

**Millbury Public Schools
School Committee**

**Regular Session
Meeting Minutes**

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MILLBURY, MASS

Date: October 25, 2023

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

Members Present: Mrs. Jennifer Nietupski, Chairperson
Mrs. Sarah Murray, Member
Ms. Kristen Birch, Member
Ms. Courtney Wilbur, Student Representative to the School Committee

Administrators Present: Mr. Richard G. Bedard Jr., Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations
Mr. Patrick Mara, Assistant Principal, Millbury Memorial Jr./Sr. High School
Mr. Gregory Myers, Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Abigail Rigney, Assistant Principal, Millbury Memorial Jr./Sr. High School
Ms. Christine Warren, Director of Special Education

This meeting was recorded and broadcasted by Millbury's Public Access Channel.

At 7:10PM, Mrs. Nietupski called the meeting to order and led the Committee in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

Ms. Murray motioned to accept the Regular Session minutes of October 11, 2023, seconded by Ms. Birch. The motion passed (3-0).

Report of the Administration

a. Report of the Student Council

Millbury's Student Council representative Courtney Wilbur updated the Committee on recent and upcoming events at the Jr./Sr. High School, including fall sports standings, the Student Council's annual "Trunk or treat," the Freshman class's field trip to Wachusett Mountain, and the marching band's upcoming competition in Reading and Quincy.

b. Introduction of New Jr./Sr. High School Staff

Mrs. Abigail Rigney and Mr. Patrick Mara, Assistant Principals, introduced their new staff members at the Jr./Sr. High School; Danielle Rieder, Visual Arts Teacher; Elizabeth Lemay, Science Teacher; Cheyenne Frausto, Visual Arts Teacher; Margaret Olson, Math Teacher; Luis Gomba, Guidance Counselor; Karen Ortega, Guidance Counselor, and Stephen Klisiewicz, Math Teacher.

Mrs. Murray made a motion to recess for the School Committee members to meet our newest Woolies. Seconded by Ms. Birch. All in favor (3-0).

Report of the Student Representative to the School Committee

Ms. Courtney Wilbur, reviewed items that were discussed at the meeting between the School Committee and the Student Advisory Committee on October 25, 2023, including MCAS accessibility, drinking water quality, exterior door repairs and replacements; later school start times, expectations for cell phone use in school, and a digital wellness assessment for students.

Finance and Operations

a. Fiscal Year 2024 School Operating Budget Expenditures Update

Mr. Bedard, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, provided the Committee with an overview of expenditures through October 18, 2023 for the FY2024 school operating budget.

Unfinished Business

a. Raymond E. Shaw School Construction Project: Timeline for Completion and Budget Status of Phase I (School Building Construction) and Phase II (Playing Fields Construction)

Mr. Myers updated the Committee on recent completions on the R.E. Shaw school, including the punch list status which is nearing completion; landscaping of the softball field; interior lighting calibration completion, and the approval to purchase an 8-tier outdoor bleacher to be installed on the concrete pad near the score board along the rectangular field. He also mentioned that this week, the Raymond E. Shaw School was chosen to be a Model School Project by the MSBA. This is a major accomplishment for the district and a huge thanks to all of the people who have spent time on the project and committee. Mrs. Murray asked that a message be sent to the community letting them know the school they approved and voted yes on was voted to be a model school.

b. Dorothy Manor Lease: Update on Potential New Lease Agreement

Mr. Bedard, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, updated the Committee about a tentative lease agreement with Up, Up and Play Academy. Administration is working on a lease agreement that could potentially start on December 1, 2023.

Mr. Myers mentioned the Veterans memorial in front of the Dorothy Manor School building, which was last restored in 1996 and is in need of repair. He would like to possibly see the local Boy Scouts or NHS students come together and work to restore the monument.

c. Windle Field Tennis/Pickleball Courts Project: Update on Design RFP Process

Mr. Bedard, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, provided an update to the Committee regarding the Windle Field Tennis/Pickleball courts. After receiving bid solicitations, the school department will be working with Carolyn Cooney Associates, on the design of the new

courses. The designer will help with the bid blueprint and specifications for a general contractor. We aim to have a contractor hired within the next 2-3 months.

d. Door Replacement and Security Upgrade Project: Update on Project Bid Process

Mr. Bedard, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, provided the Committee with a status update on the door replacement and security upgrade project. There are eight doors at the high school and six doors at Elmwood that need to be replaced. Bid specifications have been made public; a pre-bid conference for contractors will take place on November 14, 2023, and all sealed bids will be open on November 28, 2023.

e. Review of the Superintendent's Plan to Achieve Goals for 2023-2024

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

New Business

Dates to Remember

Mrs. Nietupski noted the following upcoming events in the district:

November 13, 2023, 6pm- School Safety Forum, Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium

November 17-18, 2023, 7pm and November 19, 2023, 2pm- "Whole Latte Love" Drama Performance, Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium

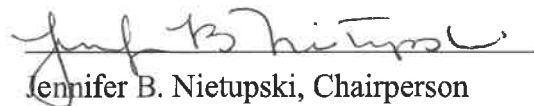
November 2, 2023, 6pm- "Ending the Silence for Families" presentation by the National Alliance on Mental Health, Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium

November 14, special town meeting, auditorium

Adjourn

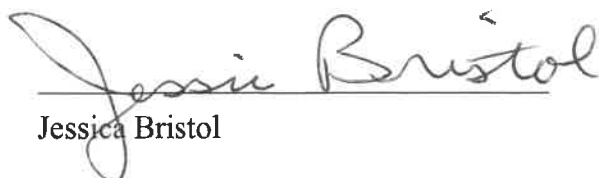
At 8:17 PM, Ms. Brich motioned to adjourn the regular session, seconded by Mrs. Murray. The motion passed (3-0).

Approved:



Jennifer B. Nietupski, Chairperson


Christopher J. Wilbur, Vice Chairperson



Jessica Bristol



Sarah Murray



Kristen Birch