

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

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

ABSENT: MAYOR MITCHELL, MR. JOHN OLIVEIRA, DR. DURKIN, DR.DEFALCO

IN ATTENDANCE: 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.

Mr. Bruce Oliveira, Vice Chairperson opened the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

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

- Facilities Sub Committee: September 8, 2016 and January 5, 2017
- Public Hearings and Regular Meeting: May 14, 2018
- Special Meeting: March 28, 2018
- Executive Session: April 25, 2018

Before the vote, Mr. Christopher Cotter stated, due to his absence, he will be abstaining his vote for the following meeting minutes: Regular Meeting on May 14, 2018 and Executive Session on April 25, 2018.

Superintendent's Report: (Supporting documents-4)

Jenifer Mainelli, Principal at Renaissance Community School for the Arts, addressed the Committee and introduced members from the Applicant Group. She stated that the Renaissance proposal consists of 5 Key components that are the pillars and foundation of the new Innovation School. Ms. Mainelli and the Renaissance team went over each component as shown below.

Renaissance Community Innovation School

Reauthorization of the Innovation Plan
June 11, 2018



Redesign and focus for the next 5 year Innovation Plan

5 Key Components of the Renaissance Community Innovation School

1. Comprehensive Scope and Sequence Curriculum Maps
2. Professional Development & Professional Learning Communities
3. Improved Academic Systems for English Learners
4. Social Emotional Learning & Wraparound Services
5. Family & Community Engagement

Key Components

Key Components

#1 - Comprehensive Scope & Sequence

ELA, Math & Science Curriculum aligned with STEAM Enhanced Curriculum

- utilize project based and service learning
- promote inquiry, collaboration, and critical/creative thinking skills
- align with and support the mastery of grade level standards in the Massachusetts Curriculum

Example of Project-Based STEAM Enhanced Unit

ELA	Math & Arts	Science & Technology
<p>Students will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read nonfiction articles around robotics to build background knowledge • Research a robot prototype • Write a proposal for your prototype 	<p>Students will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design and draw a blueprint of your prototype to scale • Apply mathematical skills 	<p>Students will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of scientific method • Coding • Building the robot

Key Components

#2 - Professional Development and Professional Learning Communities

Common thread across professional development and teacher planning during professional learning communities:

Example of PD and PLC:

Professional Development Adult Learning	Professional Learning Community Plan for Student Learning
<p>Teachers will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive professional development on coding and robotics 	<p>Teachers will be able to utilize learning from PD to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan for ELA, Math/Arts, and Science/Technology lessons in the STEAM enhanced unit

Key Components

#3 - Academic Supports for English Learners

- Focused improvement on the SEI Cycle Review and implementation of Individualized Learning Plan for English Learners who are struggling to make progress
- Continued professional development for staff around SEI strategies to support EL students

Example of Project-Based STEAM Enhanced Unit:

ELA, Math, Science & Technology for EL Students

- Students will be able to further develop
- Vocabulary
 - Receptive/Expressive Language
 - Written Language
 - Academic & Conversational Discourse
 - Fluency
 - Problem Solving Strategies

Key Components

#4 - Social Emotional Learning & Wraparound Services

- Build capacity to provide wraparound services in order to support all of our students and families
- Utilize the School-Wide Support model; assist children and their families to overcome barriers to education while also improving engagement in learning and attendance

Example of Project-Based STEAM Enhanced Unit:

ELA, Math, Science & Technology for EL Students

- Students will be able to
- Collaborate when designing the robot prototype
 - Demonstrate problem solving strategies when going through the scientific method (investigate and create)
 - Communicate when presenting their final project to the class

#6 - Family & Community Engagement

- Expand the capacity of the Renaissance Family Center
- Provide a variety of family engagement options
- Design a year student/family school calendar for all families
- Review and develop a family engagement curriculum

Example of Project-Based STEAM Enhanced Unit:

Family Engagement

Community Engagement

- Families will be able to
- Learn about STEAM through a family engagement event
 - Participate and plan child-led and adult-led activities

- Community Partners will be able to
- Engage in teaching staff in professional development and planning for robotics unit
 - Provide student demonstrations to build understanding and engagement

How will autonomy and flexibility be used to improve student achievement?

- Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment
- Schedules & Calendar
- Staffing & Resources
- Professional Development
- Enrollment & Budget

A Parent's Perspective

Bianca Berrios
 • Mother of 3 Renaissance students:
 = Grade 2
 = Grade 3
 = Grade 5

During the presentation, Ms. Mainelli stated that the plan outlines the request for autonomy and flexibility to increase student achievement while remaining a cost-neutral school for the district.

Ms. Mainelli introduced Bianca Berrios, Renaissance parent, to share her perspective in regard to the authorization. Ms. Berrios expressed how satisfied she is with the work done at Renaissance, noting that the two-way partnership of Family and Community Engagement have allowed her children to meet their goals and reach the academic foundation they need.

Collaboration - Innovation Plan Redesign

Invested Stakeholders

- All Renaissance staff
- Parents
- Governing Board Members
- Community Partners

Renaissance Family Center

Renaissance Community Innovation School

Our Vision:

We envision a school where all stakeholders hold themselves and each other to high expectations in order to establish a strong learning community. All teachers, administrators, children and families set high standards for themselves to develop the skills, character, and attitudes for life-long learning and self-direction.

