

--- FILE COPY ---

**MILFORD SCHOOL BOARD Minutes  
(SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT No. 40)  
October 5, 2009**

1. **Call to Order**

Chairman Bragdon called this meeting of the Milford School Board to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. on Monday, October 5, 2008, in Room 4 of the Milford High School. Those present, together with interested citizens, were:

**School Board Present** Bert Becker, Peter Bragdon, Paul Dargie, Len Mannino, and Bob Willette.

**Staff Present** Robert Suprenant, Superintendent of Schools; Katie Chambers, Business Administrator; and Laurel Johnson, Assistant Superintendent of Schools.

**Recorder** J. Bradford Seabury.
2. **Board Member Comments**

Chairman Bragdon asked if there were any comments from Board members. None being brought forward, he continued to the next agenda item.
3. **Public Comments**

Chairman Bragdon asked if there were any introductory comments from members of the audience. None being brought forward, he continued to the next agenda item.
4. **Reports and Presentations**
  - a. **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Suprenant reported that the School District had hosted multiple open houses, saying the attendance had been reported to be excellent, with the principals getting great feedback from the parents about the opening of the schools this year. He noted that the Kindergarten Open House would be held this coming Thursday.

Superintendent Suprenant announced that the Middle School Enrichment Program would be sponsoring a presentation for parents, called *Taming the Beast; Anger Management for Ourselves and Our Children*. He explained that the program would feature a child psychiatrist, Dr. Ben Garber, and would take place on October 14<sup>th</sup>, starting at 6:30 p.m.

Superintendent Suprenant noted that he had distributed to members of the School Board the October 1<sup>st</sup> enrollments, for projection purposes at the next Board meeting.

Superintendent Suprenant concluded by stating that NECAP testing had begun this week in all schools, saying the results would be reported by mid-winter.

- b. Mason School Board** Mr. Wolfgang Milbrandt, chairman of the Mason School Board, said Mason was sending more students than had been expected, as some home-schooled students had decided to join the program. He then presented a \$343,280 check to the School Board. Dr. Chris Geary, a Mason Selectman, said he was here to provide accolades to the Superintendent, noting that he had a child in the school system and that the transition had been absolutely flawless, clearly as the result of lot of coordination and diligent work on the part of Superintendent Suprenant and the Milford School District staff.

Ms. Deborah Bemis, District Administrator for Mason Schools, expressed appreciation of the coordinators. She reported that 63 Mason students of high school and middle school level, noting that four would graduate this year but eight additional elementary school students were expected next year.

Chairman Bragdon asked if there were a breakdown of the numbers for High School and Middle School. Superintendent Suprenant said he would get that and provide it; he then commented on the team effort that had worked so well.

Without objection, Chairman Bragdon moved to Item 5.a.

## **5. New Business**

- a. Regional Center Advisory Committee Proposal** Mr. Joseph Kasper, chairman of the Regional Center Advisory Committee, said he was present to speak of equipment needs, saying the amount of money available through the past five years had not kept up with the changing technology and normal wear-and-tear of the equipment. He reviewed last year's report, noting that \$600,000 worth of needed equipment had been identified, and adding that a small budget had been included, bringing the needs down to \$590,000. He said the proposal being proposed tonight revolved around the School District's tuition revenue, adding that this revenue entailed a responsibility to maintain the equipment. He then read a summary statement about the proposal, saying the Committee was recommending that a fund be established which would provide \$200,000 annually. He noted that a number of Committee members were present to answer any questions.

Mr. John Leslie said it was time to recognize that the State paid up front for the equipment and then paid 75% to cover maintenance, adding that the School District needed to start doing that.

Mr. Steve Martin said there were actually two separate issues, with one being that the School District had made a commitment to the State to maintain the Applied Technology Center, but was not doing that—noting that Milford students would be hurt as well if the other communities stopped

sending students. He said the other issue was that this was a great continuing revenue stream, so maintaining and upgrading was really a good investment.

Mr. Bragdon asked if this list included mostly the original equipment, when the Applied Technology Center opened. Ms. Rosie Deloge, Director of Technical Studies, said the Applied Technology Center had gone through a number of upgrades, but that much of this had to be done again. She commented on specific items of equipment, noting that the Applied Technology Center actually had begun with used equipment that had been given to the Applied Technology Center by businesses.

Mr. Bragdon recalled that last year's presentation was actually the first time that a presentation had been made about overall equipment needs of the Applied Technology Center. Director Deloge said they had been able to put in significant money for equipment replacement the first few years, but budgeting had been more conservative for the past several years, with requests having been dropped out of the budget during the budgetary process.

Superintendent Suprenant referenced the program cycle, saying Applied Technology Center equipment was embedded within the cycle, with this continuing through the next three years—but not, he added, to the level that was being requested. Assistant Superintendent Johnson said a response to last year's report had been to identify the areas that had the greatest need for replacement equipment, with this being factored in for following years. She said she and Director Deloge felt a couple areas could be moved, up, as some equipment failures had caused changes in those needs.

