

Present: Mr. Daley, Vice-Chair; Mr. Belcher, Mrs. Beyer; Mr. Dobrowski;
Mr. Foley; Mr. Hancock; Mrs. Joyce; Mr. Nembirkow, Secretary

Absent: Mayor Harrington, Chair

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

Vice-Chair Daley called the meeting to order at seven-thirty o'clock followed by a salute to the flag.

Approval of Records

Mrs. Beyer moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the School Committee Meeting Minutes of June 19, 2007, as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Facilities Update

Superintendent Nembirkow indicated that the Facilities Department, under the direction of George Bezreh, Jr., has been working all summer long in readying the schools for opening day. Mr. Hayden, Executive Director, has been overseeing the project since the retirement of Mr. Kimball. All schools are ready to open. Many floors have been done as well as painting, etc. He stated that he met with the Mayor in regard to the DPW sweeping the school parking areas. A Facilities Report will be sent out Friday on all projects. The only major issue is the boiler at North Jr. High School, and they are in the process of getting estimates. A Facilities Subcommittee Meeting will be scheduled on September 17, 2007, to discuss outside areas, responsibilities, projects, etc.

International Baccalaureate Program

Superintendent Nembirkow stated that an International Baccalaureate Program will be starting this fall at the Gilmore Academy and BHS. Mr. John Jerome, Executive Director, was present to introduce Mrs. Terry Starr-Klein, Principal, and Mr. David Brewster, Coordinator of the IB Program. Mrs. Starr-Klein stated that this is the first school in Massachusetts to have the program. They are presently considered a Candidate School and their goal is to complete the authorization process by December, 2008. She stated that David Brewster, a sixth and seventh grade English and Humanities teacher in the TAG Program, will highlight a powerpoint presentation. Mr. Brewster stated that BHS is now authorized to offer the Diploma Program in grades 11 and 12. BHS along with the Gilmore Academy is preparing an application for the middle years program for students in grades 6 through 10. The International Baccalaureate Program requires students to follow a specific curriculum in eight subject areas (English, World Language, Physical Education, Arts, Science, Math, Technology, Humanities) with a special emphasis on interdisciplinary study and understanding of world cultures. School Committee members requested a copy of the presentation as well as The Boston Globe article on IB Programs. After a lengthy discussion and several questions, Mr. Hancock moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report as presented.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

**Appointment of
SD Rep to CSAB**

In compliance with the Bylaws of the Community School Advisory Board, the Superintendent appointed Mrs. Karen Watkins-Watts as the School Department representative to the Community School Advisory Board. The term will be for two years, for school years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009. Mrs. Joyce moved to accept the Superintendent's notification.

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

**Community
Service-Learning
Sustainability**

Mr. John Jerome, Executive Director, was present to introduce West JHS Acting Principal Darcy Fernandes who introduced Mr. Jay Miller, Director of the Boys' and Girls' Club in Brockton; Ms. Regina O'Connor, Grade 7 West JHS Social Studies teacher; and Julie Berrisford, Grade 7 West JHS Social Studies teacher. She stated that Community Service Learning involves students in servicing the community and at the same time aligns with the curriculum frameworks. Two projects were started at West JHS and East JHS classrooms and another after-school program, which connected to math and English, took place at the Boys' and Girls' Club. Ms. O'Connor and Ms. Berrisford highlighted the West and East JHS programs. Mr. Miller highlighted the Boys' and Girls' Program. Mr. Hancock moved to adopt the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of a proposal to the Massachusetts Department of Education in response to the FY2008 Community Service-Learning Sustainability School-Based Grant RFP, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. Funding sought would be in the amount of \$7,000. The district must demonstrate a 125% cost match (in-kind and cash). School Committee members requested copies of the programs. Superintendent Nembirkow indicated that he will send them out in the next Informational Bulletin.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Community
Service Learning
Partnership
Proposal**

Mr. Hancock moved to adopt the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of a proposal to the Massachusetts Department of Education in response to the FY2008 Community Service-Learning Partnership Grant RFP, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. Funding sought would be in the amount of \$15,000. A minimum of 20% of the award must be shared with a community partner(s). The district must demonstrate a required 125% cost match (in-kind and cash) to which community partners may contribute.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Alternative
Education
Proposal**

Mrs. Beyer moved to adopt the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of a proposal to the Massachusetts Department of Education in response to the FY2008 Alternative Education Program for Suspended and Expelled Students and Other At-Risk Students – Competitive Grant RFP, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. Funding sought would be in the amount of \$75,000 to establish a new Alternative Education Program at West Jr. High School.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**School Redesign
Preliminary Plan**

