

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. Carpenter; Mr. Daley; Mr. Sullivan; Dr. Malone, Secretary

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

Mayor Balzotti called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m., followed by a salute to the flag.

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 that *Enclosure #4, Authorization to Submit FY'11 MA DESE Competitive Work & Learn Grant Proposal* be removed, and Mr. Carpenter requested that *Enclosure # 3, Approval of New Scholarships* be removed.

Mrs. Beyer then moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- Organizational Minutes of the School Committee on January 4, 2011
- Chief Supervisor of Attendance Report, December 2010
- Submission of Sheehan Family Foundation Funding, and expenditure of funds
- Acceptance of Notification of Personnel Appointments: Certified and Non-Certified
- Acceptance of Notification of Personnel Action: Leaves of Absence; Resignation; Change of Retirement Date
- Approval of Finance Subcommittee Report of January 4, 2011

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mr. Carpenter asked when the subject of the scholarship selection process would be discussed in a Policy Subcommittee meeting which he has requested in the past, and Dr. Malone said that the item has been listed on the Policy Subcommittee agenda scheduled on February 8, 2011. The amounts of the three new scholarships were also highlighted.

Mr. Carpenter then moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the new 2011 Scholarships.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mr. Daley inquired about the dollar amount and the number of students serviced by the Competitive Work & Learn grant, and Ms. Laurie Silva, 21st Century Coordinator, responded. She also described the work that has been done by students on an urban renewal project at the request of Mr. Minichiello.

Mrs. Beyer then moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve submission of the Competitive Work & Learn RFP, and if successful, the expenditure of funds.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Rachel's Challenge

Dr. Malone introduced Luke Flanagan, Student Advisory Council member to the School Committee, to give the LOVEMAD/Rachel's Challenge presentation.

Luke introduced BHS students: Emily Barrett, Magaly Rojas, Kaylene Meyer, Garret Merhej, Ashley Chesworth and Stephanie Delma who assisted in the presentation. The group spoke of Rachel Scott, the first person at Columbine High School who was killed on April 20, 1999, and the five program challenges: 1. Eliminate Prejudice; 2. Dare to Dream; 3. Choose your Influences; 4. Kind Words; and, 5. Start a Chain Reaction. Various programs and pricing were also discussed, as well as money already raised, money still needed through fundraising activities and ideas, and the students' plan to create a LOVEMAD club at BHS.

Dr. Malone and School Committee members thanked the group for their thoughtfulness and leadership. Dr. Malone told the group to send him an email, and he would make a donation to the cause.

BHS Student Government Day

Luke Flanagan explained that a final plan is not yet in place for holding a Student Government Day. He said that the students are now focusing on the various positions that students will serve in, i.e., police and fire departments. The program will run like the Boys State model. He said that an election process will take place in the school, and the students are still working on the criteria. Mayor Balzotti suggested having students register to vote, and Luke liked the idea. Mr. Bath and Mrs. Joyce suggested the students assist with the budget process. Dr. Malone and the School Committee thanked Luke for his discussion.

Learning & Teaching

Dr. Malone discussed the following ongoing activities in the Brockton Public Schools:

- North Middle School math students winning the Apangea Award for *Charitable Giving*
- Positive feedback from students regarding the benefits of the Counseling Intervention Center
- Preparation of the *High School Graduation Initiative/MassGrads* application as part of the Pathways approach
- The *Channel 5 Chronicle* segment featuring BPS Haitian students and adjustment counselor Garry Guilloteau
- BHS National History Day contest: projects on display in Azure and Green cafs at BHS from 8:30 – 10:30 A.M. on January 19, 2011

Items to Refer to Subcommittees

The following items will be referred to the next Policy Subcommittee meeting:

- Kindergarten start date age requirement
- Discussion on establishing a policy to change a student's grade

Mr. Carpenter cited an example of a situation in which a student might be granted a change in grade and suggested that the discussion at a future Policy Subcommittee meeting include, "*How far after a grade has been given, can it be changed?*"

Supt's Priority Schools

Dr. Malone announced the Superintendent's Priority Schools this evening. They are the Huntington and East Middle Schools. Dr. Malone said that this designation is not a black mark on these schools. The schools will be supported with a little more strength. *Changing student achievement is a lot of work, he said, and I am confident these schools will get the results.*"

The Superintendent said that he will meet with the East Middle School faculty on Thursday, and stated that the work at East Middle School will not take away from the work at the Huntington. He also said that his goal is to stay above *level four status*.

