

**Millbury Public Schools  
School Committee**

*Regular Session  
Meeting Minutes*

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MILLBURY, MASS.

Date: October 13, 2021

Members Mr. Christopher Wilbur, Vice Chairperson

Present: Mrs. Julia Lagerholm, Member

Mr. Nicholas Lazzaro, Member

Administrators Mr. Richard Bedard, Jr., Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations

Present: Ms. Elizabeth Boutiette, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Mr. Corey Burke, Assistant Principal, Elmwood Street Elementary School

Mr. Andy Hall, Principal, Elmwood Street Elementary School

Mr. Gregory Myers, Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Kate Ryan, Director of Pupil Services

Location: Elmwood Street Elementary School Cafeteria

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Wilbur called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**1. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Mrs. Lagerholm motioned to approve the executive session minutes of September 8, 2021, seconded by Mr. Lazzaro. The motion passed, 3-0.

Mrs. Lagerholm motioned to approve the regular session minutes of September 22, 2021, seconded by Mr. Lazzaro. The motion passed, 3-0.

Mrs. Lagerholm motioned to approve the executive session minutes of September 22, 2021, seconded by Mr. Lazzaro. The motion passed, 3-0.

**2. Report of the Administration**

- a. Mr. Andy Hall, Principal of the Elmwood Street Elementary School, introduced two new members of the Elmwood Street Elementary School: Ms. Abby Thurlow (1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher) and Ms. Ariel Bierig (District-wide Board-Certified Behavioral Analyst).

At 7:10 p.m., Mr. Wilbur asked for a motion to recess the meeting so that members could personally welcome Ms. Thurlow and Ms. Bierig. Mrs. Lagerholm motioned to recess the meeting, seconded by Mr. Lazzaro. The motion passed, 3-0.

At 7:14, Mrs. Lagerholm motioned to resume the regular session meeting, seconded by Mr. Lazzaro. The motion passed, 3-0.

- b. Ms. Ryan provided the Committee with an update on COVID-19 trends in the district, noting that there have been 70 positive cases district-wide since school began in August. New guidelines have been added to the symptoms list that was sent out to the district. In order for students and staff to not wear masks in school, the district must reach a student/staff vaccination rate of 80%.
- c. Mr. Myers shared the District's enrollment data as of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, which shows a net decrease of 13 students. He compared enrollment trends with the MSBA's enrollment study, which was conducted as part of the Shaw feasibility study. Current enrollment is 121 students fewer than the MSBA's projection for this year. First grade has seen an influx in enrollment, as well as grade 7. Ninth grade has dropped, as it typically does every year, due to students enrolling in BVT or private schools. We currently have 23 Millbury children attending BVT.

### 3. Finance and Operations

- a. Mr. Bedard provided the Committee with an overview of the End-of-Year Financial Report, which is submitted to DESE annually and is used to determine next year's Chapter 70 funding, among other things. to see what our enrollment is to decide how much funding the district should receive for the following school year. The Committee was asked to accept the .

Mr. Lazzaro motioned to approve the End-of-Year Financial Report for FY21, seconded by Mrs. Lagerholm. The motion passed, 3-0.

- b. Ms. Boutiette provided an overview of the ESSER III grant requirements and expenditures. Millbury was awarded ESSER III funding of \$1,380,582, \$1,187,562 of which is being used specifically for learning loss intervention, including \$651,000 to fund positions such as reading and math tutors, extra guidance and counseling supports, and extensions of our Title 1 services. These positions and support services have been budgeted through 2024 to allow for this work to continue. She shared survey results from community stakeholders -- 384 families responded-- listing community priorities, including outdoor learning spaces, continued social distancing, ongoing sanitization in building, increased intervention, and after school tutoring.
- c. Mr. Bedard shared a proposed timeline for the development of the Fiscal Year 2023 budget.

Mr. Lazzaro motioned to approve the proposed timeline for the fiscal year 2023 budget, seconded by Mrs. Lagerholm. The motion passed, 3-0.

### 4. Unfinished Business

- a. Mr. Myers provided an update on the Shaw School building project, noting that the project is on schedule and under budget, for which he credits Fontaine Brothers, Inc. He stated that stairways A and B are complete, slab on grade is complete in B and once the slab on grade for C is complete, the School Committee will be invited to tour the site. He further stated that the elevator shaft is complete and conduit wire will be installed soon. He said that there was a recent injury on site: a mason broke his foot when rebar was dropped on his foot. He is on light duty and expected to fully recover. He said that Hill International will be using go pro cameras on site to capture footage of the interior work being done.

- b. The Committee reviewed and discussed a draft of the Superintendent's goals for the 2021-2022 school year, including budget, the Raymond E. Shaw School project, supervision and evaluation, equity, graduate coursework, and safety.

Mrs. Lagerholm motioned to approve the Superintendent's goals for 2021-2022, seconded by Mr. Lazzaro. The motion passed, 3-0.

- c. The Committee reviewed and discussed the draft update to the job description for the role of Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Myers discussed some changes that were made to the job description from the feedback he received from the School Committee.

Ms. Lazzaro motioned to approve the updated Superintendent's job description, seconded by Mrs. Lagerholm. The motion passed, 3-0.

## 5. New Business

- a. Mr. Lazzaro provided an overview of proposed Policy DN: *School Properties Disposal*. This discussion served as a second reading.

Mrs. Lagerholm motioned to adopt Policy DN, seconded by Mr. Lazzaro. The motion passed, 3-0.

## 6. Executive Session


Mr. Wilbur stated that the Committee would enter executive session in accordance with *M.G.L. c.20A, §21(a)3*, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Millbury Teachers Association and SEIU Local 888.


At 7:50 p.m., Mr. Wilbur held a roll call vote to enter executive session: Mr. Lazzaro-YES, Mrs. Lagerholm-YES, Mr. Wilbur-YES.

## 7. Adjourn

At 8:38 p.m., the Committee returned to the regular session meeting. Without further discussion, Mrs. Lagerholm made a motion to adjourn the regular session, seconded by Mr. Lazzaro. The motion passed, 3-0.

Approved:

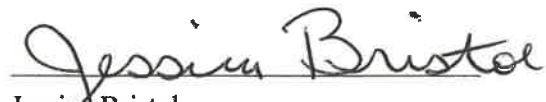
  
Jennifer B. Nietupski, Chairperson

  
Christopher J. Wilbur, Vice Chairperson

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Julia Lagerholm

  
Nicholas Lazzaro

  
Jessica Bristol