

**Millbury School Committee Meeting
REGULAR SESSION
Minutes**

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MILLBURY, MASS.

Date: October 23, 2019

Present: Mrs. Nietupski, Chairperson, Mr. Wilbur, Vice Chairperson, Mrs. Teixeira, Mrs. Prior, Mr. Bedard, Business Manager, Ms. Boutiette, Curriculum Coordinator, Ms. Ryan, Director of Special Education, and Mr. Myers, Superintendent

Location: Millbury Jr. /Sr. High School Media Center

Absent: Mrs. Lagerholm, Ryan Kurkiewicz, Student Council Representative

Time: 7:00 pm

Mrs. Nietupski opened the meeting at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Review and Approval of the Regular Session Minutes of October 9, 2019

Mrs. Nietupski asked for any changes, additions or deletions, to the Regular Session Minutes of October 9, 2019. Mr. Wilbur made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 9, 2019 meeting, seconded by Mrs. Prior. All approved (4-0).

2. Review and Approval of the Executive Session Minutes of October 9, 2019

Mrs. Nietupski asked for any changes, additions or deletions, to the Executive Session Minutes of October 9, 2019. She stated that if any changes, additions, or deletions are needed they must be done in Executive Session. Mrs. Prior made a motion to approve the Executive minutes from the October 9, 2019 meeting, seconded by Mrs. Teixeira. All approved (4-0).

2. Report of the Administration

a. Student Achievement Data Review

Ms. Boutiette stated that there will be two conversations regarding the MCAS scores she stated that she would begin the first conversation at this meeting and continue the second conversation at the next meeting, which will allow the School Committee members time to read the information and ask questions at the next meeting. Ms. Boutiette presented a Powerpoint presentation regarding the Spring 2019 MCAS scores. She stated that the MCAS scores for English Language Arts in grades 3-8 are slightly below state average and MCAS scores for Math for grades 3-8 are slightly lower than the state. She stated that the Math Legacy scores are slightly higher than the state for grade 10 and slightly below in English Language Arts and Science in grade 10. Specifically, the state gives clear guidelines on how to compare Millbury's scores with other District's. She stated that the state is focusing on student growth and student growth percentile. Ms. Boutiette stated that Millbury's comparison districts, or Market Basket Districts are selected on the in-district per pupil expenditure, total enrollment and proximity to Millbury. Ms. Boutiette stated that neighboring districts necessarily fall into our Market Basket District. Ms. Boutiette stated that we are out performing some of the Market Basket District but are performing below some districts in accountability, which is the student growth percentile. She stated that as a District we keep doing the same things and getting the same scores and it is time to do something different. She stated that the Leadership Team and instructional coaches will continue to deep

dive into data, analyze questions and standards but will change systems and processes and will measure the impact of learning immediately. She stated that she will monitor the student achievement and if it is not increasing she will change the process. Mrs. Teixeira stated that when the MCAS scores are sent to district the students have moved onto the next grade level and therefore, cannot make an impact on the student's learning. It can only help teachers with their practices. She asked if there has been conversation regarding a computer based standardized testing that would allow a teacher to see the impact the lesson has had on student learning immediately. The timeliness of receiving the data would allow a teacher to shift their teaching practices to have a better impact on student learning. Ms. Boutiette stated that the District is in the process of adding a new tool for teachers to assess the impact of the student learning. She stated that a tool like that will give use information to drive other pieces of instruction. There was a general discussion regarding the data presentation and how the district can improve.

b. Teaching and Learning News - MTSS

MTSS is the direction that the District is moving which is; better data, in the moment data, and data that measures student growth. Ms. Boutiette stated that a student could be meeting expectations and are not one of your lower performance students but are not achieving growth. She stated that MTSS is Multi-Tier Systems of Support. She stated that Tier I is the general curriculum, which all students get. Tier 2 the student is still receiving Tier 1 but may need a little extra teaching which would be Tier 2. A Tier 3 students would be getting Tier 1 and Tier 2 but would need a little more support, however this does not mean the student is necessarily special ed. Ms. Boutiette seeks to significantly change instruction in Millbury and to design a system to remove barriers for all. She wants to create a five-year plan. MTSS develops equity for all students. She stated that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education held a conference on MTSS Connection and the emphasis was to focus on student growth percentile. She stated that Districts across the state are focusing on growth percentile. She stated that the Universal Design For Learning, which includes academic, behavioral and social and emotional learning is the way to increase growth percentile for students. All lessons are universally designed so that all students can assess the lessons. Ms. Boutiette showed a video explaining Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS). Ms. Boutiette stated that we must layer support and not take students out of classrooms for extra instruction. She stated the Universal Design for Learning Guidelines: The Why of Learning, The What of Learning, and the How of Learning. Ms. Boutiette stated that they are looking at tools that will measure the student's impact on learning in the moment and these tools correlate with the MCAS testing. There was a general discussion about removing some assessments that are no longer needed.

