



Milford Board of Education Meeting Summary

The Milford Board of Education held its regular Board meeting on Thursday, December 16, at Milford Junior High School.

Special Presentations

State Representative Joe Uecker recognized the district for its accomplishment of earning an "Excellent with Distinction." He framed proclamations from the House of Representatives and presented them to the Board.

Mr. Bill Knepp introduced Emma Hall Smyth and recognized her for her donation of a painting of Milford Main to the Board. Mrs. Smyth, a longtime Milford resident who is suffering from cancer, has been a prolific painter in recent years and her donation comes in time for Milford Main's 100th year celebration in 2012. Each Board member presented her with a rose, and Dr. Farrell also presented her with a certificate of recognition.

Junior High Principal Kelli Ellison gave a welcome and spoke about the numerous community service activities the junior high staff and students have been involved in this holiday season from toy and school supply drives to paper and canned good drives. Her staff has been planning a special day of differentiated instruction for the 7th graders prior to the winter break. Students will attend the high school production of *A Christmas Carol* and then write a character analysis. They will express their viewpoints creatively through designing CD covers, scrapbooks, and t-shirts. Mrs. Ellison also reported that space continues to be a challenge at the junior high school, and the new wing is expected to open after winter break which will help to alleviate some of these issues. The additional classrooms will allow students to move back into the building from the modulars. The JHS Building Leadership Team has also analyzed and recommended modifications to the schedule to further address the congestion issues next year.

Athletic Update

Board President George Lucas reported on winter sports. He also reported about the Milford Athletic Hall of Fame induction. Joe Cambron, Milford Boys' Basketball Head Coach, was recently inducted into his high school hall of fame.

Business Advisory Council Update

Gary Knepp and Dave Yockey commented on the Business Advisory Council. They reported the BAC is nearing completion on two of the three tasks assigned to them by the Board of Education. The BAC will be giving a formal presentation from these subcommittees to the Board in the near future.

Student Representative Reports

Jake Harrington and Mike George spoke about a variety of activities at the high school including boosting attendance at home sporting events by designating them as spirit games. They also spoke about community service activities and the dodgeball tournament which will also raise money for the Animal Welfare league. They reported that the Band Boosters have opened a school spirit shop which is open before first bell and after school as well. The shop is selling spirit wear, food, and school supplies.

Public Participation

Staci Mathis, the new coordinator of the Coalition for Partners for a Drug-Free Milford Miami Township, spoke about their mission to address underage drinking, marijuana use, and prescription drug abuse. They are working on campaigns, compliance checks, and prevention strategies and need volunteers to help move the coalition forward since it is a community effort. Their next meeting on January 25, at 4 pm, at Milford High School, is open to the public.

Executive Session

The Board met in executive session to discuss the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of public employees or regulated individuals, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee or regulated individual unless such person requests a public hearing.

The Board took action on the Treasurer's and Superintendent's contract after the Executive Session. They voted to extend Mr. Seymour's contract to 2015. The Board wanted to avoid both the Superintendent's and Treasurer's contracts expiring in the same year. Due to budget issues both Mr. Seymour and Dr. Farrell requested not to receive salary increases for the next two years or longer if economic conditions do not improve. Instead, each will receive additional vacation days and sick days and annual contributions to an annuity.

After executive session, the Board also passed a resolution suspending Mr. Gary Tameris without pay for five days (January 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, 2011) for failure to properly supervise students under his supervision, leaving the classroom without securing supervision for students under his care, continued neglect of duty, and insubordination.

Treasurer's Report

Approval of Financial Reports for the month ended 11/30/10.

Superintendent's Report

- Accepted donation from the Milford Athletic Boosters in the amount of \$5,307 for a new electronic sign.
- Approved resolution to adopt the PE (Physical Education) waiver permissible by ORC 3313.603 due to economic reasons. This waiver is in effect until June 30, 2014. The Board will reevaluate the waiver based on economic conditions at that time.
- Approved 2010-2011 Milford High School Course Selection Guide. Dr. Farrell gave a summary of the course changes. Courses with low enrollment have been eliminated. Both class enrollment numbers and academic rigor were the basis for these changes. The high school will be dropping a number of business courses and begin working in conjunction with Great Oaks to offer new business classes that are part of the "High School of Business," a program of courses that have been implemented throughout the country and offer college credit.
- First reading of the following policies:
 - Graduation Requirements to align with the Ohio Core.
 - Distribution of Materials, Staff Gifts and Other Solicitations (flyers will no longer be sent home with students, but instead posted electronically on the website)

Curriculum and Instruction

- Approved five teachers to be paid up to 40 hours (\$23/hour) of work outside the school day on their Building Leadership Team and the Secondary Leadership Team. These teachers represent departments without a department chair.
- Approved teachers for the purpose of compiling a supplemental trade book list for grades 3-6 to be paid no more than 8 hours, at \$23.00 an hour:

Human Resources

- Approved resignations for certified or classified including Garrett Scotty, MJHS Social Studies Teacher, who will be retiring effective 12/31/2010.
- Approved FCLA (Family Care Leave of Absence) for three teachers, substitute teachers and classified staff, district/building supplemental contracts, and athletic supplemental contracts for the 2010-11 school year.

Information Items:

Dr. Farrell reported on Milford leaving the FAVC League. Milford will join its new league in the fall of 2012 with six other eastside schools also leaving the FAVC. They are accepting applications to include an eighth team in their conference. The athletic directors are also writing a constitution and will be proposing the name of the new conference be the "Eastern Cincinnati Conference."

Business Operations

- Approved a resolution between Milford Exempted Village School District and Clermont County for a temporary easement along Wolfpen Pleasant Hill Road due to major construction planned in front of the

junior high by Clermont County Engineers next year.

- Operations Manager Jeff Johnson reported on the energy savings initiatives throughout the district. Due to the HVAC upgrades at the high school, the district received a custom rebate incentive from Duke-Energy for \$12,000. He also reported on the energy savings over the last couple of years. Gas and electric costs are down 18.8% in FY09 and 13.8% in FY10 due to energy savings measures put in place. Further, new equipment put in place at the schools will allow for more accurate reading and analysis of energy expenditures. Each school will also have an energy savings team that Mr. Johnson will begin meeting with in January.

Board of Education

The Board set its organizational meeting for January 6, 2011, 5:00 p.m., at the Milford Board of Education, 777 Garfield Avenue. The next regular Board of Education Meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 20, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Milford High School, 1 Eagles Way. The Board will adopt an annual schedule of meetings and locations at its organizational meeting on January 6th.