

The Regular Meeting of the Brockton School Committee was held on Tuesday, June 17, 2008, at 7:30 p.m. in the George M. Romm Little Theatre at Brockton High School.

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

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

Mayor Harrington called the meeting to order at seven thirty o'clock followed by a salute to the flag. He then called for a Moment of Silence in memory of Brian Pendergast, a BHS teacher who was killed over the weekend in an automobile accident.

**Hearing of  
Visitors**

Mr. Timothy Sullivan, BEA President, was pleased to report that yesterday at the General Membership meeting of the BEA, the Association overwhelmingly voted to ratify the Memorandum of Agreement dated June 11, 2008. He stated that it was a cooperative effort on both sides. He publicly thanked the following members of his bargaining team: Sue Anderson, Kathy Ettinger, Erin Andrews, Lauren Brown, Gail Manos and BEA Attorney Colin Confoy as well as the following School Committee representatives: Chair Ron Dobrowski, Tom Minichiello, Jim Daley, Executive Director of Human Resources Kathy Sirois and School Committee Attorney Andy Waugh. He also thanked Superintendent of Schools Nembirkow and Mayor Harrington for their role in the bargaining process over the last month. He stated that this is only the second time that a contract has been settled prior to the expiration of the current contract, and it is the first time that it has been settled and ratified prior to the close of school.

**Approval of  
Records**

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the May 20, 2008, School Committee Meeting Minutes as well as the Public Hearing on School Choice Minutes of May 20, 2008.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Attendance  
Report**

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the Chief Supervisor of Attendance Report for the month of May, 2008, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Recognition  
Louis F. Angelo  
Award**

Mr. John Snelgrove, Department Head of Guidance, K-8, introduced Mr. Edward Jacoubs, Director of Grants and Sponsored Projects for the Plymouth County District Attorney's Office, who was present to receive the Louis Angelo Community Service Award. Louis Angelo was a teacher, mentor, city councilor and state representative who always put the needs of his fellow Brocktonians first. Mayor Harrington and Superintendent Nembirkow presented Mr. Jacoubs with the award.

**Recognition  
Baroncelli Award**

Superintendent Nembirkow introduced Mrs. Kathleen Smith, Director of the Community School Program. Mrs. Smith stated that the Albert N. Baroncelli Award has been presented each year since 1981 by the Community Schools to honor outstanding

individuals whose volunteer efforts have had an impact on the lives of Brockton students and community members. She stated that this year there are two recipients of the award and she introduced the following: Marylou Best of the Arnone School and Jennifer Massaro of the Raymond School. Also present were Ms. Vilma Gonzalez, principal of the Arnone School and Ms. Carol McGrath, principal of the Raymond School.

**Recognition**  
Joanne Martin

Ms. Kathleen Moran, Huntington School Principal, introduced Ms. Joanne Martin, Huntington School paraprofessional, who was present to receive a Certificate of Recognition from Mayor Harrington and Superintendent Nembirkow for performing the Heimlich Maneuver on a 4<sup>th</sup> grader who was choking during lunch.

**Recognition**  
BB Russell  
Custodian

Dr. Sal Terrasi, Executive Director of Pupil Personnel; Mr. Mark St. Louis, Principal; and many staff and students of the Russell School were present for Mr. Rick Odom, custodian at the B. B. Russell School, who received a Certificate of Recognition from Mayor Harrington and Superintendent Nembirkow. Dr. Terrasi stated that over the years, Mr. Odom has supported students in a variety of ways from arranging “Turkey Giveaways” at Thanksgiving to securing invitations for students to attend a Boston Celtics game. He takes pride in decorating the school for special events, often at his own expense and working on his own time to do it. He provides a positive role model for students with his unassuming, quiet and respectful way of interacting with both students and staff.

Dr. Terrasi also stated that the School Committee will be voting on accepting and expending funds from the District Attorney’s Office at Mr. Jacoubs request. He thanked Mr. Jacoubs for these funds. He also recognized Mr. John Snelgrove, Department Head of Guidance, and stated that he is a fine young administrator in the Brockton Public Schools.