4. Budget

a. School Lunch Increase Memo

Mr. Bedard stated that the recommended increase to school lunches is .25. He stated that the lunch prices at the Shaw and Elmwood Street School will go from \$2.75 to \$3.00, Millbury Jr./Sr. High School from \$3.00 to \$3.25, school breakfasts will go from \$1.25 to \$1.50, which will be effective August 2020. Mr. Bedard stated that the last school lunch increase was for FY2018 Mrs. Prior made a motion to approve the school lunch increase for August 2020, seconded by Mr. Wilbur. All approved (4-0).

b. Fiscal Year 2020 Expense Report

Mr. Bedard stated that a copy of the FY2020 School Operating Budget through October 17, 2019 is included in the School Committee's packets. He stated that the budget is \$22,720,731. He highlighted some salaries that are offset by Title I and IDEA Grant. Sped Contractual Services Therapies has a large balance but we are working on a contract with French River. He stated that we have currently one long-term substitute at the high school, which is decrease from the amount of long term subs from last year. He also stated that we have to report long-term substitutes differently than we report day to day

substitutes with the DESE. Mr. Bedard stated that Professional Development Contractual has an overage because of two consultants for co-teaching but that will be covered within the instructional category. He stated that Tuition Reimbursement has shown an uptick, due to a heavy amount of summer course work. Mr. Myers stated that it could be because during the last negotiations we extended the lane so that some teachers that were at maximum are taking more courses. Mr. Bedard stated that Transportation Contractual balance will be used for the special education Assabet Valley Collaborative transportation. The School Resource Officer position is shared with the Town. Heating and electrical purchase orders have been encumbered for the full amount but may not spend the entire balance. Maintenance Contract Special Projects paid for through utility savings. The projects completed are: painted walls in gym, gym floors at Elmwood Street and the high school. Roof repairs for Elmwood Street and MHS, both schools are out of warranty. Every other year we clean the science lab traps. Private Day Schools and Collaborative Tuitions some of the special education tuitions are not encumbered yet. Some tuitions are paid out of circuit breaker. Mr. Bedard stated that budget balance after obligations is \$1,943,747, however the French River and Assabet Valley Collaborative Contract are each around \$210,000 each. In addition, subs and tutors are not encumbered.

Mr. Bedard stated that the District would like to include in the transportation contract an increase in miles or time on the standard field trip rate. He stated that this bid will be going out in the next one to two months.

c. Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Planning Meeting

Mr. Myers stated that a pre-budget planning meeting has been scheduled with interim Town Manager, Jamie Kelley, and Andrew Vanni, Finance Director has been scheduled for November 7, 2019. He stated that this is the first of many meetings. Mr. Myers stated that the House and Senate are debating a reconciliation bill that would increase school spending under Chapter 70 Funds. Mr. Myers stated that the Town received the Budget Timeline for the School but would like to see the pre-meetings scheduled between the town and school department as part of the timeline.

5. Old Business

a. Field Renovation Project Update

Mr. Myers informed the School Committee that Athletic Director Pat Mara attended a Finance Committee meeting and answered questions related to net savings if a turf field was approved. Mr. Myers stated that the savings is significant. He stated that Mr. Mara will make a presentation to the School Committee and Board of Selectman. Mr. Myers stated that Northbridge savings is around \$200,000 per year which they will put into an account to purchase a new field turf when it is necessary.

b. Shaw School Project Update

Mr. Myers stated that a post card was mailed to every resident. He stated that the new website has received some hits. He also stated that one resident wanted to look at the Preferred Schematic Design. He stated that he along with, Mrs. Nietupski, Mr. Bedard met with the architects to create a rough draft of the presentation for special town meeting in November. Mr. Myers stated that the presentation will show the big picture and the rationale behind the new school. He also stated that the Finance Committee met on Monday and asked good questions regarding the school project. He stated that they would vote to take a position on both warrant articles on Monday, October 28, 2019. Mr. Myers stated that a Public Forum would take place on November 7, 2019 at the high school auditorium.

c. School Start Times

Mrs. Nietupski stated that we are looking at Student and Parent Surveys. Mr. Myers stated that Ms. Boutiette provided us a survey that Grafton Public Schools used when they were looking into School Start Times. He stated that Mrs. Lagerholm provided us information regarding the state of California changing their start times for all schools. The research the Committee is doing will be available on our website. A public forum will be held for the community to voice their concerns. The survey will be available during the back-to-school nights at both Shaw and Elmwood Street Schools.

6. New Business

7. Executive Session

8. Adjourn – Mr. Wilbur made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 pm, seconded by Mrs. Prior. All approved (4-0).

Next Meeting – November 6, 2019 – Tour of the Shaw Elementary School 6:30p
Regular School Committee Shaw School Media Center 7:00p

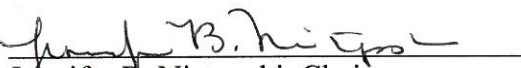
Respectfully submitted,

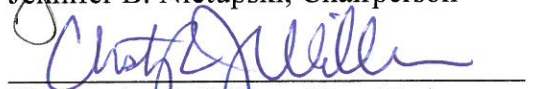
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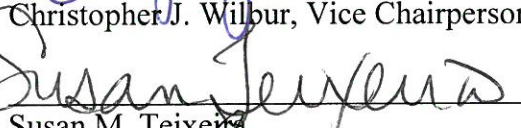
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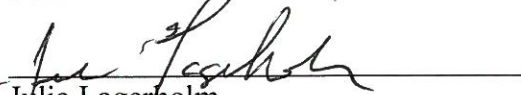
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Approved:


Jennifer B. Nietupski, Chairperson


Christopher J. Wilbur, Vice Chairperson


Susan M. Teixeira


Julia Lagerholm

Items in Packet:

Agenda

Regular Minutes 10/23/2019

School Lunch Increase Memo

FY2020 Expenditure Report

Student Achievement Powerpoint