

Milford Board of Education

Business Meeting and Live Streamed on YouTube

Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2022

Board members present:

Adam De Young
Meghan Doyle
Andrew Fowler
Susan Glennon (Board Chair)
Emily McDonough Souza
Holly Mulrenan
Betsy Ratner
Cindy Wolfe Boynton

Administration present:

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

Board members absent:

Una Petroske (excused)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Glennon called the board meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Jonathan Law auditorium. By a roll call, eight (8) Board members were present.

II. STUDENT REPORTS

David Gaetano and Arezoo Ghazagh presented the report for Foran. Jackson Warters and Aidan King presented the report for Law.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. CHAIR'S REPORT

Ms. Glennon told the Board she attended the budget technical discussion of the Board of Finance (BOF). The BOF will vote on this Wednesday (March 16).

She called for liaison reports.

Mrs. Ratner shared an update on the Milford Prevention Council. The Council will offer training on administration of Narcan. March is gambling awareness month.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Cutaia told the Board that March is Board of Education month. She thanked the Board for their support and dedication to the youth of Milford. She then turned the meeting over to Dr. Fedigan for the Instructional Highlight.

Instructional Highlight: Intentional Play/Executive Functioning

Dr. Fedigan, assisted by Mrs. Elizabeth Gaffney, Instructional Supervisor of Early Childhood, Mr. Sean Smyth, Instructional Supervisor of Student Dev. & Wellness and Mrs. Andrea Giannattasio, Instructional Supervisor PPS narrated a presentation with the progress the district has made on strengthening early childhood learning experiences in Milford Public Schools. Dr. Fedigan provided background on a study that was conducted on the early childhood program in the area of strengthening early childhood teaching and learning experiences. A recommendation placed a strong emphasis on intentional play and executive function, and related processes involved in deliberate goal-oriented action include skills such as self-control, attention, and working memory. Executive function is implicated in school readiness, classroom behavior, academic achievement in all subjects, and social competence. These skills have a long-term positive individual impact as well as have many direct benefits to society including improved graduation rates, educational attainment, labor force participation, reduced criminal activity and promotes health and wellness. Administration shared videos of teachers and students engaging in current teaching and learning.

Dr. Fedigan concluded the presentation by revealing the planned next steps for the upcoming year.

Policies for a Second Reading

Dr. Cutaia presented for approval the policies that were presented and reviewed at the February committee of the whole meeting.

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves Board policy 3542.43 Food Service Charging as presented. Mrs. Ratner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Cutaia presented Board policy 5144.2 Use of Exclusionary Time Out Settings to the Board. The policy was revised to separate regular education from special education.

A Board discussion ensued. The Board asked the Administration to make further changes to the policy for clarity. The policy will be brought back to the Board as a third reading.

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves Board policy 6145.51 National Honor Society as presented. Mrs. Ratner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Cutaia presented two policies to be rescinded.

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education rescind Board policy 5145.5 Exploitation/Sexual Harassment. Mrs. Ratner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education rescind Board policy 6145.8 Activity Funds Management. Mrs. Ratner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Human Resources Report

Ms. Kopazna presented the Human Resources Report for February. Included in the report were the personnel changes, job postings, retirements, resignations/terminations and stipend appointments. To date, ten retirements have been received.

Disbursement Report

Mr. Richetelli presented the Disbursement Report for February and answered board questions.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Fowler made a motion that the Milford Board of Education approves Consent Agenda Items:

Consideration of Minutes:

February 14, 2022 Business Meeting

February 28, 2022 Committee of the Whole Meeting

Mrs. Ratner seconded the motion. By a roll call, the motion passed unanimously.

VII. BOARD COMMENT

Mrs. Ratner shared her excitement with NIC, the APP Challenge and wrestling. All good news for the district.

Mr. Fowler offered his condolences for Alderman Martin Hardiman.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fowler made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Ratner seconded. Seeing no objections, Ms. Glennon adjourned the meeting at 8:43 p.m.

Recording Secretary: _____
Mrs. Pam Griffin

Corresponding Secretary: _____
Mr. Andrew Fowler