

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

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

ABSENT: NONE

IN ATTENDANCE: DR. DURKIN, DR. DEFALCO, MS. BETTENCOURT, MS. EMSLEY, MR. O'LEARY,
MR. CARVALHO, MR. TETREULT, MS. WALMSLEY, MRS. DUNAWAY (Recording
Secretary)

The School Committee Student Representative was not present.

Approval of Minutes:

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Amaral and seconded by Mr. Livramento, to accept the following School Committee meeting minutes as follows:

- Policy Sub Committee: September 29, 2016
- Regular Meeting: October 24, 2016
- Finance Sub Committee: November 9, 2016
- Regular Meeting: November 14, 2016

Superintendent's Report (Dr. Durkin):
(Supporting documents labeled "4")

Dr. Durkin presented an update on her goals in regard to the evidence that will be provided during the evaluation process. She explained that not all goals can point to quantitative data.

The presentation follows:

**FORECASTING EVIDENCE
FOR SUPERINTENDENT
GOALS 2016-17**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 9, 2017

STUDENT LEARNING GOAL

- DIBELS Data
- STAR Data
- Galileo Data
- Advanced Placement(AP) Data
- ACCESS Data
- MCAS and MCAS 2.0 (formerly PARCC)

Dibels: Grades K-2, STAR: Grades K -5 and hopefully grades 6-8, Galileo: K-8, ACCESS: ELL proficiency
MCAS: Grade 10

**PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE: SCHOOL
CLIMATE**

- Social-emotional learning metrics and data
- PBIS progress for Cohort 1 and 2 schools
- NBPS tiered systems of student support for the K-8 continuum pilot at Pacheco and Roosevelt
- Educators' Manual for Student Support
- Evidence of work concerning trauma-sensitive service delivery models for classrooms

**PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE: DATA
SYSTEMS**

- Data cycle review for schools with particular grades matched to STAR and formative assessment markers (*Reading Street, EnVisions*)
- RtI model and impact of the reading specialist work on student progress

In regard to PBIS, Dr. Durkin explained that Cohort 1 includes Parker, Keith and Roosevelt; Cohort 2 includes DeValles, Gomes, Hannigan and Normandin.

The proposed Educators' Manual will include involvement with Leadership SouthCoast. Members will help with the process to develop strategies for staff.

Dr. Durkin stated that currently, 10 schools have Reading Specialists and the goal is to have more as more support is needed in classrooms.

**DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT:
IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION BY
PRINCIPALS**

- Coaching and supervisory artifacts reflecting high-impact recommendations
- Student work samples
- Observation and follow-up evidence that demonstrates improvement in teacher practice

**DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT: EXTERNAL
PARTNERSHIPS**

- Evidence of improved communication systems that are strengthening district/partner relationships
- Data linking partner work in schools with student progress and acceleration of achievement emphasized in the AIP

Students' work and teachers' work will be evaluated by principals who will give high impact recommendations and follow through.

**DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT: FY 18
BUDGET**

- Input from school committee members
- Clarity of the educational plan driving the needs of the fiscal plan
- Timelines and communications aligning city, state, and federal resources

**DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT: FAMILY
ENGAGEMENT**

- Survey participation data
- Family/caregivers data
- Student-adult relationship data
- Evidence of reaching more families with help from partners
- Teacher and staff check-in data
- Student focus group data

Dr. Durkin stated that during the budget process, specifics will be made clear and she will meet 1:1 with School Committee members for input on budget presentations.

In regard to Family Engagement, Dr. Durkin explained that the survey would be available on-line and on paper. Teacher and staff check-in will include visiting staff before or after school 1:1 to discuss concerns and relay information. Student focus groups will be formed at the middle and high school levels with concentration on how the schools/district can improve.

Mayor Mitchell appealed to parents to not be shy and to step forward with input. Mr. Amaral asked if regular updates could be provided in regard to discipline in schools.

Mr. Livramento asked how students are being kept on track and said he was concerned with how the data indicates that Gomes School is showing growth while Renaissance is lagging behind. Dr. Durkin explained that there is no child in the system that cannot be growing; some are showing growth faster than others. She

explained that there is a multi-pronged approach to monitor the process such as: presence in schools by a member of the instructional team, reviewing (by Dr. Durkin and Dr. DeFalco) on a consistent basis how administrators are spending their time, looking at what the focus areas are for teacher observations and planning time. Dr. Durkin also added that she and Dr. DeFalco and staff from the Office of Instruction have increased presence at schools where staff may need added coaching and support including the Innovation School.