Following a brief discussion, Mr. Minichello said that the Huntington needs time. He suggested that a follow-up be given from the last presentation, so that the School Committee can see "*where we are, and what do we need to do.*" Dr. Malone told School Committee members that his budget would include extended learning time at the Huntington School.

Expressway to English Classes

Dr. Malone said that he has been working with a group of educators regarding offering parents/guardians of Huntington School students English classes, on site. The cost to implement this will be \$8.5 thousand. He then introduced June Saba, principal, and Kathleen Smith, Director of Community Schools, who discussed the positive results of a parent survey conducted by the Huntington and the hiring of staff.

Mayor Balzotti said that she was very impressed with how the school worked everything out, saying that there is no reason for a parent not to want to participate.

MSBA Update

Dr. Malone called upon Michael Thomas, Interim Director for Operations to give the School Committee an update on the MSBA Green Repair Schools Program. Mr. Thomas thanked Mayor Balzotti and Dr. Malone for appointing the MSBA Green Repair Schools committee, consisting of James Casieri, Chair, Todd Petti, Chris MacMillan, Patricia Joyce,

Timothy Sullivan, Aldo Petronio and Michael Thomas.

Mr. Thomas discussed the agenda for the January 19th meeting regarding the selection of a Designer and OPM (Owner's Project Manager) from MSBA preapproved listings.

Mayor Balzotti discussed the selling of the school properties, saying that she met with people on the matter, including the City Councilors from the specific wards. The process to get the schools on RFP's has begun.

School Bldg. Leaks

Mr. Carpenter requested that School Committee members be kept informed about the status of leaks in some of the school buildings, as well as keeping the public aware and keeping an open line with City Councilors. Dr. Malone said that he would include information on the same in the next Informational Bulletin to the School Committee.

Budget Forecast

Mr. Petronio, Executive Director for Finance Services, provided the School Committee with a handout describing the summary of steps in the budget process and the approximate budget timeline. Mr. Minichiello inquired about the timeliness in spending, and Mr. Petronio responded, again, cautioning about heating and snow removal expenses.

Mr. Carpenter requested a mid-year report, and Mr. Petronio agreed to provide the School Committee with a report at the February 8th regular meeting, comparing last and this year.

Mr. Sullivan asked if Mr. Petronio anticipated a shortage, as in last year, and Dr. Malone said that, once the Governor gives the numbers, he will be able to give more facts.

Development Officer

Dr. Malone provided the School Committee with a draft job description for a BPS Development Officer, and asked to move forward with the approval of the position. After a brief discussion, Mr. Daley moved to post the position and refer all discussion on the position to the Policy Subcommittee at its February 8th meeting.

Voted: to accept motion, 6 – 1 – 0 (Mr. Carpenter)

Mr. Carpenter said that he was prepared to support the position at this time.

Grant Funding

Mr. Minichiello said he would like to have Karen Watkins-Watts speak on her position and grants that she has been able to secure. Dr. Malone agreed to have her speak at a future School Committee meeting.

New Business

Mrs. Beyer mentioned the success of the *Save Our Sports 1970 Football event* at Joe Angelo's, and the upcoming Baker School Family Concert which will be held on January 29th, at 3 p.m. She said the program is free.

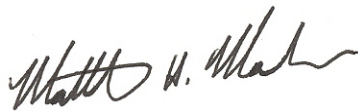
Mr. Bath announced Winterfest, February 2 – 6, a whole week of celebration for the price of \$10. Winterfest includes a Flashback Dance, Snow Sculpture Competition and a celebration of BHS athletics and drama. The \$10 ticket gets the buyer into all athletic events over the weekend.

Mr. Carpenter announced the fundraiser for the purchase of a scoreboard for the Baker School *George P. Thomas Baseball Field* to be held on January 20th, at Joe Angelo's, from 6 – 9 p.m. Tickets are \$20.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Matthew H. Malone, Ph. D.
Secretary

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