

Brockton, Massachusetts

Regular Meeting

March 16, 2010

The Regular Meeting of the Brockton School Committee was held this evening in the Theatre of the Dr. William H. Arnone School at seven thirty-o'clock.

Present: Vice-Chair Minichiello; Mr. Bath; Mrs. Beyer; Mrs. Joyce; Mr. Carpenter; Mr. Daley; Dr. Malone, Secretary

Absent: Mayor Balzotti; Mr. Sullivan

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

Vice-Chair Minichiello called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m. followed by a salute of the flag. Mr. Minichiello informed those present that Mayor Balzotti would not be presiding this evening as she needed to respond to the crisis in the City due to the flooding.

Recognition

Vice-Chair Minichiello took the agenda out of order and began with *Enclosure #15, Recognition of Champion High School Students for the Opening of the New Pathways Library.*

CHS Students/
Pathways Library

Dr. Malone called on Adam Dackers, social studies teacher, and students: Brittany Dwyer (abs), Ashley Finney, Ty Hunt (abs), Jon Lambert (abs), Leroy Lynch, Ashley Moulton (abs) and Brian Sullivan to receive recognition. He said that the opening of the new library was a community service learning project and a graduation requirement. The Pathways Library of the Champion High School opened on January 29, 2010, and was featured in The Boston Globe, South section. The students were presented Certificates of Recognition.

Angelo Staff

Superintendent Malone introduced Louis F. Angelo School staff Ryan Powers, principal, Elizabeth Barry, assistant principal and Joanne Camillo, adjustment counselor, to recognize the efforts of the Angelo School for its participation in the *MA DESE Behavioral Health and Public Schools Task Force*, which was chaired by Commissioner Mitchell Chester. Their task was to develop an assessment tool to measure schools' capacity to address the behavioral and mental health of students, and their report was submitted to the Governor and General Court on December 30, 2009.

Additionally, the staff at the Angelo School has also participated in Brockton's *Helping Traumatized Children Learn* training, and has committed itself to the development of a trauma sensitive educational environment.

Recess

Mr. Minichiello called for a brief recess to allow those who wished to exit the meeting to do so.

Reconvene

Mr. Minichiello reconvened the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Hearing of Visitors

The following visitors spoke on the subject of keeping the Huntington School open: Dennis Eaniri, City Councilor; Ron Bethoney, Campello businessman; Steve Martin of the Historic District Commission; and Bob Giovannello of South Street, Brockton.

Mary Milligan and Kimberly Zachary, members of the Brockton Community School Advisory Board, addressed the School Committee regarding nominations for the Albert Baroncelli Award, as well as other needs of the CSAB and Community Schools Program, i.e., new ideas and teachers, and upcoming events.

Consent Agenda

Mrs. Joyce requested to remove *Enclosure #'s 3 and 4, the out-of-state trip requests of the Brookfield and Downey Schools*, from the Consent Agenda due to a lack of information, i.e., number of students and costs, and suggested that the requests be placed on the next School Committee agenda.

Mr. Minichiello requested to have *Enclosure #'s IA, Approval of March 9, 2010 SC Retreat Minutes; 6, Authorization to Accept Gelfand Family Charitable Trust Fund; and 10, Approval of Safety/Security/Transportation Subcommittee Minutes of March 2, 2010*, removed from the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Daley then moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- Enclosure #1: Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Committee on March 2, 2010, as amended.
- Enclosure #2: Chief Supervisor of Attendance Report for February 2010
- Enclosure #5: Angelo School Out-of-State trip on May 27, 2010, for 102 students and 15 chaperones
- Enclosure #7: Submission of 21st CCLC High School Innovation RFP to the MA DESE, and expenditure of funds
- Enclosure #8: Submission of 21st CCLC Supplemental RFP to the MA DESE, and expenditure of funds
- Enclosure #9: Additional New Class of 1984 Memorial Scholarship
- Enclosure #11: Notification of Personnel Appointments
- Enclosure #12: Notification of Personnel Action, including *Leaves of Absence and Resignations*

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Regarding *Enclosure #IA, Approval of March 9, 2010 SC Retreat Minutes*: Mr. Minichiello said that, during the March 9th SC Retreat, a vote was taken relative to the advertising of a new position, titled, *Chief Learning Officer*, and said that the voting should have been taken at a regular meeting of the School Committee, making it transparent. Mr. Carpenter agreed.

Regarding **Enclosure #6**, *Authorization to Accept Gelfand Family Charitable Trust Fund*: Mr. Minichiello said that this Enclosure should be read by Dr. Malone out of respect to the Gelfand Family.

Dr. Malone then read the enclosure, stating that the Gelfand Family made a charitable contribution in the amount of \$47,000 to create new state-of-the-art science labs for the Brockton Public Schools, specifically, at the South Middle and Ashfield Schools.

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the Gelfand Family Charitable Trust grant and expend the funds.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

On **Enclosure #10**, *Approval of Safety/Security/Transportation Subcommittee Minutes of March 2, 2010*, Mr. Minichiello moved to amend the minutes in Paragraph 4, to read as follows: *After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Minichiello moved to recommend to the Superintendent that the School Committee adopt **Plan A** of the **School Police Command & Control Structure**, and keep the position as a separate budget line item for annual School Committee review.*

