

**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. TETREAUULT, MS. WALMSLEY, MRS. DUNAWAY (Recording
Secretary)

The School Committee Student Representative, Gina Connor was present.

The Committee recognized the Keith Middle School MathCounts Team on achieving second place in the regional competition and to wish them well as they advance to the State finals. The Committee also voiced their appreciation to the Naval Undersea Warfare Center, program sponsor, for their commitment to NBPS students.

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: (Supporting documents labeled "3")

- Finance Sub Committee: December 8, 2016
- Regular Meeting: December 12, 2016
- Policy Sub Committee: December 20, 2016
- Regular Meeting: January 9, 2017

On a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to take item 7C under New Business out of order.

Simone Bourgeois, Sea Lab Facilitator addressed the Committee and explained the necessity to raise tuition rates for the 2017 summer Sea Lab.

On a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve a request from Simone Bourgeois, Sea Lab Facilitator, to increase resident tuition from \$380 to 385 and non-resident tuition from \$490 to \$500 for the 2017 Sea Lab session and to operate the program from July 10 – August 25, 2017. (From the Finance Sub Committee – Supporting document labeled "7C")

On a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to take item 7E under New Business out of order.

On a motion by Mr. Amaral and seconded by Mr. Oliveira, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve the following requests for Out of State Field Trips: (Supporting documents labeled "7E")

- Melisa Aviles/Roosevelt Middle School, for permission to take 50 students and five chaperones to Providence, RI on March 3, 2017, to visit Brown University. (Funded by Brown University and the Young Alumni Association)
- Meghan Silvia/Robert Martin/NBHS, for permission to take two students to Rockville, MD, from March 10-13, 2017, to attend the Gallaudet University Academic Bowl. (District cost: \$300 for entry fees)
- Lynne Dandeneau/NBHS, for permission to take 35 students and four chaperones to Windsor Locks, CT on March 18, 2017, to perform at a show choir competition at Windsor Locks High School. (Local Budget (Fine Arts) – Transportation costs)
- Matthew Pacheco/NBHS, for permission to travel to Boston from March 9-11, 2017, with a student who will rehearse and perform at Symphony Hall as part of the All-State Band, Jazz, Chorus and Orchestra Festival. (Local Budget (Fine Arts))

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

- YMCA partnership for the Summer Scholars Program: Building Educational Leaders for Life (BELL)

Dr. Durkin introduced Jim Sherer, Executive Director and Rhonda Veugen, Fund Development Director of the YMCA Southcoast and stated that NBPS will be embarking on a partnership with the YMCA/BELL to tackle Summer Learning Loss. The program will serve 160+ students at the elementary and middle school level.

Summer Scholars will be receiving help with literacy and math skills along with enrichment programs centered on the arts and physical education. The program will run for five weeks. Resources will also be given to parents.

Dr. Durkin stated that the partnership underscores all the tenets of what is being done in the district in alignment with the Accelerated Improvement Plan. Funding will come from what was previously used for summer literacy programs, mostly from Title I funds. Staff positions will be posted in-district and professional development will be offered. Recruitment, reaching out to families and transportation and location of the programs are currently being planned.

- Middle Schools Redesign Update

Dr. Durkin stated that the Middle School Redesign is an ambitious plan and the middle schools will be challenging to reconstruct. District staff have been working and looking at other schools across the state to look at re-design models.

Dr. DeFalco stated that the teachers and the NBEA, at this point, are not interested in pursuing redesign through either an innovation zone or specific individual innovation schools. However, as teachers continue to go through the redesign process they could decide at some point that they may want to pursue an innovation pathway.

Dr. DeFalco also stated that he has been leading this process with teachers from the beginning of the process and has shared with the teachers that this redesign work has to be done at the building level from the bottom up. He explained that six urban middle schools were visited that have redesigned successfully and only two of the six did so through an innovation zone. He went on to say that when the process was planned it was, and still is, the feeling that it was very important to show the middle school teachers in New Bedford what other successful schools have done and look at the various ways to redesign our schools.

Dr. Durkin explained that a posting went out to teachers who would like to be on the redesign team. Eighteen or more staff will be chosen. Some aspects of the plan will involve all three grades; some will roll out one grade at a time.

Mayor Mitchell commented that enrichment will be very important and expressed that we have to effectuate change but everyone will have to be mindful of the funding and budget obligations.

At this time, Tripp Jones of Empower Schools addressed the Committee. Mr. Jones stated that it was a privilege to be part of the process in New Bedford. He issued a reminder that Empower takes best practices of schools doing redesign work to get a better sense of what is possible to help communities make changes. He went on to say that their interests were to help New Bedford see what was possible in redesign work and to leverage resources for 21st Century learning. He continued that they are not in the business to run or privatize schools.

