

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

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

IN ATTENDANCE: DR. DURKIN, MR. MURPHY, DR. LARKIN, MS. WALMSLEY, MRS. MOURAO (Recording Secretary)

ABSENT: NONE

Adam Vieira, Student Representative, was in attendance.

Mr. Amaral introduced members of the New Bedford High School Robotics Class. Students presented their robot to the Committee. The Robotics class received the "Inspire Award" at a recent competition in Pennsylvania. They have also been the recipients of 32 first-place awards in the last four years.

Public Comment

- Kenneth Walsh , parent – Nursing cuts

Approval of Minutes

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to approve and place on file the following minutes as submitted:

- Sub-Committee: Curriculum – November 7, 2013
- Sub-Committee: Policy – November 14, 2013
- Sub-Committee: Transportation – December 5, 2013
- Special Meeting – February 5, 2014
- Regular Meeting – February 10, 2014

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Durkin informed the Committee that the New Bedford High School Reapplication Process had concluded and only 15% of the staff were not returning.

Dr. Durkin briefly discussed the recent NBHS incident involving a student throwing a chair because his cell phone was confiscated. She stated that an investigation is still ongoing at several levels and that the administration is working toward a culture of positive environment and no further information could be disclosed at this time. Mr. Amaral added that as chair of the Policy Subcommittee, that he will be reviewing the discipline policy at NBHS and the district-wide cell phone policy further. Dr. Durkin asked Mr. Amaral to include students in these discussions.

Dr. Durkin informed the Committee that the Turnaround Plan for the John Avery Parker Elementary School – currently designated as level 5- has been released by the MA Department of Elementary & Secondary Education. Dr. Durkin has had several discussions with the Commissioner of Education, Mitchell Chester, regarding the need for more money for the Parker School. The Commissioner is looking into it.

Due to the budget working session taking place prior to this meeting, no further discussion occurred relative to the FY15 budget.

Mr. Murphy presented the "School Time Change Proposal" information as follows:

-NBHS Current schedule 7:30 to 2:07 → NBHS Proposed schedule 7:20 to 2:30

-Current elementary schedules are 8:15 to 2:30 → **Contemplated** elementary schedules 8:45 to 3:00
→ **Contemplated** Friday dismissal would be at 1:30

Mr. Murphy stated that parents could drop off the elementary students as early as 8:25 where they would be served breakfast as part of the Universal Breakfast Program. He informed the Committee that the same buses are used in a two tier system to handle high school and elementary schools routes. Changes at NBHS require changes at other schools served by those buses. Additional communication is being done to address alternative schools, extended day schools, and middle schools. Other details and logistical traffic concerns are being looked into. Dr. Durkin indicated that she would like to put a communication strategy in place to inform the public/community of these contemplated changes.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Ms. Pollock to proceed with the communication strategy informing the community about the proposed changes to the school times.

At this time, Mr. Murphy presented the Business Office and the Personnel reports.

He discussed the \$1.4 million needed for payouts and the NBPS' Job Fair on March 29, 2014. 208 candidates attended this recruitment event.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to accept the Business Office report.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral, to accept the Personnel report.

School Committee Reports

Dr. Finnerty updated the Committee on the Superintendent's Evaluation process. He indicated that the summative evaluation must be completed by June 30, 2014 and the vote on the summative evaluation will need to take place by July 30, 2014. Forms for the Superintendent's Evaluation will be forthcoming.

Ms. Pollock provided the Committee with an update on the Southeastern Massachusetts Educational Collaborative (SMEC) program.

Mr. Livramento informed the members of the various events he attended recently.

Student Rep, Adam Vieira, spoke of the numerous events taking place at New Bedford High School.

Jennifer Clune, Principal of the Renaissance Community School for the Arts – Innovation School, gave a presentation on the program thus far. Middle of Year Data highlighted the following:

Galileo

ELA – Grade 2 reduced the number of students not proficient or advanced by 14.2%.

Math – Grade 2 reduced the number of students not proficient or advanced by 32%.

Grade 2 doubled the number of students scoring advanced (33%)

DIBELS

Grade 1 – 52% at benchmark (beginning of year 43%)

Grade 2 – 72% at benchmark (beginning of year 50%)

Fountas and Pinnell Reading Benchmark

Grade 1 reduced the number of students not meeting grade level benchmark expectations by 37%.

Grade 2 reduced the number of students not meeting grade level benchmark expectations by 33%.

Ms. Clune indicated that the next steps are as follows:

This year:

- Fluency intervention in grades 1 and 2
- ELL- testing of students identified through home language surveys
- workshops by grade level : ways for families to reinforce curriculum at home

Next year:

- Attendance – exceeding 95%
- Implementation of Everyday Mathematics Pre-K – Grade 3
- ELL programming
- Focus on Vocabulary acquisition
- Tier 2 interventions
- Home visits

Dr. Durkin informed the Committee of the changes she would like to make to the Central Office. Based on the chart she presented, total extra cost for the new reorganization (to include a Turnaround Manager) would not exceed \$115,000.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Livramento and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to approve the new NBPS Reorganization Chart for SY14-15.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Mr. Oliveira, to approve the implementation of a Turnaround Manager at the central office – contingent upon funding.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mr. Amaral, to approve a request from Andrew Kulak/Headmaster/NBHS, to schedule the New Bedford High School 2014 Graduation Exercises on Thursday, June 12, 2014, to be held at Dr. Paul Walsh Field at 7:00 P.M.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Mr. Amaral, to approve the following requests for out-of-state field trips:

- Request from Michael Bernier/Lisa Almeida/Teachers/Normandin Middle School, for permission to take 44 students and five chaperones to Roger Williams Zoo in Rhode Island, on June 13, 2014. (No cost to the local budget.)
- Request from Melissa Sheffield/Drama Club/NBHS, for permission to take 35 students and four chaperones to Lebanon, CT, on May 24, 2014, to attend a performance of Beauty and the Beast at the Girl Scout Camp Laurel. (No cost to the local budget.)

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to approve – and sign – the employment contract for R. Patrick Murphy, Business Manager.

Motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of:

- To discuss strategies in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel
- To discuss strategies in preparation for negotiations with union personnel
- To discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices, or related strategies
- Non-union personnel matter

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

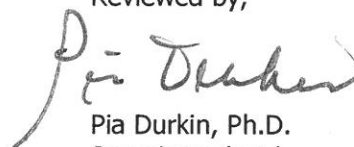
At 9:07 P.M., on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Mr. Amaral, the Committee VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adjourn the Regular Meeting.

Submitted by,



Carla S. Mourao
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,



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

