

The Regular Meeting of the Brockton School Committee was held this evening in the George M. Romm Little Theatre in the Fine Arts Building of Brockton High School, at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mr. Minichiello, Vice-Chair; Mr. Robinson, Ms. Clark, Mrs. Sullivan, Mr. Healy, Mr. Henningson, Mrs. Smith, Secretary

Absent: Mayor Carpenter, Chair, Mrs. Joyce

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

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

## Consent Agenda

Mr. Minichiello explained the purpose of the Consent Agenda, and asked members if they wished to remove any items for discussion. There were no requests.

**Mr. Robinson moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda.**

- *Minutes of January 7, 2014 Regular School Committee Meeting*
- *Chief Supervisor Of Attendance Report for December, 2013*
- *BHS Wind Ensemble Out-of-State Trip to Washington DC*
- *BHS DECA Out-of-State Trip to Atlanta, GA May 2 – 7, 2014*
- *BHS DECA March 6 – 9, 2014 Overnight Trip – Boston, MA*
- *Authorization to Submit Proposal and Expenditure of Funds – Summer Work & Learning*
- *Notification of Personnel Appointments: Certified, Non-Certified*
- *Notification of Personnel Actions: Leaves of Absence, Resignations, Retirements*

Voted: to approve the Superintendent's recommendation, unanimous.

## Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent announced that due to the storm there would not be a report from Jessica Freeborn, the student representative, and that she would like to postpone the MCAS data presentation as well. She explained that she would prefer to have principals and support staff present to answer questions resulting from the presentation, and will put it on the next School Committee agenda.

### **Visit by Commissioner Mitchell Chester**

The Superintendent announced that on Thursday, February 6, 2014, Commissioner Mitchell Chester will be in Brockton for approximately three hours for the purpose of observing the *Breakfast in the Classroom* programs at the Brookfield and Barrett Russell Schools. He would also like to have time at the end of his visit for a "focus group" including administrators, staff, and school committee members.

### **Administrative Appointments**

The following appointments were announced by the Superintendent:

#### **Executive Director of Learning and Teaching Grades 6 – 12 and Alternative Schools**

The Superintendent introduced Dr. Clifford Murray, Principal of West Middle School, as the newly appointed Executive Director of Learning and Teaching Grades 6-12 and Alternative Schools. She said in order to facilitate a smooth transition and have the least amount of disruption at the school, Dr. Murray will "anchor" the school by spending a part of each day there through the remainder of the school year. Mr. Minichiello said that Dr. Murray's experience with the middle schools will be a great help with articulation between the high school and middle schools, and he spoke highly of Dr. Murray's relationship-building skills.

#### **Director of Development and Grant Management**

The Superintendent announced that Ms. Laurie Silva has been appointed to the position of Director of Development and Grant Management. She said that building this office will be a great help to the district in terms of tapping into grants and resources that

Brockton has not been able to access. Mr. Minichiello said that he is pleased with Ms. Silva's appointment as well, adding that her appointment will enhance the current department.

#### Deputy Superintendent of Operations

The Superintendent commended the school district for nurturing and honoring talent within the system, and stated that it was important to the School Committee when hiring deputy superintendents that the people would be ready to step into the position of superintendent. She then announced that she is very pleased to recommend Mr. Michael Thomas, currently the Executive Director of Operations, for the position, and invited Mr. Thomas to come forward to speak to the Committee. Mr. Thomas said that it is a privilege to serve the community in which he grew up and he is honored to be selected for the position.

Committee members voiced their support for Mr. Thomas: Mr. Minichiello said that with Mr. Thomas as the Executive Director of Operations, the buildings and staff have been well-supported, and he commended Mr. Thomas for the improvements he has brought to the department. Mr. Healy spoke of Mr. Thomas' dedication to the system, and Mr. Robinson said he has had the great opportunity to work with Mr. Thomas on the recycling initiative in the schools and he is also pleased with the recommendation.

**Mr. Robinson moved to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to appoint Mr. Michael Thomas as the Deputy Superintendent of Operations.**

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

The Superintendent announced that the job ad for the Deputy Superintendent of Learning and Teaching was posted today.

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

Mr. Robinson would like to convene a Policy Manual Review Subcommittee meeting. He said that the task is quite large and it would be better to set this up on a Saturday morning; the date of February 22, 2014 was decided on, from 8 – 12.

The Superintendent will confirm the location and send a notice to the Committee.

#### **Unfinished Business**

##### Appointment of School Committee Member to BHS Accreditation Core Values Subcommittee

The Superintendent asked Principal Wolder to update the Committee about the accreditation process and the role of the school committee member as a liaison to the subcommittee. Ms. Wolder explained that with Mr. Donegan no longer on the School Committee, they need someone to fill that seat. Mr. Minichiello said that Mr. Healy had expressed his interest and asked whether any other member was interested.

**Seeing that there were none, Mr. Robinson moved to appoint Mr. Healy to be the School Committee liaison to the BHS Accreditation Core Value and Beliefs Subcommittee.**

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

#### **New Business**

##### Report of January 14, 2014 Facilities Usage and Planning Subcommittee Meeting

Mr. Healy reviewed the minutes of the meeting, and added that there is a lot of heavy work ahead, and it is important that the Committee have a plan that is fruitful, beneficial, and cost-effective.

**Mr. Healy then moved to approve the report of the January 14, 2014 Facilities Usage and Planning Subcommittee.**

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

**Mr. Robinson made a motion to go forward with a feasibility study of the Whitman School as a possible alternative for an additional school for the 2015-16 school year, and to take the Howard School off the table as an option.**

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

**Mr. Healy moved to go forward with an RFP for ten modular classrooms at the Kennedy School.**

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Smith, JD  
Secretary/Superintendent

wka