Brockton, Massachusetts

Regular Meeting

May 19, 2009

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-thirty o'clock.

Present: Mr. Bath, Vice-Chair; Mr. Minichiello; Mrs. Beyer; Mrs. Joyce; Mr. Foley; Mr. Daley; Mr. Dobrowski; Mr. Nembirkow, Secretary

Absent: Mayor Harrington

Mr. Bath called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

Hearing of Visitors

Mr. Bath asked those visitors who requested to speak to limit their comments to three minutes.

Mr. Sullivan

Timothy Sullivan, president of the B.E.A., addressed the School Committee this evening regarding School Choice. Mr. Sullivan, asked the Committee to withdraw from School Choice in light of the recently distributed teacher lay-off notices and budget problems.

Barbara Carchidi

Ms. Carchidi, speaking as an advocate for children, spoke against Brockton's Power Plant and environmental issues that may negatively impact the children of the Brockton Public Schools. She also provided literature to be distributed to School Committee.

Steve Abram

Mr. Abram, parent, soldier and citizen of Brockton, spoke against the Brockton Power Plant. Mr. Bath thanked Mr. Abram for his comments and his military service.

Gary Petti

Mr. Petti, former Brocktonian and resident of East Bridgewater, also spoke against the Brockton Power Plant.

Approval of Records

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Committee on April 14, 2009.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Attendance Report

Mr. Dobrowski moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report of the Chief Supervisor of Attendance for April 2009.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

2009-2010 Report Grade One Assignments Mr. Nembirkow introduced Lynn Winkler, Director of the Parent Information-Student Registration Center to the give report on Grade One Assignments for the 2009-2010 School Year. Mr. Nembirkow congratulated Ms. Winkler for her successful transition into her current position and said that 92.7% of students entering Grade 1 were placed into their choice school. The Superintendent said that this is the next step in the Reconfiguration process and reflects those changes.

Ms. Winkler reviewed the eleven-page report previously provided to School Committee and answered questions asked by Committee members.

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the above report, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

The Brockton School Committee annually adopts a schedule of one meeting per month during the summer. In addition to the summer schedule, special meetings will be called as needed.

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following schedule for School Committee summer meetings:

Tuesday, July 21, 2009 and Tuesday, August 11, 2009

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

School Choice 2009-2010

Mr. Daley made the motion to continue the School Choice program that has been in place since the 2007-2008 school year, and the program is: up to fifty (50) seats will be available for inter-district students at Brockton High School with no more than ten (10) non-resident students accepted in Grade 9 and the remaining forty (40) students distributed across Grades 10-12.

The Public Hearing on School Choice was held this evening at 7 p.m. in the George M. Romm Little Theatre at Brockton High School.

Voted: to accept motion, 6 - 1

Approval of Out-of-State/ Overnight Trips

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approved the following Out-of-State/Overnight Trips:

- a. George School, grades 5 and 6, to Canobie Lake Park in Salem, NH, June 17, 2009
- b. East Middle School, Peer Mediators' Club to Roger Williams Park Zoo in Providence, RI, June 12, 2009 (rain date 6/15)
- c. BHS Science Club to Horseneck Beach Campground in Westport, MA, Jun 12-13, 2009
- d. BHS JROTC to Cadet Leadership Challenge at the Devens Reserve Forces Training Area near Ayer MA, June 29-July 3, 2009

Mrs. Joyce asked for clarification on the number of chaperones attending the George School field trip, and Dr. Dukess responded.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Personnel Action

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept notification of the following Personnel Action listed on Enclosure #7:

Leaves of Absence: (Teachers)

Leah DeCristofaro, Angelo School; Extension of MAT LOA, Eff. School Year 2009-10 Jennifer Donovan, Brookfield School; 8 Wk. MAT LOA, Eff. 6/22/09 Tasha Gamble, Hancock School; Alt. Career LOA, Eff. School Year 2009-10 Lisa Maria Kelly, North MS; 12. Wk. MAT LOA, Eff. 9/1/09 Darcy Lamond, Downey School; Alt. Career LOA, Eff. School Year 2009-10

Resignations:

Cheryl Downing, Paraprofessional, Lincoln School, Eff. 5/4/09 Maryanne Hanson, Paraprofessional, Downey School, Eff. 4/30/09 Mary Thomas, Paraprofessional, Lincoln School, Eff. 5/8/09

Retirements:

Joseph Dube, Teacher, Huntington School, Eff. 6/30/09 Ethel Wheatley, Teacher, South MS, Eff. 6/30/09

To participate in Final Step Increase Plan:

James Daly, Facilities Craftsman, Warehouse - To retire 7/1/12

John Daly, Facilities Craftsman, Warehouse - To retire 7/1/12

Karen Burke, Adm. Asst., Central - To retire 11/9/12

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

Facilities Subcommittee Report

Mr. Foley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report of the Facilities Subcommittee meeting of April 30, 2009.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

A brief discussion took place following the vote regarding the telecommunications project, and Mr. Nembirkow and Mr. Hayden responded to all inquiries, stating that another Facilities Subcommittee meeting would be scheduled.

Mr. Dobrowski made the motion to give approval to the group (Brian Droukas and Don Dawson of the James Anderson field Fund) that is expanding the baseball diamonds at the Walker Playground near the Raymond School to proceed with their project pending final authorization by the Conservation and Park Departments and the School Committee.

On the motion, the project's final design was discussed, and Mr. Dobrowski responded.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

New Business

Mr. Foley stated that the Community School Advisory Board is grateful that the subject of advertising outside programs in the Brockton Public Schools will be discussed by the School Committee.

Mr. Foley also inquired about the status of the violence prevention curriculum/grant and suggested working with the health department. Mr. Nembirkow asked if this could be part of the Traumatic Child Program, and Dr. Terrasi and Mr. Jerome responded. Mr. Foley asked if this could be discussed, again, and Mr. Nembirkow agreed, suggesting the second meeting in June.

Mrs. Beyer commended the cadets who were honored at the JROTC awards event. Mr. Bath said that it is wonderful to see the Brockton High School JROTC alum return as officers.

Mr. Bath also commended the Brockton High School Drama Club for a fabulous play over the weekend.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Basan Nembirkow Secretary

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