

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 six o'clock. These minutes contain a summary of the meeting and list items that were under discussion.

Present: Mayor Carpenter, Chair; Mr. Minichiello, Vice-Chair; Ms. Asack, Mr. D'Agostino, Mr. Gormley, Ms. Plant, Mrs. Sullivan, Mr. Sullivan, Superintendent Smith, Secretary

Also Present: Executive Team

Mayor Carpenter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag. He asked for a moment of silence in memory of Tina Esposito, a four-year-old Gilmore School student, who sadly passed away as a result of a medical complication.

The Mayor explained that the start time of tonight's meeting has been adjusted to accommodate the BHS Spring concert, and school committee would try to conduct all business to adjourn by 7 p.m.

## Consent Agenda

Mayor Carpenter explained the purpose of the Consent Agenda and asked committee members if they wanted to remove any items for discussion; Mr. Minichiello requested Items G and H for discussion.

### **Ms. Plant moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following remaining items on the Consent Agenda:**

- Minutes of March 15, 2016 Regular School Committee Meeting
- Minutes of January 30, 2016 School Committee Retreat
- February 10, 2016 CSAB Meeting Minutes
- March 22, 2016 Finance Subcommittee Meeting Report
- March 29, 2016 Bid Review Subcommittee Report
- March 29, 2016 Accounts Review Subcommittee Report
- Authorization to Submit: Project Bread Summer Food Service Program - \$2,000
- Notification of Personnel Appointments: Non-Certified
- Notification of Personnel Actions: Leaves of Absence, Resignations, Retirements

Voted: to adopt the recommendation, unanimous.

*Item G, Keolis Scholarship:* Mr. Minichiello acknowledged the generosity of this scholarship donation from the MBTA extended his appreciation.

*Item H, Donation in Memory of Edwin P. Uses –* Mr. Minichiello announced that the school department received a generous donation from the estate of Jessie Uses in memory of her brother Edwin P. Uses, a graduate of Brockton High School, that will be used to set up a scholarship fund for graduating BHS students. Superintendent Smith encouraged alumni to remember Brockton students with donations or scholarships; she said this can make the difference as to whether a student will be able to attend college or not.

**Mr. Minichiello made a motion to accept both of the above scholarship donations.**

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

**Unfinished Business (taken out of order) Approval of BPS 2016-2017 Academic Calendar**

The Superintendent said the calendar was introduced to school committee at the March 15<sup>th</sup> meeting; one change was made to calendar affecting the start date of kindergarten.

**Seeing no questions or discussion, Mr. Sullivan moved to approve the BPS 2016-2017 Academic Calendar as presented.**

Voted: to adopt the calendar as presented, unanimous.

**Superintendent's Report**

The Superintendent asked Principal Wolder if she would provide an update on happenings at the high school in the absence of the student representative. Principal Wolder reported the following:

- Over 1,000 students took the MCAS ELA exam last week
- BHS is now in the process of getting ready for the junior prom
- BHS Concert Choir won a gold medal at the MICCA Festival and has been invited to perform in the Gold Medal Showcase at Symphony Hall
- The Drama Team recently competed at the state competition in Boston, they did not win but received several honors and are now moving on to prepare for the spring musical. Superintendent Smith added that she was able to attend the drama festival and, once again, she was proud to see how our students not only perform, but how they conduct themselves at these events.

**James M. Daley Community Schools Scholarships**

Maxine Richardson was pleased to announce that Community Schools will offer scholarships to two students this year in memory of James M. Daley, former Ward 6 School Committee representative and longtime servant of the city. One student each from the Ashfield and Brookfield schools will receive a campership for a summer program of their choice. Mrs. Richardson said Mr. Daley was very supportive of community schools and served on the advisory board for a number of years. Mrs. Sullivan added that his family will be much honored.

**Budget Update**

The Superintendent reported that the district continues to work on the budget, is in regular communication with local and state legislators and is hopeful that our message is being heard. With respect to getting the message out, she said the recent Brockton Kids Count (BKC) advocacy night had over 400 people in attendance parents, staff, and school committee members, and on the snowy Monday evening, about 60 parents showed up for the PAC meeting at the Hancock School to hear Representative Claire Cronin talk about the budget issues. The Superintendent explained that the costs associated with the campaign have been funded from monies that were set-aside for Family and Community Engagement. She said letters have gone out to community businesses with suggestions for ways they can support the BKC, and she has received positive responses.

At the scheduled April 12<sup>th</sup> Finance meeting, the Superintendent said class sizes for next year will be on the agenda for review and discussion.

The Superintendent said she recently talked with Senator Brady about a new bill, *S2203, An Act Enhancing Reform, Innovation and Success in Education*, she would like the committee to review it and hopefully take a vote to support this legislation. The bill, which has ten components, is designed to help students in all public schools across the Commonwealth and addresses charter schools as well.

The Superintendent communicated the following:

- Strategic Plan – the Superintendent notified school committee that Deputy Superintendent Barry will give an update on the strategic plan at an upcoming meeting.
- Students are now able to give input about the breakfast and lunch meals being served via a survey; the Superintendent provided copies of an Enterprise article about the survey.
- The Superintendent said she will send school committee information about Behavioral Health and Social-Emotional Learning, this supports our safe and supportive schools as part of school committee goal settings
- The Superintendent was pleased to announce that CNN has chosen Marquis Taylor, President and CEO, and his Coaching4Change program, as a CNN Hero. She showed a short video that recently aired on CNN, filmed at East Middle School with East middle school students. She said the district is fortunate that Marquis has been able to bring his program to several of our schools.

**Downey School Presentation** – the Superintendent invited Downey School Principal John Kelly to share highlights about his school. Principal Kelly prepared a brief power point and then followed that with a video of a day at the Downey School. Following the presentation Mayor Carpenter said his children attended the Downey School and he expressed his personal appreciation for the staff and experience they had. Mrs. Sullivan also commended the school.

**Items to Refer to Subcommittee**

None.

**New Business**

Ms. Plant announced the Family Center is sponsoring the South Shore Leadership Conference which will be held Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, at Stonehill College; it is a free conference designed to provide leadership skills to enable local residents to become actively engaged in advocacy work in their communities.

Seeing no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Smith, JD  
Secretary  
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handouts:  
2016-2017 Draft School Calendar  
PARCC/MCAS Transition Powerpoint  
SPED Presentation Materials