

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

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

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

Mayor Harrington called the meeting to order at 7:24 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

**Approval of Records**

Mrs. Beyer made the motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Committee on February 13, 2007.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mr. Daley made the motion to approve the FY 07 Financial Statements dated January 31, and February 28, 2007, as presented.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

**Communication**

Superintendent Nembirkow announced that Michael C. Verde, Edward Jones representative, is requesting the addition of Edward Jones Investments of Brockton, MA, as a provider of a Tax Sheltered Annuity Plan, 403b, for Brockton School Department employees. The home office is located in St. Louis, Missouri.

Mr. Hancock made the motion to approve Edward Jones Investments of Brockton as a provider of a Tax Sheltered Annuity Plan for Brockton School Department Employees.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

**Attendance Report  
February 2007**

Mrs. Beyer made the motion to accept the Report of the Chief Supervisor of Attendance for February 2007.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

At this time, Superintendent Nembirkow acknowledged James Hayden, Peter Judge, Michael Towne and the custodians for their hard work and efforts preparing the schools for a timely opening following the wet weather that brought about a number of leaks. The Superintendent thanked all those who helped in readying the facilities.

**Recognition of  
Cornelius Healey &  
Paraprofessionals**

Superintendent Nembirkow stated that he wanted to recognize Mr. Cornelius Healey, Brockton Public Schools special education teacher, as the recipient of the Brockton Rotary Club's Outstanding Public Service Award in a March 1, 2007 presentation. Mr. Nembirkow said that "Con" Healey worked with severely disabled children for 23 years, and is presently assisted by seven paraprofessionals who have joined him this evening. They are Shirley Daniels, Maria Fernandes, Kim Gamble, Linda Goulet, Roseanne Scully, Judy Wetterholm and Ariane Wurtz.

Dr. Salvatore Terrasi, Executive Director, Diane Gosselin, Principal, and Kay Seale, Director of Special Education, all spoke on behalf of Mr. Healey

Mr. Healey used a communication device, a device used in his classroom by students who cannot communicate, to thank the Superintendent and School Committee.

The Superintendent and Mayor Harrington presented Mr. Healey and the Downey School paraprofessionals with Certificates of Recognition. The School Committee congratulated all employees.

**Recognition of  
Officer Vazquez-  
Browne**

Mr. Nembirkow announced that Officer Minerva "Rosie" Vazquez-Browne was invited to this evening's meeting to be publicly recognized for being a recipient of the Brockton Rotary Club's Outstanding Public Service Award. He said that her commitment to helping Brockton's less fortunate is an inspiration to all, especially the young adults she works with each day at West Junior High School.

Chief William Conlon of the Brockton Police Department and Darcy Fernandes, assistant principal of West Junior High School spoke on behalf of Officer Rosie, saying that she helped 300 families and over 400 children this year. Chief Conlon also introduced Sergeant Kenneth LeGrice, Office Rosie's immediate supervisor.

The Superintendent and Mayor then presented Officer Rosie with a Certificate of Recognition. Mayor Harrington asked the Officer's husband, Mr. Browne, to stand for recognition.

Officer Rosie then thanked the School Committee, Chief Conlon, Sergeant LeGrice, Ms. Fernandes, and her husband for their support.

**Recognition of  
BHS Students**

Brockton High students Molly Cavanaugh and Benjamin Sears were invited this evening to be recognized for their perfect scores in sections of the Scholastic Aptitude Test. Mr. Nembirkow and Mayor Harrington thanked the students for being members of the community and City of Champions.

Molly Cavanaugh was presented a Certificate of Recognition for earning perfect scores on the Critical Reading and Literature sections of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, and Benjamin Sears was presented with a Certificate of Recognition for earning a perfect score on the Mathematics section.

**Recruitment Initiatives**

Superintendent Nembirkow introduced Kathleen Sirois, Executive Director for Human Resources, who gave the report on Recruitment Initiatives.

Ms. Sirois stated that February, March and April are three big recruitment months and discussed the specific upcoming recruitment events that will be attended by members of the Human Resources Department. She said that ads have also appeared in the Globe, Ledger and on the Brockton Public Schools Web site. She stated that, across the nation, teachers are leaving their positions in the first three years of teaching. Urban districts have a more difficult challenge in obtaining teachers. Ms. Sirois said that she is quite a *cheerleader* when it comes to talking about the Brockton Public Schools.

Following a brief discussion, the members of the School Committee thanked Ms. Sirois for her report. Mr. Hancock moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Authorization to Submit Proposals**

The Massachusetts Department of Education issued an RFP for FY2007 Partnership for Online Professional Development Grants. The grant would fund projects in schools and districts that are working with appropriate service providers to make available high quality online professional development courses using MassONE. Courses will promote the alignment of curricula and learning with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks and will implement the revised draft K-12 Instructional Technology Standards. Priority will be given to partnerships of high-need school districts and appropriate, experienced service providers. Brockton has been identified by the Department in the NCLB Title II-D, FY2007 High-Need School Districts list.

