

The Organizational 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, Chair; Mr. Minichiello, Vice-Chair; Mr. Donegan; Mrs. Joyce; Mr. Carpenter; Mr. Healy, Dr. Malone, Secretary, Mr. Sullivan\*

Absent: Mr. Robinson,

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

Mayor Balzotti called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m., followed by a salute to the flag. She extended her wishes for a Happy and Healthy 2013 and thanked all for their service.

**Election of Secretary**

The Superintendent of Schools serves as Secretary of the School Committee.

**Mr. Minichiello moved to have the Superintendent of Schools continue to serve as Secretary of the Brockton School Committee in 2013.**

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously.

*Mr. Sullivan, Ward 7 School Committee Representative was present via teleconference. He would like the record to show the following: "If I were present, my vote would be in the affirmative."*

**Recognition of Out-Going Vice Chair**

Mayor Balzotti and Dr. Malone presented Mr. Minichiello with a plaque in appreciation of his service as the 2012 Vice-Chair of the School Committee. Both the Mayor and Dr. Malone thanked Mr. Minichiello for the past three years he has served as Vice-Chair.

**Election of 2013 Vice-Chair**

**Mr. Carpenter nominated Mr. Minichiello as Vice-Chair of the School Committee for the 2013 calendar year. On the nomination, the vote was taken.**

Voted: to elect Mr. Minichiello to serve as Vice-Chair of the School Committee for the 2013 calendar year, unanimously.

*Mr. Sullivan, Ward 7 School Committee Representative was present via teleconference. He would like the record to show the following: "If I were present, my vote would be in the affirmative."*

Mayor Balzotti thanked Mr. Minichiello for accepting the nomination and thanked the Committee for their support of him.

Dr. Malone also thanked Mr. Minichiello for his acceptance of this position, and said that he looks forward to working with him in a new and different capacity.

Mr. Minichiello expressed his gratitude to Committee members for their support; he said he looks forward to working with his fellow colleagues again this year.

**Election of CSAB  
SC Members**

The Bylaws of the Community School Advisory Board provide for the election of two (2) School Committee members to serve on the Board for a one-year term.

**Mrs. Joyce nominated Messrs. Donegan and Healy to serve in 2013. On the nomination, the vote was taken.**

Voted: to elect Messrs. Donegan and Healy to serve on the Community School Advisory Board, unanimously.

*Mr. Sullivan, Ward 7 School Committee Representative was present via teleconference. He would like the record to show the following: "If I were present, my vote would be in the affirmative."*

**Approval of Rules  
and Orders of SC**

The Rules and Orders of the School Committee are subject to annual ratification. **Mrs. Joyce moved to adopt the Rules and Orders for 2013.**

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously.

*Mr. Sullivan, Ward 7 School Committee Representative was present via teleconference. He would like the record to show the following: "If I were present, my vote would be in the affirmative."*

**Appointment of  
2013 Subcommittees**

Mayor Balzotti included, in this evening's agenda booklet, a copy of the 2013 School Committee Subcommittee Assignments. Mayor Balzotti stated that the committees will remain the same as last year.

**Mr. Minichiello moved to accept notification of the 2013 Subcommittee Assignments.**

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously.

*Mr. Sullivan, Ward 7 School Committee Representative was present via teleconference. He would like the record to show the following: "If I were present, my vote would be in the affirmative."*

**Consent Agenda**

Mayor Balzotti reviewed the purpose of the Consent Agenda, and asked if there were any items School Committee members wished to remove from the agenda. Mr. Minichiello asked to remove **Item E, Enclosure #11, Notification of Personnel Actions.**

**Mrs. Joyce moved to approve the Superintendent's recommendation on the following remaining items on the Consent Agenda:**

- Approval of Regular School Committee Meeting Minutes of Dec. 4, 2012
- Acceptance of CSAB Minutes of October 10, 2012
- Acceptance of Minutes of Curriculum Subcommittee Mtg., Dec. 11, 2012
- Acceptance of Personnel Appointments: Certified; Non-Certified
- Acceptance of Report of Attendance Supervisor – November, 2012

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously.

*Mr. Sullivan, Ward 7 School Committee Representative, was present via teleconference. He would like the record to show the following: "If I were present, my vote would be in the affirmative."*

Mr. Carpenter removed himself from the vote to approve **Item E, Notification of Personnel Actions**. **Mr. Minichiello then moved to accept the Notification of Personnel Actions.**

Voted: to approve the motion, 4–0-1 (Mr. Carpenter)

*Mr. Sullivan, Ward 7 School Committee Representative, was present via teleconference. He would like the record to show the following: “If I were present, my vote would be in the affirmative.”*

## **Learning & Teaching**

Dr. Malone began his remarks by taking a moment to recognize all of the work that is done “in the field”. He said that his new appointment as Incoming Secretary of Education is recognition of the hard work that is done here in Brockton, and he thanked the city for the opportunity to serve. He stated that Brockton has been a place of tremendous care and compassion from the adults in our system toward the children we serve; Brockton is a model of success. Dr. Malone said that as he says goodbye, he looks forward to advocating for Brockton from a different view, and thanked everyone for the welcome he received in Brockton.

