

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE NEW BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE
~MINUTES~**

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

ABSENT: NONE

IN ATTENDANCE: DR. DURKIN, MR. MURPHY, MS. EMSLEY, MRS. DUNAWAY (Recording Secretary)

Genesis Galan, Student Representative, was in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to accept and approve the following School Committee meeting minutes:

- Public Hearings and Regular Meeting – May 5, 2014
- Sub-Committee on Facilities – June 3, 2014
- Special Meeting – May 28, 2014
- Regular Meeting – June 16, 2014

Superintendent's Report (Dr. Durkin):

- Dr. Durkin introduced the following principals/new staff:
 - Darcie Aungst- Assistant Principal/Normandin Middle School
 - Catherine Zinni – Principal/Hayden McFadden Elementary School
 - Daniel Bossolt – Principal/Trinity Day Academy
- High School Summer Program
 - The summer graduation ceremony took place on August 21. There were 26 graduates and four more are scheduled to complete graduation requirements by October 1. It was a very inspiring event.
 - 263 students participated to receive needed credits/194 succeeded in completing at least one subject to stay on track in their school career.
- Parker Elementary School Summer Program
 - The instruction was very focused for students in this program. It was well attended and received.
 - The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), Mitchell Chester, will visit Parker School and will attend a Special School Committee meeting to meet Committee members on October 9.
- Reading Street Launch – 300 teachers came in a few weeks ago to receive their kits and to get familiar with the curriculum before school starts. Professional development will be offered August 25 and 26.
- Accelerated Improvement Plan – the plan was approved by the DESE. All five areas were labeled “strong” which is the highest rating a district can receive. This was the first time we invited teachers to participate. Thirty members of the Teacher Advisory Committee reviewed the plan and offered their input.

Business Office Report (Mr. Murphy):

Mr. Murphy addressed the Committee with the following update:

- Top priority is updating the actual FY15 staff and salaries assigned to each cost center.
- A review of the Administrative Cost Agreement between the City and School Department is ongoing. Also being discussed is the true cost of pensions and how the City can share revenue that flows through the School Department.
- Spend-down report will be updated and refined weekly.
- A close watch has to be kept on the following expenses which have significant variability throughout the year:
 - Unemployment
 - Resignations/exit payouts
 - Overtime
 - Paraprofessional staffing
 - SPED transportation
 - Out of district placements
 - Utilities

Dr. Finnerty asked about the delivery of the Reading Street curriculum materials. Mr. Murphy responded that Pearson Publishing responded to the delays and delivery problems with significant financial offset. Mr. DeFalco also stated that the delays will not impact the start-up and most materials will be delivered before students arrive.

- Transportation – Bus passes will be mailed to families during the week of August 25. SPED routes are being run through our own Versatran software and compared to previous routing provided by the vendor.
- Technology – MUNIS will provide principals with real time views of their FY 15 budgets. Training will start in the near future for principals and their clerical staff.

To a question by Mayor Mitchell, Mr. Murphy responded that the entire MUNIS financial system has been implemented. Real time access will be rolled out in the near future.

Dr. Finnerty asked Mr. Murphy what the cost of the cleanup is regarding the vandalism at Keith Middle School. Mr. Murphy responded that all of the information is not complete but will be provided to the Committee at the next meeting.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral, to accept the Business Office Report.

Personnel Report (Ms. Emsley):

Ms. Emsley reviewed the Personnel Report and updated the Committee on several Administrator positions that needed to be filled including the Chief of Teaching and Learning at New Bedford High School.

To a question asked about the number of recent resignations that were submitted, Ms. Emsley stated that some teachers prefer to work in a non-urban setting. Some districts do not finalize their budgets until mid-summer and if there is more funding added, these districts are able to hire more personnel. She also informed the Committee that the district has hired 98 educators new to NBPS.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to accept the Personnel Report.

Several School Committee Members gave reports.

Several School Committee Members gave reports.
The Student Representative gave her report.

Public Comment:

- Eddie Johnson: Appreciation for Dr. Durkin and Ms. Dawson for having the high school take part in the "Dog Tag" initiative
- Evangelos Safioleas: Concern for the Keith Middle School custodians

At this time, Michele Paul, Director of Environmental Stewardship for the City of New Bedford, addressed the Committee in regard to two "activity and use limitation" signatory requests in relation to Paul Walsh Field and the Andrea McCoy Athletic Complex. She explained that there were some notations on the AULs that were previously omitted. The updated AULs will be recorded with the Registry of Deeds,

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to bring up items 6A and 6B under "New Business" together.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Dr. Finnerty to grant the Superintendent signatory authority relative to an Activity and Use Limitation (AUL) Plan for Paul Walsh Field and the Andrea McCoy Athletic Complex, which requires an updated site plan.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to declare, in accordance with School Department Policy DN-R, a recommended list of surplus property located at New Bedford High School and in the office of the Supervisor of Nurses.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral, to approve a request from Karen Regan, Supervisor of Nurses, to attend the National League of Cities Institute Conference from September 9-11, 2014, in Washington, D.C., at no cost to the district.

At 7:20 P.M., on a motion by Mr. Livramento and seconded by Ms. Pollock, the Committee voted to go into Executive Session, without returning to Open Session, for the following purposes:

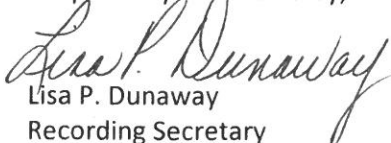
- To discuss issues related to school security
- To discuss strategies in preparation for negotiations with union personnel
- To discuss strategies in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel

The roll call vote was as follows:


Mayor Mitchell – Yes	Mr. Amaral – Yes
Ms. Pollock – Yes	Mr. Livramento - Yes
Mr. Nobrega – Yes	Dr. Finnerty – Yes
Mr. Oliveira - Yes	

7 – Yeas 0 – Nays 0 – Absent

Respectfully Submitted by,


Lisa P. Dunaway
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,


Pia Durkin, Ph.D.
Superintendent,
Secretary/School Committee

