

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: Mr. Minichiello, Vice-Chair; Mr. Bath; Mrs. Beyer; Mr. Carpenter, Mr. Daley, Mrs. Joyce; Mr. Sullivan, Dr. Malone, Secretary

Absent: Mayor Balzotti, Chair

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

Mr. Minichiello called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by a salute to the flag. He then explained that the School Committee would adjourn for approximately an hour to attend the annual awards ceremony in the main auditorium.

Mr. Daley made the motion to adjourn.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Reconvene

Mrs. Beyer made a motion to reconvene the School Committee meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Hearing of Visitors

There were no requests from visitors to be heard.

Mr. Minichiello then asked to take the agenda out of order, allowing East Middle School to present and inviting Dr. Malone to frame the issue.

EMS Redesign Presentation

Dr. Malone explained that the Huntington and East Middle Schools were designated as *Superintendent Priority Schools, Level III-in need of additional support*. East Middle School is in the process of redesign for the SY 11-12, and Principal Kelly Silva was invited to present her redesign plan to the School Committee.

Following the video presentation, Mrs. Beyer asked if all of the plans that were in the video presentation were in place. Principal Silva said that, except for identifying electives, they were ready to proceed, as presented.

Mrs. Joyce asked for an explanation of *Category Training*. Celeste Hoeg, ESL teacher from East, explained that, in order for teachers to instruct English Language Learners, they need to have specific professional development in the four categories:

- Category 1. Understanding Different Cultures
- Category 2. Designing Effective Lessons
- Category 3. Evaluation Oral Proficiency
- Category 4. Reading & Writing in Middle schools (EMS is current)

Ms. Hoeg informed the Committee that each category requires 18 (state mandated) hours of professional development. EMS in-house staff provide the training and extend the training to 24 hours.

Mrs. Joyce asked for clarification of appropriate lexile level in *Achieve 3000*. Ms. Eileen McQuaid, Coordinator of ELA/SS, 6-8, explained that, in *Achieve 3000*, the program assesses the students' degree of readability or lexile level and then recommends future reading selections based on that lexile level.

Dr. Malone said that a portion of the funding for the redesign will be used for expanding the computer labs and additional technology.

Mrs. Joyce asked about ESL classes for adults. Principal Silva would like to have the adult English classes, as was done at the Huntington, starting in the fall at EMS.

Mr. Daley asked if the *Achieve 3000* was self-updating. Ms. McQuaid said that it is connected to the web and self-updating.

Mr. Daley questioned how the merge of diverse student populations/cultures (ESL, SpEd, RegEd) was going to be achieved. Dr. Silva said that they were looking into a program called *Positive Behavior Support* to help them, and that the participation in electives would help, as well.

Mr. Bath commented that he would be interested in seeing, with the redesign, EMS' proficiency increase, yearly. He suggested that the school's progress be charted by comparing its own collected data and not be compared to other middle schools or the district.

Mr. Sullivan commented that this presentation was the best that he has ever seen at a School Committee meeting. He asked if the school was going to start earlier in the morning. Dr. Silva said that EMS would not have longer hours; *time on learning* would begin the day and electives would end the day. They were restructuring within the same timeframe.

Mr. Carpenter commented that he felt the Family Connections Program at the Huntington is so successful that the adult English classes need to be located at the school.

Mrs. Beyer commended the staff for their commitment at EMS. Mr. Minichiello agreed with Mrs. Beyer's comments regarding the staff commitment and added that, as long as the Committee is fiscally able, they are committed in supporting EMS' success.

Mr. Daley made a motion to accept the report and request an update as things progress.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mr. Minichiello explained the purpose of the Consent Agenda and asked if School Committee members wished to remove any items. Mr. Daley requested to remove **Enclosure #10**; Mr. Carpenter asked to remove **Enclosure #11**; Mrs. Joyce asked to remove **Enclosures # 7 and #8**; and Mr. Minichiello asked to remove **Enclosures #1, #2, #3, #5, and #6**.

Mr. Carpenter then moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following remaining items on the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of Safety/Security/Transportation Subcommittee (P. Joyce) 4.26.11
- Notification of Personnel Action

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mr. Minichiello made a motion to postpone approval of the minutes, **Enclosures #1, #2, #3, #5, and #6** until they are formatted as had been done in the past.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mrs. Joyce wanted the items **Enclosures #7 and #8**, which are school trip requests, and any future requests for school trips, to be presented to the School Committee for approval at least two meeting agendas before the scheduled trip to allow for all out-of-state trips to be approved per School Committee criteria (chaperones, funding).

Dr. Malone said that he would work future school trip agenda items within the two-meeting window.

Mrs. Joyce then made a motion to approve **Enclosure #7**: Raymond School: Grade 6 & 7 Canobie Lake Park 6.16.11, and **Enclosure #8**: Ashfield School: Grade 8 Newport, RI 6.15.11.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Consent Agenda

Mr. Daley asked, with respect to ***Enclosure #10: Approval to Submit RFP OJJDP FY2011***, what a peace advocate is, what the qualifications are, and what does the peace advocate teach.

