

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. Gormley, Ms. Plant, Mrs. Sullivan, Mr. Sullivan, Superintendent Smith

Absent: Mr. D'Agostino

Also Present: Executive Team

Mayor Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Carpenter explained the purpose of the Consent Agenda and asked members if they would like to remove any items for discussion; Ms. Asack requested Item C, *Acceptance of Donation from Cradles to Crayons*.

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

- July 19, 2016 Regular School Committee Meeting Minutes
- July 13, 2016 Accounts Review Subcommittee Report
- BHS Empower Yourself Overnight Field Trip
- Notification of Personnel Appointments, Certified and Non-Certified
- Notification of Personnel Actions: Leaves of Absence, Resignations, Retirements

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

With respect to Item C, Ms. Asack thanked *Cradles to Crayons* for its donation of 2,000 backpacks filled with school supplies for our students. She recognized Mr. Mike Scottberg, Partner Relations Coordinator, for his hard work coordinating this very generous donation and said she hopes this is the beginning of a wonderful relationship. The backpacks will be distributed to elementary and middle schools across the district. Ms. Asack thanked staff from the facilities department for assisting with the delivery.

Ms. Asack moved to accept the donation of backpacks from Cradles to Crayons.

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

Mayor Carpenter announced that under agenda item VIII, Executive Session, school committee will go into an executive session tonight in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(3), to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining that could be detrimental to the process if discussed in an open session. He notified those present that the committee will not return after the session.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Smith announced the following administrative appointments:

- Marybeth O'Brien has been appointment Principal of Huntington School
- Val Brower has been appointed Principal of the Baker School
- Marguerite Masson has been appointed Principal of the Brookfield School
- Cynthia Burns has been appointed Principal of the Keith Center
- Rachael Umbriana has been appointed Department Head of Foreign Language
- Emily Flores has been appointed Department Head of Social Studies at BHS
- Laurie Silva has been appointed Director of Community Schools
- Patricia Dupuy has been appointed Coordinator of Extended Day
- Elaine Alves has been appointed Dean, Azure Building
- Andy Donovan has been appointed Dean, Green Building
- Carolyn Copp has been appointed Dean, Red Building

Administrative Title Change

The Superintendent announced that as a result of taking into consideration concerns from the community and students with respect to the term "housemaster", she is recommending, for school committee approval, that this title is changed to "dean". Mayor Carpenter opened the floor for discussion.

Mr. Minichiello said this had been discussed at school committee retreats, he said the sensitivity of the community and students affects how the committee conducts itself. He called this the right thing to do and felt that if it has a positive impact on our students and community, we should all be for it.

Mayor Carpenter agreed, and noted that at the last school committee meeting this was addressed by Bishop Tony Branch; the Mayor said this change is probably long overdue.

Mr. Minichiello moved to adopt the recommendation to change the title of housemaster to dean.

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous. Mayor Carpenter cast his vote in favor.

New BPS Website

Communications Officer Michele Bolton provided a mini-tutorial on the new BPS website. She thanked Kathy Ettinger and Jessica Silva for their assistance in getting it up and running. Ms. Bolton highlighted many of the updates, including being able to interact with smartphones, a page for students, a "mash-up" page is in the works where all of our social media will be posted. She said she would like to enlist the help of high school faculty to identify and involve students who would be willing to "live tweet" at games and events to help in building a following. Mr. Gormley suggested a section for students with access to educational websites that we use in the schools, Ms. Bolton said there is already a math website that will be linked; Ms. Plant said she would like to see a literacy link as well.

2017 Budget Update

Superintendent Update: The Superintendent thanked school committee for working hard on this budget, recalling enough teachers to allow the district to open on September 6th.

With respect to the state budget, she received word today that out of the anticipated \$618,000 from the state, over \$400,000 of that will be used up by charter and school choice reimbursement chargebacks, leaving the district with \$186,000 available funds.