**FY2007 Partnership for Online Professional Development**

We propose to design and implement a project that focuses on Universal Design for Learning, assistive technology and differentiated instruction and seek the maximum funding of \$50,000.

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize the submission of the above proposal and, if successful, the spending of the funds.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Program**

The DOE 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Program issued an RFP for the Support of Exemplary Community Learning Centers that continue to operate during out of school hours. The purpose of this grant is to provide students with academic enrichment opportunities designed to complement student's regular school day academic programs. This grant would amount to approximately \$163,000.

Mrs. Beyer asked if this grant was already in existence, and Ms. Ward, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Centers Coordinator, responded.

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize the submission of the above proposal and, if successful, the spending of the funds.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Health Education  
in Schools**

The Coalition Organized for Health Education in Schools announced a health grant opportunity for schools grades K-12 to support their comprehensive health education program and/or the implementation of their wellness policy. The Health Education Department will utilize this funding at the Edgar B. Davis School to focus on implementing a wellness-based health elective for Grades 7 and 8 during the 2007-2008 school year. This pilot elective can be replicated at other middle/junior high schools in the future. The project will support the MA Health Curriculum Frameworks and school teams will showcase their funded programs at the statewide COHES conference in the Fall of 2007. We propose to seek the maximum award of \$2,500.

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize the submission of the above proposal and, if successful, the spending of the funds.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**FY2007 Summer  
Food Service Start-Up  
for Existing Sponsors**

The DOE issued an RFP for FY2007 Summer Food Service Program Start-Up Grant for Existing Sponsors. The purpose of this state-funded Start-Up grant program is to encourage summer food service program sponsoring agencies to sponsor new sites and, thereby, increase program availability to students not currently receiving program services.

We propose to design and implement a plan to serve six new SFSP sites that did not participate in the summer of FY2007. We will seek funding of the maximum \$2,500 per newly proposed site, for a total of \$15,000.

Following a discussion regarding the sites asked by Mr. Belcher, Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize the submission of the above proposal and, if successful, the spending of the funds.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Summer Food Service  
Expansion Grant for  
Existing Sponsors**

The DOE issued an RFP for a Summer Food Service Program Expansion Grant for Existing Sponsors. The purpose of this state-funded grant program is to encourage school districts and previous sponsors of the summer food service program to increase participation in the program by serving more children per day and to extend the length of the summer food service program. We propose to design and implement a plan to encompass the entire summer vacation period and expand sustainable participation in the summer feeding program.

Grant funds are prioritized for districts with 50% or higher levels of students who are eligible for free or reduced price meals; 68.1% of Brockton students (10,632 out of the total of 15,612, 2006-07 enrollment) are eligible for free or reduced price meals. We propose to seek the maximum funding of \$50,000. We are eligible for up to \$50,000 per DOE guidelines, given our previous summer average daily participation of children was 2,001 or more.

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize the submission of the above proposal and, if successful, the spending of the funds.

On the motion, Mr. Foley asked about the average daily participation, and Mrs. Civetti, Food Service Resident District Manager, responded.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Approval of Trips**

Mr. Hancock moved the Superintendent's recommendations to approve the following trips:

- Grade 8 South Middle School students to Canobie Lake Park in Salem, NH, on June 13, 2007
- the BHS JROTC to the annual Army Junior ROTC Northeast Drill Championship in Fresh Meadows, NY, on April 14, 2007, at Francis Lewis High School

Voted: to adopt the recommendation, unanimously

**Notification of Personnel Appts**

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept notification of the Personnel Appointments listed on Enclosure #15.

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

**Notification of Personnel Action**

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept notification of the following Personnel Action listed on Enclosure #16:

**Leaves of Absence:**

Teachers/Maternity Leaves

Sonja Brown	Davis School	12 Weeks, Eff. 4/23/07
Rebecca Clary	Davis School	8 Weeks, Eff. 6/1/07
Wendy Heckert	BHS	6 Weeks, Eff. 6/18/07
Maghan Hickok	BHS	8 Weeks, Eff. 9/4/07

Melinda Osgood, teacher                      Angelo School                      Unpaid Personal LOA  
Eff. 3/07/07

**Resignations:**

Maria Cardoso, Para                      Plouffe School                      Eff. 3/01/07  
Jamie Micklos, Para                      Brookfield School                      Eff. 3/14/07

**Retirement: (To participate in the 12% Final Step Increase Plan)**

Cheryl Spillane, Secretary                      Central/HR                      To retire: 12/03/2010

**Change of Retirement Date:**

Jacqueline Gordon, teacher                      Sacred Heart                      From 8/31/07 to 6/30/07

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

**Accounts Review  
Subcommittee Report**

Mrs. Beyer read the report of the Accounts Review Subcommittee held before the School Committee meeting this evening. Mr. Hancock moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report, as presented.

On the motion, it was noted that Mr. Daley's name should be added to those in attendance.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**New Business**

Mr. Belcher mentioned upcoming Brockton events: Keep Brockton Beautiful, the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Literacy Fair and the change in date for the Mayor's Youth Summit. Mr. Belcher encouraged members of the community to attend.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Basan Nembirkow  
Secretary

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