Dr. Malone asked Heather Arrighi, Partnership Coordinator, to explain. She said that the *Peace Advocate* is a program of the *Old Colony Y's Street Outreach* that is already in place at the Keith Center. Its purpose is to identify students most at risk for violence.

Dr. Malone stated that the "*Safe-Corners*" program has staff with solid reputations on the street to engage and interact with youngsters. The program is managed through the Y, Brockton Public Schools, and Brockton Police. Their people are well versed at dealing with adversity, have demonstrated perseverance, and can relate and speak the language of the street with our students.

Mrs. Arrighi is looking to secure the grant funding to provide additional, higher level support for the students and families that the peace advocates would identify.

Mr. Daley questioned the ability of the *Peace Advocate* to pass CORI. Dr. Malone said that the *Peace Advocate* is an employee of the Old Colony Y, but the Brockton Police, as well as the School Department, are in partnership in this program.

Mr. Bath asked how many peace advocates are currently at the Keith. Mrs. Arrighi reported that there are two at the Keith, one at the Y and one on the street.

Mrs. Joyce asked about where and when the services would be delivered. Mrs. Arrighi said the base team would be in the Pathways Center at the Keith, with two teams for the middle schools and one director to oversee the program. The coverage is expected to extend beyond the school day to support families and, if the funding goes through in September, they are looking at an October 1st start date.

Mr. Carpenter commented that the at-risk kids in grades 6, 7 & 8 are the battleground, and spending the resources there has his support.

Mr. Daley made a motion to approve ***Enclosure #10***.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mr. Carpenter asked to postpone action on ***Enclosure #11: Approval of BPS SY2011-2012 School Calendar & Supplement*** until June 21st, to verify the BHS graduation date. It was his understanding that the date of graduation was to be discussed before the calendar was produced.

Dr. Malone agreed that the topic was to receive prior discussion and the School Committee would be receiving an After-Action Report on Graduation in the next Friday mailing.

Mr. Carpenter made a motion to table the approval of the calendar until the meeting of the 21st.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Dr. Malone pointed out the long list of students, found in ***Enclosure #12***, who were commended for academic excellence. He then asked the Committee to approve a late-entry agenda item ***Enclosure #12A,; BHS Out-of-State Track Meet: Burlington, VT 6.11.11***. The athletes involved had just become eligible to compete the Saturday prior to this School Committee meeting. Chaperones and funding were in place to support the trip.

Mrs. Beyer made a motion suspend the rules and to approve the trip.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Learning & Teaching

Dr. Malone acknowledged the creativity of the East Middle School Redesign team's work, especially, the students acting in the video.

Items to Refer to Subcommittee

Dr. Malone reported that the current subcommittee items are being addressed, and meetings were being set up, primarily, Policy Subcommittee.

Supt's Recommended FY '12 Budget

Dr. Malone informed the School Committee that the School Budget was not presented to the City Council on the June 6th as planned. He explained that the prepared Budget Binders were not delivered in time. He wrote letters of apology and hand delivered the materials, and the City Council will see the School Budget on Wednesday, June 8th.

Mr. Minichiello introduced, as a house-keeping matter, that the full Committee approve the oral report of the May 25th Finance Subcommittee and then instruct the Superintendent to submit that approved work to the City Council as the approved School Budget. Mr. Minichiello then read the May 25th Finance Subcommittee Report. Mr. Minichiello recommended the approval of the Net School Spending Budget of \$149,693,496 , as proposed by the Finance Sub-committee of the School Committee, contingent on the City Council's approval of the Mayor's budget as submitted.

Mr. Daley asked that the *school year 2011-2013* read from the report, be corrected to read **2011-2012**. Mr. Daley then made a motion to approve the report, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mr. Minichiello reported that, at the May 25th Finance Sub-committee meeting, Mr. Sullivan made a motion to accept the Non-net School Spending Budget in the amount of \$7, 449,690. Mr. Minichiello recommended the approval of the Non-net School Spending Budget of \$7,449,690, as proposed by the Finance Sub-committee of the School Committee, contingent on the City Council's approval of the Mayor's budget as submitted.

Mr. Daley made a motion to approve as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mr. Daley made a motion to present the School Committee's recommended FY2012 budget to the City Council.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

New Business

Mr. Minichiello reported that the Bid Review Subcommittee met that evening at 5:30. In most instances, only low bidders were awarded. Mr. Minichiello asked that the Committee approve the report. Mr. Daley wanted to know if there was a reason the report needed to be approved tonight. Mr. Petronio explained that there was a need to get the contracts to the city solicitor, the Mayor, and vendors, in order to meet a July 1st deadline.

Mrs. Joyce made a motion to accept the Subcommittee report.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mrs. Joyce made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to award the FY 2012 School Bids to the vendors. (attached)

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mr. Minichiello thanked all the parents, students, and teachers involved in the awards ceremony. He also thanked Plouffe teacher, David Grein, for the outstanding job he does with the students and the science fairs.

Mr. Bath asked for information about the Teacher Evaluation Tool for the next meeting. Dr. Malone told him that he will place it on the next agenda under *Learning & Teaching*.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew H. Malone, Ph. D.
Secretary

dmm