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MILFORD SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
Monday, January 5, 2015

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 and Business Administrator Jennifer Burk.

Board Member Comments:

There were no Board member comments.

Public Comments:

Resident Rick Wood spoke regarding budget development and suggested we should commit to a fund balance of \$400,000 with any leftover money, either from the premium holiday or other unspent anticipated expenditures, should be spent on purchases anticipated for next year such as repairs and maintenance, computer software for the curriculum cycle, and new and replacement equipment and furniture.

Reports and Presentations:

a. Superintendent's Report:

The Superintendent informed the Board that High School Athletics Director, Marc Maurais, informed him that Milford's athletics teams ranked fifth of twenty one schools in Division II for sportsmanship for this year's fall sports. In particular, Girls' Volleyball ranked first and Girls' Soccer second in the division. The Superintendent congratulated those athletic teams that demonstrated good sportsmanship.

Precision Machining students built a caged security door for their overhead garage door that will allow them to keep the door open during the warmer weather and provide necessary security from intruders. The students in the class demonstrated their project for the Superintendent prior to the holiday break and the Superintendent stated their work was very impressive and creative.

The Superintendent bid good luck to teacher Dave Alcox and his students who will participate in the "We the People" statewide competition at the Legislative Offices Building on Friday, January 9th.

Quarterly Reports:

Granit Town Media Advisory Committee:

Mr. Drew reported there was nothing new to report.

Wellness Committee:

Chairman Dargie reported he attended a meeting in December. Each school is doing Fuel Up to Play 60 activities.

Technology Committee:

Chairman Dargie reported the committee has not met as they are awaiting budget finalization.

Professional Development Committee:

Mr. Drew attended a meeting in December. Staff discussed alignment to the NH Guidelines. They also discussed the role of building level coordinators.

Capital Improvement Plan:

Chairman Dargie reported the plan has been completed.

ATC Regional Center Advisory Committee:

Mr. Drew reported they have not met since the last report.

New Business:

a. As per School Board Policy #2162, Chairman Dargie moved to suspend the rules for agenda items to allow for discussion and/or action on a non-agenda item. Mr. Bragdon seconded. All in favor 5-0.

Chairman Dargie discussed a letter he received from Town Planner Bill Parker. Mr. Parker is requesting a letter of support from the School Board Chair for a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant for additional funding for the dredging of Osgood Pond. Chairman Dargie asked for a motion allowing him to write a letter supporting the grant. Mr. Willette moved to support the writing of a letter in support of the grant. Mr. Drew seconded. All in favor 5-0.

Old Business:

a. Policy 5013 – Use of Restraint and Seclusion (Second Reading):

Superintendent Suprenant pointed out the changes made to the first reading relative to staff training. Mr. Bragdon moved to approve the second reading of policy 5013 with the changes. Mr. Willette seconded. All in favor 5-0.

b. 2015 - 2016 Budget Including Default Budget Calculation:

Business Administrator Jen Burk described the calculation of the default budget per Board policy. She referenced a sheet highlighting the calculations. Ms. Burk recommended a default budget of \$37,961,881 with discussion about NEASC costs. Mr. Bragdon stated he does not believe NEASC costs should be included in the default budget because the costs are not contractual. Mr. Dargie stated he felt NEASC belongs in the default budget because, in essence, there has been long-standing participation in the NEASC accreditation process.

Resident Rick Wood questioned why the percent increase on the teacher and non-teacher retirement accounts did not match the percent change that New Hampshire Retirement System indicated. Mr. Bragdon and Ms. Burk explained why the percent difference was higher. He also questioned why the FICA increase of \$70,000 was so high, and why that kind of change was not evident in the budget. Mr. Wood requested the District review the teacher salary lines to make sure all of the added positions for 14/15, as well as the eliminated positions for 15/16 had been accounted for.

Mr. Bragdon moved to not include NEASC costs in the default budget. Mr. Willette seconded. Mr. Mannino asked if NEASC were not in the default budget would it be funded if the proposed budget passed. The consensus was that it would be funded. Motion failed 1-4.

Mr. Bragdon moved to approve the default budget for \$37,961,881.00. Mr. Willette seconded. All in favor 5-0.

Mr. Wood questioned the \$109,000 increase in the secretarial line. It was clarified that it is the inclusion of the new position of Director of Curriculum reclassified from the former Assistant Superintendent's position.

c. Superintendent Search Update:

Chairman Dargie informed the Board that Beth Dunham has replaced Brad Smith as the teacher representative on the Search Committee. The first meeting of the committee is scheduled for January 19th.

d. Clarification of Article V (A)(2) Teacher's Agreement:

Chairman Dargie explained the purpose of the documentation in the Board packet which clarifies Article V, number 2, in the teachers' contract relative to early retirement benefits.

Housekeeping Items:

a. Approval of Minutes 12/15/14:

Mr. Bragdon moved to approve the minutes of 12/15/14. Mr. Drew seconded. All in favor 5-0.

b. Approval of Manifests:

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

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Non-Public Session:

Mr. Bragdon moved and Mr. Drew seconded to enter non-public session at 7:40 PM. Mr. Mannino excused himself from the remainder of the meeting.

Superintendent Suprenant described to the Board a personnel situation involving a teacher aide. No Board action was required.

Mr. Bragdon moved to exit non-public at 7:45 PM. Mr. Willette seconded. All in favor 4-0.

Adjournment:

Mr. Bragdon moved to adjourn at 7:45 PM. Mr. Drew seconded. All in favor 4-0.

Chairman of the School Board

Date of signing

The Mission of the Milford School District is to provide a quality education that challenges all students to succeed.