**Recognition**  
**Administrative**  
**Interns**

Superintendent Nembirkow introduced the following 2008 Administrative Interns: Julianne Andrade, Joanne Camillo, Ellen Cully, Peri Jacoubs, John Kelly, Troy KIELTYKA, and Vula Roumis. He stated that the Administrative Internship Program has been in existence for over thirty years, and Deputy Superintendent Susan Dukess oversees the program. Superintendent Nembirkow asked John Kelly, administrative intern, to highlight what he has been doing in the program. Mr. Kelly gave a brief description of what he has been doing in Mr. Hayden’s office. Mr. Hayden is the Executive Director of Operations and School Administration.

**Ratification**  
**of MOA between**  
**BSC and BEA**

Superintendent Nembirkow stated that the members of the Brockton Education Association met on June 16, 2008, and voted to ratify the Memorandum of Agreement accepted by Union and School Committee officials on June 11, 2008. Mr. Daley moved to accept the Memorandum of Agreement between the Brockton School Committee and the Brockton Education Association for a three-year period from September 1, 2008, to August 31, 2011. Mr. Dobrowski, chair of the School Committee Negotiations Subcommittee, stated that they tried a collaborative approach this year. He thanked the BEA team members, the School Committee Negotiations Subcommittee, Ms. Kathleen Sirois, and Attorney Waugh from Murphy, Hesse, Toomey and Lehane. Mayor Harrington was extremely pleased and congratulated the BEA and School Committee Negotiations teams. Superintendent Nembirkow stated that one of the aspects that was approved and accepted by both groups was the three-tiered busing proposal. Parents will be receiving letters regarding the changes tomorrow.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

**Sexual  
Harassment  
Officers**

Mr. Daley moved to accept the Superintendent's notification of the appointment of Ms. Kathleen Sirois, Executive Director of Human Resources, to serve as Sexual Harassment Officer for Staff; and Dr. Salvatore Terrasi, Executive Director of Pupil Personnel Service, to serve as Sexual Harassment Officer for Students, for the 2008-2009 school year.

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

**SC Meeting  
Dates**

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the School Committee Meeting Dates for 2008-2009 as listed on Enclosure #10 with the understanding that it may be necessary to change or move the meeting location on some dates. School Committeeman Minichiello asked if the July 8 meeting date could be changed due to a conflict. School Committee members will be polled.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, with the exception of the July date, unanimously

**Approval of  
Calendar  
Supplement**

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the 2008-2009 calendar supplement as listed on Enclosure #11.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Full-Day  
Kindergarten**

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of a proposal to the Massachusetts Department of Education in response to the FY2009 Quality Full-Day Kindergarten Grant, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. The proposal would be approximately \$887,500. After Mrs. Karen Watkins-Watts answered several questions, the vote was taken.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Entitlement  
Grants**

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of proposals to the Massachusetts Department of Education in response to the FY2009 Request for Proposals for No Child Left Behind Federal Entitlement Grants, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. The proposals amount to approximately \$12,041,828.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Preschool  
Proposal**

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of a proposal to the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care in response to the Renewal Application for the Community Partnerships for Children: Preschool Direct Services Grant and Local Planning and Coordination Grant, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. The proposal would be in the amount of \$1,625,732 to support this project from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009. After Ms. Joni Block answered several questions, the vote was taken.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Professional  
Development**

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of a proposal to the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care in response to the Renewal Application for the Community Partnerships for Children: Professional

Development Grant, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. The amount requested is approximately \$16,452 to support the project from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Accreditation Program**

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of a proposal to the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care in response to the Renewal Application for the Community Partnerships for Children: Accreditation Program, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. The amount requested is \$97,968 to support this project from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009. After Ms. Joni Block answered several questions, the vote was taken.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mrs. Beyer stated that there was an editorial in The Boston Globe on Monday about a program at the Kennedy School on Reading Enhancement, and it was very positive. Superintendent Nembirkow stated that it is a model program in the city of Brockton, and next year it will also be done at the Raymond School.

