

The Regular Meeting of the Brockton School Committee was held this evening in the George M. Romm Little Theatre at Brockton High School at seven o'clock.

Present: Mayor Balzotti; Mr. Minichiello, Vice-Chair; Mr. Robinson; Mr. Donegan; Mr. Sullivan Mr. Healy; Dr. Malone, Secretary

Absent: Mrs. Joyce; Mr. Carpenter

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

Mayor Balzotti called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m., followed by the posting of the Colors by the Brockton High School JROTC.

The meeting this evening began in the auditorium for student recognitions, and Mayor Balzotti gave her opening comment: *"Thank you all for being shining examples in the City of Brockton."*

Dr. Malone asked for a round of applause for the BHS JROTC, as well as all parents in the audience. He told the students that the School Committee and School Department are proud of them and their accomplishments. *"You make us proud and show the country what goes on in the Brockton Public Schools,"* he said.

The following student awards were announced by the presenters:

- John Hopkins University (Ms. Joan Farrington)
- 2012 Regional Science Fair (Ms. Joan Farrington)
- 2011 MCAS Perfect Scores (Dr. Ethan Cancell)
- Spelling Bee (Dr. Julianne Andrade)
- Thomas Edison (Dr. Julianne Andrade)
- National History Day Competition (Ms. Michele Connors)
- 2012 Scholastic Art (Ms. Sarah Richards)
- National Latin Examination (Ms. Jane Rizzitano)
- All State Music Festival (Mr. Vincent Macrina)
- 2012 State Championship Drill Team (Col. Robert Tripp)
- All Scholastics, 2011-2012 (Mr. William Devin)

Also recognized were Boston Globe *Coach of the Year* Charles Russell, Girls' Indoor Track, and Command Sergeant Major Deonarine Heera who is receiving a Service Award.

Mayor Balzotti called for the students to applaud their parents and said, *"Your parents helped to get you where you are today."* The Mayor thanked everyone for attending the recognition event and, once again, congratulated the students. *"You showed the Commonwealth why we are the City of Champions,"* she said.

At 7:52 p.m., the meeting was moved to the Little Theatre.

### Hearing of Visitors

Visitors who addressed the School Committee this evening on the *Hearing of Visitors* were Taneka DeGrace and Jeffrey Fleurantin (graduate) from the MY TURN/STEP Program, offering positive testimony re. the program, and Ed Miller, First Vice-Chair of the Democratic City Committee, re. the variables of the Lobby Guard system.

### Consent Agenda

Mayor Balzotti explained the purpose of the Consent Agenda, and asked if School Committee members wished to remove any items from it. Mr. Minichiello requested to remove **Enclosure #'s 7, 7A and 10**, *Authorization to Submit RFP'S: to DESE, USDA Fresh Fruits & Vegetables Program; to National Dairy Council, Fuel Up-Play 60; and Approval of SC Meeting Dates for 2012-2013.*

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

- Minutes of Regular Meeting of SC on 5/15/12
- Minutes of Public Hearing on School Choice on 5/15/12
- Minutes of Finance Subcommittee Meetings on 5/8, 10 and 21/12
- Minutes of Superintendent's Contract Subcommittee Meeting on 5/10/12
- Authorization to Submit MassGrad Coalition RFP to DESE, and expenditure of funds
- Acceptance of Notification of Personnel Action (Leaves; Retirements; Resignations; Change of Retirement Date)
- School Closing Date for 2012-2013
- Acceptance of Notification of Executive Session Minutes Review

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mr. Minichiello inquired about the application processes of **Enclosure #'s 7 and 7A**, *Authorization to Submit RFP'S: to DESE, USDA Fresh Fruits & Vegetables Program; to National Dairy Council, Fuel Up-Play 60*, and Mr. Jerome responded.

Mr. Minichiello then moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize the above requests to submit proposals, and the expenditure of funds.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mr. Minichiello moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve **Enclosure #10**, *Approval of SC Meeting Dates for 2012-2013*, with the corrected date of January 2, 2013.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, as amended, unanimously

The Mayor announced the addendum to the Consent Agenda, re. the request from Principal Carol McGrath for Grade 7 classes to travel to Canobie Lake Park, Salem, NH, on June 11, 2012. Taking the trip are 85 students, five teachers, one MTA, one paraprofessional and three parents— all chaperones.

Mr. Sullivan moved to approve the above trip.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

## **Learning & Teaching**

Dr. Malone said that he was impressed with the students' scores on the MCAS that were announced this evening. He also congratulated the students, teachers and administration on the BHS graduation, saying that the ceremony was wonderful and he is proud of everyone. He thanked School and City Police for their good work, saying that they deserve a lot of credit. Next year, he said, numbered tickets will be given to all graduates, and facility personnel will not allow standing in the aisles; there will be ushers in place. Close family members, only, will be allowed.

Dr. Malone alluded to two DESE handouts that he distributed to Committee members: *Emerging Practices n Rapid Achievement Gain Schools (re. Turnaround)*, and *ESEA Flexibility: Changes to School & District Accountability and Assistance*. The two documents show a work in progress that has been sent to School Systems by the ESE.

