

**MILFORD SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES
Monday, May 4, 2015 –7:00 PM
Milford High School – Lecture Hall Room # 182**

1. Call to Order:

Chairman Paul Dargie called the School Board meeting to order at 7:00 PM in Milford High School room # 182. Board members present included Mr. Kevin Drew, Mr. Len Mannino, Mr. Robert Willette and Mr. Ron Carvell. Also present were Superintendent Robert Suprenant, Business Administrator Jennifer Burk, Director of Building and Grounds Bill Cooper, and school board minutes recorder Marisa Donati.

2. Board Member Comments:

Mr. Carvell thanked Assistant Director of Special Services Michael Hatfield for the tour of the Sage facilities. Mr. Carvell stated that he observed classroom activities for a half day.

3. Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

4. Reports and Presentations:

a. Superintendent's Report:

- 1) Superintendent Suprenant informed the Board that he distributed a revised nomination sheet with a better breakdown of special services coordinator positions as well as the budgeted salary for these positions for the upcoming school year.
- 2) Superintendent Suprenant informed the Board that Smarter Balanced testing is complete for all grade levels except grade 11 and that it has gone smoothly thus far. Makeups are scheduled for students who were absent at the elementary and middle schools.
- 3) Superintendent Suprenant informed the Board that the athletic directors had a challenging spring due to the weather. Girls softball is off to an impressive start as they won five of their first six games. There are 125 middle school students participating in track.
- 4) Superintendent Suprenant informed the Board that late last week FEMA informed the district that they are now accepting applications for reimbursement for snow removal costs. Jennifer Burk has submitted an application for reimbursement.

5. New Business:

a. Preliminary Review of Potential Capital Improvement Plan:

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

Superintendent Suprenant reviewed a rough draft of the list of potential capital improvements that will be presented in the fall. The list was developed by Jennifer Burk and Bill Cooper in consultation with the school principals. The list is in draft status and was presented for discussion purposes only. Bill Cooper will be obtaining quotes and estimates for most of the listed items and stated that the high priority items alone will probably cost several million dollars. Mr. Dargie requested that the fall review include a cost estimate for all items, including wish list items that will be included to insure that all potential projects are discussed.

Questions arose about parking needs. Bill Cooper stated he would like to expand some of the parking because there are issues with double parking and blocking and suggested that there was a need for about twenty five new spots. Mr. Carvell suggested that restriping spots may help to maximize space. Mr. Mannino said that no one wants to fund new parking if staff is reduced.

Mr. Dargie requested a cost benefit analysis on the use and renovation of the Bales school in comparison to decommissioning the building and outsourcing the Sage School program. Mr. Carvell noted that the Bales study committee in 2008 had done a similar analysis that looked at selling the Bales school and moving the program to a different facility, and that the committee found that that option was not cost effective as the Bales School had no sales value. Mr. Drew requested that any proposed upgrading to air conditioning be costed separately from simple replacement of the roof top HVAC units. Mr. Dargie requested that costs for a stand-alone auditorium in the district and for an expansion of the high school gymnasium be included.

Mr. Dargie stated that the town Capital Improvement Plan - Citizens Advisory Committee would be meeting soon, and that the board needed to provide school capital needs forecasts to the committee. He suggested that the board submit a five million dollar plan to the committee, which is consistent with the submission that was made last year. Mr. Willette suggested that the board submit a ten million dollar plan because it would be more realistic based on the total needs.

Mr. Willette moved to submit a ten million dollar school CIP proposal. Mr. Carvell seconded. Motion failed 2-3 (Mr. Drew, Mr. Mannino, and Mr. Dargie opposed).

Mr. Dargie moved to submit a five million dollar plan for 2016 with a follow-on five million dollar plan for 2021. Motion passed 3-2 (Mr. Willette and Mr. Carvell opposed).

b. Financial Forecast:

Jennifer Burk reported that she is forecasting that the district will have a \$417,000 fund balance at the conclusion of the school year based on incurred and anticipated spending and revenues through the end of the school year. The board had forecasted a fund balance of \$329,000 during the budget development process last fall. The main reason for the favorable increase is that there was increased Medicaid revenue and some reduced expenditures.

