

**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: MR. ANDERSON, MS. BETTENCOURT, MS. EMSLEY, MR. O'LEARY, MS. WALMSLEY, MR. MOTTA, MS. FERREIRA (Recording Secretary)

The School Committee Student Representative, Amanda Braga, was present.

Approval of Minutes:

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Christopher Cotter and seconded by Bruce Oliveira, to accept the following School Committee meeting minutes as follows: (Supporting documents labeled "3")

- Policy Sub Committee: April 30, 2018
- Regular Meeting: June 11, 2018

Superintendent's Report (Mr. Anderson):

Mr. Anderson addressed the Committee and thanked the staff who assisted him during the transition. He noted that the district has been conducting interviews to fill administrative positions. Mr. Anderson had the opportunity to participate in interviews as early as before he officially entered the district to ensure quality people are hired.

Mr. Anderson continued discussing that he will be presenting an entry plan to the Committee in a coming School Committee meeting. He stated that work has begun from day one as he already had several meetings and exchanges with parents and community partners. He also participated in the Power Scholars Academy showcase. Mr. Anderson thanked the Committee for the opportunity and expressed his enthusiasm to be on board with New Bedford Public Schools.

Several members welcomed Mr. Anderson and voiced their support and desire to see him succeed in his new position.

Public Comment:

No one signed up to address the Committee.

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

Mr. O’Leary reviewed the financial reports with the Committee. He stated that the district was successfully wrapping up the Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18). Moreover, the surplus balances from the General Expense report was used to cover some maintenance projects, prepayment tuition and funding the maximum amount (approximately \$1.6M) into the Circuit Breaker account.

The final salary spend down report shows how the district closed out the salary balances for FY18. Mr. O’Leary indicated that, as discussed during the budget process, the remaining balance will be carried forward to the Circuit Breaker funds to help mitigate Special Education costs.

Mr. O’Leary reviewed the transfers request for FY19.

Several members commended the work done by the business office for completing a more transparent budget season than previous years.

On a motion by Bruce Oliveira, and seconded by Jack Livramento, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve the FY19 transfers request.

An update was given regarding the second funding received from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), \$631K, related to the displaced students from Puerto Rico. Mr. O’Leary stated that the second round of this fund is covering several Facilities projects: VCT tile project, Family Welcome Center restoration, Trinity Day Academy, Paul Rodrigues Administration Building Stairways and the New Bedford High School (NBHS) Alarm.

Bruce Oliveira explained that the Finance Subcommittee reviewed the proposed spending. He reminded the Committee that the first-round funding was used to support English Language Learners (ELL) education.

To a question by Mayor Mitchell, Mr. O’Leary responded that the Trinity Day Academy project will allow two additional grades in the school. He continued that this is payment 2 of 4 that DESE will give to New Bedford.

Mr. O’Leary gave an update on the City Capital Planning projects that includes the NBHS auditorium and the shower locker rooms at NBHS. Bids and proposals are on their way and more information will be provided at the August School Committee meeting. These projects are expected to be completed around Thanksgiving.

A discussion ensued regarding the Government Supplemental FY18 State Budget that includes funds for School Security. Several security projects in New Bedford Public Schools could be expanded with this fund.

Collen Dawicki commented that some of the resources from the Governor’s proposal will be allocated for Social Emotional supports. She suggested to use part of that funding to address the recommendations of the Social Emotional Study provided by District Management Group (DMG).

Joshua Amaral asked the Business Office to ensure the Trinity Day Academy building is under the School Committee control before committing any funding to the school. Mr. O’Leary will work with the appropriate City Office on this matter.

MSBA updates

- Parker- first phase of the project will have substantial completion in the next two weeks
- Brooks – bids for this project came back higher than expected. The district is looking to re-bid the project
- Two accelerated repair projects in progress: Parker roof and Trinity Day Academy boiler

On a motion by Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Jack Livramento, 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 reported that there were 13 appointments, 2 retirements, 27 resignations and 30 transfers since the last personnel report in June.