Voted: to adopt recommendation, as amended, unanimously

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| Teaching & Learning | Superintendent Malone commended the custodial staff on their hard work and efforts in cleaning the buildings after the flooding. He also thanked principals, teachers and students for their help and understanding. |
| Haitian Relief | Dr. Malone presented a check in the amount of \$27,650.20 to Mr. Jon Abrams, Gift Planning Officer of the Red Cross, and highlighted the caring ways of the Brockton School community. |
| Edison Essays | The Superintendent announced that 103, Grade 3 students participated in the 12 th Annual Edison Essay/Multi-Media Contest on March 13, 2010. Student winners were selected by each school and submitted for judging by Brockton Historical Society judges. Winners will be recognized at the annual BPS awards ceremony in June. |
| Drama Semi-Finals | Dr. Malone congratulated the students and staff of the BHS Drama Club for their work on and performance of <i>Professor Zuccini's Traveling Tales</i> , by Sylvia Ashby, at the Semi-final round of the MA High School Drama Festival, which Brockton hosted. |
| 2010 Census | Superintendent Malone discussed the importance of accuracy in completing the 2010 Census, as well as highlighting the Brockton Public Schools effort to inform the students of the impact and historic nature of the Census. |
| AYPF Visit | Dr. Malone said that the DESE has recommended that the <i>American Youth Policy Forum</i> visit Brockton Public Schools, specifically, the High School and Pathways Center at the Keith School. The DESE has commended Brockton's efforts in Dropout Prevention & |

Reengagement; Credit Recovery; Entrepreneurial Education, and Alternative Pathway Development. Partnerships with the Police Department, WIB and the District Attorney's Office have been recognized, also. The visit will take place on March 26th.

IT Mini Conference

The Superintendent stated that the *Instructional Technology Services Department* recently hosted an IT Mini Conference at the Mary E. Baker School. The Superintendent addressed the group, discussing the importance of technology in the classroom.

Highpoint/Drug Prevention & Intervention

Dr. Malone discussed the partnership between the Brockton Schools and the Highpoint Treatment Center, i.e., workshops, training, health curriculum, Recovery High School effort, family support and referrals.

Other topics that the Superintendent discussed under Learning and Teaching were: the 2010 Accountability Index; school site visits, and the Mayor's Opioid Overdose Prevention Coalition drug forum scheduled on March 29th at BHS.

Mr. Minichiello thanked Mr. Carpenter for his work and efforts on the *Drug Prevention and Intervention Forum* that took place on February 23rd, as well as recognizing those who came and spoke about their experiences and knowledge. Mr. Carpenter thanked Dr. Malone for taking the lead on the endeavor.

Item(s) Referred to Subcommittee(s)

Superintendent Malone referred to the Policy Subcommittee *a revision of BHS cell phones/ electronic devices usage*. A copy of the proposed change in policy was included in the agenda booklet, Enclosure #14.

Report on BPS SPED Data

Dr. Malone introduced Kay Seale, Director of Special Education, and Dr. Ethan Cancell, Associate Director for Accountability and Assessment, to give the report on Brockton Public Schools Special Education Data Analysis.

An extensive report was given, highlighting the following areas: federal and state regulations; special education student centered core values; the early childhood phase; determining the three steps of SPED eligibility; disability comparison (Brockton-State); expenditure and identification rates; SPED progress measurements; Data: the MCAS, MCAS-Alt., CPI and SGP in special education; districtwide collaboration, and the focus on results.

Following the report, Mr. Daley mentioned that he had requested a two-part report on Special Education. He would like the services that the department offers highlighted in another report. At the close of a lengthy discussion, Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the above report.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

At this time, Dr. Malone informed the School Committee that he and Dr. Szachowicz had recently attended the wake of Brockton High School special education student Willmarie Martinez. Willmarie's cap and gown, as well as her diploma, were presented to her family

by Dr. Szachowicz. Dr. Malone, again, offered condolences to the Martinez family, and said that Brockton High takes care of its own.

**Student Registration
Parent Information
Grade 6 Report**

Dr. Malone called upon Lynn Winkler, Director of the Student Registration Parent Information Center to give the report on Grade 6 Student Registrations and Assignments for 2010-2011.

Mrs. Winkler said that 1,219 Grade 6 students have been registered/assigned for September 2010. Of that total, 94% of parents who registered on time received their first choice school. Five percent received their second choice, and 1%, their third choice. She discussed the registration and selection processes, as well as the assignment results and wait list and appeals process information.

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

New Business

Mr. Bath read the report of the Facilities Usage & Planning Subcommittee meeting on March 16, 2010, at this time.

**Facilities Usage &
Planning Subcommittee
Meeting**

Mr. Carpenter made the motion to accept the above report, as presented.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mr. Carpenter made the motion to approve the transfer of the Lincoln Alternative School to the Goddard School for the 2010-2011 school year.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mr. Daley made the motion to authorize the move of the Student Registration Parent Information Center from the leased space at 144 Main Street to the basement of the Crosby Administration Building with a maximum effort to complete the move before June 30, 2010.

Voted: to accept the motion, unanimously

Mr. Carpenter made the motion to advance the Cell Phone Tower plan at the Kennedy and Baker Schools to the City Law Office for review and that it not be sited until the public has had input.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mr. Carpenter made the motion to move and install the current Plouffe playground to the city playground at the end of the parking lot next to the basketball courts by June 30, 2010.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mr. Carpenter made the motion to approve that the Vice-Chair of the School Committee contact the president of the Brockton City Council to request a resolve to discuss the condition of school roofs and a plan to fix same on the City Council agenda.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mr. Bath also spoke about the BHS Drama Club, the BHS JROTC, and the upcoming *Breakfast of Champions* on March 21st.

Mr. Daley made a motion to accept a donation of pencil sharpeners and erasers from Altrusa International at the request of Mrs. Glenna Riley for the Brookfield School.

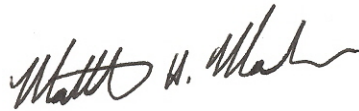
Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mr. Minichiello complimented George Bezreh, Director of Facilities, and the custodial staff for their work on eliminating the water problems across the school system.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew H. Malone". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Matthew H. Malone, Ph. D.

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