

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

**PRESENT:** MAYOR MITCHELL MR. BRUCE OLIVEIRA, MR. JOSHUA AMARAL, MR. CHRISTOPHER COTTER, MS. COLLEEN DAWICKI, MR. JACK LIVARMENTO, MR. JOHN OLIVEIRA

**ABSENT:** NONE

**IN ATTENDANCE:** DR. DURKIN, DR. DEFALCO, MS. BETTENCOURT, MS. EMSLEY, MR. O'LEARY, MS. WALMSLEY, MR. MOTTA, MS. FERREIRA (Recording Secretary)

The School Committee Student Representative, Amanda Braga, was in attendance. (arr. 6:20 p.m.)

Approval of Minutes

The Committee voted, on a motion by Jack Livramento and seconded by Joshua Amaral, to accept the following School Committee meeting minutes as follows: (Supporting documents labeled "3")

- Facilities Sub Committee: September 7, 2017 and November 8, 2017
- Finance Sub Committee: February 8, 2018
- Budget Session I: February 26, 2018
- Special Meeting: March 7, 2018
- Regular Meeting: March 12, 2018

Superintendent's Report: (Supporting documents-4)

Dr. Durkin took the opportunity to congratulate the New Bedford High School drama club for an outstanding performance at the Sweeney Todd musical.

Dr. Durkin presented a brief overview of the 2018 Summer Programming as follows:

- Power Scholars Academy – in partnership with Building Educated Leaders for Life (BELL) program from the YMCA. The district is expecting close to 200 students in grades 2-7. The program will take place at Keith Middle School.
- Teachers will be placed at community sites to provide interventions to students that already attend there (e.g. Dennison, NorthStar, YMCA, etc.).
- Elementary English Learners (Proficiency levels 1, 2 and 3) will be participating in a project-based program at Jacobs School. The district is waiting to hear back regarding funding to support students in grades 6-12.
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers will take place at Normandin, Jacobs and Gomes Schools.

- Academic remediation and credit recovery programs will be in place for each middle school, NBHS and Whaling City.
- Summit Learning program will have a central site
- Special Education programs will be in place for students that require it. These programs prevent summer regression for students with disabilities.

Dr. Durkin updated the committee on the Panorama Survey. She indicated that schools have set response goals as part of their School Improvement Plan to ensure responses are more proportional to the number of students served. Families have the option to complete the survey in printed form or online. Surveys will also be available at all school events. Dr. Durkin concluded that the district is tracking the data, and the results will be available in July or August.

John Oliveira pointed out two items that were previously requested during the February 26<sup>th</sup> budget meeting: discipline data and number of requests for behaviorist and adjustment counselors. Dr. Durkin stated that this information will be provided.

No one signed up to address the Committee during PUBLIC COMMENT.

**Business Office Report (Mr. O’Leary): (Supporting documents - 6A)**

Mr. O’Leary reviewed the financial reports with the Committee noting the Function Code report is right on target (66%) as of early April and the General Expense Budget Report for all cost centers is around 70%-90%.

To a question from Christopher Cotter in regard to the expense report for the Jacobs school, Mr. O’Leary responded that Jacobs school has one account and the spending is slower than other schools given that the building was fully furnished when occupants had moved into the new school. Mr. O’Leary will be working with the principal to create a spend-down plan.

He continued that the salary spend-down report as of March 17<sup>th</sup> reflects a surplus balance close to \$1M as the district has been forecasting.

Mr. O’Leary reviewed the revolving funds and gave an accounting for the athletic revolving fund. To a question by Jack Livramento, Mr. O’Leary responded that the district will start receiving revenue for Sea Lab before the summer. Joshua Amaral suggested using the facilities revolving account to fix some of the facilities rental venues.

