

The Regular Meeting of the Brockton School Committee was held on Tuesday, July 21, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. in the George M. Romm Little Theatre at Brockton High School.

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

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

Mayor Harrington called the meeting to order at seven thirty o'clock followed by a salute to the flag.

**Hearing of  
Visitors**

Mr. Gerald Maloney, resident, addressed the Committee on the following: Superintendent-Elect's contract, Deputy Superintendent, interim position, etc. Mayor Harrington stated that an update on the Superintendent-Elect's transition is on this evening's agenda.

**Recognition  
Jean Herbert**

At this time, Mayor Harrington acknowledged Jean Herbert, confidential administrative assistant to the Superintendent. He read the Citation which he presented to her for forty-five years of dedicated service to the Brockton Public Schools. Superintendent Nembirkow also thanked Jean for her professionalism and assistance to him over the last five years. Mr. Bath invited all present to Owen O'Leary's after the meeting in honor of Jean.

**Approval of  
Records**

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Public Hearing on the FY2010 School Department Budget of June 2 and the Regular School Committee Meeting Minutes of June 2, 2009, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Superintendent  
Nembirkow**

Superintendent Nembirkow acknowledged and welcomed Superintendent-Elect Matthew Malone who was present in the audience. Superintendent Nembirkow stated that this would be his last School Committee meeting. He distributed and proceeded to read a copy of a letter he wrote on his up-coming retirement. He stated that he has enjoyed his time here in Brockton. His number one goal was to improve student achievement and to leave Brockton a better place. Having worked all over the country, he stated that this is the best administrative staff he has ever worked with, and Brockton's innovative style and creative approach to instruction have made it a leader among urban districts in the state and the nation. He wished everyone the best in all their future endeavors.

**Chief  
Supervisor  
of Attendance**

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the Report of the Chief Supervisor of Attendance for the month of June, 2009, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Homeless Proposal Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of an FY2010 McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Continuation proposal in the amount of \$50,000, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. The purpose is to ensure homeless students have the opportunity to succeed in school. The grant provides extra tutoring, school supplies, clothing, before and after school program access, and summer school and camp tuitions. Ms. Karen McCarthy, Title I Coordinator, was present to answer questions.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Homeless ARRA Proposal Mr. Dobrowski moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize the submission of a McKinney-Vento Homeless Education ARRA (stimulus) proposal for FY2010 to the MA DESE, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. The proposal would be in the amount of \$40,000. The proposal provides extra services and will also fund a liaison to facilitate communication between schools and shelters. Ms. Karen McCarthy, Title I Coordinator, was present to answer questions.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Workplace Proposal Mr. Foley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of a MA DESE proposal for a Workplace Education Planning Grant for the Adult Learning Center, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. The proposal is in the amount of \$2,966, and it is in partnership with St. Joseph Manor Health Care Incorporated.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

After-School and Out-of-School Time Proposal Mr. Daley moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of an After-School and Out-of-School Time Quality Grant proposal to the MA DESE in the amount of \$55,172, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. The purpose of the proposal is to coordinate funding with other existing after-school programs in Brockton to expand service availability. Approximately 250 students will be serviced. Youth with disabilities and/or English language learners are targeted participants for this proposal. The following schools will be recipients of these services: Angelo, Downey, Brookfield, Arnone, North, East, South, Ashfield and Brockton High School. Ms. Laurie Silva, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Coordinator, was present to answer questions.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

21<sup>st</sup> Century CCLC Proposal Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) Continuation Grant proposal for FY2010 to the MA DESE in the amount of \$571,000, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. The purpose is to continue to support community learning centers that operate during after school hours and provide students with academic enrichment opportunities to complement students' regular academic programs. The following schools will be recipients of this service: Kennedy, Russell, Baker, East, West and South. Youth who are struggling with academics/achieving proficiency in MCAS are targeted for enrollment. Approximately 550 youth will receive services. Ms. Laurie Silva, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Coordinator, was present to answer questions.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Donation

Mrs. Joyce moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the Sandhogs Fight Autism Foundation donation of \$700 to the Howard School to be used at their discretion. Mr. Hoip Swaby, founder of the foundation, is a parent of a Howard School student.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Update on  
Supt.-Elect  
Malone's  
Transition

