

1 MILFORD SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

2 MONDAY JUNE 6, 2016 - 7:00 PM

3 MILFORD HIGH SCHOOL – LECTURE HALL ROOM #182

4
5 1. Call to Order

6 Chairman Paul Dargie called the meeting to order at 7:00 in Room 182 at Milford High School.
7 Board Members in attendance were Mr. Kevin Drew, Mr. Robert Willette, Mr. Len Mannino, and
8 Mr. Ron Carvell. Also in attendance were Superintendent Robert Marquis, Business
9 Administrator Jen Burk and Minutes Recorder Marie Walker.

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11 2. Board Member Comments – none

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13 3. Public Comments – none

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15 4. Reports and Presentations

16 a. Superintendent's Report

17 Superintendent Marquis recognized and thanked the Milford School District retirees for their
18 combined 141 years of service.

19 The Middle School Recycling Club was recognized at a May 17th Conference, and received three
20 awards.

21 The High School's Assistant Principal Stephen Claire arranged a simulated accident for High
22 School students, which included an injury & fatality, and involved the local Fire & Police
23 departments. Superintendent Marquis thanked the High School staff, students, theatre club,
24 Milford Fire Department and Milford Police Department.

25 The Elementary, Middle and High School band members participated in a joint band concert
26 held on May 17th in the High School gym. The members were congratulated on their
27 performance.

28 There was a presentation on May 18th showcasing student and business connections including
29 Milford Rotarians and High School students. Superintendent Marquis acknowledged and
30 commended the students involved and thanked participating businesses which provide valuable
31 internships to High School students.

32 The High School Computer Team competed in an All Star programming contest and tied for 7th
33 place - ten places higher than previous years!

34 Superintendent Marquis thanked and recognized Mrs. Erickson, retiring teacher, as her last
35 concert was with Middle School choral students on Wednesday, May 25th. He noted that the
36 students performed very well.

37 At the Jacques School the Grade 1 students walked to the High School where they toured the
38 building and track, had an opportunity to ask questions to staff & students, and were treated to
39 snacks. A week later MHS students visited the Jacques School on Community Service Day.

40 Superintendent Marquis complemented the 5th Grade students and teachers from Heron Pond
41 for their performance of Shakespeare plays.

42 Parents and students participated in Kindergarten orientation which allowed students to meet
43 staff and see the building, while also allowing the teachers to work with students to determine
44 skills.

45 The morning and afternoon Kindergarten sessions will now be extended by 15 minutes to allow
46 for recess, but which will not impact the bus schedule for drop-off & pick up. Ms. Maguire will
47 be sending out a letter to parents informing them of the change.

48 Superintendent Marquis handed out projected enrollment for the fall. Chairman Dargie noted
49 that he is in favor of keeping class sizes at around 16:1, in accordance with Board guidelines, and
50 another part-time teacher should be hired if needed at the Kindergarten level. Other Board
51 members were in agreement.

52

53 b. MHS Kaley Speaking Contest Winners

54 Christina Gibbs was the winner of the 2016 Kaley Speaking Contest, and Cailyn Chisholm placed
55 second. Both students presented their speeches titled "A Letter to Cassidy" and "GI Jane"
56 respectively. Mr. Carvell complimented both speakers on their presentation style. Ms. Shankle
57 stated that there were 12 speakers in this year's contest. Mr. Willette recognized the process
58 that the students follow to get to the final speech. Ms. Shankle noted the rigorous preparation
59 for these speeches, as they are required to write a research paper on a controversial topic
60 making edits over a six week period and then consolidating their paper into a speech.

61

62 c. Results of Technology Pilot

63 Mr. Michael Tenters, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, reported out the results of the
64 Chromebook pilot and spoke about student and teacher feedback. He presented four examples
65 of student work using Google Chromebooks. Ms. Jean Shankle stated that the two students
66 who prepared the Kaley speeches were using Chromebooks to conduct the research for their
67 speeches and throughout the preparation process. She noted that all students, regardless of
68 academic ability, are benefitting from the use of Chromebooks. Mr. Stephen Vetack, a social
69 studies teacher in the High School, also provided examples of students using Chromebooks to
70 enhance student learning.

71

72 Feedback from the pilot of the Chromebooks was they were able to collaborate more effectively
73 and efficiently, provided for increased feedback between student and teacher, and students had
74 the ability to immediately practice and apply what they learned. The Chromebooks also made
75 learning easier, research more accessible and increased the student's ability to contact their
76 teachers. Mr. Tenters stated the pilot was a success at all levels.