Mr. Dargie asked if the extraordinary snow removal costs were included in the spending forecast. Jennifer Burk stated that the expenses net of expected insurance payments were included in the forecast, but that if FEMA makes any contributions towards snow removal costs then that would be new revenue and that would be an upside to the financial forecast.

c. Policy Proposals:

1. Policy # 5110 – Availability and Distribution of Healthy Foods to Students (1st Reading):

Superintendent Suprenant summarized this policy proposal that the Policy Review Committee had presented to the Board. The committee added to the policy the details of the definition of the close of the school day, and included a definition of reimbursed school meals as well as competitive foods.

Superintendent Suprenant stated that each state is allowed to create their own waivers for selling foods that don't meet nutritional guidelines. The New Hampshire Department of Education permits each school to have nine bake sale days.

Mr. Mannino moved to retain the policy back in committee. Mr. Willette seconded. Motion failed 1-4 (all but Mr. Mannino opposed).

Mr. Willette moved to approve the first reading of the policy proposal. Mr. Drew seconded. Motion passed 4-1 (Mr. Mannino opposed).

d. Consent Calendar Discussion:

Mr. Dargie reported that he and Mr. Carvell had recently attended a New Hampshire School Board Association training session. Mr. Dargie reported that part of the discussion at the session that he attended was the use by many school boards of consent calendars to handle housekeeping or routine items. In this practice, housekeeping or routine items are placed on a list, and there is one vote to approve everything on the list. Any board member can request items be removed from the list if they want to have a discussion about the items, and those items would then be handled separately. The members at the training session felt that consent calendars helped to improve the flow of meetings. Mr. Willette opposed the idea because he thought that it will take discussion and decision-making away from the board and that it does not take long for the board to approve these items based on current practice. The board took no action.

6. Old Business:

There was no old business.

7. Housekeeping Items

a. Nominations

Mr. Drew moved to approve the nominations. Mr. Willette seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

b. Approval of Minutes 4/20/15

Mr. Drew moved to approve the minutes of 4/20/15. Mr. Mannino seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

c. Approval of Treasurer's Report October 2014

Mr. Drew moved to approve the treasurer's report of 10/2014. Mr. Willette seconded. Motion passed 4-0-1. (Mr. Carvell abstained).

d. Approval of Treasurer's Report November 2014

Mr. Drew moved to approve the treasurer's report of 11/2014. Mr. Willette seconded. Motion passed 4-0-1. (Mr. Carvell abstained).

e. Approval of Treasurer's Report December 2014

Mr. Drew moved to approve the treasurer's report of 12/2014. Mr. Willette seconded. Motion passed 4-0-1. (Mr. Carvell abstained).

f. Approval of Treasurer's Report January 2015

Mr. Drew moved to approve the treasurer's report of 01/2015. Mr. Willette seconded. Motion passed 4-0-1. (Mr. Carvell abstained).

g. Approval of Treasurer's Report February 2015

Mr. Drew moved to approve the treasurer's report of 02/2015. Mr. Willette seconded. Motion passed 4-0-1. (Mr. Carvell abstained).

h. Approval of Treasurer's Report March 2015

Mr. Drew moved to approve the treasurer's report of 03/2015. Mr. Willette seconded. Motion passed 4-0-1. (Mr. Carvell abstained).

i. Approval of Manifests: 1150,1151,1152,1153,1154,1155:

Mr. Willette moved to approve the manifests. Mr. Dargie seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

8. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

9. Nonpublic Session RSA 91-A :3II (c) to discuss:

- a. Collective Bargaining Strategies
- b. Parent Request

Mr. Dargie moved to enter non-public session at 8:18 PM. Mr. Willette seconded.

Motion passed 5-0.

While in non-public session, the board discussed collective bargaining strategies for the contracts scheduled to be bargained this year, and they reviewed a parent request.

Mr. Drew moved to exit non-public session at 8:56. Mr. Mannino seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Drew moved to approve a parent's request that their two children that are currently resident juniors at the high school, and who will will become non-resident seniors next year, be allowed to complete their senior year at Milford High School without paying tuition. Mr. Carvell seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

10. Adjournment

Mr. Drew moved to adjourn at 8:56. Mr. Mannino seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Chairman of the School Board

Date of signing