

The Regular Meeting of the Brockton School Committee was held this evening in the Theatre of the Dr. William H. Arnone School at seven-thirty o'clock.

Present: Mayor Balzotti, Chair; Mr. Minichiello, Vice-Chair; Mr. Bath; Mrs. Beyer; Mrs. Joyce; Mr. Carpenter; Mr. Daley; Mr. Sullivan; Dr. Malone, Secretary

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

Mayor Balzotti called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

Hearing of Visitors

Mr. Bill McGauley spoke on the upcoming Casino Night on June 18th, and thanked the Mayor, School Committee and Dr. Szachowicz for their support regarding the *Champions for Breakfast* event. Mr. McGauley also read a quote from a recent Enterprise article praising Brockton High School.

Tricia Gross and Shawnya Thomas addressed the School Committee on the Superintendent's recent announcement regarding the closing of the Raymond School in FY2011.

Lisa Foos addressed the School Committee on the closing of the Plouffe and Brockton High School libraries in FY2011.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Balzotti reviewed the Consent Agenda process, and asked if the School Committee wished to remove any item(s) from the agenda.

Mr. Sullivan requested to remove **Enclosure #1A**, Approval of the Regular SC Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2010, and Mrs. Joyce requested to remove **Enclosure #'s 4 and 5**, regarding submission of proposals Investing in Innovation (I3) Funding, both the Development and Validation RFP's.

Mr. Daley then moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following remaining items listed in the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Committee on March 16, 2010
- Submission of *Diploma Plus Mini Grant for Data RFP* and the expenditure of funds
- Submission of *Financial Assistance Programs for Priority Populations: Supportive, Teen Parent and Homeless RFP* and the expenditure of funds
- Acceptance of donation from *Schools on Wheels* to the Champion High School
- George School Water Activity Field Trip, on May 25, 2010
- Hancock School Grade 4 Out-of-State Trip on June 11, 2010
- Hancock School Grade 5 Out-of-State Trip on June 14, 2010
- Arnone School Grade 5 Out-of-State Trip on June 17, 2010
- Participation in Research Project: *Center for Education Policy Research*, Harvard University (a five-year study)
- Policy Subcommittee Reports of April 13 and 26, 2010
- Revised BPS SC Policy JICJ, Student Use of Cellphones (and Electronic Devices)
- BPS, SC Classroom Observation Policy and Classroom Observation Procedures
- The adoption of a recommendation to the School Committee by the Superintendent and Vice-Chair of the SC on the BPS, SC Policy JICA, Student Dress Code
- Revised BPS, SC Policy KHB, Advertising in the Schools/Flyer Distribution
- Finance Subcommittee Report of April 13, 2010
- Curriculum Subcommittee Report of April 26, 2010
- The formation of a task force to review an early graduation policy
- The Huntington School to continue its Redesign Plan work and bring an updated report to the SC for action as its regular meeting on May 18, 2010, that will include a cost analysis on expanded time
- Finance Subcommittee Reports of April 27 and 28, 2010

- Notification of Personnel Action (Leave of Absence; Resignations; Change in Retirement Date)

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mr. Sullivan inquired as to the accuracy of the of the motion made by Mr. Daley on Page 12 of the April 13, 2010 Regular SC Meeting Minutes, under New Business, which reads:

“(Mr. Daley moved) to combine all early childhood education and move it to the Gilmore Academy facility, and to keep the Huntington School open...” Mr. Sullivan’s specific inquiry is the validity of the , *“...keep the Huntington School open...”* wording of the motion.

At this time, Mayor Balzotti called upon School Committeeman Daley and Mrs. Barbara Souza, stenographer, to verify the abovementioned motion. Both Mr. Daley and Mrs. Souza verified that the motion is correct.

Mr. Daley then made the motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the School Committee on April 13, 2010.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mrs. Joyce then requested that Dr. Malone read **Enclosure #'s 4 and 5**, regarding the Investing in Innovation (I3) Funding, both the Development and Validation RFP's.

Dr. Malone read **Enclosure #4**, *Authorization to apply for and expend funds from the U. S. Department of Education’s Investing in Innovation (I3) Fund-Development Grant*.

Shailah Stewart, Partnership Coordinator, responded to questions asked by Mrs. Joyce and Mr. Daley regarding the enclosure. Mr. Daley then moved to approve the application for the abovementioned RFP and the expenditure of funds.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Dr. Malone then read **Enclosure #5**, *Authorization to apply for and expend funds from the U. S. Investing in Innovation (I3) Fund-Validation Grant*.

