

Brockton, Massachusetts

Regular Meeting

February 14, 2012

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

Present: Mayor Balzotti; Mr. Minichiello, Vice-Chair; Mr. Robinson; Mr. Donegan; Mrs. Joyce; Mr. Carpenter; Mr. Healy; Mr. Sullivan; Dr. Malone, Secretary

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

Mayor Balzotti called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m., followed by a salute to the flag.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Balzotti explained the purpose of the Consent Agenda, and asked if School Committee members wished to remove any items from it. Mr. Minichiello requested that Enclosure #'s 4, 5, 6 and 7 be removed.

Mr. Robinson then made the motion to approve all other remaining items on the Consent Agenda, as follows:

- Regular SC meeting minutes of January 17, 2012
- Chief Supervisor of Attendance Report of January 2012
- BHS JROTC out-of-state trip on March 10, 2012
- Minutes of CSAB on December 14, 2011
- Authorization to submit Competitive Summer Work & Learning RFP, and expenditure of funds
- Authorization to submit Competitive Collaborative Partnerships for Student success RFP, and expenditure of funds
- Authorization to submit QRIS 2012 Program Quality Improvement RFP, and expenditure of funds
- Acceptance of Notification of Personnel Appts., Certified and Non-Certified
- Acceptance of Notification of Personnel Action: Leaves; Resignations; Retirements

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Enclosure #4, Donation from School on Wheels to Champion Charter School

Mr. Minichiello read the summary of the donation, which is \$700 to be used by the students to purchase BAT bus passes for their transportation.

Mr. Minichiello then moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the donation and send a letter of acknowledgment to the donor.

Voted: to adopt motion, unanimously

Enclosure #5, Donation from Bernardi Auto Group to BPS Brockton Community Schools Driver Education Program

Mr. Minichiello read the summary of the donation, which is a three-year lease of a Hyundai Elantra valued at \$9,300.

Mr. Minichiello then moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the donation and send a letter of acknowledgment to the donor.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Enclosure #6, Donation from Dick's Sporting Goods Foundation to the BPS Brockton Community Schools Summer Programs

Mr. Minichiello read the summary of the donation, which is an \$850 grant and sporting supplies.

Mr. Minichiello then moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the donation and send a letter of acknowledgment to the donor.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Enclosure #7, Acceptance of Mary-Anne Andrews Memorial Scholarship

Mr. Minichiello read the summary of the new scholarship, thanked the donor and said that the amount of the scholarship award would be announced at a later date.

Mr. Minichiello then moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the new scholarship which will be included in the scholarship booklet.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Learning & Teaching

Dr. Malone thanked Mr. Donegan who will be serving on the Teacher-Administrator Evaluation Task Force. Mr. Donegan will assist Dr. Malone and Kim Gibson in vetting the committee's work. The new procedure will be in place in September 2012. Dr. Malone also thanked Kim Gibson, and told the School Committee he would keep them informed.

Dr. Malone congratulated the BHS Boys Basketball team for their great success of last Friday evening, winning the game in the last 3.7 seconds with a "swish" basket. He said that he was stopped by several people who said they enjoyed the athletes, as well as the fans.

Credit for Life Presentation

Leo MacNeil, VP of Marketing, and Carol Martyn, Training and Development Officer, both of Harbor One Credit Union joined Donna Burrill, Director, Business Technology and Career Education, to give the *Credit for Life* presentation.

Mr. Minichiello spoke highly of the program, saying that it is a valuable tool for students to learn how to manage a budget. Ms. Burrill stated that the program teaches the lessons of life, and said she wished all students could participate. The students took their participation very seriously, and their behavior was magnificent.

A brief discussion took place regarding the mechanics of the program, i.e., credit scoring, the sharing of best practices with other communities, pre- and post-testing; and the specific courses offered in the program.