On a motion by Christopher Cotter and seconded by Jack Livramento, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve the following transfers:

**TRANSFER OF FUNDS**

**3/30/2018**

**FOR APPROVAL**

FROM				TO				Amount	Reason
Org	Func	Obj	Description	Org	Func	Obj	Description		
50783080	2410	580008	Hayden McFadden Textbooks	50789580	2420	580008	Instructional Equipment Hayden McFadden	3,331.60	purchase of document cameras

\$1353150	2410	540005	Taylor Workbooks	\$1359551	2430	540005	Taylor Sped Classroom Supplies	205.00	4 additional motion stools
\$5057840	3520	520004	Other Student Activities Contracted Services	\$5059542	2440	520004	Other Instructional Services High School Classroom	925.00	Virtual High School science course
\$5057840	3520	520004	Other Student Activities Contracted Services	\$5055481	2451	580008	Technology Equipment High School	16,336.00	to purchase classroom projectors
\$5057840	3520	520004	Other Student Activities Contracted Services	\$5055762	2356	521050	Prof Development High School Other Expenditures	2,000.00	Professional Development for Staff
\$0203150	2410	540005	Campbell Workbooks	\$0209580	2420	580008	Instructional Equipment Campbell	244.00	Document cameras and Projectors
\$0403150	2410	540005	Congdon Workbooks	\$0405480	2451	580008	Congdon Instructional Tech Equipment	1,333.42	Chromebooks
\$5053460	3520	521050	Other Student Activities Fine Arts HS	\$5053480	2420	580008	NBHS Music Equipment	1,757.00	to purchase a cart for the synthesizer for marching band and jazz band
\$4105481	2451	580008	Normandin Instructional Tech Equip	\$4105761	2356	521050	Prof Development Normandin Other Expenditures	1,281.76	Reimbursement for staff to attend NAATE Workshops
\$0208450	2210	540005	Principal supply line Campbell	\$0203151	2415	540005	Library books Campbell	951.59	Summer reading books
\$1403150	2410	540005	Winslow Workbooks	\$1405481	2451	580008	Winslow Instructional Tech Equipment	2,100.00	Teacher laptop replacement

Joshua Amaral made a motion to approve the request to balance out accounts. However, he later withdrew his motion.

A discussion ensued regarding the request to balance out accounts. Mr. O’Leary explained that this process has been done historically during this time of the year to close out accounts. He stated that the drop dead date is the first week of June.

Mayor Mitchell was concerned that the committee still has to make some budgetary decisions before this request takes place. After a discussion, it was decided that the request to balance out accounts will be postponed until the next regular School Committee meeting in May.

A budget working session was scheduled for Wednesday April 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Mitchell called attention to the VCT tile project that was presented in the budget, but later removed from the PowerPoint. Mr. O’Leary explained that it was an error and not an intentional removal, as there was an assumption that the item was under the facilities budget. Mayor Mitchell also stated that the request

for 6 ESL teachers was not in the initial budget presentation, suggesting that the committee has not made a decision in prioritization of that item. He shared his concern that there is a need to upgrade the facilities of the district and felt that the facility project was replaced with the ESL teachers request. Dr. Durkin will provide the data of the children who need these services at the next budget meeting and the topic will be revisited.

Mayor Mitchell stated that at the next budget meeting he would like to discuss, pre-buy decisions, possible reductions, especially under legal services, and what is being carried for facilities. He also commented that it is important to support the extracurricular activities to attract and retain families, noting that it should also be a priority item.

Bruce Oliveira pointed out two items that showed different figures at different places and he will be sending the specifics to Mr. O'Leary for clarification.

#### MSBA

- Parker School: Statement of Interest (SOI) was submitted for the roof.
- Trinity Day Academy: The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) will visit the school to conduct an initial assessment of the boilers.

On a motion by Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Joshua Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to accept the Business Office report.

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

Ms. Emsley reviewed the personnel report with the Committee. She stated that there were 12 appointments, 3 retirements, 4 resignations and 9 transfers since the last personnel report in March. Ms. Emsley noted that the Deputy Superintendent job description, a copy of which was disseminated to the committee, will be posted on SchoolSpring this week.

Ms. Emsley reminded the committee that the exit survey was launched in January for the 2017-18 School year which will be available through July 15. The response rate remains the same as presented last month at 37%, but there have been no new resignations.

