

The Regular Meeting of the Brockton School Committee was held this evening in the Choral Room at Brockton High School at seven thirty-o'clock.

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

Absent: Mayor Harrington, Chair

Also Present: A large contingent of BPS Secretaries

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

Vice-Chair Joyce called the meeting to order at seven thirty-o'clock followed by a salute to the flag.

Approval of Records

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Regular School Committee Meeting Minutes of October 21, 2008, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Chief Supervisor of Attendance Report

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the Report of the Chief Supervisor of Attendance for the month of October as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Recognition of Superintendent's Awards Recipients

The Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents has designed an award for students who have distinguished themselves in the pursuit of excellence during their high school careers. This Superintendent's Award for Academic Excellence was presented to four Brockton High School seniors at a reception held in their honor at Brockton High School on November 6, 2008. The criteria for the award is a combination of their three-year cumulative average and rank in class. Ms. Maria LeFort, BHS Associate Principal, was present to introduce the following BHS seniors chosen for this award:

Raymond Nguyen	- Class Rank #1
Mei-Yi Wang	- Class Rank #2 (not present)
Theresa Nguyen	- Class Rank #3
Madelynne Hays	- Class Rank #4

All students were presented with Certificates of Recognition. Superintendent Nembirkow asked the parents to stand to be recognized.

Principal Szachowicz was not present due to attending the BHS soccer game. Superintendent Nembirkow stated that they are playing for the Eastern Massachusetts state championship title. It is the first BHS soccer team to make it this far in the playoffs.

**Report on
Elementary
Reading Program**

Dr. Julianne Andrade, Coordinator of Elementary Literacy K-5/Social Studies K-8, was present to highlight a report on the Elementary School Reading Program. She stated that “Reading Street 2008” is Brockton’s core reading program published by Scott Foresman. This program was designed by literacy researchers whose goal was to answer this question: What will work for me right here, right now with this child? Dr. Andrade mentioned the online database, intervention program, professional development, assessment, benchmark tests, etc. She stated that they selected Scott Foresman because of the research base. After several questions, Mr. Foley moved the Superintendent’s recommendation to accept the report as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Personnel
Appointments**

Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent’s recommendation to accept notification of the personnel appointments listed on Enclosure #5.

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

**Personnel
Action**

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

1. Leaves of Absence
Denise Logan – BHS (12 wk. FMLA – Eff. 10/28/08)
Joyce Spillane – Baker Paraprofessional (12 wk. unpaid FMLA –Eff. 9/25/08)
2. Resignations
Lee Ann McGee – Downey (Eff. 11/28/08)
Nicole Robbins – Raymond MTA (Eff. 11/7/08)
3. Early Retirement
Norma McWilliams – Parent Information Center Secretary (to participate in the 12% Final Step Increase Plan) to retire 12/24/2012

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

Accounts Review

Mrs. Beyer, chair, proceeded to read the Report of the Accounts Review Subcommittee Meeting which was held prior to this evening’s meeting. She stated that the accounts were reviewed from September 17 through November 5, 2008. Mr. Daley moved to accept the report as presented.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

New Business

Mr. Foley moved to cancel the December 2 School Committee meeting and hold one meeting on December 16 due to the number of negotiation meetings scheduled. The meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. The time change is due to the Holiday Concert being held the same evening at 7:30 p.m. in the BHS auditorium.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mrs. Beyer informed the School Committee of two programs called “**Gift of Sight.**” Lens Crafters will provide free eye exams and eyeglasses to students who do not have health insurance during the 1st week in December for students in grades 1-5. The students need a Tax ID number from the Brockton Public Schools in order to qualify.

Sears Optical will provide free eye exams for students who do not have health insurance provided they have a Tax ID number from the Brockton Public Schools. This program is offered year round. She stated that Mrs. Kuplast, Supervisor of Nurses, informed her of these programs.

Mr. Bath read a **Thank You note from James E. McAvoy II**, BHS Class of 2010, which was distributed to all School Committee members, thanking them for approving and funding his and his partner's (Kevin Gillis) participation in the National History Day 2008 National Contest held in July at the University of Maryland. Their project entitled *The Indian Removal Act of 1830: Legacy of the Five Civilized Tribes* came in tenth overall in the Senior Group Documentary category. It was also voted "outstanding" entry for Massachusetts. They competed against hundreds of schools and one half million students from across the United States.

Mr. Bath informed the School Committee that the **BHS JROTC Program** defended their state title and won the cup last weekend against High School of Commerce. This is the first time in years that one particular school has won back to back Governor cups. They will be going to New York in April.

Mrs. Joyce informed the School Committee and those present that the **BHS Holiday Concert** will be held on Tuesday, December 16, and Wednesday, December 17, at 7:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

Mr. Minichiello informed the School Committee that this Sunday, November 23, the **Downtown Business Association is sponsoring "Be a part of history."** Adults and children are invited to come to Joe Angelo's Restaurant, Main and Crescent Street, in commemoration of the first department store Santa Plaque Dedication. Hopefully, the Guinness World Book of Records will be beaten by the number of people wearing Santa Claus hats. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m.

Mr. Minichiello also informed the School Committee that the annual **Jingle Bell Run** will be held on Saturday, December 6, 2008. Registration will be at noon at the Holiday Inn at Westgate Mall. Funds raised will be distributed to families going through hard times.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Basan Nembirkow
Secretary

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