

REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEW BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

PRESENT: MAYOR MITCHELL, MS. POLLOCK, DR. FINNERTY, MR. NOBREGA, DR. FLETCHER,
MR. LIVRAMENTO

ABSENT: ATTY. CLARK

IN ATTENDANCE: MR. SHEA, DR. LARKIN, MRS. DALY, DR. CARRIGO, MS. COSTA, MRS. BROWN,
MRS. DUNAWAY

Adam Vieira, Student Representative, was in attendance.

Voted unanimously, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Mr. Livramento, to receive and place on file the following minutes:

- October 18, 2010 – Executive Session Minutes
- November 8, 2010 – Executive Session Minutes
- January 3, 2011 – Regular Meeting Minutes
- January 10, 2011 – Executive Session Minutes
- April 11, 2011 – Executive Session Minutes
- December 12, 2011 – Executive Session Minutes
- March 12, 2012 – Regular Meeting Minutes
- March 22, 2012 - Facilities, Maintenance & School Building Sub-Committee Minutes
- March 26, 2012 – Executive Session Minutes
- April 3, 2012 – Executive Session Minutes
- April 9, 2012 – Executive Session Minutes
- May 9, 2012 – Special Meeting Minutes
- May 9, 2012 – Executive Session Minutes

Mrs. Brown informed the Committee that she is waiting for other areas of the budget to trim as there remains an \$880,000 gap.

Dr. Finnerty questioned the current guidelines on Rentals of Facilities and suggested that the Committee take a new look at the policy especially in the area of waivers of fees.

Voted unanimously, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Mr. Livramento, to receive and place on file the Financial Report.

At this time, a Communication from the New Bedford City Council was discussed by the Committee. The written communication requested that the Committee provide a written commitment stating that if the New Bedford City Council approves the allocation of an additional \$500,000 above Net School Spending for Fiscal Year 2013, the New Bedford School Department would use the additional funds to acquire new textbooks across the district. Such written commitment is requested before June 20, 2012.

Mayor Mitchell explained that the City Council cannot dictate how Net School Spending funds are allocated but expect some confidence in how the money is spent. The non-binding written resolution will serve to support that a textbook purchase will be a priority.

A motion was made by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to resolve that it will make the purchase of "text-books", including traditional paper textbooks and electronic analogs such as computer tablets and Prometheus Boards, with funds allocated by the City Council above net school spending, and will be an important spending priority for the school system in Fiscal Year 2013.

The roll call vote was as follows:

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Mayor Mitchell – Yes | Dr. Fletcher – Yes |
| Ms. Pollock – Yes | Atty. Clark – Absent |
| Mr. Nobrega – Yes | Dr. Finnerty - Yes |
| Mr. Livramento - Yes | |

6 – Yeas 0 – Nays 1 – Absent

Ms. Costa told the Committee that interviews for principal vacancies would be taking place within the next few weeks and recommendations would be forwarded to Mr. Shea.

Voted unanimously, on a motion by Mr. Livramento and seconded by Dr. Fletcher, to receive and place on file the Personnel Report.

The Superintendent's Report included the following:

- Mr. Shea informed the Committee that the district is in receipt of the Turnaround Plan acceptance letter and is ready to move forward.
- Supplemental Educational Services can be used for all students as NCLB is no longer in effect. Students will be able to stay at their current placement but will no longer receive transportation.

Several members commented that the district should make sure that the District Turnaround Plan filters down to the teachers and that there is better communication with the DESE.

Voted unanimously, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Dr. Fletcher, to receive and place on file the Superintendent's Report.

Several members gave reports to the Committee.

Student Representative gave his report regarding events taking place at New Bedford High School.

Marissa Perez-Dormitzer/Recycling Champions announced that Hathaway School was the June recycling winner. Winners receive a \$500 award.

