

**Millbury Public Schools  
School Committee**

*Regular Session  
Meeting Minutes*

21 FEB -0 AM 9:16

Date: October 14, 2020

Present: Mrs. Jennifer Nietupski, Chairperson  
Mr. Chris Wilbur, Vice Chairperson (arrived 7:40 pm)  
Mrs. Julia Lagerholm, Member  
Mr. Nick Lazzaro, Member  
Mrs. Jessica Bristol, Member  
Ms. Kate Ryan, Director of Pupil Services  
Mrs. Elizabeth Boutiette, Curriculum Coordinator  
Mr. Andrew Hall, Principal of the Elmwood Street School  
Mr. Corey Burke, Assistant Principal of the Elmwood Street School  
Mr. Richard Bedard, Jr., School Business Manager  
Mr. Gregory Myers, Superintendent of Schools

Location: Elmwood Street School Cafeteria

Time: 7:00pm

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Mrs. Nietupski opened the meeting at 7:00 PM and led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Myers announced that Mr. Richard Bedard has been appointed to the position of Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations.

1. Review and Approval of October 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Lagerholm made a motion to accept the minutes of April 14, 2020 seconded by Mr. Lazzaro. All approved (4-0).

Mr. Lazzaro made a motion to accept the Executive Session minutes of October 14,, 2020, seconded by Mrs. Lagerholm. All approved (4-0).

2. Report of the Administration

a. Introduction of new Elmwood Street School Faculty Members

Mr. Hall introduced the new faculty members at the Elmwood Street School:

- Samantha Mansur, Speech Pathologist
- Heather Witkowski - Speech Pathologist
- Heather Mistretta - 1st Grade Special Education Teacher
- Cheryl Schonberg - Instructional Coach

b. Report of the Food Services Director

Mr. Bedard introduced Stephanie Barstow as the new Food Service Director. Mrs. Barstow thanked everyone for the opportunity to work in the Millbury Public Schools. She stated that bar codes have been created for each student to replace students using keypads and punching in their identification number. Ms. Barstow stated that all students up to the age of 21 are eligible to

pick-up “grab and go” lunches free of charge through the end of the school year. Millbury has been designated an open site, therefore anyone from any town is eligible to pick-up the “grab and go” free lunches throughout the school year.

c. Kindergarten Enrollment and Proposed Cohort Reconfiguration

Mr. Hall shared a proposal with the School Committee that would allow all kindergarten students to attend school four days a week. Mr. Hall stated that because of the low enrollment in kindergarten this year, he would be able to bring all the kindergarteners back safely and they will be able to remain 6 ft apart. Mr. Hall stated that the kindergarten teachers fully support this new option and that kindergarten is the only grade level that will be able to return to in-person learning at this time. Mr. Burke and Mr. Hall stated that the new options for kindergarteners will be fully in-person or fully remote, as a hybrid option would be impossible to continue due to space and staff. Mr. Myers stated that Mr. Hall and Mr. Burke would develop a written plan regarding bringing kindergarteners back to school four days per week for the School Committee’s information.

d. Reopening Advisory Committee Update

Mr. Myers stated that this Committee has addressed air quality testing in each school. Mr. Bedard stated that the air exchange tests done in each classroom and office were mostly positive. He stated they are evaluating some areas where tests were lower than desired. The air exchange tests showed an average of six (6) air exchanges per hour. The recommendation is between 4-6 times per hour, with a minimum of 3. He also stated that additional results will be forthcoming with another test measuring temperature, relative humidity, CO, and CO<sub>2</sub>. Mr. Myers stated that the Committee also discussed the concerns of parents doing at home learning. They discussed assembling a parent workshop, tutorials, videos and teaching parents how to navigate teaching platforms.

e. District-Wide Flu Clinic

Ms. Ryan stated that students are required to submit documentation of receiving this vaccination before December 31st. Ms. Ryan stated that Nurse Avramidis has connected with Walgreen Pharmacy and they have agreed to participate in a student flu clinic on October 19th and October 23rd. All students are required to sign a consent form and to show proof of health insurance.

3. Finance and Operations

a. CvRF Grant

Mr. Bedard stated that the district has received the CvRF School Reopening Grant funding. The Grant is for \$390,000 and will be used for additional cleaning supplies, staffing, overtime, technology and personal protective equipment. Mr. Bedard stated that two permanent substitutes were hired for each school to help with coverage, plexi-glass shields, signage, and the hiring of monitors of all buses. Mr. Bedard stated that the grant funds must be expended by December 31, 2020.

b. Donation from Sudz City/David Delaney - Vote Requested

Mr. Bedard stated that Mr. Delaney, owner of Sudz City has offered to clean the cleaning rags used by the maintenance/custodial staff every week for free. This saves the district \$290 per week. Mr. Bedards stated although this donation does not exceed the \$500 benchmark at this time for donations to be approved by the School Committee in time the donation will far exceed

the \$500 benchmark. Mrs. Lagerholm made a motion to accept the donation from David Delaney, Sudz City to clear the district's rags each week free of charge, seconded by Mrs. Bristol. All approved (5-0).

5. Unfinished Business

a. Report of the Millbury Jr./Sr. High School Field Renovation Project

Mr. Myers stated that the "M" logo in the middle of the football field has been sewn into the turf. He stated that the batting cage netting has been installed. He also stated that the landscape at the entrance and the fence is almost completed.

Mr. Myers asked the School Committee to consider voting to appropriate from the School Choice account to fund an upgrade of the track surface. The tack surface coating materials were downgraded from BSS 100 to BSS 50 as part of the value engineering phase in January. The BSS 100 systems is a higher quality polyurethane binder that will provide greater durability and longer surface life. A discussion took place regarding football cleats running over the track and community persons wearing the wrong footwear on the track.