To a question by Mr. Oliveira in regard to the status of Reading Street and how it is being monitored, Dr. Durkin explained that there is a timeline to be sure lessons are going at an appropriate pace and it is an ongoing process with professional development and grade level planning time giving teachers the ability to discuss units and time challenges.

Mr. Cotter also asked for more information on discipline so questions could be asked if there is a concern.

On a motion from Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve the Superintendent's Goals for 2016-17.

Dr. DeFalco and Mr. O'Leary presented a plan, first presented to the Facilities Sub Committee, to balance the enrollment between Keith and Normandin Middle Schools. The process (which will take three years) involves approximately 150 students who will eventually attend Keith and will affect all students currently attending the Carlos Pacheco School. The shift will start at the beginning of the 2017 school year with current fifth graders. Pacheco School families with current 6th and 7th graders at Normandin will be allowed to remain and fifth graders with siblings at Normandin may attend there as well.

Hayden McFadden students will continue to be placed at the two middle schools according to the boundary lines of:

North of Coggeshall Street – Normandin
South of Coggeshall Street – Keith
East of Purchase Street – Normandin
West of Purchase Street – Keith

The current enrollments of all middle schools are: Normandin – 1150, Keith – 900 and Roosevelt – 800.

Dr. DeFalco explained that there will be minimal impact to staffing and finances and in the future, other city students may be moved to Roosevelt to even out the enrollment city-wide.

On a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to accept the redistricting plan as presented. Carlos Pacheco Elementary School students will attend Keith Middle School, beginning with sixth grade students, at the start of the 2017-18 school year. Boundary lines for Hayden McFadden will remain the same as described above.

Dr. Durkin and Mr. O'Leary presented a draft proposal of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between New Bedford Public Schools and the New Bedford Police Department. The MOU, which outlines roles and responsibilities in regard to School Resource Officers (SROs) working in the schools, was developed as part of a recommendation by the Ad Hoc Committee on Discipline. It falls in line with Mass. General Laws, Ch. 71 Sec.

37P, in regard to communication with the two departments. The working group included Central Office personnel as well as principals and the NBPD. The MOU will be signed by Dr. Durkin and the Chief of Police.

Mr. Oliveira mentioned that a suggestion was made to add an additional SRO for the Elementary School level if the budget allows.

At this time, Mr. Oliveira made a motion to take item 7A, under New Business, out of order. The motion was seconded by Dr. Finnerty.

Robert Curtin, Associate Commissioner, Center for Accountability and District Improvement and Dr. Tom Pandiscio, Plan Monitor, from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education presented the Quarterly Monitoring Report for the months of August-November, 2016. They gave a presentation as follows:

New Bedford Public Schools Accelerated Improvement Plan Monitoring Report

Presentation to the School Committee
January 9, 2017

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
EDUCATION



Introduction

- Reporting period: August–November
- 2016–17 AIP extends and builds on prior work
- Plan was developed and implemented without the support of an ESE plan manager
- District is taking steps to address challenges in its middle schools



Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Strategic Objective 1: Implementing Rigorous Standards; Monitoring Student Progress

- **Implementation included:**
 - Data analysis to monitor progress
 - Analysis of student work
 - Science, social studies curriculum development
- **Recommendations:**
 - Provide additional insight into analysis of student work and its impact on instruction
 - Provide evidence of improved student performance indicators as they become available



Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Strategic Objective 2: Systems to Support Student Needs

- **Implementation included:**
 - Building on PBIS implementation (2 cohorts)
 - Efforts to more effectively track behavior incidents and measure impact of interventions
 - Continued work to establish BBSTs
 - Continued training, support for ELL instruction
- **Recommendation:**
 - Provide school climate indicators to measure impact of PBIS and other student support initiatives
 - Create comprehensive plan for improving middle schools



Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Strategic Objectives 3 & 4: Professional Development & Shared Vision for NBPS

- **Implementation included:**
 - Thorough process to review SIPs and identify high-leverage professional development topics
 - Continuing Aspiring Administrators program
 - Parent event attendance tracking and follow-up
 - Workshops for staff on supporting students' families
- **Recommendation:**
 - Continue to provide teachers with actionable feedback and provide evidence of its effectiveness

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education



Process and Performance Ratings

- **Process ratings:**
 - *Practices in Place* – 5 initiatives
 - *Technical Implementation Stage* – 6 initiatives
- **Performance ratings:**
 - *Partially Reached Performance Goals* – 11 initiatives

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education



Mr. Curtin addressed the Committee in regard to the report. He stated that the implementation of the Accelerated Improvement Plan (AIP) for the period of August to November 2016 marks an important step for the New Bedford Public Schools. This is the case because New Bedford Public Schools has developed and implemented this plan without the assistance of an external partner and reached a big milestone in that it is the first step in releasing the district from Level 4.