Dr. Malone announced that he has completed his self-evaluation and related materials which are enclosed in this evening's agenda booklet, and he has also completed the SUPER System evaluation tool. He asked the School Committee for a fair evaluation, and said that he would not accept anything higher than a 2% raise. "I want the honest feedback," he said.

At this time, the Superintendent announced that this evening's meeting will be the last that Miss Meaghan Hand will attend as the Advisory Council Representative to the School Committee. Dr. Malone and Mayor Balzotti presented Meaghan with a Certificate of Appreciation and wished her well. Mr. Minichiello spoke on behalf of Meaghan, and informed the Committee that she will be attending U Mass-Dartmouth to further her studies.

Dr. Malone presented School Committee members with the 2012 Brockton School Committee photo.

The Superintendent informed the listening audience that the School Committee and administration continue to give due-diligence on the planning of the FY 2013 recommended budget. He also congratulated Mr. Minichiello and Ms. Kim Gibson, BEA president, on their work during the *2012 Collaborating to Transform the Teaching Profession* conference that took place on May 23rd-24th in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mr. Minichiello said that the people in the stands during graduation need to be courteous to one another. The Mayor said that this matter needs to be referred to the Safety/Security/Transportation Subcommittee.

Vice-Chair Minichiello stated that he did not think that the Superintendent needs to be concerned about (the evaluation) not being fair. Mr. Goss, the provider of the SUPER System evaluation tool sent the tool to School Committee members. Mr. Minichiello said the School Committee will be diligent, and they need to complete their evaluation by June 19, 2012. When beginning the evaluation on a PC, the document must be completed on that same PC.

Mr. Sullivan said he disagreed on the matter of issuing numbered tickets to attend the graduation ceremony. The Mayor said that this topic could be discussed in Subcommittee, but added that it is not unusual to have tickets at commencement exercises.

Mr. Donegan said that Brockton issued graduation tickets in the past and said that it's a good idea. *"There were many accolades and every student said "thank you" when receiving his/her diploma,"* he said. Students didn't realize that (negative) things were happening; it was the way the media reported it. On the matter of the Superintendent's evaluation, he said, *"Of course it will be given fair and careful review by all of us."* Mr. Donegan thanked the personnel and students.

Mayor Balzotti said that the graduation ceremony was impacted by people who should not have been there. *"I personally think that the use of tickets is a good way to go. Back in the day, we had tickets,"* she said. The Mayor continued to give merit to the Class of 2012, and said it is discouraging that the media does not focus on the positive. She said that she and the high school administration were proud of the way students conducted themselves.

**Summer SC Meetings** Mr. Minichiello moved to scheduled the 2012 summer regular School Committee meetings on July 17 and August 21, 2012.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Items to Refer to Subcommittees** Dr. Malone referred graduation safety to the Safety/Security/Transportation Subcommittee.

At this time, Mr. Minichiello wanted to clarify that the City did *not* pay for participants to attend the conference in Cincinnati, Ohio, re. *2012 Collaborating to Transform the Teaching Profession*. He said that Brockton is on the right track.

**Budget** Dr. Malone asked if members of the Committee wished to request additional documents for the June 6<sup>th</sup> Finance Subcommittee meeting. An item for discussion is Schedule 19. *"We are getting closer to decisions for the Public Hearing on Budget on June 19<sup>th</sup>,"* he said. Mr. Minichiello reminded Committee members to bring materials that were sent in last Friday's Informational Bulletin to the June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**New Business** Regarding the new School Committee photo, Mr. Healy said, *"Excluding Madame Chair and Mrs. Joyce, this is sincerely a motley crew."* Mayor Balzotti said, *"I concur!"*

Mr. Minichiello complimented Mr. Campbell of West Middle School, who hosted a boys breakfast for the eighth graders, and offered an agenda about entering high school and life's paths. In addition to School Committee members Minichiello, Robinson and Donegan, Dr. Malone attended, and a special guest invited by Mr. Minichiello was Judge Wilbur Edwards, who spoke about his career path. *"It was a great event,"* he said.

Mr. Robinson said that the young men were genuinely interested and asked some great questions about the high school. He said he was impressed with the youngsters, and said it was good to see community members there supporting the students.

Mr. Donegan noted the students of Mr. Eric Wescott in Room 108 who behaved very graciously during the event.

Mayor Balzotti announced that she will attend the Grade 7 Girls' Tea at West Middle School next Thursday, and is looking forward it.

Mr. Minichiello then recognized and congratulated Mr. Harry C. Allen, for whom the BHS track has been named. He said he attended the dedication event at BHS on June 4<sup>th</sup>, and mentioned that there was a great host of speakers, that included the Mayor and Dr. Szachowicz. Mr. Minichiello enjoyed meeting Mr. Allen and said that the dedication was a grand event.

Dr. Malone added that he, too, thought the event was great and thanked everyone who worked on putting it together. He said, "Barbara (Souza), you did a great job." Dr. Malone said that he met some wonderful people that evening.

Mayor Balzotti announced that Mrs. Joyce could not be here this evening due to a family commitment, and Mr. Carpenter was ill.

The Mayor congratulated all 2012 Brockton Public Schools retirees who will be honored on June 7<sup>th</sup> at a recognition event. She apologized for her inability to attend the event and passed along her well wishes for a happy retirement.

The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew H. Malone, Ph. D.

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