

Brockton, Massachusetts Regular Meeting December 4, 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 7:03p.m., followed by a salute to the flag.

Hearing of Visitors

Mr. Chad d'Entremont, Executive Director of the Rennie Center for Education, Research & Policy, and Mr. Andrew Bundy, Co-Manager of the District (DCAP), addressed the School Committee regarding support for continuation of this project. Mr. d'Entremont briefly explained the collaborative work they have begun in seven selected districts, Brockton being one of them. This initiative is only a few months old, bringing together four state associations for the purpose of management and labor working together, productively, for the improved achievement of students. Messrs. D'Entremont and Bundy are seeking a strong level of commitment from the School Committee in order to move the project forward.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Balzotti explained the purpose of the Consent Agenda, and asked if School Committee members wished to remove any items from it. There were no requests.

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

- Approval of the minutes of the Regular School Committee Meeting on Nov. 20, 2012
- Acceptance of minutes of Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting -November 28, 2012
- Acceptance of Notification of Personnel Appointments
- Acceptance of Notification of Personnel Action
- Approval of Out-of-State BHS Field Trip to NEIT, Warwick, RI

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

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Malone thanked Messrs. d'Entremont and Bundy for coming and speaking on behalf of this project that he believes is very valuable. He said that the DCAP is a testament to the work of management, governance, and partners in the union that have built great relationships and are working collaboratively. Dr. Malone said that it would be good for Brockton to maintain a commitment to this process.

Dr. Malone said that he has spent the past two days at a design task force workshop at the Department of Secondary and Elementary Education, looking at new methodology for assessing incoming principals at licensure time. He was happy to report that Brockton was mentioned during the presentations and felt this was a testament to the good principals we have in our system.

Dr. Malone reported that, in keeping with one of his personal goals for the year, he has continued with his instructional visits with written feedback. He was excited to report that recently he conducted a joint instructional visit with Kim Gibson, President of the BEA, which he believes is the first time that this has occurred.

Finally, Dr. Malone said that Brockton will lose approximately \$150,000 in the cuts announced by the Governor today. Mr. Donegan asked Dr. Malone whether he and Mr. Petronio, Executive Director of Financial Services, would be able to provide an update in the future when the impact on the budget is clearer. Dr. Malone stated that they will be working on this and will have more information for the January meeting.

Chartwell's Food Service Mid-Year Report

Mr. Tom Burke, Regional District Manager and Ms. Erin Long, Regional Manager, gave the mid-year report. The presentation described the federal and state legislative changes to the food services programs; Ms. Long said that these are probably the biggest changes to the school lunch program in 40 years. The reimbursement process was explained; Ms. Long said that the incentive program that was implemented by Mr. Petronio to encourage parents to complete and return the forms before the October 1st date helped tremendously. Other key notes were: 27% participation in the *free* breakfast program; a new "dinner" meal in approved after school programs that Chartwells has applied for that will, if approved, replace the current snack program. Questions included whether students have complained about the changes in the bottled drinks that are available or the menu choices; whether Chartwells conducts an audit of some sort to ensure that all possible students have completed the necessary forms, since reimbursement is dependent on these. The School Committee thanked Mr. Burke and Ms. Long for the presentation and the good job they do with the school lunch program.

Items to be Referred To Subcommittee

Mrs. Joyce requested to refer an overview of the DCAP to the December 11th Curriculum Subcommittee meeting as a point of discussion; what we have done so far, what the ultimate goal is, and where we stand.

Unfinished Business

Plouffe Academy Overnight/Out-of-State Field Trip Request

At the November 7, 2012 Regular School Committee Meeting, the Committee voted to table the motion to approve the Plouffe Academy field trip to Washington, DC pending further discussion. After review of additional information provided by Principal Nessralla, discussion was resumed. Mrs. Joyce stated that she still did not feel comfortable with certain aspects of the trip. Mr. Donegan expressed his concerns as well, but felt the trip was a good opportunity for many students. He asked that, with respect to safety, the students be given phone numbers with which they would be able to contact the Plouffe chaperones during the night at any time; Ms. Nessralla agreed. Mr. Carpenter stated his concern about Brockton's mandated absence policy, that possibly there could be a waiver when students have spent an entire weekend on an educational trip. He also stated that he would like to see better joint fundraising efforts with these types of activities, giving students more opportunities to raise funds to cover expenses. Mr. Sullivan said he is 100% in favor of this educational opportunity for the students.

Mr. Sullivan then moved to approve the overnight, out-of-state trip for 90 students and 9 chaperones from the Plouffe Academy to Washington, DC, leaving on June 13, 2013 and returning on June 17, 2013.

Voted: to approve the motion, 6 - 1 (Mrs. Joyce opposed)

FY2012 End of Year Report

Mr. Petronio presented data on the FY 2012 budget, highlighting that the School Department had spent all but \$4,141 of the budget. He asked the School Committee to approve a transfer of this amount in order to balance the budget.

Mrs. Joyce then moved to accept the FY 2012 End of Year Budget Report and allow Mr. Petronio to move \$4,141 from Personal Services to Ordinary Maintenance, in order to balance and close out the FY2012 budget.

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimously.

New Business

Mayor Balzotti announced the following:

- This will be the only Regular School Committee meeting in December;
- At the December 18th Special Meeting, the Committee will attend the public hearing on the proposed charter school in Brockton;
- The public is invited to attend the charter school hearing on December 18, 2012, 4:00 p.m., at the Brockton Main Public Library; and
- The Brockton High Holiday Concert will be held on December 18th at 7:00p.m. in the Fine Arts Building at Brockton High School.

Mayor Balzotti then announced that this would be Dr. Szachowicz's last *official* appearance at a School Committee meeting due to her upcoming retirement. She thanked Dr. Szachowicz for all of her years of service and dedication to the students at Brockton High School and to the City of Brockton.

Executive Session

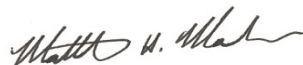
Mr. Minichiello moved to go into Executive Session, pursuant to Chapter 30A, §21, for the purpose of approving the minutes of an Executive Session meeting held on July 17, 2012. The motion was seconded. Mr. Minichiello announced that the Regular School Committee meeting would not reconvene. He then called the Roll Call vote:

Mayor Balzotti – yes	Mrs. Joyce- yes
Mr. Minichiello -yes	Mr. Carpenter - yes
Mr. Robinson-yes	Mr. Healy- yes
Mr. Donegan-yes	Mr. Sullivan-yes

Voted: to go into Executive Session, unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:15p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Matthew H. Malone, Secretary