

The Regular Meeting of the Brockton School Committee was held this evening in the George M. Romm Theater at Brockton High School.

Present: Mr. Minichiello, Vice-Chair; Mr. Robinson, Mr. Donegan, Mrs. Joyce, Mr. Carpenter, Mr. Healy, Mr. Sullivan, Mrs. Smith, Secretary; Ms. Freeborn, Student Rep

Absent: Mayor Balzotti, Chair

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

Mr. Minichiello called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by a salute to the flag.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Minichiello explained the purpose of the Consent Agenda, and asked if any School Committee members wished to remove any items from it. Item E, Donation by Costco Wholesale of Avon, MA, was removed for discussion.

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

- *Minutes of October 15, 2013 Regular SC Meeting*
- *October 8, 2013 Curriculum Subcommittee Report*
- *October 3, 2013 Accounts Review Subcommittee Report*
- *Report of Bid Review Subcommittee Meeting – Oct. 30, 2013*
- *Notification of Personnel Appointments: Certified, Non-certified*
- *Notification of Personnel Action: Leaves of Absence; Resignations and Retirements*

Voted: to approve the Superintendent's recommendation, unanimous.

Enclosure E, Costco Wholesale Donation of Backpacks. The Superintendent acknowledged the donation of backpacks from Mr. Mark Ofstein and Costco Wholesale, and thanked them on behalf of the Brockton Public Schools and the Brockton School Committee.

Mrs. Joyce moved to accept the donation of backpacks from Costco.

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

BHS Boston Red Sox-Science Contest

Mr. Minichiello invited Mr. Healy to explain the contest. Mr. Healy said the contest required students to answer two science-related questions about the periodic table, with the prize being a Dustin Pedroia signed baseball bat, in recognition of the Boston Red Sox World Series win at Fenway Park for the first time in 95 years. Mr. Healy was pleasantly surprised that there were 67 students who answered correctly. One winner, Nicholas Lopes, was randomly chosen from that group to receive the bat, the remaining students received Red Sox licensed gifts. Mr. Healy presented the bat to Nicholas and then a group picture with all student winners was taken.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent invited Jessica Freeborn to give an update about Brockton High School. Ms. Freeborn gave a report on activities at BHS, which included the following: "Halloween Hallways" family event, ongoing college fair representatives from various colleges visiting BHS, MCAS after-school help for students has begun, and the annual Veteran's Day Assembly will be held Friday, November 8th.

DESE Report on the District Review

Mr. John Roper, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, prepared a presentation for the School Committee about the District Review process.

Mr. Roper summarized the Review, stating that the group will look at six areas in the district and review documents, publications, observe classrooms and conduct interviews of administrators, parents, school committee members, members of the BEA, and BHS students. This will be done from November 18 through November 21, 2013. A draft report will be given to the Superintendent with their findings, and then a final report will be published, which could take up to three months. The DESE will make recommendations, but Brockton is not obligated to take any action.

Mr. Roper responded to questions from the School Committee, including who would be a part of the team that will conduct the review, the timing of the interviews, how this review might dovetail with the NEASC Accreditation that is ongoing at Brockton High. Mrs. Joyce asked for more information about the individuals who will be part of the team that reviews Brockton, the Superintendent said that she had this information and would provide it to the Committee. Mrs. Joyce was concerned that, with the review only two weeks away, the Committee had not yet been contacted to schedule an interview. She asked whether the appointments would be conducted after working hours for those who are not available during the day, Mr. Roper responded that they will try to be flexible and will accommodate anyone who wishes to be interviewed.

The Superintendent addressed Mrs. Joyce's concerns and stated that the calendar of interviews, site visits and classroom observations was recently completed and letters are in the process of being sent out.

Mrs. Joyce asked whether the DESE would use the results of the report at the State level, Mr. Roper replied that the report will only be used at that level to provide assistance to Brockton, should the district request it. Brockton is not required to take any action as a result of this review.

EdEval Update

The Superintendent updated the Committee about Educator Evaluation and said that she will provide more information to the School Committee in the Friday packet. She announced her goal to have 100% of staff evaluated this year and stated that she would like to have an accelerated plan, at this point teachers are preparing their goals and administrators have visited other districts that are in the process. She stated that she is looking forward to training school committee members, who will use the EdEval tool to evaluate her. She referred to EdEval as a culture, stating that it should be an ongoing process and not an end evaluation.

Trauma Sensitive Schools

Dr. Terrasi, Executive Director of Pupil Personnel, began by presenting a brief history of the efforts Brockton has made with regard to staff training and developing trauma sensitive schools. He stated that Brockton has developed a relationship with Lesley University, and has been instrumental in assisting Lesley with the development of two courses, a third course is currently being developed and will culminate in a certificate. Over 200 teachers in Brockton have completed one or both of the courses and received instruction on how to recognize different types of trauma, how it manifests itself in the classroom, and how to deal with it in the classroom. Because the Trauma and Learning Policy Initiative recognizes that Brockton has been a leader across the state in this initiative, they have asked Brockton to host an event on November 14th at the Baker School, at which time they will release their second book and website.

Mr. Donegan suggested that representatives from the CPCS be invited and offered to reach out to them; Dr. Terrasi thanked Mr. Donegan.

Mr. Robinson stated that he had attended an all-day event last year at the Baker School and believes that every school in the country should receive this type of training. He also thought that this partnered well with Brockton's PBIS (positive behavior intervention system). Mrs. Joyce agreed that the ultimate goal would be that all Brockton schools would become "Safe and Supportive Schools."

Items to Refer to Subcommittee

Mr. Carpenter requested a Facilities meeting to discuss the issue of the hiring of an AC/Refrigeration Repair person, which was tabled at the October 29th Finance Subcommittee meeting. He would like to have Mr. Thomas and Mr. Petronio present to answer questions from School Committee members.

Mr. Healy would like to have a Building Naming subcommittee meeting. Mr. Carpenter agreed to schedule this as well.

New Business

October 29, 2103 Finance Subcommittee Meeting Report

Mr. Minichiello gave the report of the Finance Subcommittee meeting held on October 29, 2013. At the meeting, the Committee voted to recommend the proposed Brockton Public Schools Organization Chart for adoption at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Donegan moved to accept the report of the October 29, 2013 Finance Subcommittee meeting. The motion was seconded.

Voted: to approve the motion unanimous.

Mr. Robinson moved to adopt the proposed Brockton Public Schools Organization Chart as presented, the motion was seconded.

Voted: To approve the motion, unanimous.

Mr. Minichiello wanted to acknowledge the Technology Conference that was held on Saturday, November 2, at which over 200 BPS staff attended, on a volunteer basis, to

receive training from vendors and in-house staff on various uses of technology. He thanked Katy Buckley, Dan Vigeant, and the entire I.T. staff for a wonderful event.

Mr. Minichiello welcomed newly elected School Committee representatives Raymond Henningson, Jr. and Allisha Clark, who were in attendance. He also welcomed Ms. Judy Sullivan. He congratulated the new Mayor Elect, School Committee Ward 5 Representative Bill Carpenter.

Mr. Minichiello stated that the current Mayor has done a superb job and has always been a strong supporter of the schools, and has been a great champion of Brockton.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Smith, JD
Secretary/Superintendent
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