Ms. Emsley reviewed the exit data obtained from the survey completed by employees who left the district during the 2017-18 school year, the survey was open through July 15th. She stated that there was a 21% participation rate. (Exit Data report is attached)

To a question by John Oliveira regarding the low response rate, Ms. Emsley highlighted the constant efforts by her department to collect responses from staff which included electronic e-mails and phone calls.

A discussion ensued regarding ways to increase the response rate and the need to continue with the survey. Christopher Cotter pointed out that the survey was rolled out later in the year (January 2018) which affected the response rate given that Human Capital Services were trying to backtrack and contact employees that had already left. After the discussion, the Committee decided to continue with the survey for the 2018-19 school year.

To a question by Joshua Amaral, Ms. Emsley stated that the open response questions varied as some individuals took the time to answer and others gave a broad short answer. Joshua Amaral requested that Ms. Emsley share the responses with the Committee.

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

Jack Livramento gave a report.

Amanda Braga, Student Representative, gave her report. She welcomed the new Superintendent and made recommendations to improve New Bedford High School as follows: Advertise the opportunities that NBHS offers, address the disruptiveness in the classrooms, review the disciplinary actions, require students to wear their ID's, and encourage teachers to challenge their students.

OLD BUSINESS

To discuss the long-range Fine Arts and Athletics Strategic Plan (Tabled from the June 11, 2018 meeting).

On a motion by Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Jack Livramento, the Committee voted to take no action and leave the discussion of the long-range Fine Arts and Athletics Strategic Plan on the table.

NEW BUSINESS

On a motion by Jack Livramento and seconded by Bruce Oliveira, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve the 2018-19 School Committee Meeting Calendar. (Supporting document 8A)

On a motion by Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Joshua Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to hold New Bedford High School Summer Graduation Exercises on Thursday, August 23, 2018 in the Bronspiegel Auditorium at New Bedford High School at 6:00 P.M. (Supporting document 8B)

On a motion by Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Christopher Cotter, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to adopt policy File: GBEBD Online Fundraising and Solicitations- Crowdfunding. This was the second and final reading. (Supporting Document 8C)

Mr. O’Leary reviewed the request for Student Activity and Revolving account. He explained that the Student Activity account has a \$20K maximum at the elementary level and \$50K maximum at the secondary level.

On a motion by Bruce Oliveira and Seconded by Christopher Cotter, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve the Student Activity and Revolving accounts for Fiscal Year 2019.

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Jack Livramento and seconded by Joshua Amaral to approve a recommended list of surplus property located at Normandin Middle School and Paul Rodrigues Administration Building (In accordance with School Department Policy DN).

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Joshua Amaral and seconded by Jack Livramento to table item 8F of the Agenda, Consideration to move that the School Committee appoint Thomas Anderson as the Schools Committee’s designee for the following grievances: Level Three grievances with the Unit A and Unit B of the New Bedford Educators Association Inc; Level Three grievances with the New Bedford Federation of Paraprofessional; and Level Two grievances with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME).

At 7:18 P.M., on a motion by Jack Livramento and seconded by Christopher Cotter, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, to go into Executive Session, for the following purposes:

- To discuss strategies in regard to litigations
- To discuss updates with respect to negotiations with union personnel:
 - New Bedford Educators Association Unit A
 - New Bedford Educators Association Unit B
 - New Bedford Federation of Paraprofessionals
- To discuss strategy with respect to negotiations with non-union personnel, namely Karen Treadup

The roll call vote was as follow:

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

At 7:47 P.M. on a motion by Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Jack Livramento, the Committee voted to go back into Open Session.

The roll call vote was as follow:

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

On a motion by Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Joshua Amaral, the Committee voted to ratify the Employment Agreement between the New Bedford Public Schools and Karen Treadup, Deputy Superintendent.

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

At 7:49 P.M., on a motion by Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Christopher Cotter, the Committee voted to adjourn the meeting

The roll call vote was as follow:

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,


Adlybeiry Ferreira
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,


Thomas Anderson
Superintendent, Secretary/School Committee