

**Millbury Public Schools  
School Committee**

*Regular Session  
Meeting Minutes*

**Date:** January 12, 2022

**Members Present:** Mrs. Jennifer Nietupski, Chairperson  
Mr. Christopher Wilbur, Vice Chairperson  
Mrs. Julia Lagerholm, Member  
Mr. Nicholas Lazzaro, Member  
Mrs. Jessica Bristol, Member  
Ms. Michelle Cerfils, Student Representative

**Administrators Present:** Mr. Richard Bedard, Jr., Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations  
Mr. Jeffrey Berthiaume, Director of Instructional Technology  
Mr. Andy Hall, Principal of Elmwood Street School  
Mr. Christopher Lowe, Principal of Millbury Jr/Sr High School  
Mr. Pat Mara, Assistant Principal of Millbury Jr/Sr High School  
Mr. Gregory Myers, Superintendent of Schools  
Mrs. Abigail Rigney, Assistant Principal of Millbury Jr/Sr High School  
Mrs. Erink Rosenkranz, Assistant Principal of R.E. Shaw School  
Ms. Kate Ryan, Director of Pupil Services  
Mr. Andrew Tuccio, Principal of R.E. Shaw School

**Location:** Virtual Zoom meeting  
Meeting ID: 833 1192 7570

**Time:** 7:00pm

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MILLBURY, MASS.

Mrs. Nietupski called the meeting to order at 7:01PM.

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

- a. Mr. Lazzaro made a motion to accept the Regular Session minutes of December 8, 2021. Seconded by Mrs. Lagerholm. Due to technical difficulties with Zoom, Ms. Bristol abstained from voting. Mrs. Nietupski took a roll call vote: Mr. Lazzaro-YES, Mrs. Lagerholm-YES, Mr. Wilbur-YES, Mrs. Nietupski-YES. The motion was approved (4-0-1).
- b. Mr. Wilbur made a motion to accept the Executive Session minutes of December 8, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Lazzaro. Due to technical difficulties with Zoom, Ms. Bristol abstained from voting. Mrs. Nietupski took a roll call vote: Mr. Lazzaro-YES, Mrs. Lagerholm-YES, Mr. Wilbur-YES, Mrs. Nietupski-YES. The motion was approved (4-0-1).

**2. Report of the Administration**

- a. International Trip to Berlin, Krakow, Prague, and Budapest

Mr. Lowe provided the Committee with an update on the International Trip to Berlin, Krakow, Prague, and Budapest scheduled for this April. There are currently 32 students that will be attending. There will be a parent zoom meeting within the next few days to review the itinerary and answer any questions that parents might have.

b. Current COVID-19 Infection Data and Trends, Pooled Testing and Test-and-Stay Data

Ms. Kate Ryan provided the Committee with an updated overview of COVID-19 infection rates and trends for students and staff in the district. Prior to the December holiday break, there were 176 total cases reported. As of this afternoon, we have 477 total cases reported with 149 cases this week alone. The District will be hosting a vaccination clinic on Tuesday, January 18th at the Elmwood Street School. There are 134 pre-registered attendees who will be attending the clinic.

c. 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Update from the School Resource Officer on School and District Safety

School Resource Officer Keith Gasco was unable to attend the meeting. This topic will be moved to the next meeting.

#### **4. Finance and Operations**

a. Presentation of Fiscal Year 2023 Programmatic and Capital Needs; Proposed FY '23 Budget

Mr. Myers and Mr. Bedard presented an overview of the FY '23 Proposed School Budget, including a general description of increases in each major funding category and a description of the budget's programmatic assumptions. The proposed budget of \$24,489,720.00 represents an increase of 4.59% over this year's budget and was driven by employee contractual obligations, staffing increases (PK-2 sped teacher, 7-12 sped teacher and a PK teacher and IA), and the decreased use of ESSER funding.

Mrs. Nietupski asked about possible consequences should the District not hire two Special Education teachers. Ms. Ryan stated that hiring two new staff members would actually save the District money since Out-of-District placements plus transportation would be much more expensive. Mr. Bedard mentioned needing to address certain roof repairs at the Jr./Sr. High School, which could qualify for MSBA support. Mr. Wilbur asked for a breakdown in the decrease in ESSER funds as well as a breakdown of other funding the District currently uses. He also asked about potential reductions in the maintenance/grounds department since the grass mowing at the high school and at Shaw have decreased significantly.

b. R.E. Shaw Furniture and Equipment

Because the Committee did not have sufficient time to review supporting documents, Mr. Bedard asked for this item to be tabled to the next meeting.

#### **5. Unfinished Business**

a. Report on the Shaw School Building Project

Mr. Myers provided a general update on the Shaw project, noting that the project is still on budget with a healthy contingency and is still on target to open this Fall.

b. Report of the Policy Subcommittee - *Votes Requested*

Mr. Lazzaro provided the Committee with an update to proposed changes to our Field Use Policy (Policy KFC) and rates, our Advertising Policy (Policy KHB) and our Agenda Format Policy (Policy BEDB).

Policy KFC vote- Mr. Wilbur made the motion to approve Policy KFC, seconded by Ms. Bristol. Mrs. Nietupski took a roll call vote: Mr. Lazzaro-YES, Mrs. Lagerholm-YES, Mr. Wilbur-YES, Mrs. Bristol - YES, Mrs. Nietupski-YES. The motion passed (5-0).

Mr. Wilbur made the motion to approve Policy BEDB, seconded by Ms. Bristol. Mrs. Nietupski took a roll call vote: Mr. Lazzaro-YES, Mrs. Lagerholm-YES, Mr. Wilbur-YES, Mrs. Bristol - YES, Mrs. Nietupski-YES. The motion passed (5-0).

The advertising policy was tabled to the next meeting because the most current version was not available for the Committee's review. Mr. Wilbur asked for an updated listing of rates for using school fields.


## 6. Executive Session

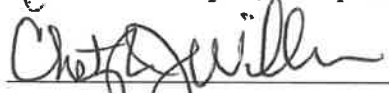
At 8:33PM, the Committee voted to convene an Executive Session in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, (a)3 to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Millbury Teachers Association because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the Committee's bargaining position.

Mrs. Nietupski took a roll call vote: Mr. Lazzaro-YES, Mrs. Lagerholm-YES, Mr. Wilbur-YES, Mrs. Bristol - YES, Mrs. Nietupski-YES. The motion passed (5-0).

At 9:42 PM, without further discussion, Mr. Wilbur motioned to adjourn the regular session, seconded by Mrs. Lagerholm. Mr. Nietupski held a roll call vote: Mr. Lazzaro-YES, Mrs. Lagerholm-YES, Mr. Wilbur-YES, Mrs. Bristol-YES, Mrs. Nietupski-YES. The motion passed 5-0 and the regular session was adjourned.

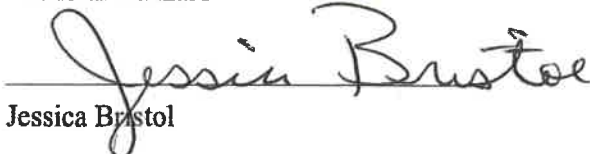
Approved:

  
Jennifer B. Nietupski, Chairperson

  
Christopher J. Wilbur, Vice Chairperson

Julia Lagerholm

  
Nicholas Lazzaro

  
Jessica Bristol