Chairman Bragdon said the budget would have to be finalized by the end of November, with decisions pretty much made by the end of December. He said the Board would be discussing this proposal, but added that he was not a fan of dedicated funds, as they kept sliding backwards.

Mr. Becker said he would like to know what the revenues and expenditures were with respect to the Applied Technology Center, including the ones pertaining to students that Milford sent to other schools.

Mr. Dargie said he also was generally not in favor of dedicated funds, but he was in favor of spending money on Applied Technology Center equipment, saying the School District should keep that program going. He suggested that the Board needed to have discussion on what it would take to keep the program going, suggesting the Board might consider increasing the regular maintenance fund to \$250,000 or even \$300,000 per year.

Chairman Bragdon said the Board would discuss these concepts during the coming budget process and would make decisions at a later meeting

**b. H1N1  
School  
Vaccina-  
tion  
Proposal**

Mr. Bill McKinney, Milford Health Officer, noted that he was accompanied by other Town officials, explaining that Superintendent Suprenant had asked them to come tonight to discuss H1N1 issues. He said the purpose was to obtain approval to hold a closed H1N1 clinic, preferably on a Saturday so as not to impact a school day. He stressed the clinic would be optional and would not be mandated in any way. As the vaccine became available, he added, they were requesting a facility to house a clinic, adding that people who already displayed H1N1 symptoms would not receive the vaccine.

Mr. Eric Schelberg, EMS Director, said some Milford students would receive the vaccine elsewhere, from their own doctors--adding that the organization hoped to borrow the west end of the High School building. He then outlined the plans for registration and vaccination.

Ms. Patricia Crooker, Nashua Area Coordinator, said there was no cost, as the vaccines were being provided by the Federal government and the program would be staffed with volunteers. Chairman Bragdon asked if liability protection would be granted to the School District for providing the space. Ms. Burke said she was still seeking guidance on that topic, but the major coverage would be under the Federal act.

Mr. Mannino asked if the volunteers would be trained. Ms. Crooker said the emergency response plans had been in process since 2007, and she then described the interaction with local emergency response teams of nearby communities, noting that nurses would be provided, as well. She noted that an attempt to get the Red Cross involved was also under way.

Mr. Willette asked if parental authorization would be needed. Ms. Crooker answered in the affirmative, saying this was one of the reasons they wanted to hold the clinic on weekends so that parents could be there to sign forms—and also to be vaccinated as well, if they desired.

*Decision  
to  
authorize  
the  
holding of  
H1N1  
vacci-  
nation  
clinics*

Mr. Dargie moved that the School Board authorize the group to hold the clinics in the quantity and times to be determined between Administration and the group. Mr. Willette seconded the motion. Mr. Bragdon moved to amend the motion to add that the Superintendent would first check with Legal Counsel with respect to the liability issue. Several members offered seconds. Chairman Bragdon then called for a vote on the amendment. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5–0). Chairman Bragdon then called for a vote on the amended motion. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5–0).

All **New Business** items having been addressed, Chairman Bragdon said he would return to the **Reports and Presentations**, first taking up Item 4.e, as persons were present for that item, and then doing Items 4.c and 4.d.

**4. Reports and Presentations (Continued)**

- e. Science Curriculum** Assistant Superintendent Johnson noted that Ms. Susan Terpstra and Mrs. Jennifer Maurais were present and had been working on this all summer. She then listed other members of the Science Advisory Committee who were not present.

Mr. Justin Campbell, Director of Academic Studies at the High School, then gave a computerized presentation of the science curriculum, noting that the intent was to get everything online so as to avoid killing trees. He demonstrated how the hyperlinked interactive programs worked when being used by the teachers, showing how the hyper-linked forms and data could be handled. He noted that Student Services was also adding an interactive document that would let the students research various career opportunities. He noted that the teachers would also have available a shared directory that would serve as a repository for information.

Assistant Superintendent Johnson said there was a standard curriculum, with common lessons and assessment curricula, adding that there was a plan to record the common results, beginning a year or two from now, to find out which courses met expectations for learning. She noted that a few courses still had not been completed, but the bulk of the work was done. Director Campbell noted that the work would be used as model for doing the same thing with other curriculum topics in the future.

Chairman Bragdon asked if there were a Grade 9 science class in the High School now. Director Campbell answered in the affirmative, noting that Ms. Tempstra taught several sections in Grade 9 science. Chairman Bragdon commented on the AP chemistry material. Assistant Superintendent Johnson said it came from the college curriculum, which had its own set of standards. She explained that the students had to take regular chemistry and physics before taking AP classes.