Ms. Stewart answered a question asked by Mrs. Joyce, saying that the grant would increase the rigor of the high school curriculum. Mr. Daley then made the motion to approve the application for the abovementioned RFP and the expenditure of funds.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Learning & Teaching

Superintendent Malone discussed the following ongoing activities in Learning and Teaching this evening:

Apangea March Madness

Mr. Joseph Cesar and his fifth period bilingual geometry class are the Apangea March Math Madness Champions! Dr. Malone introduced the teacher and his students, highlighting the students’ efforts and giving special recognition to the Emmanuel sisters, Wecjeanie and Wecjad, for successfully completing the most math threads and math problems in a month.

Haitian Student Enrollment

Superintendent Malone updated the School Committee on the enrollment of Haitian students effective May 3rd which totals 128.

MSBA Update

The City Council, Dr. Malone said, approved a resolution on April 26th to support a Statement of Interest (SOI) to the MSBA to file for \$40 million of school projects that include new roofs, boilers, and energy saving projects for schools. The resolution will be submitted to the MSBA and an update will be given regarding the timeline for future projects.

MCAS Update

Dr. Malone reviewed for the School Committee the schedule of testing dates in ELA, Math and STE (biology, chemistry, physics, technology/engineering)

2010 Administrative Interns

Superintendent Malone introduced the six 2010 Administrative Interns, congratulated them, and wished them well in their assignments: Robert Howard, Peter Colombo, Ines Enos, Soraya DeBarros, Natalie Pohl and Nicole McLaren.

RtI Presentation

Dr. Malone introduced Virginia Lynch, Executive Director for Teaching & Learning, PreK-5, and Jami Milnamow, Kennedy School (ISEI) teacher, to give the PowerPoint/video presentation on *Response to Intervention*, which Mrs. Lynch described as a process of instruction – a multi-tiered approach to help struggling learners. Mrs. Lynch explained RtI, why we need it, and what the program does for students. As part of the presentation, Ms. Milnamow showed a video clip of her classroom, using the RtI model.

Following the report, a lengthy discussion took place regarding the implementation and rolling out of RtI, and a focus, brought about by Mr. Minichiello, on whether or not this program or any others changed student achievement results— Grade 3 results, in particular. Both Dr. Malone and Mrs. Lynch praised the elementary teachers for their good work and expressed their confidence in RtI. Dr. Malone suggested that the School Committee look at the results next year.

Mr. Minichiello then spoke on the availability of tutors for students from low or moderate income families, and asked how tutors used by the Brockton Schools are paid. Dr. Malone said that he would send the School Committee information on this matter in the next Informational Bulletin.

Unfinished Business
FY2011 Budget

Dr. Malone called upon Aldo Petronio, Executive Director of Financial Services, for an update on the FY 2011 Budget. Dr. Malone explained level funding to the School Committee and discussed increased student enrollment.

Following the report, Mr. Minichiello made the motion to draft a citywide petition/letter that would model previous correspondence sent to Governor Patrick and state legislators outlining funding inequities, and send it to the Governor and state legislators, once again.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

New Business

Mr. Sullivan directed a statement to Dr. Malone that a decision was made without the School Committee to close the Raymond School. Dr. Malone responded that he did not want the school to hear about it from anyone other than himself. He said that he does not want to close the Raymond, but these are hard times.

Mr. Sullivan said that there are 900 students at the Raymond School, and asked how they would be redistributed. Dr. Malone responded.

Mr. Sullivan said that the Raymond School is family, and he does not want to see the building closed. He asked Dr. Malone not to close the school, and to look around, deeply, to find the cuts elsewhere.

Dr. Malone said that he understood, but that the fat had been trimmed. We are now looking at instruction and salaries, he said.

Mr. Sullivan asked Dr. Malone how long Dr. Malone had known he would close the Raymond School, and Dr. Malone said that he had known since last Tuesday; for one week— after the Finance Subcommittee meeting on April 28th. The administration, he said, came up with a plan to present to the School Committee on Wednesday.

Mr. Sullivan then made the motion to reconsider the vote taken on April 13, 2010 (*to combine all early childhood education and move it to the Gilmore Academy facility and keep the Huntington School open*), and send it back to the Facilities Usage & Planning Subcommittee.

Mayor Balzotti called upon Mr. Daley who informed Mr. Sullivan that too much time had elapsed since the vote was taken.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew H. Malone, Ph. D.
Secretary

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