

MILFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING – APRIL 10, 2017  
MILFORD ANNEX BUILDING

Board Members Present

Mrs. Wiley – President  
Mr. Fry – Vice President  
Mrs. Dennehy  
Mr. H. Emory  
Ms. Kirby – left @ 7:45PM  
Mr. Rust  
Mr. Schelhouse  
Dr. Dickerson, Exec. Secretary

Admin. Present

Dr. Peel  
Dr. Walmsley  
Dr. Stevenson  
Dr. Amory  
Ms. Manges  
Mrs. Croce  
Dr. Kilgore  
Mrs. McKenzie  
Mrs. Hallman  
Mr. Hilligoss  
Mrs. Wallace  
Mr. Snyder

Public

S. Whaley  
D. Vezmar  
R. Wildy  
J. Woods  
R. Johnson  
A. Creasey  
M. McKain  
L. Dillon  
A. Dillon  
J. Keesler  
G. Larsen  
D. Scott  
C. Miller  
C. Walton  
I. Keesler-Evans  
S. Firch  
K. Stahl  
K. Wilson  
B. Pasmore  
C. Brownstein  
J. Darling  
M. Brownstein  
A. Brownstein  
R. Evans  
T. Weaver  
M. Miller  
P. Donovan  
J. Johnson  
J. Purcell

*Milford Live:*

*T. Rogers*

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The Regular Meeting of the Milford Board of Education was called to order by President Wiley at 5:32 PM on Monday evening, April 10, 2017, in the Annex Board Room.

**ROLL CALL**

**MOTION MADE BY MR. RUST/SECONDED BY MRS. DENNEHY** to adjourn into Executive Session at 5:33 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING PERSONNEL AND LEGAL MATTERS.**

A. Personnel Matters – See 29 Del. C. § 10004(b)(9)

**MOTION MADE BY MRS. DENNEHY/SECONDED BY MR. EMORY** to adjourn Executive Session at 7:04 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION MADE BY MR. SCHELHOUSE/SECONDED BY MR. EMORY** for the Board to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2017 Regular School Board Meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.**

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

### ***FFA Parliamentary Procedure Team State 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner***

Team members are Melina Hudson (11<sup>th</sup>), Patrick Donovan (11<sup>th</sup>), Rebeca Castaneda-Nava (11<sup>th</sup>), Cassy Miller (11<sup>th</sup>), Jaineil Johnson (11<sup>th</sup>) and Sage Culver (11<sup>th</sup>). This team will be moving on to the Big-E at the regional level as well as head to Indianapolis, IN to compete at the National FFA Convention in October. Sage Culver was elected as a 2017-18 Delaware County Representative.

### ***Odyssey of the Mind MCA/MHS Team – World Qualifiers***

Milford School District's "Odd-a-Bot" Odyssey of the Mind Team placed 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Delaware State Odyssey of the Mind Tournament and will represent Delaware at Odyssey of the Mind World Finals at Michigan State University in May. This is this team's 2<sup>nd</sup> trip to World Finals in the past 2 years. Milford's winning team consists of Caleb Brownstein (10<sup>th</sup>), Rhy'ana Johnson (9<sup>th</sup>), Abby Baird (8<sup>th</sup>), Delaney Dillon (8<sup>th</sup>), Bella Keesler-Evans (9<sup>th</sup>), Bethany Pasmore (9<sup>th</sup>) and Jacob Keesler-Evans (12<sup>th</sup>). The team is coached by Adam and Molly Brownstein. Milford's secondary Odyssey of the Mind coordinator is Judith Woods.

### ***Derrickson Nominee of Art***

Ross student Hailey Hall (5<sup>th</sup>) received a full year of free art lessons from the Rehoboth Art League.

### ***WBOC Scholar Athlete of the Month***

Donald Scott (12<sup>th</sup>) maintains a 3.85 GPA and will graduate with majors in Energy Management and Structure & Systems Technology. Donald participates in Football and Lacrosse. He was 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference midfielder in lacrosse last season.

### ***MCA Student Artworks Featured in the "Young at Art"***

Rehoboth Art League's "Young at Art" show included work by Jake Muir (7<sup>th</sup>), Kaitlyn Welsh (7<sup>th</sup>), Vanessa Barron (8<sup>th</sup>), Sam Sickles (8<sup>th</sup>), Corey Messick (8<sup>th</sup>), Victoria Perez (8<sup>th</sup>), Carissa Justice (8<sup>th</sup>), Nelson Ramirez-Morales (7<sup>th</sup>), Abby Baird (8<sup>th</sup>) and Zabdi Carvajal (8<sup>th</sup>).

