

Brockton, Massachusetts Regular Meeting November 17, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the Brockton School Committee was held this evening in the Cafetorium of the Mary E. Baker School at seven-thirty o'clock.

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

Absent: Mayor Harrington

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

Mr. Bath called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

Mrs. Joyce moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of the School Committee on November 4, 2009.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mrs. Beyer moved to accept the report of the Chief Supervisor of Attendance for September, 2009.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

At this time, Mr. Bath welcomed the new School Committee elected officials, Bill Carpenter and Timothy Sullivan, as well as the Mayor-elect, Linda Balzotti.

Teaching & Learning

Angelo/Explorers Event

In his discussion on Teaching and Learning this evening, Dr. Malone spoke of his visit to the Angelo School this morning for the 5th grade *Explorers* event. Dr. Malone said he was very impressed by the students' enthusiasm, telling him what they had learned from their experiences. The Superintendent thanked the Angelo teachers for the invitation.

Instructional Rounds

Superintendent Malone spoke about the team of Brockton educators he sent to the Harvard School of Education for the *Instructional Rounds Institute*. He said that he has been contacted by educators from other school systems, as well as Harvard, commending him on the type of educators working in the Brockton Public Schools. Dr. Malone said that these individuals will be our aspiring leaders.

Teaching & Learning Project Map

The Superintendent then called attention to the enclosure *Teaching and Learning Goals*, which highlighted his work and accomplishments thus far in the 2009-2010 BPS Strategic Goals. Not included in this report was Dr. Malone's Wraparound Student Services Roundtable on November 16th with 35 community service providers. At the meeting, Dr. Malone said the discussion focused on how it is the entire community's responsibility to support students. Those who attended told him that the Monday morning meeting was the

first time they had been invited to participate with the schools in sharing best practices and ideas.

Mr. Foley commented on Dr. Malone's report, saying that these accomplishments are the result of the work discussed at the School Committee retreat. Dr. Malone said that he would continue to give updates, quarterly.

H1N1 Vaccination Clinics

Dr. Malone then discussed the H1N1 Vaccination Clinic which he attended at the Gilmore Academy last evening, saying that the turnout was good. The clinic was held for children of ages three through five. He said the next clinic will be held on November 23rd for the next age group. Dr. Malone thanked James Hayden, Executive Director for Operations and School Administration and the Board of Health for the success of the clinics, as well as the nursing staff, the Brockton Hospital, Caritas Good Samaritan, and the Brockton Neighborhood Health Center.

Mr. Foley inquired about the potential of additional clinics once the numbers are in, and Dr. Malone pointed out that this is a vaccine availability issue. Dr. Malone said that he feels confident that we will meet the demand.

Report of 2009 MCAS Results

Dr. Malone then introduced Dr. Ethan Cancell, Associate Director for Accountability, Planning and Technology, to give the presentation on the *2009 MCAS Results*. He said that Dr. Cancell has worked very hard gathering the information and putting together a clear and unvarnished report for the School Committee this evening. Interim Deputy Superintendent John Jerome joined Dr. Cancell for the presentation.

In his half-hour presentation, Dr. Cancell gave extensive Composite Performance Index (CPI) and Student Growth Percentile (SGP) data with district-state and communities comparisons.

Following the presentation, a lengthy discussion took place, i.e., the feasibility of creating a longitudinal data analysis, taking a close look at early childhood, school systems sharing information on practices, student attendance and AYP, and methods of getting information out to parents. Both Drs. Malone and Cancell, as well as Mr. Jerome, responded to inquiries.

Dr. Malone said that recommendations will be made at the January 19th meeting of the School Committee.

In addition to having the supporting documents in advance of this evening's meeting, Mr. Bath requested that School Committee also receive a copy of Dr. Cancell's PowerPoint presentation.

Luke Flanagan, Student Advisory Council member to the School Committee, took a moment to thank all his tenth grade teachers *for their good teaching and driving the students to the edge*. Dr. Cancell said that it is the teachers who make the difference.

The School Committee was very impressed with Dr. Cancell's presentation, and thanked him for what some qualified as the best report on MCAS data they have been given. Mr. Bath suggested that this information be revisited so as to understand the whys and the wherefores.

