

The Regular Meeting of the Brockton School Committee was held this evening in the Azure Cafeteria at Brockton High School, Brockton, MA, at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Mr. Minichiello, Vice-Chair; Mr. Robinson, Mr. Donegan, Mrs. Joyce, Mr. Carpenter, Mr. Healy, Mrs. Smith, Secretary

Absent: Mayor Balzotti, Chair; Mr. Sullivan

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

Mr. Minichiello called the meeting to order at 6:10p.m., followed by a salute to the flag.

Consent Agenda

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

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda.

- *Minutes of December 3, 2013 Regular School Committee Meeting*
- *November 19, 2013 Building Naming Subcommittee Report*
- *Nov. 19, 2013 Facilities Usage & Planning Subcommittee Report*
- *November, 2013 Chief Supervisor Of Attendance Report*
- *Authorization to Submit and Expenditure of Funds, for the following proposals:*
 - *FY14 21st CCLS Enhanced Program for Students with Disabilities*
 - *DESE/CDC Adolescent Health Grant*
 - *FY2014 Mass Rehabilitation Commission*
 - *FY 2015 DESE Gateway Cities ELL Enrichment Academies*
 - *FY14 Afterschool Quality Enhancement*
 - *DESE School Breakfast Demonstration Project*
 - *FY 2014 EEC Child Care Quality Grant Fund Code 465*
- *Upward Bound to Trio Day in Framingham, MA Feb. 20 – 21, 2014*
- *Brockton Talent Search - Trio Day in Framingham, MA Feb. 20 – 21, 2014*
- *Notification of Personnel Appointments: Certified, Non-Certified*
- *Notification of Personnel Actions: Leaves of Absence, Resignations, Retirement*

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

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent provided the following updates for the Committee:

The Superintendent stated that letters have gone out to parents of students at the Hancock, Raymond, and B.B. Russell schools with regard to the PARCC Field Testing; she said that upcoming PAC/PTA meetings will give staff an opportunity to share information with parents and answer questions parents might have.

Superintendent Smith shared that she had the opportunity to visit a grade 2 classroom at the Kennedy School and to read student writing samples; as she goes out to the schools she will continue to look at student work.

The Superintendent visited the School on Wheels program on West Chestnut Street, she was amazed at the extent of services and support they provide to children living in homeless shelters and the many volunteers that come and help, including students from BHS. Mrs. Smith said that she would like to invite Cheryl Opper, President, to come before the School Committee and talk about the operation. The Superintendent thanked them for all they do for the students.

A more in-depth MCAS presentation by Dr. Cancell is planned for the January 21, 2013 School Committee meeting; the Superintendent reported that she has had the opportunity to visit the priority schools and would like to share the plans that are in place. Also on January 21st, the Superintendent will discuss the accelerated Ed Eval plan that the district is putting together.

Mr. Jim Hardy, Field Director for the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) has been invited to provide a training for school committee members on superintendent evaluation. The Superintendent polled the Committee for availability on January 28th; there were no objections to the date. She added that since we have adopted Baseline Edge as our Ed Eval tool, the training session will be a two-fold opportunity to share the goals of the Superintendent coming out of entry and going into goal setting, and as we are training our teachers with Baseline Edge system, we can also train our school committee. She reminded the committee that 100% of our teachers must be reported under Ed Eval this year and that the district is working hard to make sure this goes smoothly.

Ratification of the Agreement between MTA and School Committee

Mr. Minichiello invited Mrs. Joyce to address the topic; Mrs. Joyce said that the Subcommittee, which included Mr. Donegan and Mr. Sullivan check , has worked for a year to develop this memorandum of agreement and she is pleased that they have come to an agreement.

Mrs. Joyce then moved to ratify the Memorandum of Agreement between the Brockton School Committee and the Brockton Education Paraprofessional Association representing the Monitor Teacher Assistants, for a three-year period from September 1, 2013 to August 31, 2016.

Voted: To approve the motion, unanimous.