77

78 Mr. Jerry Stajduhar, Director of Technology, presented and discussed the costs of a blended
79 versus 1:1 environment for Chromebooks; referencing a document he provided to the Board
80 outlining the equipment needs and costs in an initial phase and going forward for replacement
81 since Chromebooks have around a 5-year lifespan. He also outlined the plan around the
82 deployment of devices and the availability of Google accounts to students at all building levels.
83 Mr. Mannino asked where Chromebooks were in the cycle of technology in terms of the overall
84 technology marketplace. Mr. Stajduhar stated that Chromebooks were in the middle of the

85 cycle and it would continue to evolve, but they are well received by school districts throughout
86 the country.

87
88 Mr. Mannino asked what the requirements are for new teachers in regards to technology
89 integration in the classrooms as part of their certification requirements. Superintendent
90 Marquis stated that there has been some discussion at the State level with regards to new
91 teachers in their initial certification and the courses taught in college. However there are
92 currently no requirements surrounding technology integration in the certification process.

93
94 Mr. Dargie commented that he was in favor of moving to a 1:1 environment for Chromebooks.
95 The rationale being that the cost difference between a blended approach and a 1:1 approach is
96 not too large, but there was a big benefit to making the environment totally immersive as would
97 occur in a 1:1 environment. He noted that a blended approach at the earliest grades such as
98 grades K-3 might be appropriate if the Chromebooks are deemed to be too distracting at that
99 young age.

100 d. Curriculum Update

101 Mr. Tenters presented an update on the status of the curriculum cycle. A new cycle was
102 presented last year, which had Social Studies in the review phase of the cycle for 2015-16 and in
103 the budget phase for the 2016-17 fiscal year. The Science, PE & Health curriculum will be in the
104 review phase in 2016-17, and in the budget phase for 2017-18. The math curriculum was
105 approved and the documents are being worked on. The Literacy K-5 team is focusing on more
106 collaboration between grades and between elementary schools. Kindergarten through Grade 2
107 will be using Foundations as the reading program. Problem Based Learning will also be
108 addressed. The Jacques School has been piloting interactive surfaces for the classrooms, testing
109 out the effectiveness of the e-beam vs. Mimio and providing feedback on their usefulness.

110
111 Mr. Mannino asked about the evaluation of technology and professional development, and
112 whether the measurements included student grades or other mechanisms. Mr. Tenters noted
113 that Student Learning Objectives provided a good measurement tool with data collection,
114 especially for professional development associated with technology. Other assessments
115 included assessments and surveys of staff.

116 e. Quarterly Reports

117
118 Granite Town Media Advisory Committee – Mr. Drew noted that there is a meeting scheduled
119 for the week of June 13th.

120 Wellness - Mr. Willette reported that there were a lot of different activities in each building -
121 which included Contra Dancing, improvements to the weight room, Pennies for Parents, Mental
122 Health Check and planting in raised beds.

123 Technology – Chairman Dargie noted that this was covered during Mr. Stajduhar’s presentation.
124 ATC Regional Center Advisory Committee – Mr. Drew stated that they elected officers, discussed
125 marketing to incoming 8th Grade students, interviews are being conducted for the part-time
126 Video Production teacher, and were provided with an update on the status of Perkins funding –
127 anticipated to be around \$10K less than 2015-16.
128

129 Professional Development – Mr. Carvell noted that a lot of the content was covered by Mr.
130 Tenters’ and Mr. Stajduhar’s presentation. He noted that the Committee will be updating the
131 plan in the next year, and the members were planning to continue with the Committee next
132 year.

133 Capital Improvement Plan – Chairman Dargie noted that the Committee has not met yet.
134

135 5. New Business

136 a. Request for National Competition Funding

137 History Teacher Mr. Vetack presented a request for funding to attend the National History Day
138 competition. This year’s theme is Exploration, Encounter and Exchange in History. Student
139 Rachel Nelson presented her topic for the competition – Hannah Dustin. She discussed the
140 story of Hannah Dustin who was captured by Indians, then escaped by killing and scalping her
141 captors, and making her way back to civilization. She discussed her research, and described her
142 theatrical presentation which was a simulated discussion at a tavern.
143

144 Mr. Willette moved and Mr. Carvell seconded a motion to award the History Club \$500 toward
145 the competition trip expense which will take place in Maryland. Motion passed 5-0.
146

147 b. Progress Report on 2015-16 District Goals

148 Curriculum and Instruction (Goals a, b, c)

149 Superintendent Marquis presented a summary of the process on goals for the 2015-16 school
150 year. He reported that administrators are determining how successful the SLO initiative was this
151 year, outlined in Goal A. He noted that the SLO process was embraced by teachers and
152 administrators, providing opportunities for reflective conversations, and assisted teachers in
153 determining how effective their teaching was by looking at student growth over the year.
154

155 Under Goals B & C, Superintendent Marquis reported out on the Chromebook pilot, expanding
156 on the earlier presentation on technology, plus the use of Google in the classrooms and the plan
157 for account deployment across the District.
158

