

The Regular Meeting of the Brockton School Committee was held this evening in the George M. Romm Little Theatre of Brockton High School, at seven 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, Ms. Plant, Mrs. Sullivan, Mr. Sullivan, Superintendent Smith

Absent: Mr. Gormley

Also Present: Executive Team

Mayor Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by the flag salute.

## **Consent Agenda**

Mayor Carpenter explained the purpose of the Consent Agenda and asked members if they would like to remove any items for discussion; Mr. Minichiello removed items E and F for further discussion.

**Mr. Sullivan moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following remaining items:**

- Approval of October 18, 2016 Regular School Committee Meeting
- Acceptance of October 11, 2016 Policy Subcommittee Meeting Report
- Acceptance of the May 11, 2016 C.S.A.B. Minutes
- Approval of BHS Mentor Scholarship
- Acceptance of Donation to BKC and Cape Verde Creole Dictionaries
- Acceptance of Donation – Reading Room at Davis School
- Acceptance of Notification of Personnel Appointments: Non-Certified
- Acceptance of Notification of Personnel Actions: Leaves of Absence, Resignations, Retirements

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

With respect to Item E, a donation to the Brockton Kids Count (BKC) project together with eight (8) Cape Verdean Creole to English dictionaries for the students of Brockton, Mr. Minichiello acknowledged the generosity of Brockton Uncorked and Mili-Mila. Superintendent Smith also thanked them and said the dictionaries are being distributed to the schools that house our Cape Verdean Sheltered English Immersion programs.

**Mr. Minichiello moved to accept the donation; the vote was unanimous.**

With respect to Item F, the donation of a Reading Room to the Davis School, Mr. Minichiello reported this donation is a result of grade 2 teacher Bethany Johnson reaching out to the Danny Amendola "Catches for Kids" foundation. The donation includes shelving, bookracks, a mural, 600 books and beanbag chairs.

**Mr. Minichiello moved to accept the donation; the vote was unanimous.**

## **Communication**

The Superintendent shared excerpts from a letter she received from Katherine Sardella, a former teacher at the Barrett Russell school years ago, who wrote to tell her how delighted she was with the way the school has been updated, from the grounds to the

classrooms. She visited the school during the open house, she complimented staff for their warmth and friendliness.

## **Superintendent's Report**

### **Student Representative**

Somto Onubogu reported the following events: No school on Election Day, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>, the annual Veteran's Day assembly at 9:30 on the November 9<sup>th</sup>, 333 BHS students will receive the John & Abigail Adams Scholarship on November 22 at 9:30 a.m., and the National Honor Society Induction will be November 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

**Charter School Update** – Superintendent Smith reported that Mr. Petronio has prepared a budget barometer (handout) showing New Heights Charter enrollment and how it affects Brockton's budget. As of October 1, 232 former Brockton Public Schools students were enrolled at New Heights charter school, however, Brockton will be held harmless by the state and will not lose any funding this year.

**District Capacity Project (DCP)** – The Superintendent announced that she has decided to go forward with another DCP project, this time the project will be to create a district wide Code of Conduct. She said Mr. Ray Shurtleff, Ms. Kim Gibson, herself and several BHS administrators began today with a walk through at the high school. Next steps: on November 21<sup>st</sup> the Superintendent has invited Mr. Larry Deiringer, Executive Director of Engaging Schools to meet with central and high school administrators. She said she is excited because this project will bring the community together, including faith-based organizations, NAACP, District Attorney's office, Sheriff's office, parents and students, to discuss the kind of school system we want to have for our families. The Superintendent said the goal is continuity in discipline from elementary to high school, that a code of conduct is about developing our young people, not only about discipline.

The Superintendent said she recently attended the annual gala event to benefit the DJ Dream Fund, a fund established by Dan and Angela Henry in memory of the tragic death of their son, DJ. She announced that 7,000 students have benefitted from the DJ Dream Fund; the Mayor added that 85% of the funds raised goes to Brockton kids.

**Assessment/Accountability Presentation** – Dr. Cancell and Deputy Superintendent Barry gave a power point presentation on the 2016 MCAS and PARCC test results. Dr. Cancell said it is a difficult time to compile data because of the transition between MCAS and PARCC, he said the state recognizes this and is holding everyone harmless.

The presentation showed Brockton's performance levels and growth, district wide, for elementary, middle and high school. A presentation in the near future will give more detailed information.