Mr. Curtin went on to comment that while not specifically addressed in the AIP, it is important to note that the district is taking steps to address performance issues in its middle schools that were highlighted in last year's final monitoring report and is actively examining middle school models in various urban areas in order to inform its improvement efforts. (See full report attached.) He added that district leaders are doing an excellent job in regard to middle school improvement efforts. Also noted in the report were the behavioral intervention models at the seven schools, divided into Cohort 1 & 2, to address improving student behavior.

Mr. Amaral asked for clarification in regard to the performance ratings noting that the district is in the "Partially Reached" category on all 11 initiatives. Mr. Curtin explained that a performance rating is given as a result of the progress made towards the goals in the state-approved AIP. He went on to say that a rating of "Partially Reached" given at the end of the beginning quarter of the school year shows that they are sufficiently pleased with the progress. He mentioned that Dr. Durkin and her team have done a good job in setting very rigorous goals and also how they understand the challenges in meeting the goals.

Mr. Amaral also inquired about how reported discipline data is analyzed. Mr. Curtin said that the Ch. 222 law is taken into consideration along with the infractions of why and how students are being suspended.

Mayor Mitchell thanked Mr. Curtin and Dr. Pandiscio for the "deep dive" and continued feedback in regard to the report.

No one signed up for Public Comment.

Business Office Report (Mr. O'Leary): (Supporting documents – 6A)

Mr. O'Leary reviewed the financial reports with the Committee stating that the majority of the funds for supplies and contracts are encumbered or spent.

No transfer requests were required.

MSBA

- Parker School (Accelerated Repair Program) ARP is moving ahead. The repairs will include boilers and windows.
- Statements of Interest (SOI) are being worked on for ARPs for: Brooks, Swift, Campbell and Pulaski

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Nobrega, to accept the Business Office Report.

Personnel Report (Ms. Emsley) (Supporting document labeled "6B")

Ms. Emsley reviewed the personnel report with the Committee. She reported that there were 22 appointments since the last personnel report in December. There were also 11 retirements and 11 resignations.

To a question by Mr. Cotter, Ms. Emsley responded that the Nursing Supervisor position has been reposted again.

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Cotter and seconded by Mr. Amaral, to accept the Personnel Report.

Several members gave reports.

NEW BUSINESS

On a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve a request to declare, in accordance with School Department Policy DN, a recommended list of surplus property located at Winslow School. (Supporting document labeled 7B.)

On a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Livramento, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve a request from Chris Chambers/Teacher/Normandin, to take 110 students (band) and 10 chaperones to Pawtucket, RI on May 12, 2017, to perform at the Pawtucket Red Sox Game. (Supporting document labeled 7C.)

At 7:40 P.M. on a motion by Mr. Amaral and seconded by Mr. Oliveira, the Committee voted to go into Executive Session, with the intent to return to Open Session, to discuss strategies with respect to negotiations with union personnel: New Bedford Federation of Paraprofessionals

The roll call vote was as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Mayor Mitchell – Yes | Mr. Amaral – Yes |
| Mr. Cotter – Yes | Mr. Livramento - Yes |
| Mr. Nobrega – Yes | Dr. Finnerty – Yes |
| Mr. Oliveira - Yes | |

7 – Yeas 0 – Nays 0 – Absent

At 7:46 P.M. on a motion by Mr. Amaral and seconded by Mr. Oliveira, the Committee voted to return to Open Session.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

7 – Yeas 0 – Nays 0 – Absent

NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

Dr. Durkin stated that the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement with the New Bedford Federation of Paraprofessionals professionalizes and adds value to what paraprofessionals do each day with our students.

Ms. Emsley addressed the Committee and explained the contract changes that will be implemented with ratification. (Supporting documents labeled 7D & E)

On a motion by Mr. Livramento and seconded by Mr. Oliveira, the Committee voted to ratify a Collective Bargaining Agreement between the New Bedford School Committee and the New Bedford Federation of Paraprofessionals, Local 2378. The new agreement will amend the 2010-2011 agreement and will be in full force through July 31, 2019. The agreement will also include specific payments to be made under the new contract.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

7 – Yeas 0 – Nays 0 – Absent

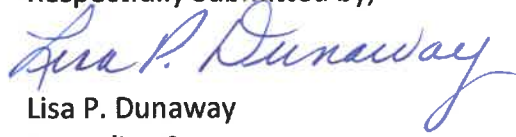
At 7:50 P.M., on a motion by Mr. Livramento and seconded by Mr. Oliveira, the Committee voted to adjourn.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mayor Mitchell – Yes	Mr. Amaral – Yes
Mr. Cotter – 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