159 With regards to Goal D, Administration will provide a reprioritized Capital Improvement Plan for
160 consideration as part of the budget process for 2017-18.
161

162 For Goal E, Superintendent Marquis reported that negotiations are ongoing with MEPA through
163 the summer, while MESSA negotiations will begin in the fall.
164

165 c. Acceptance of Donation

166 Superintendent Marquis recommended that the Board accept the \$500 donation that was
167 received by a classroom teacher from an “Adopt A Classroom” account. This needed to be
168 approved and expended by June 30th. Request from Superintendent Marquis to allow the
169 teacher to spend the \$500 on the devices listed in the memo. Mr. Willette moved and Mr. Drew
170 seconded a motion to accept and expend the donation, subject to the review of the selected
171 equipment by Mr. Stajduhar. Motion passed 5-0.
172

173 Mr. Willette moved and Mr. Drew seconded a motion to suspend the rules to add an item not
174 included on the agenda. Motion passed 5-0. Business Administrator Jennifer Burk presented a
175 memo from William Cooper, Director of Buildings & Grounds, outlining the results of quotes
176 received from local vehicle dealerships for the purchase of a new truck for the maintenance
177 department, as was budgeted for the 2016-17 fiscal year. Ms. Burk described the condition of
178 the truck to be replaced, and the recommendation from Mr. Cooper regarding awarding this bid
179 to Contemporary in Milford.

180

181 Mr. Carvell indicated that he was hesitant to purchase a new vehicle until more is known
182 regarding outsourcing of maintenance functions, since the Board has just started exploring
183 options. Mr. Dargie noted that the overall consensus from the Board is to hold off until the fall
184 and revisit this award at that time. No vote was taken.

185

186 6. Old Business

187 a. Policy Proposal

188 1. Policy 2299 – Recycling (second reading)

189 Mr. Dargie reviewed the new policy regarding recycling. Mr. Willette moved and Mr. Dargie
190 seconded a motion to approve the second reading of Policy 2200. Motion passed 4-1 with
191 Mr. Mannino in opposition.

192 b. Approval of Contract for Pipe Replacement at MHS

193 Mr. Drew provided an update to the Board on the bid for the pipe replacement project at the
194 High School, based on his conversations with Mr. Cooper and the architect for the project. He
195 noted that the use of copper and steel pipe added approximately \$20,000 to the bid total
196 outlined in the memo from Mr. Cooper. Mr. Drew recommended authorizing Mr. Cooper to
197 award the bid to Granite State Plumbing and Heating to include the change in materials to be
198 copper and steel instead of plastic pipe.

199

200 Mr. Drew moved and Mr. Mannino seconded a motion to authorize Mr. Cooper to award the
201 project to Granite State Plumbing and Heating for a total of \$179,859 including the use of metal
202 piping instead of plastic as specified in the option on the bid. Motion passed 5-0.

203

204 c. Medicaid Budget History

205 Ms. Burk reported that she had spoken with Attorney Bill Drescher and the auditors about the
206 use of Medicaid funding anticipated to be received beyond the amount initially budgeted for
207 2016-17, and both recommended that the amount be amended on the MS-24 which is filed by
208 September 1st with the Department of Revenue Administration. This increased amount would
209 offset the tax rate. Chairman Dargie requested that this be put on the agenda for the August
210 meeting for a decision.

211

212 7. Housekeeping items

213 a. Approval of Minutes 5/16/16

214 Mr. Drew moved and Mr. Willette seconded a motion to approve the minutes from May 16th.
215 Motion passed 5-0.

216

- 217 b. Approval of manifests: 29, 1146, 1147, 1148, 1149, 1150, 1151, 1152, 1153
 218 Mr. Willette moved and Mr. Dargie seconded a motion to approve the manifests listed on the
 219 agenda. Motion passed 5-0.
 220
- 221 c. Approval of February 2016 Treasurer’s Report
 222 d. Approval of March 2016 Treasurer’s Report
 223 Mr. Willette moved and Mr. Dargie seconded a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Reports for
 224 both February and March of 2016. Motion passed 5-0.
 225
- 226 e. List of Nominations
 227 Mr. Drew moved and Mr. Carvell seconded a motion to approve the nominations. Motion
 228 passed 5-0.
 229
- 230 f. List of Email Correspondence (information only)
 231
- 232 g. List of Employees Leaving Service (information only)
 233
- 234 h. List of Classified New Hires (information only)
 235
- 236 8. Public Comments
 237 None
 238
- 239 9. Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:21 (a) Strategy or negotiations with respect to collective
 240 bargaining and/or RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Personnel (if needed)
 241 Superintendent Marquis noted that a nonpublic session was not needed.
 242
- 243 10. Adjournment
 244 Mr. Drew moved and Mr. Carvell seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 5-
 245 0. Meeting adjourned at 9:55 pm.
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247 _____
 248 School Board Chair Date of Signing