

The Regular Meeting of the Brockton School Committee was held on Tuesday, October 17, 2006, at 7:30 p.m. in the George M. Romm Little Theatre located in the Fine Arts Building at Brockton High School.

Present: Mr. Hancock, Vice-Chair; Mr. Belcher; Mrs. Beyer; Mr. Daley;
Mr. Dobrowski; Mr. Foley; Mrs. Joyce; Mr. Nembirkow, Secretary

Absent: Mayor Harrington, Chair

Note: These minutes contain a summary of the meeting and list the items that were under discussion.

Vice-Chair Hancock called the meeting to order at seven-thirty o'clock followed by a salute to the flag.

**Approval of
Records**

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Regular School Committee Meeting Minutes of September 20, 2006, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Report of
Chief
Supervisor of
Attendance**

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the Report of the Chief Supervisor of Attendance for the Month of September, 2006, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Superintendent
Nembirkow**

Superintendent Nembirkow indicated that the DOE sent out several releases on MCAS and AYP data and more releases are scheduled for this week. Tomorrow the state will release school and district MCAS results for grades 3-8 in English, Language Arts and Math as well as results for grades 5 and 8 in science and technology/engineering. On the whole, our preliminary MCAS results show a slight increase in performance. On Thursday, the state will release all school and district AYP results. We anticipate that Brockton, and almost every other urban district in Massachusetts, will be listed in corrective action as a district. We will be given this designation because we failed to make AYP in subgroups, not in the aggregate across the district. As part of the corrective action sanctions, we will be required to inform all parents in all schools of the change in status. The state is still correcting inaccuracies in the data; the Hancock School, which had previously been identified as in corrective action, is in fact not, and the data will be corrected.

This week the Brockton Public Schools will launch the Connect-ED telephone calling system. This will allow principals and administrators to contact parents with up-to-date information on school closings, events, emergencies, etc.

Superintendent Nembirkow indicated that there are two women in the audience who were honored as Women of the Year on Saturday, October 14, 2006, at the Massasoit Conference Center. He asked Dr. Claire Appling and Dr. Susan

Szachowicz to stand to be recognized. He stated that the Davis PTA women were also honored as Women of the Year.

**Report on
BHS**

Dr. Susan Szachowicz, BHS Principal, and Ms. Maria LeFort, BHS Associate Principal, were present to provide an overview of the presentation that they will be making for the International Center for Leadership in Education on October 27-29, 2006, in Washington, D.C., at the National School Reinvention Symposium. The overview highlighted the initiatives that have led to increased student achievement. After a lengthy discussion and questions, Mr. Dobrowski moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Report on
Summer
Enrollment
Statistics**

Ms. Prudence Buckley, Director of the School Registration/Parent Information Center, highlighted a report on Summer Enrollment Statistics from June-September of 2006. Ms. Buckley indicated that 1,844 student registrations were processed. That number represents 1,536 for grades 1-8 and 308 for kindergarten. The minority population represents 67.5% and the non-minority population represents 32.5%. Those who received their first choice represented 85% and 9% received their second choice. After discussion and questions, Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Healthy School
Communities
Grant**

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of a Healthy School Communities Grant proposal to the Association for Supervision and Curriculum, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. Funding would be approximately \$10,000 for the Kennedy School to participate as a Healthy School Communities Pilot School. Mrs. Mary Ellen Kirrane was present to answer several questions. The vote was then taken.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Gifted and
Talented**

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of an FY2007 Gifted and Talented Services RFP, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. The purpose of the proposal is to identify K-8 advanced, gifted and talented students and to raise their achievement. The approximate amount of the proposal is \$35,000 for the Gilmore Academy to continue its Gifted and Talented Program. Mr. Jerome was present to answer several questions. The vote was then taken.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Notification of
Personnel
Appointments**

Mr. Daley moved to accept the Superintendent's notification of the Personnel Appointments listed on Enclosure #7.

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

**Notification of
Personal Action**

Mr. Daley moved to accept the Superintendent's notification of the following Personnel Action listed on Enclosure #8:

1. Leaves of Absence

Elizabeth Fernald – Arnone (8 wk. Maternity – Eff. 12/1/06)

Carolyn MacKinnon – South Middle School (8 wk. Maternity – Eff. 2/16/07)

2. Resignation

Natalia Baptista – Charter MTA (Eff. 10/9/06)

3. Early Retirements (to participate in the 4% Early Retirement Plan)

Patricia Melford – East JHS (to retire 6/30/10)

Cheryl Shields – Plouffe (to retire 6/30/10)

4. Early Retirements (to participate in the 7% Supplemental and 4% Early Retirement Plans)

Catherine Brine – Executive Director (to retire 10/20/10)

Jo-Ellen Fisher - BHS (to retire 6/30/10)

Carla Keith - Keith School Principal (to retire 6/30/10)

Kathleen A. O'Brien – BHS (to retire 6/30/10)

Diane Prince – BHS (to retire 6/30/10)

Donna Sabbag – Guidance (to retire 12/23/10)

Helder Varela – East JHS (to retire 12/31/10)

5. Early Retirements (to participate in the 12% Final Step Increase Plan)

Sophie Fama - Confidential Secretary (to retire 5/4/10)

Nancy Sousa - Secretary (to retire 9/9/10)

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

Accounts Review

Mrs. Joyce, chair, indicated that the Accounts Review Subcommittee Meeting has been rescheduled to Monday, October 23, 2006, at 4:30 p.m. in the Crosby Administration Building.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Basan Nembirkow
Secretary

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