

Brockton, Massachusetts                      Regular Meeting                      February 9, 2010

The Regular Meeting of the Brockton School Committee was held this evening in the George M. Romm Little Theatre of Brockton High School at seven-thirty o'clock.

Present: Mayor Linda Balzotti, Chair; Mr. Minichiello, Vice-Chair; Mr. Bath; Mrs. Beyer; Mrs. Joyce; Mr. Carpenter; Mr. Sullivan; Dr. Malone, Secretary

Absent: Mr. Daley

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

Mayor Balzotti called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

At this time in the meeting, Dr. Malone introduced the new Brockton High School security liaisons, Danny Steele and Stephane Abelard, both of whom were presently on duty. The Superintendent said that he would discuss information included in this evening's agenda regarding these positions later in the meeting.

**Hearing of Visitors**

Mr. Jimmy Thomas, member of the Brockton community and school bus driver, addressed the School Committee this evening of the subject of diversity in the Brockton Public Schools.

Mr. Bill McGauley of the Brockton Youth Foundation announced two upcoming events: the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Breakfast of Champions scheduled on March 21<sup>st</sup> and Casino Night, scheduled on June 18, 2010.

**Approval of Records**

Mrs. Beyer moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Committee on January 19, 2010, and the minutes of the School Committee Retreat on January 25, 2010.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mrs. Joyce moved to accept the report of the Chief Supervisor of Attendance for January 2010.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

**Approval of 2010-2011 Protocols**

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the 2010-2011 Board-Superintendent Communication, and Governance Protocols, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

The documents were then signed by the School Committee with the exception of Mr. Daley.

**Superintendent's Strategy**

Dr. Malone announced at this time that that he would take questions regarding the Superintendent's Three-Year Strategic Plan. Mr. Minichiello moved to refer all discussion on the Strategic Plan to the next School Committee Retreat.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

**Learning & Teaching**

Dr. Malone announced that the Brockton Public Schools would be on an early-release schedule on February 10, 2010, due to the weather prediction.

**School Police Command Structure**

The Superintendent referred to the enclosure in this evening's agenda: *School Police and Control: Options and Recommended Actions*. He reviewed the pros and cons of the three recommended plans for the School Committee regarding the School Police Command Structure, saying that **Plan A** makes the most sense to put in place.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Carpenter moved to refer discussion of the School Police Command Structure to the next Safety/Security/Transportation Subcommittee meeting.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**FY11 Reorganization**

Dr. Malone distributed the current Organizational Chart for the Brockton Public Schools at this time and referred to the enclosed FY2011 Reorganization draft which is based on functions. He emphasized the importance of the Cross Functional Circle.

Questions were asked by School Committee members regarding the difference in responsibilities between a director and a department head, the clarification of job titles, and the use of job titles. No action was taken.

**FY2011 Budget and Forecast**

Superintendent Malone introduced Aldo Petronio, Executive Director of Financial Services for the Brockton Public Schools, to present information on the FY2011 Budget and the Forecast. Mr. Petronio discussed the level funding of all Chapter 70 funds, and suggested that the state legislators be contacted on the matter. We will not be properly compensated for increased enrollment due to level funding. He said that House and Senate information still needs to be announced, and that the School Department may receive RTTT funds, as well as having some stimulus monies from last year. Mr. Petronio said that he is looking for any other resources he can get.

A brief discussion ensued regarding RTTT funding stipulations, concerns regarding Charter Schools, various tax increases, and increased enrollment.

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**BPS Capital  
Improvement Plan**

Dr. Malone stated that the Facilities Usage & Planning Subcommittee has met on four occasions to review needed capital improvement projects. The enclosure provided this evening, he said, lists capital improvement projects that have been prioritized into four tiers, beginning with the emphasis on sealing the building envelope with new or refurbished roofs that do not leak, and ending the report with in-house projects which are the focus of the Facilities Maintenance staff.

Dr. Malone then introduced James Hayden, Executive Director for Operations and School Administration, to give the PowerPoint presentation.

Following the presentation, School Committee members expressed concerns regarding: mold and air quality testing; how staff deals with the leaking roofs; the potential for leaking roofs falling in; climbing/steady cost increases on roof repairs; and the condition of the stadium which is causing limited athletic events/competitions/facility rentals. Both Dr. Malone and Mr. Hayden responded, adding that the capital improvements need approval by City Council. The Superintendent said that his issue is *not* to use instructional dollars for improvements in the buildings.

Mrs. Joyce then moved to refer continued discussion of the above capital improvements to the Facilities Usage & Planning Subcommittee.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**2010-2011 BPS  
School Calendar  
and Supplement**

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the 2010-2011 School Calendar and Supplement which includes the opening day for teachers, the first day of school for students, release-time/in-service dates, school holidays and vacation periods, parent-teacher conferences and the BHS graduation date.

On the motion, Mr. Carpenter emphasized that the first two weeks of school are two-day school weeks. Dr. Malone said that he was happy to get the first two days and that past-practice was followed. There are collective bargaining issues here, as well.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**BPS Security  
Liaisons**

Dr. Malone announced that, effective February 1, 2010, two campus security liaisons have been employed by the Brockton Public Schools. An enclosure has been provided in this evening's agenda that includes job descriptions, contract information, BHS guidelines and the estimated cost for the positions.

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the above report, as presented.

