

DISTRICTWIDE SCHOOL RECONFIGURATION TASK FORCE MEETING  
FEBRUARY 4, 2008

A Districtwide School Reconfiguration Task Force Meeting was held on Monday, February 4, 2008, at 6:30 p.m. in Room 152 of the Crosby Administration Building, 43 Crescent Street, Brockton, MA. A list of members present is attached to this report. Co-Chair Daley called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Co-Chair Daley congratulated Maribel Soto, representative from Ward 2, who was featured in The Boston Globe on Sunday, February 3, 2008, in an article entitled "Treasuring Their Vote." The article dealt with first-time voters in the Presidential Election.

Co-Chair Buckley distributed a copy of the agenda to those who did not receive it through e-mail; also included in the e-mail was a copy of the latest enrollment sheet dated February 1, 2008. She stated that they were asked at the last meeting if it were possible to have a K-8 school in the north zone. She met with John Jerome and Jocelyn Meek and came up with a plan. Once the task force discusses it and there are no questions, a vote can be taken, either tonight or at the next meeting.

Mr. Jerome stated that they recommend the **Raymond School** be a **K-8** school. (Davis is the other.) It has enough population for 100 students in grade 7 and 100 students in grade 8. The following would need to happen:

1. The inclusion program at the Raymond, grades 1-3, would transfer to Colonel Bell in school year 2009-2010. This would open up 4 classes at the Raymond and allow the grade 6 classes to go on to grade 7, and the grade 7 classes would go on to grade 8. Students would be transitioned in gradually. The remaining inclusion classes, grades 4 and 5, would move to Colonel Bell in the fall of 2010.
2. The Colonel Bell Drive School will have 41 classrooms. There are 4-5 SPED classrooms, not just for inclusion classes. This would allow for better distribution of SPED Programs throughout the district.
3. It would allow for inclusion classes at North JHS, and it would give an opportunity to expand programs with the least amount of disruption.
4. Mrs. McGrath, principal of Raymond, would like to start transitioning in SEI classes in September of 2008. (Grades 1-3 are at Raymond now -- grades 4 and 5 could be added.)

Discussion also took place on zones. Mrs. O'Connor stated that 3 zones do not address one of the task force goals to lessen transportation, nor do they lower the number of buses. Ms. Buckley stated that we will not be able to reduce the number of buses in September, but we could see the savings in subsequent years.

Mrs. Joyce mentioned having two (2) options: the one we currently have and a more restricted transportation centered zone option which is limited choice based on more walk zones and less busing. After discussion on which schools would feed into middle schools, it was decided to stay with the current plan of road mapping. Mrs. Joyce stated that they will not know how much transportation money is available until they get the final budget from the City Council.

Superintendent Nembirkow stated that the ultimate goal of the task force is to develop a variation of how transportation is determined. Ms. Jeanne Holmes-Kireilis stated that the task force recommendation on transportation should be as follows: *Transportation be determined based upon what funding is available. If funding is restricted, the available transportation would be restricted; if more funding is available, transportation choices would be expanded.*

Co-Chair Buckley stated that the February 11, 2007, task force meeting is canceled. The **next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 26, 2008**, at 6:30 p.m. in Room 152 of the Crosby Administration Building, 43 Crescent Street, Brockton, MA. At the next meeting an update on the proposal will be given with the Raymond School as a K-8 model and a statement regarding transportation based upon the availability of funding. Co-Chair Buckley stated they will look at making a decision and taking a vote on a final proposal.

Superintendent Nembirkow stated that a Citywide PAC meeting is scheduled for February 25, and he will update the members on where the Districtwide School Reconfiguration Task Force is in the process.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

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## **Districtwide School Reconfiguration Task Force Membership – February 4, 2008**

### **Present**

|                          |                             |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Prudence G. Buckley      | Co-Chair                    |
| James M. Daley           | Co-Chair                    |
| David Brewster           | (Middle School Teacher)     |
| Christine Crossman       | (Elementary School Teacher) |
| Michaelle Dimanche-Silva | (Ward 7)                    |
| Andrea Donaruma          | (Ward 1)                    |
| John Jerome              | (Executive Director)        |
| Patricia Joyce           | (SC)                        |
| Jean Holmes-Kireilis     | (TAG)                       |
| Janet Landerholm         | (Ward 4)                    |
| Barbara Lora             | (SPED)                      |
| Mary Milligan            | (Ward 5)                    |
| Patricia O'Connor        | (SPED)                      |
| Maribel Soto             | (Ward 2)                    |
| Terry Starr-Klein        | (Middle School Principal)   |
| BEA Timothy Sullivan     | (BEA)                       |
| Eligijus Suziedelis      | (Executive Director)        |

### **Also Present**

Basan Nembirkow, Superintendent  
Dr. Susan Dukess, Deputy Superintendent  
Janice Beyer, School Committee  
James Hayden, Executive Director  
Jocelyn Meek, Communications Officer

### **Absent**

|                  |                               |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Filomena Cardoso | (Ward 6)                      |
| Barbara Janelli  | (Elementary School Principal) |