Superintendent Nembirkow recommended that Mr. John Jerome be named Acting Deputy Superintendent for the Brockton Public Schools. Mrs. Beyer moved the recommendation. After a lengthy discussion, Mayor Harrington asked Superintendent-Elect Malone to comment. He stated that the Swampscott School Committee has appointed his Assistant Superintendent to be the Interim Superintendent of Schools. Tentatively he should be able to start in Brockton the last week in August. He stated it is essential that the School Committee appoint an Acting Deputy Superintendent; someone needs to be in charge during the transition. The duties of the Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, 6-8, would be combined with the Deputy Superintendent's duties, and it would be a cost savings. He supports the recommendation and stated that they need to sustain the work that has begun. A recommendation on when to reorganize will be made in the fall or in the winter. He stated that he will be here as much as he can be. They will be discussing communication, strategic goals and norms at the School Committee Retreat on August 20, and that will be the first part in defining their working relationship. The vote was then taken on the recommendation.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

MASC Delegates

A delegate and alternate should be elected by the School Committee to be its representative(s) at the November 18, 2009, Annual Business Meeting of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees in Hyannis, MA. (Past practice, the Vice-Chair serves as the delegate and appoints an alternate.) Mrs. Beyer moved to follow past practice.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mr. Bath, Vice-Chair, will be the delegate and will appoint an alternate. Mr. Dobrowski reminded members to call the Superintendent's office to register for the annual meeting.

Personnel  
Appointments

Mr. Daley moved to accept the Superintendent's notification of the personnel appointments listed on Enclosure #11.

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

Personnel  
Action

Mr. Dobrowski moved to accept the Superintendent's notification of the following personnel action:

1. Leaves of Absence

Hilary Filkins – BHS (8 wk. Maternity – Eff. 11/20/09)

Sarah Fischer – Baker (8 wk. Maternity – Eff. 9/14/09)

Stacey Hubble – Huntington (12 wk. Maternity – Eff. 10/22/09)

Anna Kirsch – Plouffe (12 wk. Maternity – Eff. 11/12/09)

Salome Oliveira – West Middle (8 wk. Maternity – Eff. 9/10/09)

Melissa Vergne – Davis (8 wk. Maternity – Eff. 10/21/09)

2. Retirement

Michael Smith – Central (Eff. 7/15/09)

3. Resignations

Vivian Benjamin – West Middle (Eff. 6/24/09)

Katherine Devin – BHS (Eff. 6/24/09)

Lauren Downey – BHS (Eff. 6/24/09)

David Hickok – BHS (Eff. 6/30/09)

Merrill Marshall – Davis (Eff. 6/24/09)

Irene McNulty – BHS (Eff. 6/24/09)

Nancy Peterson – West Middle (Eff. 6/24/09)

Joseph Pierre – BHS (Eff. 6/24/09)

Arley Skoglund – East Middle (Eff. 6/25/09)

John Stelmack – BHS (Eff. 6/30/09)

Loren Stott – Angelo (Eff. 6/24/09)

Change of Retirement Dates

Denise Lipper – Plouffe (from 10/1/09 to 7/2/09)

James Tsika – BHS (from 6/30/10 to 10/9/09)

Willie Wilson – BHS (from 6/30/10 to 8/6/10)

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

Curriculum  
Subcommittee  
Report

Mr. Bath, chair, proceeded to read the Report of the Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting of June 16, 2009, which dealt with the Elementary Standards-Based Report Card. The new cards will be implemented in the fall of 2009. Mr. Dobrowski moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Transportation  
Subcommittee  
Report

Mr. Dobrowski moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report of the Transportation Subcommittee Meeting of July 15, 2009, which dealt with transportation options for the 2009-2010 school year. Options were discussed as well as the finances to support them. Members asked that the use of SPED vans be reexamined with an eye to replacing fourteen of them with school buses to pick up more students. Members would like the following: to keep the same walkout zones for the schools, transport the same number of students at all levels as they did this past year, and a draft plan prepared and ready for the first week in August.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Accounts  
Review

Mrs. Beyer, chair, stated that the Accounts Review Subcommittee met on Tuesday, July 21, 2009, to review the accounts for the period of May 27, 2009, through July 15, 2009. Mr. Foley moved to accept the report as presented.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Bid  
Review

Mr. Minichiello, chair, stated that the Bid Review Subcommittee met on Tuesday, July 21, 2009, to discuss the FY2010 schools bids and to make recommendations in the best interest of the Brockton Public Schools. Mr. Foley moved to accept the report as presented.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mrs. Beyer moved to award the FY2010 school bids to the vendors recommended. The bids for FY2010 were as follows: Art paper supplies, Printing paper supplies, BHS Technology Education supplies, JHS/Middle School Technology Education supplies, and Athletic supplies.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

New Business

Mr. Dobrowski stated that it has been a pleasure working with Superintendent Nembirkow for the last five years. He mentioned his innovative ideas, how he listened, his open door policy, his leaving Brockton a better place, as well as his attending soccer games and a few football games. In closing, he thanked him for all the work he did in helping the students in the city of Brockton.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Basan Nembirkow  
Secretary

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