A lengthy discussion took place on the motion involving the following topics: School Committee having no authority over these monies; no one person overseeing responsibilities; the actual responsibilities of the security liaisons; I.D.'s for night school students; the backgrounds, and hiring and training processes of the security liaisons; the

establishment of the liaisons' contracts; the number of vacation days; uniforms; student awareness of the security liaisons; supervision of the liaisons; and the carrying of weapons.

Dr. Szachowicz responded to the I.D. request, and both Dr. Malone and Kathleen Sirois, Executive Director for Human Resources, responded to all other topics. Dr. Malone said that all information on this will be reviewed in next year's budget, and the School Committee will look it over.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Authorization to Submit Proposals**

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of the FY10 Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools RFP and, if successful, the expenditure of funds up to \$300,000 for a 24-month project.

Readiness/Emergency Mgmt. for Schools

Funds will allow school districts to create, strengthen, or improve emergency management plans at the district and school-building levels. Brockton's REMS project will include training for school personnel in emergency management procedures; coordination with local community partners, including the Mayor's office, Brockton Police, Brockton Emergency Management Association, Department of Public Health, BAMSI; and plans to improve local capacity to sustain emergency management efforts.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Diploma Plus Mini Grant

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to submit the Diploma Plus Mini Grant Application to Third Sector New England, Inc. and, if successful, the expenditure of \$9,000 in funds.

The funds will lead improvements in professional practices and student outcomes in the targeted area of numeracy.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Approval of New Scholarships**

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following additional new scholarships for inclusion in the 2010 BHS scholarship booklet:

- Joseph A. McCarthy Memorial Scholarship Fund
- BHS Class of 1950-50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Scholarship

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

CSAB Minutes

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the minutes of the December 2, 2009 Community School Advisory Board meeting, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mrs. Beyer announced that the February 10<sup>th</sup> CSAB meeting has been cancelled.

**Approval of  
Overnight Trip**

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the BHS Key Club overnight trip to Springfield, MA, from April 9 – 11, 2010, for ten members and two chaperones to attend the annual New England KEY Club Convention.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Personnel Appts.**

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept notification of the Personnel Appointments listed on Enclosure #18.

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

**Personnel Action**

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept notification of the following Personnel Action listed on Enclosure #19:

**Leaves of Absence:**

Kristin, Cinelli, Baker (12 Wk. Maternity, Eff. 4/26/10)  
Michelle Holland, South (12 Wk. Maternity, Eff. 3/24/10)  
Joanna Ialuna, BHS (8 Wk. Maternity, Eff. 5/24/10)  
Anna Kirsch, Plouffe (Extension of Maternity, Eff. remaining 09-10 School Year)  
Lynsey Kristiansen, East (8 Wk. Maternity, Eff. 5/24/10)  
Francesca McDevitt, Raymond (12 Wk. Maternity, Eff. 3/25/10)  
Michael Hilston, MTA, Arnone (8 Wk. Unpaid FMLA, Eff. 1/19/10)  
Shirley Daniels, Paraprofessional, Brookfield (Unpaid FMLA up to 12 Wks, Eff. 1/4/10)  
Shelia Spears, Paraprofessional, Huntington (Unpaid FMLA up to 12 Wks., Eff. 1/11/10)  
Lisa Butler, Food Service Worker, BHS, (Unpaid FMLA up to 12 Wks., Eff. 1/19/10)

**Resignations:**

Lee Eddy, East, Eff. 2/5/10  
Diana Omar, Paraprofessional, Eff. 1/21/10

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

**Accounts Review  
Subcommittee Report**

Mr. Bath moved to accept the report of the Accounts Review Subcommittee meeting on February 2, 2010.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

**Bid Review  
Subcommittee Report**

Mr. Bath moved to accept the report of the Bid Review Subcommittee meeting on February 2, 2010.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mr. Bath moved the Superintendent's recommendation to award the FY2011 contract renewals to the vendors, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Policy Subcommittee Report**

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report of the Policy Subcommittee meeting on February 2, 2010, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to amend FORMAT-Policy Exhibit BEDB-E, Order of Procedure in the Rules and Orders of the School Committee for the implementation of the Consent Agenda.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Dr. Malone briefly explained the Consent Agenda, saying that it is basically block-voting on routine agenda items.

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the formation of a three member subcommittee of the School Committee for the purpose of creating a Flyer Distribution policy for the Brockton Public Schools. The subcommittee will be served by Mrs. Beyer, Mr. Carpenter and Mr. Bath, as Chair.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

At this time, the Superintendent commented on the length of this evening's agenda, and commended Barbara Souza, Confidential Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, for her work in organizing the document.

**Facilities Usage & Planning Report**

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report of the Facilities Usage & Planning Subcommittee meeting on February 2, 2010.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**New Business**

Mr. Minichiello spoke on the West Middle School National History Project Night, congratulating and thanking the students on their incredible and varied projects. He also recognized and thanked the following teachers for their efforts: Pat Sheridan, Rick Little, Bill Barron and Matt Campbell.

Mr. Carpenter asked that a different, more centrally located venue be considered for future School Committee meetings. He made the motion to schedule School Committee meetings at the Dr. William H. Arnone School for a trial period of three months, which will be followed by a reevaluation by the School Committee. Previously scheduled events will not be moved, and needed technology must be available.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

At this time, Mr. Bath commended Barbara Souza on the quality of her work for the School Committee, and said that she is a valued member of the team.

Mr. Carpenter announced that a Public Hearing on Drug Prevention and Intervention has been scheduled on February 23, 2010, at 7 p.m. in the Dr. William H. Arnone School theatre.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew H. Malone, Ph. D.  
Secretary

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