Dr. Cancell reported that Brockton now has four Level 1 schools and remains the only large urban district that does not have a level 4 school, even as the number of Level 4 schools has increased across the state. He said this is a testament to the hard work done at the schools, and is something Brockton should be very proud of. He pointed out that Brockton did not use the hold harmless provision to maintain its level status.

Mr. Minichiello said the data confirms that the longer a student stays in the Brockton schools, the better they will do, as evidenced by the grade 10 scores. Ms. Plant said she received both an MCAS parent report and a PARCC parent report, and the PARCC report "appeared to be lacking." She said it would be good for school committee to see

samples of these letters. Dr. Cancell responded that PARCC is over and the state is moving on to next generation assessment, or MCAS 2.0, and he expects the data will eventually be as good as the current MCAS data.

Ms. Barry said this is the first year we don't have a state comparison because districts across the state are taking different assessments. In addition, she reported that just this week she received notification that the state is making changes to the ELA and math standards, which were changed in 2011-12. She agreed it is a difficult time because everything is changing, she is hoping it will stabilize.

Mr. Sullivan asked whether the economy and budget affect the scores; Dr. Cancell responded the gap is growing between affluent and urban communities, Brockton does not have the money to resource classrooms properly. Superintendent Smith she is starting to have conversations about looking into an equity in education lawsuit. Still, there is a lot of good news in the assessment report, the Superintendent applauded the district for their performance on the assessments.

The Superintendent gave a statement about the recent incident at Brockton High School and upheld administration's handling of the situation.

Mayor Carpenter said he felt the response of the school department was fast, immediate and it was right to protect the victim in this type of crime as long as there is no threat. He felt it was handled very responsibly.

## **New Business**

### **November 1, 2016 Bid Review Report**

Mr. Sullivan gave a report of the Bid Review subcommittee meeting held earlier this evening from which recommendations were made for the FY 2017 Electrical Services bid and the FY 2017 Refrigeration and Air Conditioning bid.

**Following the report and seeing no discussion, Mr. Sullivan moved that the report be accepted.**

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

**Mr. Sullivan moved to award the FY17 Electrical Services bid to Gone Green Electrical, LLC, from Rockland, MA, and the FY17 Refrigeration and Air Conditioning bid to CAM HVAC & Construction, from Smithfield, RI, as detailed in the report.**

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

### **November 1, 2016 Finance Subcommittee Report**

Mr. Minichiello reported that at the Finance subcommittee meeting held earlier this evening at 6:30 p.m., the subcommittee reviewed recommendations from a joint task force with respect to BEA unfinished items, three recommendations from that task force were brought forward and recommended by the Superintendent: the first item was with respect to compensation for BEA members who hold a Juris Doctor degree in Appendix A, the second was with respect to a differential on the BEA salary schedule for school nurses in Appendix E, and the third item was the boys and girls tennis coaches with respect to their compensation as related to all other spring coaches in Appendix B. The Finance subcommittee voted to favorably approve the recommendations.

**Mr. Minichiello moved to accept the report of the November 1, 2016 Finance Subcommittee meeting.**

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

**Mr. Minichiello moved to approve the items as discussed at the Finance Subcommittee meeting with respect to compensation for BEA members who hold Juris Doctor degrees in Appendix A of the contract; adopting the School Nurse differential on Appendix E of the contract, as well as compensation for the boys and girls tennis coaches to be equal to that of other spring head coaches on Appendix B of the contract.**

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

Mr. Minichiello congratulated *BHS boys varsity football team* for their win over Newton North and announced the next game will be Friday at BC High. He also praised the half-time performance.

Mr. Minichiello announced the Hancock School's annual spaghetti supper date will be Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, money raised supports the Helping Hands fund.

Mayor Carpenter commended the great work he observed at the Huntington School and said he was also able to attend the Barrett Russell kindergarten Halloween parade.

Mr. D'Agostino also commended the Huntington school, and congratulated Kennedy School staff and parents for the successful Halloween event.

Mr. Sullivan announced the Harlem Wizards will take on the George School on Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. at the Brockton High School gymnasium, tickets can be purchased at [www.georgeschoolpta.org](http://www.georgeschoolpta.org).

Ms. Asack announced that Brockton High students have elected their class of 2018 and 2019 officers, she congratulated them all and said she looks forward to seeing what they will do.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Smith, JD  
Secretary  
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Handout: New Heights Charter School Budget Barometer