Recognition of Outgoing School Committee Members

Mr. Minichiello and Superintendent Smith announced that there would be two presentations to outgoing School Committee members, Anthony Donegan and Bill Carpenter. Plaques were presented and Mr. Donegan was recognized for two years of service on the school committee, Mr. Carpenter was recognized for four years of service. Both gentlemen thanked the Committee and the public for the opportunity to serve. Mr. Carpenter said that he gained a better understanding of the great work that is done in the Brockton Public Schools. Mr. Carpenter will Chair the School Committee beginning in

January as the new Mayor of the City of Brockton. Mr. Minichiello and Superintendent Smith said that they look forward to working with Mr. Carpenter in his new role.

New Business

Approval of December 10, 2013 Finance Subcommittee Report

Mr. Minichiello asked the Committee if there were any items from the Finance Subcommittee meeting report that they would like to discuss and, seeing that there were none, he then asked the Committee to approve the report.

Mr. Robinson moved to approve the report of the December 10, 2013 Finance Subcommittee meeting.

Voted: to approve the minutes, unanimous.

On the recommendation from the Finance Subcommittee with regard to filing a Statement of Interest with the MSBA, **Mr. Donegan moved to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated February 14, 2014, for school building projects on the following schools: Ashfield Middle School, 225 Coe Road; Barrett Russell School, 45 Oakdale St; Brookfield School, 135 Jon Dr.; Gilmore School, 150 Clinton St.; Keith Center, 175 Warren Ave.; Raymond School, 125 Oak St.; West Middle School, 271 West St.**, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority categories for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future: Ashfield - roof and boilers, Barrett Russell – windows, Brookfield School - roof, Gilmore School - roof and boilers, Keith Center - boiler, Raymond School - boiler, West Middle School - boiler; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant, or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City/Town/Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

School Committee Retreat

Mr. Minichiello asked Committee members to check their availability for a retreat from 8 a.m. to 12:00 noon on January 25, 2014. Mr. Carpenter was the only member who could not make it but stated that he had no objection to the retreat being held in his absence.

Mrs. Joyce asked the Superintendent to bring the Strategic Goals that were formulated at the August 17, 2013 School Committee retreat to the January 25th meeting; she said that she can provide a copy of the document if necessary.

Wi-Fi Initiative

Mr. Healy announced that he has met with Mr. Carl Landerholm and others concerning the Brockton Digital River Wi-Fi initiative. Mr. Minichiello said that this discussion would tie in well with Mrs. Joyce's request from a previous meeting to hear from Dan Vigeant, Director of Technology Services, with regard to the needs and plans for

technology in the Brockton schools. The Superintendent said that she has met with Mr. Landerholm and his team, as well, with respect to this topic.

Recycling

Mr. Minichiello said that he read a very positive article about recycling in the Brockton Public Schools; he thanked Mr. Robinson and Mr. Thomas for expanding that program. Mr. Robinson stated that they are building on a foundation that was already here, as students learn to recycle they are also learning about their responsibility toward school, the environment, community. Mr. Robinson acknowledged the partnership with Republic Waste Services, who donated almost \$20,000 worth of recycle bins, in addition other items, services and assistance, and provided funds to set up a group of youth in Tanzania who are doing the same thing, and the BEA, who received a \$5,000 grant from the MTA to be used for recycling education. Mr. Robinson reported that on Thursday a Skype call between a BHS science class and students in Tanzania has been arranged and, if the call is successful, it will give our students an opportunity to talk face to face with young people a half a world away who are just like them, working to improve their environment and meet their social responsibilities.

Storm Dismissal Update

Mr. Minichiello asked the Superintendent to report on the close of school with regard to dismissal during the storm. The Superintendent said that she began early this morning meeting with administrators from different programs, specifically those with evening activities, and the decision was made to cancel all after school activities. Mr. Devin, Athletics Director, was also involved because of scheduled sports events which were canceled. The Superintendent reported that all children arrived home safely. She announced that the holiday concert would be held as scheduled this evening, and that she hoped that it would be successful.

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Smith, JD
Secretary/Superintendent

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