

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: Mayor Harrington, Chair; Mr. Bath, Vice-Chair; Mr. Minichiello; Mrs. Beyer; Mrs. Joyce; Mr. Foley; Mr. Dobrowski; Dr. Malone, Secretary

Absent: Mr. Daley

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

Mayor Harrington called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m., followed by a salute to the flag.

Hearing of Visitors

Mr. Ronald Matta, resident, distributed to the School Committee a multi-page document regarding quotes from a vendor to perform a service to the School Department. Mr. Matta, who said that he has been studying the budget, complained about longevity and early retirement amounts, saying that the students should be served, not the unions, during the current economic crisis.

Mr. Mark Silva, noncustodial parent of a Brockton Public Schools student, addressed the School Committee this evening on M.G.L. Chapter 71, Section 34H, and Chapter 62, regarding his right to obtain student information/records

Approval of Records

Mrs. Joyce made the motion to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of the School Committee on October 6, 2009.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Report/Chief Supervisor of Attendance

Mrs. Beyer made the motion to accept the report of the Chief Supervisor of Attendance for the month of September, 2009.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Teaching & Learning

Superintendent Malone announced that he held his first *Superintendent's Listening Tour* at South Middle School and hosted his first Parent Advisory Council meeting at the Arnone in the theatre. Both meetings lasted approximately one and one-half hours, and Dr. Malone thanked the parents who attended for their interest. He said that he and parents agreed to have Superintendent-PAC meetings every other month. Parents will be notified by the schools and through flyers. The next meeting will be held at the Mary E. Baker School on December 14th, at 6:30 p.m., in the cafetorium. Dr. Malone's next Listening Tour will be held at West Middle School next week. The meetings are a part of the Superintendent's 120-day entry plan.

Dr. Malone said that he is trying to get to three schools, weekly, and his visits are about three hours in length. He said that he is glad to have entered a school system that has in place good, professional procedures.

The Superintendent said that he has been working with the Board of Health and the legal services department on the School Department's response to H1N1. He said that he has made the command decision to administer H1N1 vaccinations during afterschool hours in November or, possibly, in December. This plan is not disruptive to the school environment.

Dr. Malone informed the School Committee that he attended the *Superintendent's Awards* ceremony at Brockton High School recently. The recipients are the four top ranking students in the senior class who have distinguished themselves both in and out of school during their high school years.

The Superintendent told the School Committee that he attended the Pinkerton Academy vs. Brockton football game in Derry, NH, on Sunday and was very pleased with Brockton's win over their opponents. He said that his daughter Ava was invited by the BHS cheerleaders to join in the cheering, leading the athletes to victory! Dr. Malone thanked the BHS cheerleaders for their thoughtfulness and generosity.

BPS-DESE MOU

Dr. Malone called upon Interim Deputy Superintendent John Jerome to give a detailed report this evening on the Memorandum of Understanding between the School Department and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). Mr. Jerome said that Brockton Public Schools is partnering with the DESE to support some of the School Department's initiatives and said that the administration has aligned the MOU with the School Committee and Superintendent's goals. Some of the emphasis is on math, science, and the development of assessments and lessons. The MOU will support initiatives across all of the schools. Mr. Jerome said that we will continue forward in finding building leaders and administrators in the district, expanding the NISL program. The amount involved is \$283,000. The School Department will apply for more funding and report back to the School Committee. Mrs. Joyce asked how the MOU works for the Priority Schools, and Mr. Jerome said that some of these funds will be used to build support teams.

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Food Services Report

Superintendent Malone called upon Mr. Petronio, Executive Director of Financial Services, to give the report on the Food Services Department. Mr. Petronio said that one of the requirements of the new Food Services contract was to have Chartwells report on their progress. He introduced Erin Long, Regional Operations Support Manager, and Thomas Burke, the new Resident District Manager, who assisted in the presentation.

The report highlighted student participation in the lunch program all at levels, showing the percentages between September 2008 and September 2009. The results showed a decrease in elementary participation and an increase at the other levels.

Actual foodstuffs were prepared by the Food Services Department and displayed at this evening's meeting for people to enjoy. New food choices were also discussed. A financial statement for September 2009 was reviewed, highlighting meal counts, revenue, and expenses, along with additional information regarding sales, product costs, overhead and profit/loss. Sample menus were provided to the School Committee, as well.

After a brief discussion that focused on the dissemination and return of lunch applications, Mr. Foley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the above report, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Report/Registrations & School Assignments

Dr. Malone introduced Lynn Winkler, Director of the School Registration-Parent Information Center, to give the report on Registrations and School Assignments during the spring and summer months for the 2009-2010 school year. Ms. Winkler summarized the written report previously distributed to School Committee. A total of 2,008 Grade 1-8 registrations and 498 kindergarten registrations were processed. The 2,506 students who were registered this year increased by 848 from last summer's total of 1,685. The closing of the Plouffe as an elementary school and many transfers caused by reconfiguration are responsible for the increase in numbers.

Ms. Winkler highlighted significant aspects of the summer registrations, including:

- 86% registered received first choice schools
- 9% received second choice schools
- 76% out-of-zone requests were approved
- 631 transfer requests were approved

A brief discussion followed regarding why some out-of-zone requests were unable to be approved, and Ms. Winkler responded.

Mr. Foley thanked Ms. Winkler and her staff for their work and moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

At this time, Mayor Harrington offered Dr. Szachowicz and her family his condolences on behalf of the School Committee on the passing of her mother.

Approval of Overnight Trip

Mr. Foley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the overnight trip for 20 members of the BHS Science Club and three chaperones to the Zeiterion Theatre and the Boys & Girls Club, both of New Bedford, MA, on October 23 – 25, 2009.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Notification/
Personnel Appts.**

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept notification of the Personnel Appointments listed on Enclosure #8.

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

**Notification/
Personnel Action**

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept notification of the following Personnel Action listed on Enclosure #9:

Leaves of Absences:

Maranda Davids, Arnone (Granted 8 Week Maternity, Eff. 12/21/09)
Michaela McFarland, Plouffe (Granted 8 Week Maternity, Eff. 1/19/10)
Laurie Tuholski, Davis (Granted 8 Week Maternity, Eff. 2/1/10)

Resignation:

Michelle Wheeler, Huntington, Eff. 10/23/09

Retirement:

John O'Neill, Paine, Eff. 10/4/10

Change of Retirement Date:

Maureen Haughey, Confidential Administrative Assistant

From 11/26/10 to 11/26/09

Early Retirement

To participate in the 12% Final Step Increase Plan

Leah Dingwell, Administrative Assistant, to retire 10/1/12

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

New Business

Mrs. Joyce made a motion to invite the Chief Supervisor of Attendance to give the School Committee a review of the daily life and duties of the Chief Supervisor of Attendance at a future School Committee meeting.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mr. Bath stated that Ronald Dobrowski will be leaving the School Committee and the MASC at the end of this year, and nominated Mr. Dobrowski for Lifetime Membership in the Massachusetts Association for School Committees.

Voted: to accept nomination, unanimously

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew H. Malone". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Matthew H. Malone, Ph.D.
Secretary

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