- NEASC Accreditation Timeline

Ms. Bernadette Coelho, Headmaster of New Bedford High School, addressed the Committee. She stated that the visiting Committee will be made up of 14 members from urban and non-urban schools throughout New England. They will consist of teachers, support staff, and district and school administrators. There will be a Chair and an Assistant Chair.

Ms. Coelho also commented that preparation for the visit is two years in the making and staff have been working very hard to prepare for this visit and accreditation process. A presentation was given as follows:



Meaning of Accreditation

- Accreditation of public schools by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges indicates:
 - the educational institution has conducted a self-evaluation of all of its programs
 - hosted a visiting committee to assess the Institution
 - and will be accredited if the school has met the 7 Standards for Accreditation at an acceptable level and is committed maintain those Standards and improve its educational program by implementing the recommendations

February 13, 2017

The Planning and Mutual Accountability 7

Value of Accreditation

- **To the Community**– advises citizens of the strengths, needs and long-range plans of the school
- **To School Board Members** – provides the opportunity to gain comprehensive knowledge of the school with input from students, teachers, staff and parents
- **System Administrators** – provides a framework for school review and improvement
- **School Level Administration and Teachers** - provides the opportunity to collaborate and self-reflect; receive an analysis of present conditions
- **Students** – assures their needs are being met through a quality educational program...college representatives are assured of the value of their preparation.

The Planning and Mutual Accountability 8

Special Progress Report

- Submitted special progress report which was reviewed at the New England Association of Schools meeting on October 18-19, 2015 and NBHS's reaccreditation was continued.
- Commission cited:
 - Increased time on learning
 - PLC time for all teachers
 - 8th grade dual enrollment
 - Pre-AP equity and opportunity for all 9th graders
 - Academies pathways
 - Partnerships for increased learning with higher education institutions

Next Steps:

- February 15th - Complete Self-Study against the 7 Standards
- Determine Critical Strengths and Needs
- Finalize visiting committee team members
- Preliminary Meeting

Decennial Visit April 2-5, 2017

April 2, 2017

- Panel Presentation
- Concurrent meetings with School Committee and Parents
- Teacher Interviews
- Welcoming Reception

April 3-5, 2017

- Student Shadowing
- Small group meetings
- Infrastructure Tour
- Work time
- Closing remarks to school community

Beliefs about Learning

As we keep the Tradition of Excellence alive at New Bedford High School:

- Our students...
- are powerful, critical readers, writers, listeners, observers, learners, and thinkers who are college and career ready in the digital age
 - have a physically, emotionally, and socially safe environment conducive to teaching and learning
 - communicate and collaborate effectively within a community of diverse cultures

Core Values

NB
RESPONSIBILITY
RESPECT
DETERMINATION
PRIDE
CREATIVITY

21st Century Learning Expectations

- Students will...
- demonstrate strong literacy skills
 - engage in creative problem solving and critical thinking
 - collaborate and communicate effectively
 - have respect for themselves, their peers, and the environment
 - participate in community organizations, enrichment opportunities, and community service

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. He went on to state that the Special Education budget is right at the wire due to the significant variables of the program.

On a motion by Mr. Livramento and seconded by Mr. Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve the following transfers:

**TRANSFER OF FUNDS
 2/9/2017
 FOR APPROVAL**

FROM			TO						
Org	Func	Obj	Description	Org	Func	Obj	Description	Amount	Reason
S0129580	2410	580008	ELL Textbooks	S0128440	1230	520004	ELL Contractual Services	37,537.50	Textbooks have been purchased. Extra funds will be used to contractual line
S0158420	2210	511480	Brooks Clerical OT	S0159550	2430	540005	Brooks Classroom Supplies	700.00	Purchase of toner
S0457810	3520	511110	Carney Other Student Activities Stipends	S0455480	2451	580008	Carney Instructional Tech Equipment	4,542.00	Funds for after school club stipends not needed this year due to YMCA and NB Rec Programs based at school.
S2079540	2440	520004	Other Instructional Services IMC Other Expenses District Wide	S2484840	2800	520004	Psychological Contracted Services District Wide	55,000.00	Were able to use funds through an activity account to cover this transportation

MSBA

- Taylor School is in the final stages of completion
- The new Hannigan School is on schedule.
- Parker School (Accelerated Repair Program) ARP is moving ahead. The repairs will include boilers and windows that will be installed in the summer of 2018.
- Statement of Interest (SOI) is being submitted (upon the approval of the School Committee) for ARPs for Brooks Elementary School.

