

The Regular Meeting of the Brockton School Committee was held this evening at 7:30 p.m. in the Choral Room at Brockton High School.

Present: Mayor Harrington, Chair; Mr. Bath, Vice-Chair; Mrs. Beyer; Mr. Daley; Mr. Dobrowski; Mr. Foley; Mrs. Joyce; Mr. Minichiello; Mr. Nembirkow, Secretary

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

Mayor Harrington called the meeting to order at seven thirty-o'clock followed by a salute to the flag.

**Approval of
Records**

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the School Committee Meeting Minutes of December 16, 2008, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Chief Supervisor
of Attendance
Report**

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the Report of the Chief Supervisor of Attendance for the month of December as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Recognition of
Caritas Good
Samaritan and
Brockton
Neighborhood
Health Center**

Superintendent Nembirkow asked Dr. Terrasi to introduce several supporters of the schools. Dr. Terrasi was present with Mrs. Lorraine Kuplast, Supervisor of Nurses, to introduce and thank the following for their partnership and services to the schools: John Holiver, President of Caritas Good Samaritan Medical Center; Sue Joss, Executive Director of the Brockton Neighborhood Health Center; and Linda Gabruk, Chief Operating Officer of the Brockton Neighborhood Health Center. They provide countless services at no cost to the schools, e.g., medical consultation services for nurses; medical examinations for student athletes and doctors' orders on an as-needed basis, etc. They were all presented with Certificates of Recognition by Mayor Harrington and Superintendent Nembirkow. Sue Joss and John Holiver thanked the School Committee and stated that it is a pleasure working with the Brockton Public Schools.

**Update on
Champion High
School**

Dr. Terrasi, Executive Director of Pupil Personnel Services, stated in an attempt to meet the diversified needs of the Brockton Public Schools' student population, a network of alternative pathways to academic success was developed, e.g., Freshman Academy, Afternoon Academy Programs, the Lincoln and Russell Alternative Schools and the Champion High School. He stated that the focus this evening will be on the Champion High School which made a successful transition from being a Horace Mann Charter School to being under the auspices of the Brockton Public Schools. He introduced Mr. Hernani Branco, principal of the school. Mr. Branco introduced Gail Galante, school counselor, and Tracy Young, who serves as the curriculum expert. Mr. Branco indicated that the Champion High School is based on the Diploma Plus Model.

It is a program for students, ages 16-21, who were either unsuccessful at Brockton High School, under-credited, repeat freshman, dropouts who were recruited or reengaged, or youth who like small learning communities. Tracy Young highlighted a powerpoint presentation. She stated that they have an integrated curriculum and partnerships with the Fuller Craft Museum, BAPIC, Massasoit Community College, Massachusetts Cultural Council and Gates Foundation. Seventeen students graduated last year; six students graduated in January; and they hope to graduate eighteen students in June. Superintendent Nembirkow stated that Mr. Branco is a great role model for the students. He is a graduate of Brockton High School who took an alternative path and was very successful. After many questions, Mr. Dobrowski moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**MOA/Gateway
to College**

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve a three-year Memorandum of Agreement between the Brockton Public Schools and Massasoit Community College from July 1, 2009, to June 30, 2012, for the Gateway to College Program. The program is designed to help 16-20 year old students who have left high school or who are on the verge of leaving without earning a diploma to return to education and gain a high school diploma while earning college credit at the college.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Approval of
Trips**

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following overnight trip: BHS Student Council to annual Student Councils' Conference in Hyannis, MA, March 11-13, 2009

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following overnight trip: BHS Key Club to annual New England District Convention in Springfield, MA, April 3-5, 2009

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following overnight trip: BHS DECA to attend the 50th Annual State Career Development Conference in Boston, MA, March 5-7, 2009

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following overnight/out-of-state trip: BHS Upward Bound (TERI College Access) to attend Trio Day in Portland, Maine, February 19-20, 2009.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Closing of
FY2009
Budget**

Mr. Dobrowski moved the Superintendent's recommendation to close the FY2009 School Department Budget effective January 28, 2009, except for emergencies and anticipated needs during the last months of school. Mr. Petronio distributed a Financial Statement dated January 27, 2009. After discussion, the vote was taken.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Personnel
Appointments**

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept notification of the personnel appointments listed on Enclosure #8.

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

**Personnel
Action**

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the notification of the following personnel action:

1. Leaves of Absence

Jessica Curtis – North (8 wk. Maternity – Eff. 6/15/09)

Christina Kennedy – Hancock (8 wk. Maternity – Eff. 5/7/09)

Lisa Lubas – Davis (12 wk. Maternity and for remainder of 2008-2009 school year - Eff 3/2/09)

Katie Nichol – Plouffe (8 wk. Maternity – Eff. 3/9/09)

Carol Berry – Downey Paraprofessional (unpaid FMLA – Eff. 2/6/09)

2. Resignation

Kristine Botelho – Adult Learning Center (Eff. 1/23/09)

3. Retirements

Jayne Valant – Huntington (Eff. 7/9/09)

Sheila Cassidy – Central Secretary (to participate in Final Step Increase Plan – Eff. 1/4/13)

Nancy Guest – Central Secretary (to participate in Final Step Increase Plan – Eff. 9/1/12)

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

**Accounts
Review
Subcommittee**

Mr. Foley moved to accept the Accounts Review Subcommittee Meeting Report of January 6, 2009, as presented. The accounts reviewed were for the period of November 14, through December 24, 2008.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Policy
Subcommittee**

Mrs. Joyce proceeded to read excerpts from the report of the Policy Subcommittee Meeting of January 6, 2009. Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Executive Session Minutes of September 3, September 17 and October 7, 2008, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation

Mr. Dobrowski moved the Superintendent's recommendation to eliminate the current BHS Grade Achievement Policy for level placement and replace it with a level placement procedure based upon student performance data, teacher recommendation, guidance counselor recommendation and parent recommendation.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to change the current academic levels at BHS from Advanced, College Prep and Academic Prep to Honors, College Prep Advanced and College Prep.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Facilities
Subcommittee**

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report of the Facilities Subcommittee Meeting of January 13, 2009, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mr. Dobrowski moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Rocky Marciano project going forward subject to reports from engineering contractors and other related trades.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

New Business

Mrs. Beyer informed the Committee that she attended a presentation by Mr. Beals, of the Brockton Historical Society, on the Thomas Edison Essay Contest. Many Brockton Public Schools students participated, and it was excellent.

Mrs. Beyer informed the Committee that the basement of the Little Red Schoolhouse flooded this past Saturday. She publicly thanked Mr. Bezreh and Mr. Hayden who came to their assistance.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Basan Nembirkow
Secretary

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