



**Millbury Public Schools  
School Committee**

**Regular Session  
Meeting Minutes**

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2022 OCT 27 AM 10:25

MILLBURY, MASS.

Date: September 28, 2022

Members Present: Mrs. Jennifer Nietupski, Chairperson  
Mr. Christopher Wilbur, Vice Chairperson  
Mrs. Julia Lagerholm, Member  
Mr. Nicholas Lazzaro  
Ms. Fatma Al-Bargash, Student Representative

Administrators Present: Mr. Gregory Myers, Superintendent of Schools (via Zoom)  
Mr. Richard G. Bedard Jr., Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations  
Ms. Elizabeth Boutiette, Director of Curriculum and Instruction  
Ms. Kate Ryan, Director of Pupil Services

Contributing Guests: Ms. Gabby Girard, Student Council Representative  
Ms. Kaitlyn Garden, Student Council Representative

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Mrs. Nietupski called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM and led the Committee in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Wilbur motioned to accept the regular session meeting minutes of September 14, 2022, seconded by Mrs. Lagerholm. Mr. Wilbur- YES, Mrs. Lagerholm- YES, Mr. Lazzaro- ABSTAIN, Mrs. Nietupski- YES. The motion passed (3-0-1).

**Report of the Administration**

- a. Introduction of Fatma Al-Bargash, Student Representative to the School Committee  
Mr. Myers introduced Fatma Al-Bargash, a member of the Class of 2023, as the Committee's Student Representative for the 2022-2023 school year. Fatma will attend our meetings as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the school committee.
- b. Report of the student council  
Student Council representatives Gabby Girard ('23) and Kaitlyn Garden ('23) provided an overview of recent and upcoming events at the Jr./Sr. High School including observations about this year's start to the school year. Gabby and Kaitlyn also provided an update on fall sports teams, the recent Best Buddies homecoming dance, and an effort by the Student Council to raise awareness of suicide

prevention as part of suicide awareness week. There will be a “Clubs and Activities” fair next week for all students to learn about the many they can get involved in school.

c. Fall Safety Forum Review

Ms. Ryan provided an overview of the Safety Forum that took place on Tuesday, September 27, including discussion of exterior-facing room numbers in classroom windows to allow emergency personnel to more quickly locate specific spaces from the outside of the building. There was a District-Wide Safety meeting held to plan and schedule increased staff safety training. SRO Gasco set an aggressive timetable for himself which he is already ahead of schedule. Mr. Bedard spoke of hardening the front vestibule at high school and card entry systems at Elmwood and the High School). SRO Gasco also spoke at a recent MASBO meeting to share best practices for school safety. Mrs. Lagerholm encouraged the community to stay engaged in matters of school safety and thanked SRO Gasco for the work that he is doing to keep students and staff safe. Mr. Lazzaro thanked the parents who attended the forum for their feedback and questions.

d. Programmatic Update: Virtual High School and Advanced Placement

Ms. Boutiette provided the Committee with an update on student enrollment in our VHS and AP programs: VHS, an online program providing classes that we may not currently offer or which students were unable to fit into their schedule. VHS offers a very wide range of courses, including courses at both the honors and AP level. There are currently 25 MHS students enrolled and Ms. Rose Flaherty is in charge of monitoring VHS courses. There are 127 seats enrolled in AP courses this year. Mr. Lazzaro asked if 10th graders were allowed to take AP courses. As of right now, most courses are geared towards 11th and 12th grade. Ms. Boutiette mentioned that we are trying to offer some innovation pathways for kids to start specific courses sooner in which they can be successful to bring with them to the college level. Ms. Sarah Comeau is our AP coordinator.

## **Finance and Operations**

a. Report on the Fiscal Year 2022 Green Communities Grant Award

Mr. Bedard provided the Committee with an overview of the Town of Millbury’s FY 2022 Green Communities Grant of \$93,106, which was recently awarded by the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources. Approximately 24%, or \$22,104, of the grant has been awarded to the Millbury Public Schools for the replacement of fluorescent indoor lighting to LED lights at the Millbury Jr./Sr. High School. The school’s project requires \$21,215 of matching funds, which Mr. Bedard has allocated from the maintenance budget and electricity savings. The project is at the high school, primarily “B” hallways (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor), cafeteria and kitchen areas, and the maintenance garages/Superintendent’s office. This will primarily be done during the December school break. Prism co. who works closely with National Grid, will be doing the work onsite.

On a separate matter, Mr. Bedard informed the Committee that OneSchool Global has asked to continue their lease for the Dorothy Manor School through June 2023 because their new school on McCracken Road will not be ready for use until December 31<sup>st</sup>.

## **Unfinished Business**

### **a. Report on the Raymond E. Shaw Building Project**

The new Shaw School ribbon cutting is scheduled for Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 in the morning. New school tours will be part of the ribbon cutting. Tonight was the open house at RE Shaw and there were a great number of familie in attendance..

#### **Phase 1 Status:**

- Landscaping completed, including hydroseeding;
- Playground area work continues;
- New flagpole on site, to be installed in the coming days;
- Card access readers being installed (exterior doors);
- Cafeteria window shades installed
- A crane will be on site on October 7 (no school) to begin solar panel installation;
- Volleyball sleeves installed in gym;
- Bus loop will be completed mid to late October;
- Interior punch list down to <40 items.

#### **Phase 2 Status:**

- Excavation of field over the next two weeks;
- Field light pole sleeves being installed;
- Rough plumbing & electric in comfort station being installed;

Mr. Bedard mentioned that the school safety zone flashing lights are going to be replaced on each side of Elmwood street before each campus.

### **b. Superintendent Evaluation: Discussion of Process and Timeline for School Year 22-23**

Mrs. Lagerholm reviewed a proposed revised process for evaluating Mr. Myers this year.

Mr. Myers and Mrs. Lagerholm collaborated to create a more effective and user-friendly evaluation process, including a mid-cycle review in January, feedback from key personnel, and a summative narrative. Mr. Myers noted his desire to improve on the indicators of Evaluation and Family and Community Engagement.

### **c. Preliminary Consideration of School Committee Goals for School Year 22-23**

The Committee considered adopting goals for the 2022-2023 school year.

- Professional development for School Committee members;
- Community engagement;
- Superintendent evaluation;
- Consider later school start times for the upper grades.


Mr. Wilbur made the motion to accept the proposed School Committees goals, seconded by Mr. Lazzaro. The motion passed (4-0).


Mrs. Nietupski asked that the Policy Sub-Committee meet in the near future to consider policy updates from MASC. Mr. Myers will send out an invitation with dates.

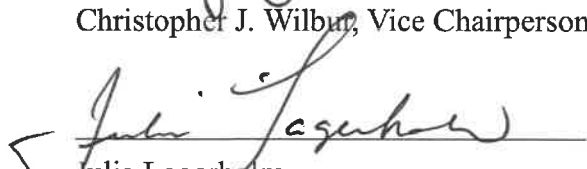
### Adjourn

At 8:05 PM, Mr. Wilbur motioned to adjourn the regular session without further discussion, seconded by Mrs. Lagerholm. The motion passed (4-0).


Approved:

  
Jennifer B. Nietupski, Chairperson

  
Christopher J. Wilbur, Vice Chairperson

  
Julia Lagerholm

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Nicholas Lazzaro

  
Jessica Bristol