

Milford Board of Education

Committee of the Whole Meeting and Live Streamed on YouTube

Meeting Minutes

February 26, 2024

Board members present:

Meghan Doyle
Scott Firmender
Susan Glennon (Board Chair)
Tracey Irby
Loren Mahler
Christina Prete
Michael Smith
Cindy Wolfe-Boynton

Administration present:

Dr. Anna Cutaia
Steven Autieri
Sean Brennan
Louis Giancola
Wendy Kopazna
Jennifer Stewart

Board members absent:

Thomas Koba (excused)
Una Petroske (excused)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Glennon called the board meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. in the Board of Education room at Parsons. By a roll call, eight (8) Board members were present.

II. INCREASING EDUCATOR DIVERSITY PLAN

Ms. Wendy Kopazna and Dr. Julie Luby gave a presentation on a new state requirement for school districts to implement an educator diversity plan in July 2024. The plan is designed to increase opportunities for students to interact with teachers/staff from other racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds. The plan is aligned with the Board's Resolution approved in December 2020 and the district's Equity Framework. The state requires the Board to approve the plan and submit it by March 15, 2024. The state will review the plan and, if needed, offer revisions to be made before the official launch date of July 2024.

Ms. Wolfe Boynton motioned that the Milford Board of Education approve the Increasing Educator Diversity Plan and authorize the Superintendent to execute any plan revisions that may be required. Mr. Firmender seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

III. POLICIES FOR A FIRST READING

Dr. Cutaia presented three policies to the Board for review. Two policies, 5111-School Age Entrance and 5131.7-Weapons and Dangerous Instruments, were revised to comply with current legislation. 6148-FAFSA Completion Program is a new required policy.

The Board recommended some changes and asked the administration to have counsel review some language in policies 5111 and 5131.7. The policies will be presented for approval at the next business meeting.

IV. SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY REPORT

School Safety and Security Director, Mr. Jeff Nielsen gave the annual School Safety and Security Report. The presentation provided an overview of security preventative plans that have been put in place to keep our schools safe. Captain Delmonte of the Milford Police Department provided an overview of the school resource officers and also noted that mental health issues have increased. However, the school resource officers have diffused many situations due to the well-established relationships they have with the students. The school district continues to partner with the Police Department to keep the students and staff safe.

V. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS SECURITY MATTERS

Ms. Wolfe Boynton motioned to adjourn to the Executive Session for School Safety and Security Matters. Dr. Cutaia, Sean Brennan, Louis Giancola, Tyler Lemire, and Jeff Nielsen are invited to the session. Mr. Firmender seconded. The motion passed unanimously (9:08 p.m.).

The meeting reconvened at 9:48 p.m.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Wolfe Boynton made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Firmender seconded. Seeing no objections, Ms. Glennon adjourned the meeting at 9:49 p.m.

Recording Secretary: _____
Mrs. Pam Griffin