Mr. MacNeil mentioned all the partners that have made *Credit For Life* possible. They are Harbor One, Crescent Credit Union, Community Bank, Rockland Trust, N. Easton Savings, Dedham Savings, Randolph Savings, Eastern Bank, Mutual Bank, Bank of Canton, and Avon Cooperative Bank. Mr. MacNeil invited the School Committee to attend the upcoming event at Massasoit Community College on April 26, 2012. Mayor Balzotti encouraged Committee members to stop by on April 26th.

The School Committee thanked Mr. MacNeil, Ms. Martyn and Ms. Burrill for their presentation.

2012-12 BPS Calendar

The first reading of the BPS 2012-13 calendar was given by Dr. Malone. He presented two options: Option A includes a *non-session* day on Election Day, November 6th, and Option B is the same as Option A, without the election *holiday*. Dr. Malone said that the early dismissal on November 21st counts as a whole day of education.

*Enrollment Projection
Classroom Utilization*

Dr. Malone called upon Deputy Superintendent John Jerome to give the PowerPoint presentation regarding the *Brockton Public Schools Space Needs*. Mr. Jerome discussed the enrollment at all levels of the System, saying that the issue with projecting enrollment comes from not knowing “country of birth.” “*The 90 students included in this evening’s report were discovered when they registered for school,*” he said. Mr. Jerome said that BPS is anticipating 1,400 K students to register, and probably another 90 beyond, due to births from outside the United States.

Mr. Jerome’s report also focused on statistics and options for the northwest, south and northeast zones of the District, as well as choices for the future that may include a K-1 overflow expansion, a reopening of a building to host a K-1 overflow, construction of additional modular classrooms, a grades 5-8 middle school expansion, etc. “*These are just suggestions,*” he said.

The final section of the presentation discussed elementary needs in the System, and Mr. Jerome provided two additional enclosures titled, *DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTARY ELL PROGRAMS AND STUDENTS*, and *LOCATION OF PROGRAMS/CLASSES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES*.

A lengthy discussion took place following the presentation regarding the following topics:

- keeping siblings together when moving students
- the opening of a preschool kindergarten building
- changing the entry date
- the Huntington School SEI program
- origin of the additional students to the Downey school
- importance of discussing the additional transportation expenses
- possible funding from MSBA/funding apparatus/how to use funds
- the building of modular classroom, in-house

All inquiries were responded to by Dr. Malone and Messrs. Jerome and Thomas.

Dr. Malone said that he is trying to put all issues on the table for the Committee. “*If we grow like we are projecting, we will need another building. We look forward to discussions with the Subcommittee and the full Committee,*” he said.

Mr. Sullivan moved the Superintendent’s recommendation to refer the above discussion to the Finance Subcommittee.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Dr. Malone announced that he will be giving the *Superintendent’s Recommended FY ’13 Budget Report* at the March 6, 2012 regular meeting of the Committee.

**Acceptance of
Facilities Usage &
Planning Report**

The Facilities Subcommittee of the Brockton School Committee convened on January 25, 2012. Mr. Minichiello moved the Superintendent’s recommendation to accept the report.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mr. Carpenter moved the Superintendent’s recommendation to send a letter to Mayor Balzotti and the City Council requesting to take back the Shaw School Building, located at 311 Quincy Street, Brockton.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Closing of FY ’12
School Dept. Budget**

Mr. Petronio answered questions regarding the balance of the budget and the cost of overtime expenses from Mr. Minichiello. He said that the winter was mild, causing what should be a good amount of surplus this year, and, over the course of the winter, approximately \$100,000 was spent in overtime expenses.

Mr. Minichiello then moved the Superintendent's recommendation to close the FY '12 School Department budget, effective February 15, 2012, except for emergencies and those anticipated needs during the last months of school.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

New Business

Mr. Minichiello applauded the West Middle School for their recent National History Day presentation. He said he was impressed with the students' displays on Civil Rights, DNA, creation of computers, the Civil War and the PowerPoint presentations. "*Hats off to the West Middle students and teachers—good job,*" he said.

Mayor Balzotti informed the Committee that she attended the Saturday evening BHS Februaryfest event, and enjoyed three consecutive *amazing* performances. "*Kudos to the BHS Drama Department,*" she said.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew H. Malone, Ph. D.
Secretary

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