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, 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 23 appointments since the last personnel report in January. There were also five retirements and eight resignations listed.

Ms. Emsley also stated that recruiting season has begun and NBPS will be represented at 20 career fairs. New Bedford Public Schools will host its career fair on April 29.

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

Several members gave reports.

The Student Representative, Gina Connor, gave her report.

NEW BUSINESS

On a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Livramento, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest (SOI) form dated January 11, 2017 for the Elizabeth Carter Brooks Elementary School located at 212 Nemasket St., New Bedford, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future:

- Priority 5: Replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility.
- Deficiencies: The window/door systems in the building are original and are antiquated and require repair or replacement. The original boilers require replacement as they show signs of contamination and deterioration.

This SOI is specifically for window, door and boiler replacements; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the

any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City/Town/Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

(Supporting documents labeled "7A")

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

Currently, four members of the School Committee must sign warrants on a weekly basis. Mr. O’Leary explained that the Mass. Municipal Modernization Act (MMA) allows for just one member to sign. (Supporting document labeled "7B")

On a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mr. Amaral, the Committee voted to amend the current warrants (payment on bills for services) review/signing protocol as follows and to appoint Mr. Oliveira (Finance Committee Chairperson) as the signing authority.

“Warrants shall be approved by a majority of the school board, made available for review on a weekly basis. Warrants will be approved, via signature, by a majority of board members. However as permitted under Mass General law, the school committee allows review and approval by one or more of its members, to include at least one member of the Finance Sub Committee with a report provided at the next school committee meeting.”

On a motion by Mr. Livramento and seconded by Mr. Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve the following requests for Out of State Travel: (Supporting documents labeled "7D")

- Erin Duarte/Julie Mador/Gisany Monteiro/Jariel Vergne/Maria Spears, for permission to travel to Hartford, CT from March 27-28, 2017, to attend the School Redesign in Action Conference (Empowering Parents and Families). (Grant funded by Nellie Mae/Great Schools Partnership – Approximately: \$5075)
- Heather Emsley/Shanell Lavery, for permission to travel to Washington, DC on March 30, 2017, to attend the 10th Annual Job Fair for Educators at Howard University. (Local Budget (HCS) – Approximately \$1225)
- Fernando Pimentel, for permission to travel to New York, NY from March 22-24, 2017, to represent New England as a 2017 Global Enterprising Educator at the 2017 Global Enterprising Educator Awards. (Travel and accommodations paid by Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE)
- Sonia Walmsley/Sandra Dourado/Miliagros Rodriguez Meadows/Martha Romero to travel to Willimantic, CT on March 25, 2017, to attend the Massachusetts Association for Bilingual

Education 6th Annual Southern New England Conference for Dual Language Programs. (Local Budget – Registration and travel approximately \$615)

Mr. Amaral, chairperson of the Policy Sub Committee, announced to the Committee that the new policy manual will be complete with the approval of Sections/File: J – Students; K – Community Relations and L – Education Agency Relations.

On a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Cotter, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to waive the second reading and to adopt following policies (Reviewed and approved by the Policy Sub Committee as part of the district’s ongoing revision of the complete policy manual. This project is in consultation with the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC)): (Supporting documents labeled “7F”)

- File: J – Students
- File: K – Community Relations
- File: L – Education Agency Relations

On a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mr. Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to increase the Substitute School Nurse pay schedule as follows (from the Finance Sub Committee): (Supporting document labeled “7G”)

- Regular school day: \$120
- Extended Day: \$135

At 8:25 P.M. on a motion by Mr. Livramento and seconded by Mr. Oliveira, the Committee voted to go into Executive Session for the following purposes:

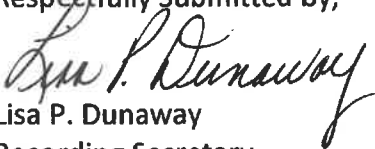
- To discuss strategies in regard to litigation
- To discuss strategies with respect to negotiations with union personnel:
 - Unit A – New Bedford Educators Association
 - American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

The roll call vote was as follows:

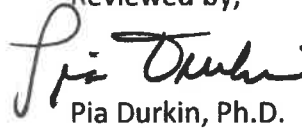
Mayor Mitchell – Yes	Mr. Amaral – Yes
Mr. Cotter – Yes	Mr. Livramento - Yes
Mr. Nobrega – Yes	Dr. Finnerty – Yes
Mr. Oliveira - Yes	

7 – Yeas 0 – Nays 0 – Absent

Respectfully Submitted by,


Lisa P. Dunaway
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,


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