**Acceptance of Donation**  
DA's Office

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the \$32,500 donation from Mr. Timothy J. Cruz, Plymouth County District Attorney's Office, through the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to the Brockton Public Schools for summer programs at the B. B. Russell Alternative School. This funding is from the Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Women's Club**

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the \$729.64 donation from the Women's Club of Brockton. This donation will be used to support the Summer Reading Program with field trips to the Barnes and Noble Book Store in Braintree, MA.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Student-Parent Handbooks**

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the updated Student Parent Handbooks at all levels (PreK-Kindergarten, Elementary, Junior High/Middle School, B. B. Russell Alternative Program and Brockton High School) for the 2008-2009 school year.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Transfer of Funds**

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the transfer of funds in the amount of \$3,400,000 from the FY2008 School Department Ordinary Maintenance account to the FY2008 Personal Services account. After several questions of Mr. Petronio, Executive Director of Financial Services, the vote was taken.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mrs. Joyce asked for an update on all the movements before the next Financial Statement on the budget summary.

**Personnel  
Notification**

Mr. Foley moved to accept the Superintendent's notification of the following personnel action:

1. Leaves of Absence
  - Jaclyn Abrams – Hancock (8 wk. Maternity – Eff. 9/15/08)
  - Elizabeth Evans – Brookfield (8 wk. Maternity – Eff. 10/14/08)
  - Jennifer Graf – Ashfield (8 wk. Maternity – 10/21/08)
  - Jessica Him – Huntington (8 wk. Maternity – 8/27/08)
  - Whitney Skinner – Kennedy (12 wk. Maternity – Eff. 8/20/08)
  - Timothy Sullivan – South Middle/BEA President (2 yr. leave for school years 2008-2009 and 2009-2010)
  - Mary Dvovesky – Secretary/Central (unpaid FMLA – Eff. 5/21/08)
  - Joan Ross – Plouffe Food Service (extension of FMLA – Eff. 5/15/08)
  - Eleanor Vasapollo – Arnone Food Service (unpaid extension of Medical Leave – Eff. 6/2/08)
2. Resignations
  - Maxen Sinous – Ashfield (Eff. 6/23/08)
  - Laura Cain – Hancock Paraprofessional (Eff. 5/30/08)
3. Retirement
  - Terry Starr-Klein – Gilmore Academy Principal (Eff. 6/30/09)
4. Change of Positions
  - Elizabeth Barry – Department Head of Elementary Education to Assistant Principal at the Angelo (Eff. 8/25/08)
  - Thomas Kenney – Coordinator of Physical Education K-8 to Director of Athletics, 7-12 (Eff. 2008-2009 school year)
  - Laura Cain – Hancock Paraprofessional to Secretary at the Arnone (Eff. 6/2/08)

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

**Finance  
Subcommittee**

Mr. Dobrowski moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the Finance Subcommittee Meeting Report of June 9, 2008, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Building Naming  
Subcommittee**

Superintendent Nembirkow stated that the Building Naming Subcommittee met on June 16, 2008, after the Public Hearing held at 6:30 p.m. to consider the naming of the two new schools located on Quincy Street and Colonel Bell Drive.

Mr. Foley, chair, stated that the Public Hearing was held last night and enthusiastically attended by approximately 75-100 members of the Brockton community and outside the community, family members, etc., of those recommended. Immediately after, a Building Naming Subcommittee Meeting was held. The subcommittee voted to advance two names to the full committee for approval. Those names were Manthala George, Jr., former Superintendent of the Brockton Public Schools and Mary E. Baker, community member and former City Hall and Massasoit Community College employee. Mr. Foley moved to accept the report as presented.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mr. Foley moved that the School Committee approve the names of Manthala George, Jr. and Mary E. Baker. The subcommittee preliminarily decided, pending full School Committee approval, that the name of the school would be the individual's name followed by the word school.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mr. Foley moved to name the Quincy Street School after Mary E. Baker. Mrs. Beyer stated that there was a lot of support for naming the Quincy Street School for Mr. George, both in telephone calls to her as well as at the Public Hearing.

Yeas: Bath, Daley, Dobrowski, Foley, Joyce,

Nays: Beyer, Minichiello

Voted: to accept motion, 5-2

Mr. Foley moved that the Colonel Bell Drive School be named for Manthala George, Jr.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Basan Nembirkow

Secretary

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