

A Public Hearing on School Choice was held this evening in the George M. Romm Little Theatre at Brockton High School at seven o'clock.

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

Absent: Mayor Harrington

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

The Public Hearing on School Choice was called to order by Mr. Bath, Vice-Chair, at 7:09 p.m. Mr. Bath stated that Chapter 76, Section 12B of the General Law, as amended by the Education Reform Act of 1993 and subsequent legislation provides for a statewide School Choice Program. The law requires each School Committee in the state to admit students from other districts under the School Choice Program unless there is a vote to withdraw from the program by June 1st of each year.

He said that a vote will be taken on whether or not to participate in the School Choice Program. A vote to withdraw will be effective for the following year, only. In addition, the resolution to withdraw must contain the reasons for withdrawal and must be filed with the Commissioner of Education.

Hearing of Visitors

Mr. Timothy Sullivan, president of the Brockton Education Association, addressed the School Committee, encouraging them not to adopt School Choice in Brockton. Mr. Sullivan cited the Avon school system as an example of what negative aspects can occur by adopting School Choice. Mr. Sullivan asked that the School Committee not accept the Choice provision of the law.

There being no further speakers, Mr. Bath closed the Hearing of Visitors.

Superintendent Nembirkow briefly discussed some School Choice statistics regarding costs and the impact on the Brockton School System. He also stated that more information would be discussed during the Regular Meeting of the School Committee this evening.

Adjournment

The Public Hearing adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Basan Nembirkow
Secretary

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