

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 p.m., followed by a salute to the flag. The Mayor then announced that this evening's agenda will be taken out of order, beginning with the Superintendent's Report.

Learning & Teaching

Albert N. Baroncelli Award

Superintendent Malone introduced Kathleen Smith, Director of the Brockton Community Schools Program, to present the Albert N. Baroncelli Award. The Community Schools Advisory Board voted Ms. Elizabeth A. Vallee to be the 2012 recipient, for her significant contributions to the Brockton Community. Both Ms. Smith and Dr. Kathleen Moran, Executive Director for Human Resources and former Brookfield School principal, spoke on behalf of Ms. Vallee. Mayor Balzotti and Dr. Malone presented Ms. Vallee with a certificate of recognition.

Volunteerism Award

The next individual to be recognized by the Brockton School Committee was Mrs. Betty Murphy, mother, grandmother and great grandmother, and a volunteer at the Dr. William H. Arnone School for the past 36 years. Colleen Proudler, principal of the school, and Ms. Smith, spoke on behalf of Mrs. Murphy, highlighting her many contributions to the students, which included gifts and scholarships. Mrs. Murphy was presented a certificate of volunteerism by Superintendent Malone and Mayor Balzotti.

Louis Angelo Award

Presenting the Louis Angelo Award this evening was John Snelgrove, Department Head of Guidance, K-8, and Juli Caldwell, Administrative Assistant, Guidance, K-8. The 2012 recipient is Angella Henry, who created the DJ Dream fund, in memory of her son, assists area children, who do not have the financial resources, with expenses associated with athletic and social events. Ms. Henry was presented a certificate of recognition by Mayor Balzotti and Dr. Malone.

Dr. Malone said that this school year has been a success, academically, and thanked the Brockton Public Schools staff for their hard work.

The Superintendent informed the School Committee of his recent appointment of Stephen Shaw as principal of the Hancock School. Other administrative moves include Marcia Andrade Serpa to the Angelo School and Ryan Powers to the Baker School.

Mr. Minichiello said that he has had the good fortune of working with each of the above principals, and the Hancock community is fortunate.

At this time, Dr. Malone introduced Dr. Salvatore Terrasi, Executive Director of Pupil Personnel Services and Daniel Genatossio, Supervisor of Attendance, to give the report on residency checks in the Brockton Public Schools. Mr. Genatossio discussed the challenges involved in ascertaining proof of residency. He explained that word re. residency comes to him from various sources, i.e., overhearing conversations regarding residency by principals, teachers, and, sometimes, himself; a postal-returned letter from school or a neighbor who calls in to report information. Maria Quiros, attendance officer, also conducts home observations.

A discussion ensued involving the following related concerns/facts:

- Custody issues
- Communications with the BHA
- Assistance from the Parent Information-Student Registration Center
- TAG/special program students who are potentially out of compliance
- Parents dropping their children off at 5 a.m. at grandparents' homes
- Having too many check bordering on harassment
- Not having enough manpower

All concerns were responded to by Dr. Terrasi and Mr. Genatossio. School Committee members thanked Mr. Genatossio for his presentation.

Items to Refer to Subcommittees

Dr. Malone referred salary ranges and confidential administrative assistants' contracts to the Finance Subcommittee. Mrs. Joyce asked Dr. Malone to elaborate, and he said, "*Letter of employee agreements.*"

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 asked to remove **Enclosure #'s 2 and 2A, Approval of Finance Subcommittee minutes of June 13, 2012**, and Mr. Carpenter asked to remove **Enclosure #5, Approval of BPS Student-Parent Handbooks**.