### ***Recent College Commitments***

The following students signed college commitments: Jessica Creigh – University of Delaware, Allison Fitzgerald – Western Carolina University, Ethan Hurd – Lebanon Valley College, Monique Pressley – George Mason University, Deja Rodriguez-Santiago – University of Delaware, Madison Rogers and Lindsay Shockley – Shenandoah University.

### ***MHS Agri-Science Teacher – CTE School Policy Seminar***

Chris Stahl, MHS Agriculture Teacher, attended the 2017 National Policy Seminar sponsored by the Association for Career & Technical Education in Arlington, VA March 13-15, 2017.

## **SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS – Dr. Kevin A. Dickerson**

### ***District administrators presented Newsletters and individual school information.***

Mrs. Hallman, Principal, reported the Bunny Hop Dance at Morris Early Childhood Center was a big success. The Scholastic Book Fair will be held the end of April and Touch A Truck is scheduled for Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Kilgore, Principal, stated that Banneker's Multicultural Family Night was a big success with more than 200 attending. The state testing window has opened and students started testing the week of March 13<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. McKenzie, Principal, reported that Ross Elementary students will host the Science Fair on April 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 7:00 pm and the Spring Carnival is scheduled for Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Wallace, Principal, said Mispillion Elementary will have a Student Appreciation Week from April 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>. Ciara Martin, a Nutrition Educator for Delaware State University's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program will be delivering 5 lessons including My Plate Food Guide, Making Half your Grains Whole, Good Safety and Rethink Your Drink and Move it.

Mr. Hilligoss, Assistant Principal, reported that Central Academy student Summer Davis (8<sup>th</sup>) was awarded the \$1,000 Ben Carson Scholarship for academic excellence and community service. Mrs. Dutton's RTI class won the Read to Succeed contest sponsored by Achieve 3000 for the second time this year.

Mr. Snyder, Principal, stated 94% of the juniors took the school-day SAT. SAT make-ups will be after spring break. Many MHS students volunteered to help with the Easter Egg Hunt held at Banneker Elementary and more will be helping at the Bug & Bud Festival later this month.

### ***Athletics***

Recent college signings included Ethan Hurd – Baseball – Lebanon Valley, Madison Rogers – Tennis – Shenandoah University, Holly Tesoro – Cross Country – Goldey-Beacom, and Kate Melvin – Field Hockey – Long Island Post. On April 11<sup>th</sup> at 10am the Sussex County Council will honor the MHS State Championship Wrestling Team. The Baseball team is 4-2, Softball is 3-1, Lacrosse is 4-1, Girls Soccer is 3-3, Golf is 2-2, Girls Tennis is 2-2, Boys Tennis is 0-4, Girls Track is 1-3 and Boys Track is 1-3. Dalton Nordberg placed 1<sup>st</sup> in Pole Vault at the Keith M. Burgess Invitational on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### ***Board Meeting Date Change***

There will be a Special Board Meeting on May 1, 2017 and a Regular Meeting on May 8, 2017.

### **BUSINESS – Mrs. Sara Croce & Dr. Kevin Dickerson**

#### ***State Budget Impact Presentation***

Mrs. Croce presented the projected impacts to Milford School District of State Budget proposal. The district expressed concerns around the equitability of proposed cuts, impacts to tuition programs and fiscal impacts of other proposed legislation. Dr. Dickerson stated that there is still a great deal of uncertainty around the budget. He also stated that the district must prepare for a worst-case scenario and look at all processes to minimize impacts to the quality of programs for students in the classroom while being fair to staff across the district and our taxpayers.

Mrs. Croce asked for feedback from board members for potential reductions. Mr. Emory suggested revisions to the long-term substitute pay structure, as well as reviewing district insurance premiums. Mrs. Wiley suggested looking at any outside service contracts including lawn care and other operational services.

#### ***Continued Preliminary Tax Rate Discussion***

Mrs. Croce provided up-to-date information regarding the projected FY18 tax rate. A power point presentation was provided. Additional budget impacts will be presented at the May 1, 2017 school board meeting.

***DOE Financial Position Report***

**MOTION MADE BY MR. FRY/SECONDED BY MR. SCHELHOUSE** to approve the DOE Financial Position Report. **Motion carried unanimously.**

***Delinquent Tax Waiver Request***

**MOTION MADE BY MR. EMORY/SECONDED BY MR. Fry** to deny the Delinquent Tax Waiver Request. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**PERSONNEL – Dr. Paul Walmsley**

***Personnel Reports***

RECOMMEND FOR EMPLOYMENT

LEWIS, Ladonna  
Mispillion – Child Nutrition (3 hrs.)  
Effective: April 11, 2007

