. DRAFT REGIONAL CALENDAR FROM ACES FOR 2017-18

Dr. Feser turned the meeting over to Mr. Whiskeyman for an update on the recent ACES Board meeting. Ms. Glennon first offered a point of information that updates are typically given as part of the Board liaison report at business meetings. However, in this case the timing of the Board business meeting and the ACES meeting would not allow that.

Mr. Whiskeyman thanked the Board for the opportunity to share the outcome of the recent ACES Board meeting. The Regional Calendar was presented to the ACES Board at the October meeting. There was controversy over the start date. The ACES Board is seeking input from their supported districts as to their preference for the first day of school for students. The dates in question for the first day for students are August 28th or 30th.

The consensus of the Board was to have a start date of August 24th for teachers and August 28th for students. It was suggested that ACES have calendar conversations with surrounding towns, i.e. Bridgeport and Stratford.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VI. ADJOURN

Ms. DiBiase made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Federico seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Recording Secretary: _____
Mrs. Pam Griffin

Corresponding Secretary: _____
Ms. Suzanne DiBiase