Mr. Hancock moved to adopt the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of a Preliminary Plan to the Massachusetts Department of Education for Expanding Learning Time to Support Student Success. The plans are for districts to outline activities to use longer school days/years as part of their redesign strategy to raise student achievement. The plan will include the opening of two Expanded Learning Time Schools at the Gilmore Academy and the Huntington School in September, 2008. The identified schools are subject to change based on information ascertained during the planning process. Districts that develop approved final implementation plans will be eligible for state funding of \$1,300 per student to establish Expanded Learning Time Schools. Dr. Dukess indicated that the Final Plan is not due until December. School Committee members will be given an update at a future meeting.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Secondary School
Reading Proposal**

Mrs. Beyer moved to adopt the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of a proposal to the Massachusetts Department of Education in response to the FY2008 Secondary School Reading Implementation Grant RFP, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. The maximum continuation funding of \$8,000 per school for North, South, East and West Jr. High Schools, for a total of \$32,000 will be sought. The schools will implement "Intervention Programs for Struggling Readers."

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Competitive
Academic
Support Services**

Mr. Hancock moved to adopt the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of a proposal to the Massachusetts Department of Education in response to the FY2008 Competitive Academic Support Services *Work and Learning* – Summer Program RFP, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. Funding sought would be in the amount of \$30,000 to engage eligible high school students in *work and learning programs*, during the summer, connecting structured internships to targeted academic instruction.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**John Silber
Early Reading
Initiative**

Mr. Hancock moved the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of a Continuation Proposal to the Massachusetts Department of Education in response to the FY2008 John Silber Early Reading Initiative proposal for the Huntington School, K-3, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. Funding sought would be in the amount of \$97,014.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

**Reading First
Continuation
Proposal**

Mrs. Joyce moved to adopt the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize submission of a proposal to the Massachusetts Department of Education in response to the FY2008 Massachusetts Reading First Plan (MRFP) continuation grant proposal for the Davis and Downey Schools, and if successful, authorization to spend the funds. Funding sought would be the maximum eligible award for Brockton of up to \$324,889 for the Davis and Downey School Programs and \$38,775 for non-public schools (Trinity Catholic Academy) for a total of \$363,664.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Transfer of Funds

Mr. Hancock moved the Superintendent's recommendation to transfer funds in the amount of \$10,353 from the FY2007 School Department Personal Services account to the FY2007 Ordinary Maintenance account. The school system needed to contract with a third-party vendor, Americare Health Services, Inc. for school nurses for the SPED Summer Program.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Personnel Appointments

Mrs. Beyer moved to accept the Superintendent's notification of the personnel appointments listed on Enclosure #13.

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

Personnel Action

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

1. Leaves of Absence
Elizabeth Gunnison – Plouffe (1 yr. Maternity - Eff. 2007-2008 school year)
2. Resignations
Lindsey Asack – Hancock (Eff. 7/17/07)
Teri Desrosiers – Downey (Eff. 7/23/07)
Ann Gonzalez – BHS (Eff. 6/29/07)
Christopher Neely – West JHS (Eff. 7/11/07)
Andrew Podolski – Raymond (Eff. 7/2/07)
Katie Roberts – Charter (Eff. 6/28/07)
Stephanie Smith – BHS (Eff. 7/16/07)
Gary Werden – BHS (Eff. 7/6/07)
Christopher Brennan – East JHS Monitor Teacher Assistant (Eff. 6/18/07)
Melissa McCormick – Howard Monitor Teacher Assistant (Eff. 7/10/07)
3. Retirements
Paul Kerwin – Downey (Eff. 6/30/07)
Jane Harrington – Huntington Paraprofessional (Eff. 9/5/07)
Donna Wright – Keith (Eff. 9/10/07)
4. Change of Retirement Date
Michael MacCurtain – West JHS (From 6/30/08 to 11/30/07)

Voted: to accept notification, unanimously

Finance Subcommittee Report

Mr. Daley, chair, asked Mr. Foley to read the Finance Subcommittee Meeting Report of Wednesday, August 1, 2007. Mr. Hancock moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the report as presented.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mr. Hancock moved the Superintendent's recommendation to adjust several a la carte items as presented as of September 1, 2007, and to increase teacher meals by 50 cents as of September 1, 2007.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Mr. Dobrowski moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the proposed Fall 2007 fee schedule for the Brockton Community Schools Program and the fees for the Swim and Dive, the Community School Conservatory and the Enrichment and Recreation Programs without indirect costs.

Voted: to adopt recommendation, unanimously

Accounts Review

Mrs. Beyer, chair, proceeded to read the Accounts Review Subcommittee Meeting Report of August 21, 2007. The accounts reviewed were for the period of July 18 through August 15, 2007. Mr. Dobrowski moved to accept the report as presented. Mrs. Beyer indicated that Mr. Daley was not in attendance at the meeting as the report stated.

Voted: to accept motion, unanimously

Mrs. Beyer publicly acknowledged how supportive and cooperative Ms. Buckley of the Parent Information Center has been.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Basan Nembirkow
Secretary

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