

MILFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MAY 15, 2023

Board Members in Attendance	
Mr. Jason Miller, President	Mr. David Vezmar
Mr. Scott Fitzgerald, Vice President	Mrs. Jean Wylie
Dr. Adam Brownstein	Dr. Kevin Dickerson, Executive Secretary
Mr. Matt Bucher	

The Regular Meeting of the Milford Board of Education was called to order by President Mr. Miller at 6:00 PM on Monday evening, May 15, 2023.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION MADE BY MR. FITZGERALD/SECONDED BY MR. BUCHER to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for April 17, 2023.

Roll Call: Dr. Brownstein - yes Mr. Miller - yes
 Mr. Bucher – yes Mr. Vezmar – abstain
 Mr. Fitzgerald – yes Mrs. Wylie – yes
(Motion passed - 5 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain)

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE BY MR. BUCHER/SECONDED BY MR. FITZGERALD to adjourn into Executive Session at 6:02 PM. **Motion passed unanimously.**

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

MOTION MADE BY MR. FITZGERALD/SECONDED BY MR. BUCHER to adjourn Executive Session at 7:23 PM. **Motion passed unanimously.**

CHANGES TO AGENDA - None

PERSONNEL – Dr. Peel

Personnel Report

MOTION MADE BY MR. VEZMAR/SECONDED BY MRS. WYLIE to accept the Personnel Report as presented during Executive Session. **Motion passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

On behalf of the Board of Education and the Milford School District, Dr. Dickerson congratulated Robbie Masten on his promotion to Lieutenant for the Milford Police Department and thanked him for his services to Milford School District as an outstanding School Resource Officer.

Agreements Between the Milford School District Board of Education and the Milford Education Association, DSEA/NEA

MOTION MADE BY MR. FITZGERALD/SECONDED BY MR. VEZMAR to approve the Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Custodial/Maintenance and Secretaries Contracts for 2023-2025. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Social Media Litigation

MOTION MADE BY MR. VEZMAR/SECONDED BY MR. BUCHER to approve the District being part of the Social Media Litigation as presented during Executive Session. **Motion passed unanimously.**
Ms. Ashley Lockwood, Milford School District Teacher of the Year, in Washington DC

Dr. Dickerson thanked Ms. Lockwood for representing MSD and the State of Delaware so well at the National Teacher of the Year program in Washington, DC. MSD is very proud of Ms. Lockwood.

State of Delaware Compassionate Champion Award

MSD has been awarded the Compassionate Champion Award in the Education category by the State of Delaware for providing exemplary trauma-informed services and care for students. The District will be recognized at a ceremony on May 17.

MMS Project Update

Update

BSA+A presented the plans and specifications for the design development phase of the Milford Middle School. Simulations of the front and back of the school were shown as well as the interior designs for each floor. They explained how they are incorporating elements of the old Milford Middle School into the new design, as well as the state-of-the-art features incorporated into the school. RYJ discussed the different phases of the construction and the estimated costs for the project. Dr. Hale assured the Board a referendum would not be needed to complete the school.

Plans and Specifications for the Design Development Phase

MOTION MADE BY MR. VEZMAR/SECONDED BY MR. BUCHER to approve the Plans and Specifications for the Design Development Phase as presented. **Motion passed unanimously.**

STRATEGIC PLAN

Dr. Amory presented the Strategic Plan and explained that over the past 6 months, a diverse group of students, staff, caregivers, and community members have developed the plan and agreed upon a path forward. In keeping with our Buccaneer theme, they agreed they will be Charting a Course to Excellence throughout Milford School District. The Strategic Plan Steering Committee convened multiple times to guide key elements of the plan including: Portrait of a Buccaneer, Core Beliefs, Vision, Mission, and a Priority Compass. The four main areas of focus include: Supporting the Whole Child, Academic Excellence, Empowering and Investing in Our People and Building our Future. Each of the elements contributes to setting the stage for the next several years of focus in Milford Schools. This will serve as a guiding framework as MSD works to align data and refine goals throughout the district moving forward.

BUSINESS – Dr. Hale

Revenue and Expenditure Report

MOTION MADE BY MR. BUCHER/SECONDED BY MRS. WYLIE to approve the Revenue and Expenditure Reports as of April 30, 2023. **Motion passed unanimously.**

FY 2023-2024 Preliminary Tax Rates

Dr. Hale explained the four major components of the school tax rate including current expense, debt service, match, and tuition. The current expense rate provides revenue to cover operating costs, debt service provides revenue to pay principal and interest payments with bonds sold for major capital improvements, and Tuition tax provides funds for special education services in and out of the district. Though there are several different Match Tax options, the district currently only assesses a match tax for minor capital improvements which matches State Bond Bill funding for building and grounds repairs and

maintenance. (Other match taxes available but not assessed include: reading specialist, math specialist, technology, and extra time.). The district does not assess a capitation tax. The district will bring preliminary tax rate estimates to the June meeting for discussion.

Community Eligibility Program

This program provides free breakfast and lunch for all students. The District was able to qualify for a grace year to maintain the CEP status for the 2023-2024 school year for all six schools. The District must requalify based on the percentage of students receiving State public assistance.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS – Mr. Sharp

District Projects

MOTION MADE BY MR. BUCHER/SECONDED BY MR. VEZMAR to award the following contracts for the MHS HVAC Project Phase II to Brandywine Contractors (Contract A-1 Carpentry and General Work), Quality Exteriors (Contract A-2 Roofing Work), Ralph Degli Obizzi and Sons (Contract A-3 Mechanical) and Superior Electric (Contract A-4 Electrical). **Motion passed unanimously.**

Lead Testing Update

MSD schools each had lead testing completed last week by the state and the District is awaiting the results.

INSTRUCTION AND STUDENT PROGRAMS – Dr. Amory

Field Trip Approvals

MOTION MADE BY MR. VEZMAR/SECONDED BY MR. BUCHER to approve the field trips as presented. **Motion passed unanimously.**

BOARD DISCUSSION

DSBA Updates

Dr. Brownstein reported that the due date for the DSBA dues is approaching. MSD will vote next month as to whether MSD will continue to pay DSBA dues and be part of DSBA. Mr. Bucher reported that the Legislative Committee met on April 28. The following legislative bills are education related: HB 63, HB81, HB66, HB88, BB127, HB96, HB116, HB3, HB6, Title 14 Misconduct for Public Officials, and there are 4 bills in the House concerning mental health.

Proposed FY 2023-2024 Schedule of Board Meetings

The Board reviewed the Proposed FY 2023-2024 Schedule of Board Meetings. The August 21, 2023 meeting was corrected to be at 6 PM and it will be a regular meeting. The Proposed Schedule will be brought back to the board in June for approval.

Introduction of Recommended New Board Policy

Draft Board Policy 4305 Constable Market Analysis was presented. The draft will be brought back to the board in June for approval.

Recommended Revised Draft Board Policies for Action

MOTION MADE BY MR. FITZGERALD/SECONDED BY MR. BUCHER to approve Revised Board Policy 4205 School Closing or Delay Due to Inclement Weather or Emergency. **Motion passed unanimously.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION MADE BY MR. BUCHER/SECONDED BY MR. VEZMAR that the Regular Meeting of the Milford Board of Education held on Monday, May 15, 2023, adjourned 8:40 PM. **Motion passed unanimously.**