Voted unanimously, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Ms. Pollock to approve the following requests for field/building usage:

- 1) District Atty. Samuel Sutter/Brian Rose, Community Affairs Program Manager/Bristol County District Attorney's Office, for permission to use the tennis courts at McCoy Stadium on Saturday, July 14, 2012 and Saturday, July 21, 2012 from 8:00 A.M. – Noon, to conduct free tennis clinics for students in grades 2 – 8 (No Cost) Supporting document: 5B1
- 2) Manny Lima/Manager, on behalf of American Legion N.B. Post One, for permission to use the Paul Walsh Athletic baseball facility for nine games scheduled between June 9 and July 31, 2012 from 6:00 – 10:00 P.M., with a waiver of the rental fee. (Rental Fee: \$810) Supporting document 5B2

Voted unanimously, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to accept the following donations:

- 1) Suzanne Madden/Principal/Hayden McFadden School – Banner from Dave Quinn from Signs by Tomorrow of Norton. Supporting document 5C1

- 2) Darcy Fernandes/Principal/Roosevelt Middle School - \$500 from Gifts to Give. Supporting document 5C2
- 3) Jeanne Bonneau/Principal/Normandin Middle School - \$87.79 from Box Tops for Education. Supporting document 5C3
- 4) Jamie Camacho/Principal/Gomes School – 50 tickets for the Martha’s Vineyard ferry along with transportation to and from the ferry terminal from Peter Pan Bus Company. Supporting document 5C4

Voted unanimously, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Dr. Fletcher, to approve a request from Cheryl Henlin/Environmental Planner/City of New Bedford for authorization for Mayor Jonathan F. Mitchell, Chairman/ex-officio of the School Committee and Michael Shea, Acting/Interim Superintendent, to sign a deed restriction, required by the EPA, for room A-213-4 at New Bedford High School. Supporting document 5D1

Voted unanimously, on a motion by Mr. Livramento and seconded by Mr. Nobrega, to approve a request that McCoy Stadium and Nobrega Field House only be used by New Bedford Public Schools from May 14, 2012 to May 14, 2013, unless prior approval has been received by the Athletic Director. (This will allow limited use for one calendar year to monitor the use and condition of these facilities.) Supporting document 5D2

Voted unanimously, on a motion by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to approve the following out-of-state field trips:

- 1) Request from Tom Tarpey/Varsity Boys Basketball Coach/NBHS, to take the Varsity Boys Basketball Team to Disney World in Orlando, Florida from December 27, 2012 – January 1, 2013, to participate in the KSA Basketball Tournament, with no cost to NBPS. Supporting document 5E1
- 2) Request from Kimberly LeBlanc/Teacher/Ashley School, to take 73 students and 15 chaperones to Tiverton, RI on June 19, 2012, to visit the Butterfly Farm, with no cost to NBPS. Supporting document 5E2

At this time the members considered keeping all regular meetings of the School Committee at Keith Middle School. Mr. Nobrega pointed out that the location was consistent, centrally located and there would be less wear and tear on the audio equipment.

Voted unanimously, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Ms. Pollock, that all future regular meetings of the New Bedford School Committee be held at Keith Middle School unless otherwise changed by the Committee. Supporting document 5F

A discussion was held regarding the implementation of a Middle School Sports and Arts program. Mayor Mitchell stressed the need for such programs and asked for the blessing of the Committee to move forward to gain funds from the private sector and other external sources for funding.

Dr. Finnerty mentioned that citizens ask what they can do to help. Middle School age students have the need to belong to something. This is a great opportunity for citizens to be involved with helping students succeed.

Ms. Pollock also commented that it makes sense to support an effort that doesn’t affect the budget.

Mr. Livramento said that a Middle School extra curricular activity program is an avenue that is lacking and is a method to induce students to get an education.

Dr. Fletcher mentioned that it will help the educational program by keeping students interested in school.

Public Comment was as follows:

1. Grace Ouellette – Administration at Sea Lab

At 7:45 P.M., on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Ms. Pollock, the Committee VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adjourn the Regular Session meeting.

The roll call vote was as follows:

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Mayor Mitchell – Yes | Dr. Fletcher – Yes |
| Ms. Pollock – Yes | Atty. Clark – Absent |
| Mr. Nobrega – Yes | Dr. Finnerty - Yes |
| Mr. Livramento - Yes | |

6 – Yeas 0 – Nays 1 - Absent

Submitted by,



Michael R. Shea
Acting/Interim Superintendent,
Secretary/School Committee

MRS/lpd