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MILFORD SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES
Monday, October 20, 2014

Call to Order:

Chairman Paul Dargie called the School Board meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Milford High School, room # 182. Board members present included Mr. Kevin Drew, Mr. Len Mannino, Mr. Robert Willette and Mr. Peter Bragdon. Also present were Superintendent Robert Suprenant, Business Administrator Jennifer Burk and Director of Technology Mr. Jerry Stajduhar.

Board Member Comments:

Chairman Dargie addressed recent parent commentary on school calendars. He stated he had done research on the subject and would not support a change in the current school calendar format.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

Reports and Presentations:

a. Superintendent's Report:

1. The Superintendent informed the Board that Friday, October 10th, had been a teacher workshop day and a very productive one for the school district. Different levels worked on different projects. The High School concentrated on preparing for the NEASC re-evaluation in the fall of 2015. The Middle School focused on the mathematics standards in preparation for the Smarter Balanced while the elementary levels concentrated on reading instructional practices. Paraprofessionals signed up for break-out sessions on the use of various technologies. All in all, it was a very successful and valuable day.

2. The Superintendent congratulated Milford High School students Amanda Alcox and Savannah Miles who were awarded Youth Citizens of the Year for their community volunteer activities. The awards were given to the students at the opening of the Pumpkin Festival.

3. The Superintendent responded to a recent parent request regarding having the schools email reminders to parents about Board meetings. After discussing it administratively, it was agreed that Principals will remind parents in their regular newsletters and emails of upcoming Board meetings. An issue that was raised about mass emails on a frequent basis was the concern that the emails would be labeled as spam and thus impact future status.

b. CTE Program competency Presentation:

ATC Director Don Jalbert explained program competencies, using the competencies for the accounting program as an example. Mr. Jalbert explained the definition of concentrators and completers. He also described potential assessments to be purchased by the state. Mr. Jalbert explained the Running Start Program and informed the Board students can earn as many as 12 college credits.

Chairman Dargie moved Old Business, Approval of District Goals Change, ahead of New Business.

Old Business:

a. Approval of District Goals Change:

Superintendent Suprenant reviewed the reason for the goal change request. Jerry Stajduhar, Director of Technology, further elaborated on his research. Mr. Dargie mentioned he would like

to see a transition plan to electronic books if the district were interested in moving to Chrome books.

Mr. Bragdon moved to approve the request to revise the goal as presented. Mr. Willette seconded. All in favor 5-0.

New Business:

a. Superintendent Search:

Chairman Dargie stated he was in favor of using the process utilized in 2003 for the Superintendent Search, including a committee of community stakeholders. The Board discussed inviting search vendors to speak to the Board and will decide whether to have a special meeting to interview search companies.

Old Business:

b. Policy Proposals:

Chairman Dargie moved to approve the second reading of policy 2401 - Non-Discrimination, policy 2421 - Procedural Safeguards, and policy 3531 - High School Graduation Requirements. Mr. Drew seconded. All in favor 5-0.

Mr. Dargie moved to approve the first reading of policy 2285 – Wellness. Mr. Drew seconded. All in favor 4-1. (Mr. Mannino opposed).

Housekeeping Items:

a. Approval of Minutes 10/6/14:

Mr. Drew moved to approve the minutes of 10/6/14. Mr. Dargie seconded. All in favor 3-0-2. (Mr. Bragdon and Mr. Willette abstained).

b. Approval of Manifests:

Mr. Willette moved to approve the listed manifests. Mr. Dargie seconded. All in favor 5-0.

Public Comment:

Paula Durand questioned whether the District will be hiring a part time or full time Superintendent and whether the meeting to interview the search vendors will be public or non-public. She was informed the search was for a full time Superintendent.

Non-Public Session:

Mr. Willette moved to enter non-public session at 8:30 PM. Mr. Bragdon seconded. All in favor 5-0.

The Board discussed collective bargaining.

Mr. Bragdon moved to exit non-public at 9:30 PM. Mr. Willette seconded. All in favor 5-0.

Adjournment:

Mr. Bragdon moved to adjourn at 9:31 PM. Mr. Willette seconded. All in favor 5-0.

Chairman of the School Board

Date of signing