Mrs. Bristol made a motion to use funds of \$37,839 from the School Choice account to fund the update of the track from BSS 50 to BSS 100 seconded by Mr. Wilbur. All approved (5-0).

b. Shaw School Project Update

Mr. Myers stated that the Building Committee met on October 7th and voted to declare turf infill and shockpadding from Brock USA as proprietary items. These are the same products used for the high school renovation project and provide excellent shock absorption for athletes, keeps the turf surface cooler in warm weather, and has extended durability.

Mrs. Lagerholm made a motion to approve the turf infill and shockpadding from Brock USA as a proprietary item, seconded by Mr. Lazzaro. All approved (5-0).

c. Report of the Policy Subcommittee

Mr. Lazzaro stated that the subcommittee voted to amend Policy ID - School Day and IGA in regards to Curriculum. He stated that the subcommittee decided to table IGB - Student Services to get more information. Mr. Lazzaro stated that the subcommittee decided to remove Policy JLD - Guidance Program, Policy JP - Student Gifts and Solicitations and IHA Basic Instruction because the policies were found to be redundant and unnecessary.

6. New Business

a. Discussion of the Superintendent's Proposed Goals for the 2020-2021 School Year

Mr. Myers submitted his five goals to the School Committee

Goal 1: Budget Development

Goal 2: Raymond E. Shaw Building Project

Goal 3: Supervision and Evaluation

Goal 4: School Safety

Goal 5: Boston College Graduate Coursework

A discussion took place regarding the five goals Mr. Myers presented. Mr. Myers stated that for goal 1 - Budget Development he will be working with a new Town Manager. Mr. Myers stated

that if the School Committee would like to consider different goals they need not vote at this meeting. Mrs. Lagerholm would like the School Safety Goal to include COVID Safety and ways to reach out to students that appear to need support in social and emotional learning. Mr. Wilbur would like to see a goal on communication from the Superintendent to the community. He stated that weekly updates would keep the community and families connected especially now as towns are moving to "red" status. It was also recommended to Mr. Myers to consider an Education Equity Goal.

b. Discussion of the Proposed 2020-2021 School Committee Goals

Goal 1: Complete Modules 5 and 6 of the Raymond E. Shaw School building project

Goal 2: Ensure that data is used to adjust instruction, plan professional development, and support student achievement

Goal 3: Ensure a safe environment for students and staff

Goal 4: Consider the benefits and drawbacks of later start times.

Mrs. Nietupski stated that the Committee would like to remove Goal 4: Later Start Times. She stated that this will not be implemented into the near future. She stated that the School Committee would like to focus on the School Safety goal. Mrs. Nietupski also stated that she wants to hear more about how the loss of academics in the spring affected the students. She would also like to hear a plan on how each school will capture the regression in students and how they will bridge the gap. It was stated that the School Committee might want to consider adopting a goal regarding how seniors are prepared for college next year and what their transitioning years into higher education will look like. Mr. Bedard mentioned that the School Committee might want to consider a goal related to the transition of 3rd grade to the new Shaw School. Mr. Myers stated that he will draft a new set of goals for the next meeting.

c. 2nd Reading and Acceptance of Policies Policy JBB (Educational Equity) - Vote Requested

Mrs. Nietupski stated that this is the 2nd reading of Policy JBB. She asked if there was any further discussion of the IBB Policies, hearing none she asked for a motion. Mr. Lazzaro made a motion to approve policy JBB - Education Equity, seconded by Mr. Wilbur. All approved (5-0).

d. School Committee Rep to Culturally Responsive Practice Leadership Academy

A discussion took place regarding which School Committee member would represent the School Committee for the Culturally Responsive Practice Leadership Academy. Mrs. Bristol made a motion to approve Mr. Wilbur as the School Committee Representative and Mrs. Lagerholm as the alternate to the Culturally Responsive Practice Leadership Academy, seconded by Mrs. Lagerholm. All approved (5-0).

Mrs. Bristol stated that the high school is considering canceling the spring trip and the tour company will refund all monies except for \$500. She stated that this is a hardship for some families. She also stated that the company is keeping \$40,000 from Millbury High School students.

Mrs. Nietupski stated that she would like to see Officer Nikki added to a future School Committee agenda to give a safety update.

7. Executive Session

## 8. Future Topics

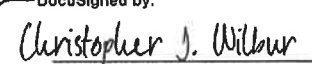
- a. Consider elimination Policy JLD: Guidance Program, Policy JP: Student Gifts and Solicitations, Policy IE: Organization of Instruction, andj Policy IHA: Basic Instructional program (October 14, 2020)
- b. Discussion of 2020-2021 Superintendent Goals (October 14, 2020)
- c. Discussion of 2020-2021 School Committee Goals (October 14, 2020)
- d. Introduction of Elmwood Street Elementary School faculty members (October 14, 2020)
- e. Introduction of Jr./Sr. High School faculty members (October 28, 2020)
- f. Introduction of new RE Shaw School faculty members (November 4, 2020)
- g. FY 2022 Budget Timeline (November 4, 2020)

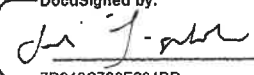
9. **Next Meeting:** October 28, 2020      Tour of Millbury Jr./Sr. High School 6:30pm  
Meeting 7pm MHS Media Center

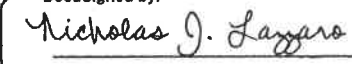
10. **Adjourn** - Mrs. Lagerholm made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Wilbur. All approved (5-0).

Approved:

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Jennifer B. Nietupski, Chairperson

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Christopher J. Wilbur, Vice Chairperson

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Nicholas Lazzaro

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Jessica Bristol