Mr. Donegan then moved to approve the following, remaining items on the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of the regular School Committee meetings on March 20 and June 5, 2012
- Minutes of the Finance Subcommittee meeting on June 6, 2012
- Acceptance of Notification of Personnel Action: Leaves; Retirements; Resignations
- Approval of BPS BHS TERI Out-of-State trips on July 10 and 17, 2012
- Accounts Review Subcommittee report of May 29, 2012
- Bid Review Subcommittee report of May 29, 2012, and awarding of 2013 school bids to the vendors

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

2013 BPS Student-Parent Handbooks

Mr. Carpenter indicated that the School Committee's focus has been on budget planning which has involved much preparation and attending meetings. He moved to approve the

2013 BPS Student-Parent Handbooks to the next regular meeting School Committee agenda on July 17th.

On the motion, Mrs. Joyce said that she agreed with Mr. Carpenter, but inquired about the deadline for printing the handbooks. Jocelyn Meek said that there is time for printing following the July School Committee meeting.

Mr. Carpenter further mentioned that there are three new School Committee members who have not seen the handbooks. Mayor Balzotti suggested that, in the future, the handbook documents be condensed down to highlight the changes, only.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

FY 2013 Recommended
Budget Discussion

Mr. Minichiello said that Enclosure #'s 2 and 2A, *Approval of Finance Subcommittee Minutes of June 6 and 13, 2012*, deal with the budget, and represents a lot of work on the part of the administration and School Committee. *"The process, he said, was very difficult."* He explained that, in the effort to save positions, the School Committee has gone into a portion of the budget that is basically 20% of operation expenses; 80% is personnel—*"We have cut into that part of the budget more than we ever have. I commend Dr. Malone for putting personnel first; my concern is that we are lopsided in the Ordinary Maintenance portion of the budget. We need to anticipate certain condition, i.e., weather-related,"* he said. Mr. Minichiello continued, saying that he didn't feel comfortable with the number reached. He said that he does not dispute any positions that the administration values, but thinks the Committee needs to hold off a little bit until it sees if there are any other funds. *"We need to add critical positions in September in the range of \$250,000 - \$300,000,"* he said.

Mr. Carpenter agreed with Mr. Minichiello and said that he is not comfortable with the cuts in operations. *"I don't want to borrow from last year's budget to balance this year's budget,"* he said.

Mr. Healy also said that he felt that it would in the best interest to lay back a bit, and said he agreed with Messrs. Minichiello and Carpenter.

Dr. Malone asked the Committee to look at the contingencies and the 15 positions that were approved at the last Finance Subcommittee meeting. He said that two years ago, he never used a zero-based budget model. *"I recommend that the Committee make the right decision; I don't see any more money becoming available; grant monies will be coming in. I don't want to end up with a non-qualified teacher before school opens,"* he said.

The discussion continued, and Dr. Malone said that he could find some wiggle room, i.e., holding off on appointing specific position until a later date. Mrs. Joyce said she agreed with her colleagues, and she, along with Mr. Donegan, made inquiries re. special and bilingual education. Dr. Terrasi responded.

Mayor Balzotti said, *"I believe if you don't accept what you are currently recommending, make an amendment and pass with the amendment; you need to have something in place for July 1st— work out something this evening."*

After further discussion, Mr. Minichiello moved to approve the reports of the June 6 and June 13, 2012 Finance Subcommittee meetings, and to forward the Superintendent's Recommended FY 2013 School Department budget, (which included an amendment involving the delaying/postponing of specific positions, i.e., Goddard principal; supervisor of nurses; K-3 teachers), consisting of \$150,505,642 in Net-School Spending and \$5,914,690 in Non-Net Spending, contingent upon appropriate funding by the Brockton City Council.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, as amended, unanimously

New Business

Mr. Minichiello then read the report of the June 19, 2012 Finance Subcommittee meeting regarding the lunch prices. Mr. Donegan moved to increase the middle school lunches to \$2.20, per meal high school Lunches to \$2.20, per meal.

On the motion, Mr. Minichiello stated that the School Committee realizes that this is an unfortunate reality, required by law. *"If we don't increase," he said, "the System gets penalized."*

Voted: to adopt motion, unanimously

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew H. Malone, Ph. D.
Secretary

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