Ms. Tempstra said this was the first year that students could skip the standardized classes to go straight to biology, so that they would have enough time to take Honors physics and chemistry. Chairman Bragdon asked if there were a separate course covering that. Ms. Tempstra answered in the affirmative, saying there were elements in the Grade 8 courses that covered it.

Mr. Dargie asked if there were a legend key available for the legends on the documentation. Director Campbell said there was, saying the framework could be provided. Assistant Superintendent Johnson said she had not done the introduction and would include it there.

Mr. Mannino asked if the Global Climate Change course were an elective. Director Campbell answered in the affirmative, explaining that it had been

proposed by a teacher and was running two sections. Mr. Mannino noted that there was division across the country and even the world as to whether global climate change actually existed. Mr. Campbell said this division was one of the things the students looked at, explaining that the students looked at a variety of alternative explanations, adding that the course was targeted at student interaction and dialog.

Chairman Bragdon asked if there were any objections to dealing with this this evening. None being brought forward, Mr. Dargie moved to accept the program as proposed; Mr. Bragdon seconded the motion. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5–0).

**c. Board Member Monthly Reports** **Milford High School Renovations Committee** — Business Administrator Chambers reported on the continuing work, noting that some funds were being held back on the floor tiles until the problem became resolved, adding that the expectation was that the tiles would be replaced, one way or another. She noted that the installer had been very cooperative. Chairman Bragdon expressed concern about changes in cost if the specialty tile was replaced by regular tile. Mr. Dargie noted that the intent had been to become more environmentally friendly.

**d. Board Member Quarterly Reports** **PEG Committee** — Mr. Mannino said he would have something for the next meeting.  
**Wellness Committee** — Mr. Willette said he had missed the second meeting, which had been very well attended.

**CIP and Town Facilities Committee** — Mr. Dargie said the CIP committee had not met yet—adding that the Board had decided last year not to participate in the Town Facilities Committee.

**ATC Technology Committee** — Mr. Dargie said Director Campbell had covered that in the Science Curriculum presentation.

**LEIP Committee** — Assistant Superintendent Johnson said a developmental meeting would be held in the near future.

**6. Old Business**

**a. Policy Proposals**

**Policy #2285, Wellness Policy (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)**

Superintendent Suprenant said there had been no changes since the first reading. Mr. Bragdon moved to approve Policy #2285 for its second reading. Mr. Becker seconded the motion. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5–0).



**Policy #2418, Seat Belt Use Policy (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)**

Mr. Becker moved to approve Policy #2418 for a second reading; Mr. Bragdon seconded the motion. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5-0).

**Policy #2420, Temporary Alternative Duty (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)**

Mr. Becker moved to approve Policy #2420 for a second reading; Mr. Bragdon seconded the motion. Superintendent Suprenant noted that there had been a question of covering non-work-related injuries; he said these were adequately covered under Federal law and there was no need to incorporate anything here. He noted that section 18e had added the language "no later than 18 months," for consistency. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5-0).

**7. Housekeeping Items**

- a. Approval of Minutes** Chairman Bragdon addressed the 09-21-09 meeting minutes. No changes being brought forward, Mr. Dargie moved that the Board approve the minutes as submitted; Mr. Bragdon seconded the motion. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5-0).
- b. Approval of Manifests** Chairman Bragdon addressed the manifests awaiting approval, listed as including Vouchers Nos. Vouchers # 9, 1043, 1044, 1045, 1046, 1047, 1048, 1049, 1050, 1051, 1052, 1053, 1054, and 1055. Mr. Dargie moved that the Board approve the manifests as listed; Mr. Becker seconded the motion. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5-0).
- 8. Public Comment** Chairman Bragdon asked if there were any closing comments from members of the audience. None being brought forward, he continued to the next agenda item.
- 9. Non-Public Session** Chairman Bragdon moved to go into non-public session under the provisions of NH RSA 91-A:3 II (c), *Matters which, if discussed in public, likely would affect adversely the reputation of any person*, and (d), *Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community*, as well as possibly to discuss parameters for upcoming negotiations on collective bargaining issues. Mr. Dargie so moved; Mr. Mannino seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Messrs. Becker, Bragdon, Dargie, Mannino, and Willette all voted in favor of the motion, which carried unanimously (5-0). Chairman Bragdon then declared the Board to be going into non-public session at 8:26 p.m., and all members of the public left the room at that time.

While in nonpublic session, the board discussed a personnel issue and a

real estate issue. No motions were made and no votes were taken.

No further nonpublic business remaining before the Board, Mr. Bragdon moved to exit from the nonpublic session; Mr. Dargie seconded the motion. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, with the Board returning to public session at 8:55 p.m.

**10. Adjournment**

All scheduled items having been addressed, Mr. Bragdon moved to adjourn; Mr. Dargie seconded the motion. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, with this meeting adjourning at 8:55 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman of the School Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Signing