

Brockton, Massachusetts                      Regular Meeting                      November 20, 2012  
The Regular Meeting of the Brockton School Committee was held this evening in the Theatre at the Dr. William H. Arnone School, at seven o'clock.

Present: Mayor Balzotti, Chair, Mr. Minichiello, Vice-Chair; Mr. Robinson; Mr. Donegan; Mrs. Joyce; Mr. Carpenter; Mr. Healy; 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 7:05 p.m., followed by a salute to the flag. She then welcomed Janet Lopes, the new student representative from Brockton High School, who will be with the School Committee for the remainder of the school year.

## **Consent Agenda**

Mayor Balzotti explained the purpose of the Consent Agenda, and asked if School Committee members wished to remove any items from it. Mrs. Joyce asked to remove Item D, Enclosure #4, Notification of Personnel Appointments.

**Mr. Minichiello moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following items from the Consent Agenda:**

- Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of School Committee – November 7, 2012
- Approval of Supervisor of Attendance Report for October, 2012
- Approval of Settlement Agreement between Superintendent and School Committee
- Notification of Personnel Action

Voted, to approve the Superintendent's recommendation; unanimously.

Referring to Item D, Enclosure #4 from the agenda, Mrs. Joyce asked what prompted the hiring of the school psychologist. Dr. Moran, Executive Director of Human Resources, replied that the hiring was the result of a retirement.

**Mrs. Joyce then moved to approve Item D, Enclosure #4, Notification of Personnel Appointments.**

Voted, to approve the Superintendent's recommendation; unanimously.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Malone stated that educator evaluator training for school administrators began today, and he thanked the Brockton Education Association for their cooperation in this effort.

Dr. Malone announced that the City Council has put forth a request for an additional appropriation of \$250,000 for the school system. This additional funding, if approved, will be used to address the issues of space and class size next year. Dr. Malone thanked the Mayor, Mr. J. Condon, and the City Council for being cognizant of the needs of the school department.

Dr. Malone invited Ms. Soraya DeBarros, Director of the Parent Registration Center, to present registration and enrollment data for this school year. Ms. DeBarros' power point presentation showed registrations by grade, school, ethnicity and special programs, for grades preK-12. Ms. DeBarros said that her office has processed 5,132 registrations and transfers to date, and she is pleased to report that 91% of students who registered on time received their first choice of schools. She also said that the full-time, certified ESL teacher that was hired in the registration center has helped tremendously in the processing of these requests; students have been assigned much more quickly and accurately. Ms. DeBarros said that a key component of the success of the registration office is the staff; they reflect the population, are fluent in the languages and are knowledgeable of the cultures of the families who are registering, enabling faster and more accurate assignments. To date, 16,971 students are now enrolled; an increase of 701 over last year.

Ms. DeBarros responded to questions from Mr. Minichiello and Mrs. Joyce about procedure for ensuring students are immunized. Mr. Minichiello asked what is being done to verify that students who are being registered in the Brockton Public Schools do, in fact, reside in Brockton. Ms. DeBarros answered that parents are now required to provide three different proofs of address. She said that the Attendance Officer also works with them to verify residency when parents or guardians cannot provide the proper verifications.

Dr. Malone asked Ms. DeBarros if there have been 300 students who have enrolled after October 1<sup>st</sup>, she responded "yes". Dr. Malone stated that Brockton will not receive reimbursement in this school year for any enrollments after October 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Petronio, Executive Director of Financial Services, answered questions about how this reimbursement from the state is determined and paid out. Mr. Carpenter and Dr. Malone both expressed their concern about the growing enrollment numbers each year, although it is good that enrollment is up, space is an issue and long-range planning is vital. The School Committee thanked Ms. DeBarros for her presentation; Ms. DeBarros extended an invitation to the School Committee to come to the parent registration center and visit.

#### **Items to Refer to to Subcommittee**

Mr. Minichiello asked the School Committee to consider setting up a Curriculum Subcommittee meeting in preparation for the December 18<sup>th</sup> Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's public hearing on a proposed charter school in Brockton. The committee agreed; Dr. Malone said he would notify the Committee of the location and time.

#### **New Business**

Mr. Minichiello announced the details of the annual Jingle Bell Run, organized by Dave Gorman, which will be held on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, at Massasoit. He also congratulated the 256 students from Brockton High School who received the Abigail Adams State University Tuition Scholarship earlier today at a ceremony BHS.

Mr. Carpenter said the Brockton High football game is at 10:00 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day, at Marciano Stadium. Preceding the game, at 9:30 a.m., there will be a ceremony dedicating the Snack Shack in memory of John Waldron.

Mayor Balzotti asked the Committee if they felt it would be prudent to cancel the Regular School Committee meeting scheduled on December 18, because the public

hearing on the charter school *and* the high school holiday concert are scheduled for December 18<sup>th</sup> as well. Mr. Minichiello suggested that the Committee meet only once for regular business, on December 4, unless the Superintendent finds it necessary to schedule an additional meeting in December. Because of the high importance of the hearing on the charter school, he suggested changing the December 18<sup>th</sup> meeting to a Special Meeting of the Committee so that they can attend the hearing.

**Mr. Minichiello moved to cancel the December 18, 2012 *Regular* School Committee meeting, and post December 18th as a *Special Meeting*, with respect to the charter school hearing. Then, if deemed necessary by the Superintendent, another December meeting can be scheduled. If not, the Committee will only have the December 4<sup>th</sup> meeting as presently scheduled, and the December 18<sup>th</sup> as a Special Meeting.**

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimously.

The Mayor asked that all appropriate staff be notified immediately in order to give them time to submit requests to the School Committee at the December 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mr. Sullivan asked the Superintendent for clarification of the November 6, 2012 Election Day, “no school” day; Dr. Malone responded by asking Mr. Sullivan to please get any questions he had to him, and he would respond.

Mayor Balzotti reminded everyone that the annual Holiday Parade will take place at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, downtown.

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Matthew H. Malone  
Secretary