Regular Meeting

March 15, 2011

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

Absent: Mr. Carpenter; Mr. Sullivan

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

Mayor Balzotti called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., followed by a salute to the flag.

# **Hearing of Visitors**

Ms. Suzanne (Susie) Shaw, new member of the Community Schools Advisory Board (CSAB), addressed the School Committee this evening regarding the CSAB and the representation of Brockton and its schools.

# **Consent Agenda**

Mayor Balzotti explained the purpose of the Consent Agenda, and asked if School Committee members wished to remove any items. Mr. Daley requested the following item be removed from the Consent Agenda: *Enclosure #2*, *Acceptance of Chief Supervisor of Attendance Report, January 2011*.

The Mayor then called for a motion, and Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following remaining items listed on the Consent Agenda:

- SC Regular Meeting Minutes of March 1, 2011
- BHS Band In-State/Overnight Trip, March 24-26, 2011
- Notification of Personnel Action: Leaves of Absence and Resignation
- February 8, 2011, Facilities Usage & Planning Subcommittee Report
- March 8, 2011, Superintendent's Contract Subcommittee Report

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mr. Daley questioned whether or not information was erroneous in the Chief Supervisor's Attendance Report for the month of January 2011 that he had received electronically. It was verified by Mrs. Joyce that the hard copy included in the Agenda Booklet contained the correct information.

Mrs. Joyce then made the motion to accept *Enclosure #2*, the Chief Supervisor of Attendance Report, January 2011.

# Recognition of Marie Madonna

Superintendent Malone stated that on February 28, 2011, paraprofessional Marie Madonna of the Mary E. Baker School, performed the Heimlich Maneuver on student George Eskew, saving his life. At the Superintendent's invitation, Mrs. Jordan, George Eskew's mother,

and family members, joined the School Committee in recognizing Marie Madonna, commending her for her quick response and actions on February 28<sup>th</sup>. Marie Madonna was presented with a Certificate of Recognition, and a group photograph was taken.

Mr. Daley, referring to Ms. Madonna's actions, said that this shows that training is absolutely necessary. He said that more people are available when something like the abovementioned incident occurs, and he encourages more employees to get the training.

## **Learning & Teaching**

Dr. Malone discussed the following items under Learning and Teaching this evening:

- *MCAS Testing* will begin next week and BPS is ready. Dr. Malone predicts that Brockton will shine.
- March 11, 2011 Legislative Breakfast regarding Recovery High School held at the North River Collaborative Conference Center. Dr. Malone thanked the Chartwells Food Service for their preparation of an impressive breakfast display and generosity in donating the food. Chartwells' gift was unexpected and greatly appreciated.
- *Initiatives* are being worked on by the BPS Cross Functional Teams.
- BHS has, for the eighth year, been named a Model School and Dr. Szachowicz will attend the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference in Tennessee to speak on BHS's successes. Dr. Malone thanked Dr. Szachowicz and Ms. Wolder for their representation. He said that BPS has a sense of pride.

# Supt's Recommended FY '12 Budget

Dr. Malone gave a PowerPoint presentation to the School Committee on his recommended FY '12 School Department Budget. The presentation included:

- Staff and student counts
- Total foundation budgets for FY '11 (\$165,785,663) and FY '12 (\$173,663,222)
- Funding requirements and the total Net-School Spending (\$155,938,371)
- Fixed costs, i.e., contractual obligations, energy, ordinary maintenance and healthcare/benefits
- Essential program spending recommendations
- Resource reallocations
- Student Achievement focus
- Non-Net School Spending (\$6,244,875)

Following the presentation, Mr. Daley discussed spending in the following areas: health insurance; substitutes; Recovery High School; utilities; oil prices; technology; and school choice.

Mrs. Joyce inquired about contractual and actual personnel; floating teachers, i.e., science at the elementary level; and student population percentages.

Dr. Malone and Mr. Petronio, Executive Director of Financial Services, responded. Dr. Malone said that the recommended FY '12 budget is realistic. He said that he had to make hard decisions to protect personnel. He added that there are no new administrative positions in the recommended budget.

Mrs. Beyer then moved the Superintendent's recommendation to forward the Superintendent's Preliminary Budget Request for FY 2012 of \$149,693,496 of Net-School Spending and \$6,244,875 of Non-Net School Spending to the Mayor to include in her FY '12 budget planning.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Dr. Malone added that he would like to schedule a Finance Subcommittee meeting prior to the April 12, 2011 regular meeting of the School Committee.

Mayor Balzotti referred to reports that were sent to her by Representative Christine Canavan. The Mayor said that she would forward the information, electronically.

### FY'11 Budget Update

Dr. Malone announced that he would like to close the FY '11 budget this evening. After a brief discussion on current school-year spending, Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to close the FY '11 budget, effective March 16, 2011, except for emergencies and those anticipated needs during the last months of school.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

#### **New Business**

Mr. Bath announced that the BHS Drama Club would participate in the Regionals this Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Bath discussed the Legislative Breakfast regarding Recovery High School which took place on March 11<sup>th</sup> at the North River Collaborative Conference Center. Specifically, he spoke of his disappointment and displeasure regarding a brief video which was shown at the event, highlighting the Brockton High School complex, *only*. Mr. Bath said that the problem with respect to drug related issues involves other communities, not just Brockton. The video, according to Mr. Bath, suggests that it is just a Brockton problem, and he said that he wished better planning took place.

Dr. Malone said that he agreed with Mr. Bath, whole-heartedly. He said that there was some planning where he was not involved, and he said (regarding the video) that this was unfortunate.

Mayor Balzotti said that the clip was about 3-4 years old, taken from A&E.

## Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Matthew H. Malone, Ph. D.

Secretary

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