

Milford Board of Education

Virtual Business Meeting and Live Streamed on YouTube

Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2020

Board members present:

Adam De Young
Andrew Fowler
Susan Glennon (Chair)
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

Board members absent:

Rita Hennessey

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 family emergency and would try to join late. Ms. Glennon then led the Board in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. STUDENT REPORTS

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

III. CHAIR'S REPORT

Ms. Glennon acknowledged Veteran's Day by thanking all Veteran's for their service. She told the Board the Ad Hoc committee has been working on the resolution on race, equity and social justice. The committee will share the resolution with the Board at the November 23rd meeting as a first reading. The resolution will be proposed for approval at the December meeting. She reminded the Board to hold the month of January for budget meetings.

Ms. Glennon called for liaison reports.

Mr. Fowler reported on the Permanent School Building Facilities Committee. The Committee has selected four architects for the Pumpkin Delight renovations. Ultimately, one architect will be awarded the project.

Mr. De Young shared with the Board the Milford Education Foundation has created buttons for all elementary schools for teachers to wear with a picture of themselves so the children could actually see their face.

Ms. Ratner reported that Milford Prevention Council held their annual meeting. She was impressed by the Hidden in Plain Sight presentation.

Ms. Glennon attended PTA Council. The Council has named Mr. Rick George as the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award. He is a greeter in Milford as well as “Santa.”

IV. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Instructional Highlight: Dr. Fedigan, assisted by instructional supervisor Mrs. Perras and teacher leader Mrs. Rizzo, narrated a presentation that highlighted the district’s work around Distance Learning. They began the presentation by sharing how the district managed the switch to distance learning in March and how we learned from the experiences. Mrs. Perras and Mrs. Rizzo then shared details of our current distance learning work including our Milford Public Schools Continuum of Interactive Instruction for synchronous and asynchronous teaching and learning as well as key findings in the area of distance teaching and learning including how our experiences will inform future teaching and learning practices. Teachers and students were on hand to share experiences and lessons to show how distance learning is still an interactive and rigorous environment.

Following the presentation, the Administration answered questions from the Board.

Board Policies Second Reading

Dr. Cutaia told the Board the policies presented and reviewed at the October committee of the board meeting were revised as requested. They are ready for a second reading and Board approval.

Ms. Glennon asked Mrs. Petroske to read the motions for each policy..

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education Approves Board Policy Civil and Legal Rights and Responsibilities P-5145 as presented. Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote, 9-0, the motion passed.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education Approves Board Policy Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harrassment P-5145-5 as presented. Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote, 9-0, the motion passed.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education Approves Board Policy Nondiscrimination - Title IX P-5145.44 as presented. Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote, 9-0, the motion passed.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education Approves Board Policy Nondiscrimination P-5145.45 as presented. Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote, 9-0, the motion passed.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education Approves Board Policy Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Youth P-5145.53 as presented. Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote, 9-0, the motion passed.

Mrs. Petroske made a motion that the Milford Board of Education Approves Board Policy Sexual Abuse Prevention and Education Program P-5145.511 as presented. Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote, 9-0, the motion passed.

Motion that the Milford Board of Education Approves Board Policy Student Grievance Procedures P-5145.6 as presented. Mr. Fowler seconded. By a roll call vote, 9-0, the motion passed.

Human Resources Report

Ms. Kopazna presented the Human Resources Report for November.

Athletic Program Annual Financial Report

Mr. Richetelli presented the athletic program financial report for the 2019-20 fiscal year. Milford currently runs 24 CIAC sanctioned sports. Mr. Richetelli provided a breakdown of the expenditures by sport. Additionally, the district participates in the hockey coop program.

Mr. Richetelli explained last year was very different from years past. The athletic program has been drastically impacted by the pandemic. However, there was not a huge savings in the budget due to supplies being purchased for spring sports before the district cancelled sports. The savings will be captured in the 2020-21 athletic program budget.

Mr. Richetelli took questions from the Board.

Disbursement Report

Mr. Richetelli presented the Disbursement Report answered questions from the Board. In the report, COVID expenses were highlighted in yellow.

V. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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

Consideration of Minutes:

October 12, 2020 Business Meeting

October 26, 2020 Committee of the Whole Meeting

Mr. Fowler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. BOARD COMMENT

Mr. De Young commented on the event held at Law to boost interest in voting. He expressed his opinion that civic engagement is lacking in today's youth and thinks it's critical that students hear this message.

Ms. Ratner said she is proud to be serving on the Board during this time.

Ms. Glennon expressed her gratitude to staff for their commitment and the long hours staff is putting in this year.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Petroske made a motion adjourn. Mr. Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Recording Secretary: _____
Mrs. Pam Griffin

Corresponding Secretary: _____
Mrs. Una Petroske