BUCKLEY, Lora  
Ross – Child Nutrition (3 hrs.)  
Effective: April 11, 2007

JOB ABANDONMENT/RESIGNATION

ROMAN CAMPOS, Maria Luisa  
Morris – Child Nutrition (3 hr.)  
Effective: March 16, 2017  
Years of Service to MSD: 9 days

FMLA

Board Only

RECOMMEND FOR EMPLOYMENT – LIMITED CONTRACTS FOR PERSONAL SERVICES

High	Softball, Girls Coach, Asst.	O’Neal, Brittany (21B)
High	Track, Asst. Coach	Skinner, Lance (21B)
High	Golf, Volunteer	Baylis, Brice
High	Baseball, Volunteer	Overstreet, James
High	Softball, Volunteer	Rogers, Brian (21B)
Central	Soccer, Girls, Volunteer	Jennie, Britini (21B)
High	Track, Volunteer	Vennett, Steven (21B)
High	Lacrosse, Volunteer	Betts, Kyle (21B)

RECOMMEND FOR EMPLOYMENT – READING TUTOR

Banneker Dypsky, Leia

**MOTION MADE BY MR. FRY/SECONDED BY MR. RUST** to approve the Personnel Report as written. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**INSTRUCTION AND STUDENT PROGRAMS**

***Director of Secondary Education – Dr. Jason Peel***

***Graduation/Dropout Rates***

Graduation and dropout statistics for 2016 were recently published for Delaware Schools. Milford High School had an 89% graduation rate placing it as one of the top comprehensive high schools in the state. Over the past three years, the graduation rate has increased by more than 5%, one of the top increases in the state.

Milford's dropout rate continues to decrease. Milford's rate is at 1.1% ranking it among the top comprehensive high schools and well below the state average.

### ***STEM Expo***

On Friday, March 24, 2017 twelve MHS juniors and seniors as well as two teachers attended a STEM convention sponsored by Astra Zeneca at the Terry Campus of Delaware Technical Community College that highlighted 15 career areas.

### ***Director of Elementary Education – Dr. Bridget Amory***

#### ***Elementary Task Force***

This team of professionals comes together throughout the course of the school year to review and discuss elementary curriculum. Their work includes the review of academic standards, the pacing of curriculum, and review of resources including assessments and allows for cross district for vertical articulation. This year the district has begun to implement the use of the Smarter Interim Assessment Blocks (also known as IAB's) in grades 3-5 for both math and English language arts as well as to map the elementary learning standards. This year's members include the following: Lori Gooding, Kim Davies, Tony Zeveney, Devon Burtelle, Ambriah Johnson, Starla Plummer, Jessica Wechtenhiser, Sarah Simon, Shannon Kerpen, Danielle Renken, Jodi Messick, Heather Hudson, Anne Mahan, Brice Baylis, Leesa Lopez, Sue Flamminio, Deanna McKee, Tenesha Duffy, Angela Schaeffer, Amanda Gaglione, Renae Worley, Michele Waite and Sheri Firch.

### ***Director of Special Education – Ms. Laura Manges***

#### ***Courageous Hearts***

Courageous Hearts provides effective, engaging Equine Assisted Psychotherapy and personal development programming to youth, adults, families and groups throughout Delaware. Their team consists of highly qualified mental health and equine professionals who provide support to some of MCA's special needs students.

#### ***Disproportionality Determination***

The District received a final response from DOE on the disproportionality data and, after a review of our policies and practices, there were no significant findings with regard to over-identification in certain disability categories.

#### ***Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS)***

A team of three speech pathologists will be attending a two day, extended training on PECS in order to continue to expand programming and services for students who are non-verbal.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

### ***Buildings & Grounds – Dr. Glen Stevenson***

#### ***Ross Chiller Equipment Update***

Dr. Stevenson reported bid letters were mailed to six contractors and are due April 19, 2017.

***Technology – Mr. Scott Whaley***

***Dark Fiber Update***

Switching to Dark Fiber will result in a significant cost savings. Dark Fiber will greatly increase the available bandwidth between schools. The Ross/Mispillion site and Banneker site are scheduled to be moved to Dark Fiber over Spring Break.

***E-Rate Wireless RFP***

The Wireless RFP through E-Rate closed on March 17, 2017. Submissions have been scored and there is a recommendation to award multiple vendors.

**MOTION MADE BY MR. FRY/ SECONDED BY MRS. DENNEHY** to approve Huntleigh Technology Group for 179 wireless access points, Dice Communications for 18 uninterruptible power supplies (UPSs) and Versalign Inc. for 31 cabling runs contingent on getting confirmation letter. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION MADE BY MR. FRY/SECONDED BY MR. RUST** that the Regular Meeting of the Milford Board of Education held on Monday, April 10, 2017 is adjourned at 8:48 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

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Kevin Dickerson, Executive Secretary

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Edna Rust, Recording Secretary