Mr. Foley congratulated Dr. Malone and the former administration for Brockton's success.

End-of-Year Report

At this time, Superintendent Malone called upon Aldo Petronio, Executive Director for Financial Services, to review the *Month ending June 30, 2009 End-of-Year Report*.

Mr. Petronio reviewed the End-of-Year report for the School Committee, saying that only \$17,000 was unspent. He cautioned that that amount was very close, and suggested that it should not be that close in future years. Mr. Petronio said that in FY2011, he will try to build a reserve. At the Superintendent's request, Mr. Petronio said that he is trying to make information more transparent.

Following the report, members of School Committee asked questions of Mr. Petronio regarding specific transfers in the report and how he would go about building a reserve.

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Acceptance of Donation

Dr. Malone announced that the *Trustees of the Edwin Phillips Foundation* would like to donate \$10,000 to the Brockton Public Schools Special Education Department. The donation would be used to provide programs and/or tuition to programs for any of our students with disabilities. Kay Seale, Director of Special Education and her staff will oversee the donation.

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the above donation and send a letter of acknowledgment to the donor.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Budget Forecast

Dr. Malone, along with Mr. Petronio, gave the preliminary budget forecast report, containing personal services, ordinary maintenance, out-of-state travel and net school spending totals, as well as non-net school spending figures. Mr. Petronio said that Chapter 70 funds were cut by the government, and the School Department took a \$2,500,000 hit this year. It will take \$13.8 million dollars just to move forward from this year to the next. The Superintendent clarified for the Committee that there are no additional programs or needs beyond what we are currently offering; the \$13.8 million is the gap that will start FY'11 planning.

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

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Notification of
Personnel Action**

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendents recommendation to accept notification of the following Personnel Action listed on Enclosure #7:

Leaves of Absence:

Emily Cooley, Baker (Granted 8 Week Maternity, Eff. 2/22/10)

Therese Cushing, Central (Granted an FMLA for up to 12 Weeks, Eff. 11/9/09)

Resignation:

Paula O'Sullivan, Central, Eff. 11/13/09

Priscilla Robison, BHS Paraprofessional, Eff. 11/18/09

Retirement:

Doreen Murphy, West Middle, Eff. 6/30/10

Amy Frustaci, BHS Food Service Worker, Eff. 10/27/09

Change in Retirement:

Susan Daniels, BHS, From 6/30/11 to 7/20/10

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

Bid Review Report

The Bid Review Subcommittee met on November 10, 2009, to discuss the *Computer Network Cable Pulling Services specifications* and to make recommendations in the best interest of the Brockton Public Schools.

Mrs. Beyer made the motion to accept the above report of the Bid Review Subcommittee meeting, as presented.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mr. Foley made the motion to award the Computer Network Cable Pulling Services specifications to the vendor, as presented.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

New Business

Mr. Bath called for a motion, and Mrs. Beyer made the motion to authorize the salary increases for non-union employees for which there is an allocation in the budget.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mr. Bath then discussed options for the December School Committee meeting schedule. After a brief discussion, Mrs. Beyer made the motion to have the two meetings already scheduled in December: December 1st and December 15th, and to change the time of the December 15th meeting to 6 p.m.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mr. Minichiello spoke about the Veteran' Day Parade, congratulating Mr. Macrina, the high school band, JROTC and cheerleaders for their participation. The crowds were very impressed.

Mr. Minichiello also thanked the BHS Key Club for their participation in the spaghetti supper at Hancock School. He said that the parents were actively involved and proceeds from the event were given to needy families in the Hancock community and *Children Helping Children*.

Mr. Dobrowski commented on the Veterans' Day Parade and mentioned seeing the Arnone School students holding signs thanking the veterans.

Mr. Bath said that he attended the BHS Veterans' Assembly on November 9th, saying that Brockton High holds an outstanding recognition event each year. He thanked the students and Dr. Malone, who participated in the event, as well.

Dr. Malone said that he and his son marched in the City parade, also mentioning the good turnout. He said that Brockton does a great job organizing the event, which turned out better than in years past.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew H. Malone". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Matthew H. Malone, Ph.D.
Secretary

bas