### **Revision of Brockton’s Wellness Policy**

Dr. Malone informed the Committee that the Healthy Hunger-Free Act of 2010 requires that systems revisit and revise their health and wellness policy. As part of that requirement, a school committee member must be part of the revision committee. Dr. Malone asked the Committee to consider this, and to select a member to serve on this and notify his office.

Dr. Malone invited Sharon Wolder, Associate Principal of Brockton High School, to give a presentation on the BHS Accreditation surveys that will take place over the next few months.

Mrs. Joyce thanked Dr. Malone for his commitment and compassion to Brockton, and said that she looks forward to working with him at the state level.

### **BHS Accreditation Survey**

Ms. Wolder began by stating that Brockton High will start the year off with parent, staff, and student surveys that are required as part of the two-year NEASC accreditation process. Catherine Leger, Tracy Ciullo-Monteiro, Daniel Corbett and Nicole McLaren are the chair people who will lead Brockton High School through the entire process. There are required levels of participation from each group that must be met; Ms. Wolder and Mrs. Leger wanted to share with the Committee and the community how this task will be completed. She appealed to the Brockton High parent community to complete the survey; the more responses they receive, the better the data will be. Ms. Wolder also invited parents and community to be a part of the standards committee; they should contact the school if they are interested. Ms. Wolder and Mrs. Leger responded to questions from the Committee. Mr. Donegan, who is the School Committee representative for this process, again stated that responses from parents are an important part of this survey.

## New Business

Mr. Minichiello said that, due to the unique situation that has been created by Dr. Malone's appointment by the Governor as incoming Secretary of Education, and the need for Dr. Malone to start in that position on January 14<sup>th</sup>, the Committee needed to take action regarding the provision in Dr. Malone's contract for a 120-day notice.

**Mr. Minichiello moved that the Brockton School Committee waive the 120-day notice period that appears in Article 14 of Dr. Malone's 2009 contract as Superintendent of Schools and grant Dr. Malone's request that his employment as Superintendent of the Brockton Public Schools end on January 13, 2013, and that the School Committee execute an amendment to the separation agreement memorializing this change.**

Voted: to adopt Mr. Minichiello's recommendation, unanimously.

*Mr. Sullivan, Ward 7 School Committee Representative, was present via teleconference. He would like the record to show the following: "If I were present, my vote would be in the affirmative."*

Mr. Minichiello then stated that another *very important housekeeping item* was necessary to ensure a smooth transition with respect to leadership of the Brockton Public Schools. He said that a person that has shown this community a great deal of leadership, trust, and confidence is Deputy Superintendent John Jerome.

**Mr. Minichiello then moved that the School Committee appoint Mr. John Jerome as Interim Superintendent of Schools effective upon Dr. Malone's departure date, January 13, 2013, and subject to an agreement by the parties on terms of a contract.**

Mrs. Joyce wanted to clarify that the School Committee is asking Mr. Jerome to serve as Interim Superintendent while continuing his role as Deputy Superintendent; she expressed her concern that if Mr. Jerome were away from the office there would be neither Superintendent nor Deputy Superintendent available. Mr. Minichiello responded that the immediate need is to have an Interim Superintendent in place; he suggested that discussion could then be held with Mr. Jerome, if he is appointed, as to the logical choice in terms of leadership. Mrs. Joyce stated that she would not feel comfortable appointing a person to the position of *interim superintendent* if that person would be inclined to apply for the position of *superintendent*. Mr. Jerome stated that he has no intention of applying for the position; Mrs. Joyce thanked Mr. Jerome for the clarification.

Mr. Carpenter stated that if Mr. Jerome is appointed and accepts, the January 15<sup>th</sup> Regular School Committee meeting would be an appropriate time to invite Mr. Jerome to share his thoughts as to what course to chart regarding the Deputy Superintendent's position. Mr. Carpenter then acknowledged his support for Mr. Jerome's appointment; he said he believes that he is an "ideal" Interim Superintendent, and that he has great confidence in him.

Voted: to appoint Mr. John Jerome as the Interim Superintendent of Schools, unanimously.

*Mr. Sullivan, Ward 7 School Committee Representative, was present via teleconference. He would like the record to show the following: "If I were present, my vote would be in the affirmative."*

Mr. Jerome accepted the appointment. Mayor Balzotti also gave her full support for Mr. Jerome, she said that parents can be sure that their children will be in good hands, she has the utmost confidence that he will lead the school system well; we can be assured there will be stability in the system.

Mayor Balzotti then took the opportunity to congratulate Dr. Malone on his appointment and to wish him well. She thanked him for his service to the city.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew H. Malone, Ph. D.  
Secretary

/wka

\*The meeting was transmitted via telephone to Mr. Sullivan according to MGL Ch. 30A, Section 20 for listening purposes only; Mr. Sullivan understood that in his absence remote participation had not been authorized and he was not permitted to vote.

***NOTE:*** *At the March 19, 2013 Regular School Committee meeting, the motion to approve the Rules and Orders of the School Committee was amended to permanently delete the Board-Superintendent Communication Protocols and the Board-Superintendent Governance Protocols that were adopted in 2009, from the Rules and Orders of the Brockton School Committee.*