To a question by Joshua Amaral, Ms. Emsley responded that the incoming Superintendent is aware that the Deputy Superintendent position will be posted at this time and supports this action. The salary range remains within the same scope as it is now.

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Christopher Cotter, to receive and place on file the Personnel Report.

Several School Committee members gave a report including Christopher Cotter, Bruce Oliveira and Mayor Mitchell who congratulated the ROTC presentation and the Sweeney Todd production. Mayor Mitchell commented that the city council will be reviewing a proposal to upgrade the auditorium at the High School and asked for the support of the community.

The student representative gave her report.

**NEW BUSINESS**

On a motion by Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Jack Livramento, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, to approve the 2018/19 school calendar. The school calendar will be in effect for all schools except: Gomes, Hayden McFadden, Parker, and Renaissance Elementary Schools. The aforementioned schools will have their own school calendar created in accordance with a specific grant or improvement plan which does not require School Committee approval.

At this time, Dr. Durkin and Mr. O’Leary presented the need to create a position of *Assistant Food Service Manager* stating that the request comes as a result of recommendations received from the EOS Foundation who conducted a comprehensive food service report in the district. The position will be funded by the revolving account.

Joshua Amaral and Bruce Oliveira voiced their support in creating this position.

To a question by Christopher Cotter, Mr. O’Leary responded that the food service program services all the New Bedford Public Schools and some parochial schools. It was explained that though the program is available for eligible New Bedford resident children, some schools have not elected to opt in to this service offered by New Bedford Public Schools.

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Jack Livramento, to approve a request to create an *Assistant Food Service Manager* position, and accept the job description as presented. (United States Department of Agriculture [USDA] Revolving Fund Account)

To a question by John Oliveira, in regard to the Superintendent’s out of state travel request, Dr. Durkin responded that during this conference, she will have the opportunity to share the story of New Bedford and learn about which reform measures are sustainable for the accelerated improvement of the district.

On a motion by Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Jack Livramento, the Committee voted to approve a request from Dr. Pia Durkin, Superintendent, to travel to Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, to attend the Policy Forum: Lessons Learned from School Reform (Invited Panelist), from April 26-27, 2018. (All costs to be paid by Princeton University.)

The roll call vote was as follow:

John Oliveira – No	Joshua Amaral– Yes
Christopher Cotter – Yes	Colleen Dawicki - Yes
Jack Livramento – Yes	Mayor Mitchell – Yes
Bruce Oliveira - Yes	

6 – Yeas      1 – Nays      0 – Absent

On a motion by Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Joshua Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve a request from Joyce Cardoza (Principal)/Tara Montembault (Registration and Pathways Success Admin.)/Manuel Acevedo (Teacher)/Taylor Souza (Teacher)/NBHS- to travel to Washington, DC on July 8-11, 2018, to attend the National Academy Foundation (NAF) Next Conference. (Expenses, \$2,500 per participant, to be paid by the Perkins Fund)

At 7:00 P.M., on a motion by Christopher Cotter and seconded by Joshua Amaral, the Committee voted to go into Executive Session for the following purposes:

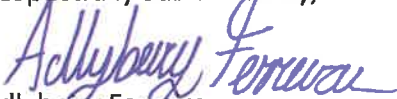
- To discuss strategies in regard to litigation
- To discuss updates with respect to negotiations- New Bedford Educators Association (NBEA) – Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) at Renaissance Community School.

The roll call vote was as follows:

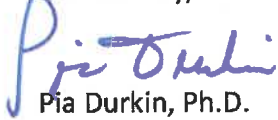
John Oliveira – Yes	Joshua Amaral– Yes
Christopher Cotter – Yes	Colleen Dawicki - Yes
Jack Livramento – Yes	Mayor Mitchell – Yes
Bruce Oliveira - Yes	

7 – Yeas      0 – Nays      0 – Absent

Respectfully Submitted by,

  
Adlyberry Ferreira  
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,

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