She called the committee's attention to a budget packet handout from Mr. Petronio. As a result of recent callbacks, savings of \$258,720 in unemployment costs have been realized and she is recommending using these funds to restore programmatic priorities--intramurals at all levels, middle schools sports, and the Empower Yourself program, *total cost of \$252,000.*

Additionally, the Superintendent reported there are currently three vacant school police positions, two new officers have been hired but because of training they will not be on the job until May of 2017. This would leave the district short three officers, she is recommending filling one vacancy and, because of savings from unused budgeted school police salaries, *the cost to the district this year would be only \$15,000.*

Mayor Update: Mayor Carpenter explained the changes to the charter school reimbursement in the state budget which caused Brockton's amount to go up, resulting in a net gain from the anticipated \$618,000 of only \$186,000. He said there is still \$333,000 transportation deficit that now must be addressed and he said he has confirmed with the Superintendent and Deputy Thomas that the district cannot cut any buses or vans. As a result, the Mayor stated his intent is to send the \$186,000 to the school department to cover the transportation deficit, not as Chapter 70 money. He said this needs to go before city council, he will to ask the council to appropriate the \$186,000 plus an additional \$135,000 of unappropriated funds, together these amounts will just about cover the transportation deficit.

Mr. Minichiello concurred with the Mayor's recommendation, he stated the school committee has been cautious and very cognizant of the \$618,000 not being real, the next step is to move forward with a vote to allocate existing funds.

Mr. Minichiello moved to allocate a total of \$267,000 which would provide funding for the following: \$137,000 for intramurals at all levels, \$70,000 for hybrid middle school sports, \$45,000 for Empower Yourself, and an additional \$15,000 to bring back an additional school police officer. Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

The Superintendent reminded the committee that discussion with respect to facilities, program locations, and the neighborhood school model will need to begin shortly after school opens.

She also mentioned the Commissioner's visit on September 20th, he will meet with a focus group at 6 p.m. and attend school committee at 7 p.m.

**ITEMS TO REFER
to SUBCOMMITTEE**

Ms. Asack referred the BHS Warehouse lease for a facilities subcommittee meeting.

**UNFINISHED
BUSINESS**

FY2017 Budget

Mr. Minichiello summarized the (enclosed) report of the August 2, 2016 Finance Subcommittee meeting.

Mr. Minichiello moved to approve the August 2, 2016 Finance Subcommittee Meeting report. Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

Mr. Minichiello moved to ratify the following actions taken at the August 2 Finance Meeting:

- 1. Restore three School Resource Officer positions with the school department paying 40% and the city paying 60%**
- 2. Recall of 11 teaching positions**
- 3. Restoration of SPED department head position, based on grant funding**

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

August 16, 2016 Policy Subcommittee Meeting

Mr. Minichiello gave a verbal report of the Policy subcommittee meeting held earlier this evening, at 6:30 p.m., at which Dr. Terrasi presented school committee with updates to the current substance abuse policies, as required by the newly enacted opioid law. At that meeting, the committee favorably recommended adopting the updated policies.

Following his report, Mr. Minichiello made the following motions:

Moved to accept the report of the August 16, 2016 Policy Subcommittee meeting.

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

Moved to adopt the news policies, identified as BPS Policy IHAMP and BPS Policy JICH, with respect to substance abuse as presented.

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

Change of B.B. Russell School Name

The Superintendent reported that at a previous Finance meeting Principal Burns asked the committee to consider changing the name of the B.B. Russell School to the Frederick Douglass Academy at the Keith Center. All other programs at the Keith Center will retain their current titles with the addition of "at the Keith Center" after each. Superintendent Smith reported that the students were excited and have chosen a school mascot, a bull, and school colors, dark blue and gold. The Superintendent said she would like school committee to vote on this tonight.

Mr. Minichiello moved to change the name of the B.B. Russell School to Frederick Douglass Academy at the Keith Center. Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

United Soccerfest Award Presentation

Mr. Sullivan announced that he was invited to attend a soccer championship game and present the awards there, one of the awards being for Deputy Superintendent Thomas. Mr. Sullivan presented that award to Mr. Thomas on behalf of United Soccerfest in appreciation of his support for the program.

Summerfest – Mr. Minichiello reminded everyone of the event this Saturday, August 20, from 10 – 2 at BHS.

The Mayor announced that school committee would now go into Executive Session in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(A), and would not return.

A Roll Call Vote was taken:

Mayor Carpenter -yes	Mr. Gormley - yes	Mr. Sullivan - yes
Ms. Asack - yes	Ms. Plant - yes	
Mr. Minichiello - yes	Ms. Sullivan - yes	

Voted: to go into Executive Session.

School Committee reconvened at 9:40 p.m. to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Smith, JD/Secretary

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handouts: Budget Figures Packet