

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

Absent: Mr. Foley, Mr. Hancock

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

The Regular Meeting of the Brockton School Committee was held this evening in the George M. Romm Little Theatre at Brockton High School at six thirty o'clock. The earlier time was due to the Holiday Concert at 7:30 p.m. Mayor Harrington called the meeting to order at six-thirty o'clock followed by a salute to the flag.

Approval of Records

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the School Committee Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2007, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Report on Attendance

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the Report of the Chief Supervisor of Attendance for the month of November, 2007, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Superintendent Nembirkow

Proposed Charter School

Superintendent Nembirkow thanked School Committee members, elected officials, staff members, community members and students who spoke yesterday at the main branch library on the proposed **Sabis International Charter School**. They spoke about the quality of education in the Brockton Public Schools and the hope that it continues its success. The proposed for-profit Charter School would have a serious detrimental effect on the progress currently being made in the schools by pulling away dollars and sending the profits overseas to its parent company. The students need to stay to make the schools stronger. He spoke about competition, American values, choice, equity, and free public education. He stated that he will do everything to defend public education. He also informed the members that Patrick Jolicoeur, SAC rep to the School Committee, who spoke eloquently at the hearing, received a perfect score on the MCAS in English and Math.

Gilmore School

The second issue the Superintendent discussed was the **Gilmore School**. On Monday morning, while students were rehearsing their theatre production, cracks were heard in the ceiling area. Upon investigation, it was discovered that the supporting wooden arches, over 40 years old in the cafeteria and gymnasium, were starting to crack. Superintendent of Buildings Vassapollo, School Department staff, structural engineers, etc., felt it was unsafe for students. The cafeteria and gymnasium were closed off and students were moved to the other side of the building. Classes were canceled the remainder of the week. Tomorrow another team of inspectors will give an estimate on the cost, time, etc. School Department personnel then went to the Kennedy School, a similarly built school, to be sure that it was safe and to let them know that inspectors will be coming to look at the school.

**Recognition
Out-going
SC Member**

Mayor Harrington and Superintendent Nembirkow presented a plaque to out-going School Committee member Mr. Matthew Belcher. Mr. Belcher served on the School Committee for two years, 2006-2007. Matt stated that it was a real pleasure serving on the School Committee, and the Brockton Public Schools are A+.

Mr. Hancock, due to a death in the family, was unable to be present this evening to receive his plaque. He will be honored at the next meeting.

**School Committee
Subcommittees**

Superintendent Nembirkow asked all members to contact him prior to Monday, December 31, 2007, if they would like to request assignment on a particular subcommittee. The subcommittee assignments, with the exception of the Community Schools and the Chair of the Curriculum/Finance/Policy Subcommittee, which are elected positions, will be announced by the Mayor at the January 8, 2008, Organizational School Committee meeting.

CSAB

Mr. Dobrowski moved to table acceptance of the Community School Advisory Board Meeting Minutes of October 10, 2007, pending receipt of a list of members present.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

**Acceptance of
Donations - RIF**

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the donations for the Reading is Fundamental (RIF) Program as follows:

The Kiwanis Club of Brockton (Russell and Angelo Schools)
Angelo School PAC (Parent Advisory Council)
Ashfield School PTA (Parent Teacher Association)
Brookfield School PTO (Parent Teacher Organization)
Davis School PTA (Parent Teacher Association)
Downey School PTA (Parent Teacher Association)
Huntington School PTO (Parent Teacher Organization)
Keith School (Quality Full-Day Kindergarten Grant)
Plouffe School PAC (Parent Advisory Council)

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Trip

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following overnight/out-of-state trip:

BHS Wind Ensemble to participate in the Music Festivals in Washington, D.C. and New York City on April 17-21, 2008

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Personnel
Appointments**

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

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

**Personnel
Action**

Mr. Daley moved to accept the Superintendent's notification of the following Personnel Action:

1. Leaves of Absence
 Jocelyn MacIntosh – Kennedy (12 wk. Maternity – Eff. 2/25/08)
 Kerry Pearson – Davis (12 wk. Maternity – 3/18/08)
 Veronica Romansky – Downey (unpaid Personal – remainder of 2007-2008 school year – Eff. 12/3/07)
 Tiffany Sergio – BHS Custodian (unpaid FMLA – up to 12 wks. – Eff. 11/20/07)
2. Resignations
 Mary Buchanan – SPED (Eff. 12/31/07)
 Colleen Pino – Plouffe (Eff. 12/21/07)
 Julie Tsai – Kennedy (Eff. 11/27/07)
 Barbara Wyman – Angelo Monitor/Teacher Assistant (Eff. 12/7/07)
 Isabel Afonso – Keith Paraprofessional (Eff. 12/4/07)
 Cheryl-Ann Hall-Hurley – Angelo Paraprofessional (Eff. 12/7/07)
3. Change in Early Retirement Date
 Cheryl Spillane – Secretary (From 12/3/10 to 12/4/10)

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

Accounts Review

Mrs. Beyer, chair, proceeded to read the Accounts Review Subcommittee Meeting Report of December 17, 2007. The accounts reviewed were for the period of November 21 through December 5, 2007. Mr. Daley moved to accept the report as presented.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Superintendent’s Evaluation/Contract Subcommittee Meetings

Mr. Dobrowski, chair, proceeded to read the November 26, December 11 and December 17, Superintendent’s Evaluation/Contract Subcommittee Reports. Mr. Daley moved to accept the reports as presented.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

BHS JROTC

Superintendent Nembirkow stated that he received notification from Colonel Tripp that the BHS JROTC Drill Team and Color Guard was awarded the Governor’s Cup Trophy at the state championships for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Army/JROTC Drill Teams last week at East Boston High School. This gives the team the privilege to compete in the U.S. Championships in New York in April.

Adams Scholarship

Mrs. Beyer stated that she attended the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship Assembly at the high school last week and it was very impressive.

Executive Session

Mr. Dobrowski moved to go into Executive Session for discussion of non-union negotiations with the intent to come back into regular session. Mayor Harrington called the roll call vote:

Beyer	- Yes	Joyce	- Yes
Dobrowski	- Yes	Belcher	- Yes
Daley	- Yes	Chair	- Yes

Voted: to go into Executive Session at 6:55 p.m.

Reconvene

Mayor Harrington reconvened the regular session at 7:25 p.m. He stated that there was no further business to be discussed and adjourned the meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Basan Nembirkow
Secretary

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