Phoenix PRIDE

- Perseverance
- Respect
- Integrity
- Determination
- Excellence

Jennifer Ferland, Director of Supplemental Services, explained that the Applicant Group met every week to work on the details of the plan which shows the level of collaboration between teachers, administration and families.

To a question by Jack Livramento, Ms. Mainelli responded that the plan was a team effort where each member brought their level of expertise during the process. She stated that the hands-on approach is the best way for students to learn because students are given opportunities to explore and share the things they learn in the classroom.

To a question by Joshua Amaral regarding the Renaissance Family Center, Ms. Mainelli explained that the Family Center offers a variety of supports to families (e.g. applying for jobs, education, student support etc.). She noted that in the coming school year, Renaissance Staff will receive Professional Development to better assist the families and grow the two-way partnership. It was noted that the Renaissance Family Center has a partnership with NorthStar Learning Center which provides a full time Wraparound Manager.

Joshua Amaral asked about the budget autonomy for an innovation school. Mr. Andrew O’Leary, Business Manager, explained that the budget is built in a similar manor compared to other schools in the district. With the difference being that the Innovation School has a defined plan that reflects the autonomy needed to undertake a different curriculum and schedule.

To a question by Joshua Amaral with regard to leadership change, Ms. Mainelli expressed that she has confidence in the Renaissance staff and given that the plan was a collaborative effort, they are fully onboard to support any new principal that comes into the school.

Colleen Dawicki asked about the indicators that will demonstrate that the plan is effective. It was explained that there are measurable annual goals as well as formative assessments (Academic and Social Emotional) that the leadership team will utilize to evaluate the progress every 6 weeks.

On a motion by Jack Livramento and seconded by Joshua Amaral, the Committee voted to take item 8A on the agenda out of order - *approval of the Innovation Plan for Renaissance Community School for the Arts*.

Before the vote, Joshua Amaral and Christopher Cotter expressed that when the Renaissance proposal first came in place, five years ago, they did not completely agree with the plan; however, it has now proven its worth as families voiced the great things that are happening at Renaissance.

Christopher Cotter recounted his concern that in the previous plan, the Renaissance Board dissipated without the School Committee being informed. He noted the importance to improve communication between the Governing Board of the Innovation School and the School Committee; and requested special consideration on this matter.

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Joshua Amaral and seconded by Jack Livramento to approve the Innovation Plan for Renaissance Community School for the Arts that includes a 5 year reauthorization of the plan starting in School Year 2018-19, and to rename the school to “Renaissance Community Innovation School”.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

5– Yeas 0 – Nays 2 – Absent

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 reports with the Committee noting that the Function Code Reports are on track for closing out the year. As of May, the figure is at 81% encumbered. The remaining balances will be transferred to other accounts in FY19 or to undertake projects requested by the Committee, one being the Facilities projects.

Mr. O’Leary reviewed the General Expense Reports and was satisfied that we had 99% encumbered which is reflected in the transfers signed by the Finance Subcommittee Chair.

To a question by Christopher Cotter, Mr. O’Leary responded that there are no issues with Jacobs School in terms of the General Expense Report. He explained that the smallest balances will be transferred to the general account (Special Education etc.). Mr. O’Leary reminded the Committee that Jacobs School was fully furnished during FY18.

Mr. Christopher Cotter questioned the low figure in Renaissance’s budget. Mr. O’Leary stated that Renaissance has facilitated their extended day with community partners, vendors and contractors that were not paid with the salary line.

To a question by Christopher Cotter regarding the Elementary after school programs being at 44.4%. Mr. O’Leary estimated that the line will increase to 60%-70% by the end of the year. He noted that this line was overbudgeted at the beginning of the year as the vendors were cheaper than anticipated.

Mr. O’Leary reviewed the salary spenddown report and the transfers approved by the Committee.

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

Mr. O’Leary gave an update on the City Capital Planning which includes two high school projects: The auditorium at New Bedford High School (NBHS) and the pool shower locker rooms at NBHS. The set plan is to complete both projects during the summer.

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

Ms. Emsley reviewed the personnel report with the Committee. She stated that there were 8 appointments, 5 retirements and 24 resignations since the last personnel report in May.

She informed the Committee that 221 employees participated in the Spring Step Challenge.

Ms. Emsley reported that the exit survey had 5 additional responses for the 2017-18 survey since the last report given on May. Her department will be sending a reminder that the exit survey is open until July 15 and responses will be anonymous.

To a question by Colleen Dawicki, Ms. Emsley responded that the Committee will be provided with the results of the exit survey at the July 16th School Committee meeting.

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

Several members of the School Committee gave a report. Special recognition was given to the Fine Arts department for coordinating the end of year concerts. Recognition was also given to the Class of 2018 for completing their graduation requirements.

The Student Representative, Amanda Braga, gave her report.

OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made by Christopher Cotter and seconded by Jack Livramento, to remove from the table, a vote on School Choice Participation for School Year 2018-19 (This item was voted to table at the Regular Meeting on May 14, 2018)

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

5– Yeas 0 – Nays 2 – Absent

Several members expressed that the Committee has been provided with ample information pertaining to school choice which helped them understand the process and remove any myths they had around this subject.

Joshua Amaral stated that if the vote is favorable, the current and incoming administration would have to determine how to “roll out” this program. He noted that due to time constraints, to put a broader process in place, there is a possibility that it will not be implemented until School Year 2019-2020.

After a brief discussion, on a motion by Jack Livramento and seconded by Joshua Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to accept School Choice participation for School Year 2018-19.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

5– Yeas 0 – Nays 2 – Absent

NEW BUSINESS

On a motion by Jack Livramento and seconded by Joshua Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to grant a temporary easement to the Department of Public Infrastructure and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, for the purpose of improvements project under the "Safe Routes to School" program associated with the Charles S. Ashley and Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in the City of New Bedford, MA, and that the Chairman of the New Bedford School Committee be authorized to execute right of entry forms on behalf of the property shown as TE-4, TE-7, TE-21, and TE-24 on the plan.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

5– Yeas 0 – Nays 2 – Absent

Joshua Amaral went over the changes discussed at the Policy Subcommittee of June 4, 2018. Some of the items reviewed are as follows:

- **File: JICH Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drug Use by Students Prohibited.** - parents will have the option to "opt-in" the verbal screening tool.
- **File: IHCDB - 8th Grade Dual Enrollment Program-** the program was extended to 8th grade students who reside in the City or are enrolled in Acushnet Public Schools pending an approved Memorandum of Understanding from the School Committee.
- **File: JJIB Interscholastic Athletics-** Athletic Director to provide a seasonal report 3 times annually.

To a question by Jack Livramento regarding File: JICH, Ms. Kimberly Bettencourt stated that school nurses are trained to implement the verbal screening that comes in a questionnaire format. She also indicated that referrals are conducted as appropriate.

The Committee voted, on a motion by Joshua Amaral and seconded by Christopher Cotter, to sever File: JFBB- School Choice from the vote.

On a motion by Christopher Cotter and seconded by Jack Livramento, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve the following policies to amend/adopt (This was the second and final reading):

- File: JICH Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drug Use by Students Prohibited
- File: ILD Student Submission to Educational Surveys and Research
- File: IHCDB - 8th Grade Dual Enrollment Program
- File: JJIB Interscholastic Athletics

- “pregnancy or pregnancy related conditions” (added), per M.G.L. 151B subsection 4, to the protective classes in the following policies:
 - File: AC- Nondiscrimination
 - File: GBA- Equal Employment Opportunity
 - File: JB- Equal Educational Opportunities

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

5– Yeas 0 – Nays 2 – Absent

On a motion by Christopher Cotter and seconded by Jack Livramento, the committee voted to approve policy File: JFBB- School Choice as amended. (This was the second and final reading)

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

5– Yeas 0 – Nays 2 – Absent

On a motion by Jack Livramento and seconded by Christopher Cotter, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to pass to a second reading policy *File: GBEED Online Fundraising and Solicitations- Crowdfunding (Reviewed and approved by the Policy Sub Committee)*

Joshua Amaral reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Alma del Mar and New Bedford School Committee. Under the terms of the agreement, Alma del Mar will contribute \$200 per scholar; there will be mandatory parent meeting with the teacher; a goal for 50% of Alma del Mar students to matriculate in NBHS the following year; and Professional Development opportunities between both staff.

Joshua Amaral requested that the draft language of the MOU be refined, however, he encouraged the Committee to endorse the terms of the agreement.

On a motion by Jack Livramento and seconded by Christopher Cotter, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the New Bedford School Committee and Alma del Mar Charter School with regard to the 8th Grade Dual Enrollment Program.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

5– Yeas 0 – Nays 2 – Absent

On a motion by Joshua Amaral and seconded by Christopher Cotter, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve the following requests for Out-of-State travel (Supporting documents labeled 8F):

- Nicholas Machado (Teacher)/Erin Duarte (Wraparound Coordinator)/Marie Tavares (Parent Support Specialist)/Kimberly Soto-Hurtado (Wraparound Coordinator)/Jariel Vergne (Wraparound Manager) – permission to travel to Montpelier, VT from July 23 – 16, 2018, to attend the Anti-Defamation League Peer Training Summer Institute for Educators. (All expenses to be paid by the attendees)

Before the vote, Christopher Cotter voiced concerns around the Professional Development/Conference form. He stated that staff should be reimbursed for conferences that are required by the district. Mr. O’Leary responded that unless the conference was voluntary, the district will reimburse the staff from an eligible fund.

To a question by Christopher Cotter regarding the second Out-of-State travel request, Andrew O’Leary explained that all the expenses will be funded through the principal discretionary fund with the exception of one registration, solicited by the teacher, to be paid through the Donor Choose grant.

Bruce Oliveira stated that Mr. Andrew O’Leary will be updating the Professional Development/Conference form to provide broader detail on the expenses.

On a motion by Christopher Cotter and seconded by Joshua Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve the following requests for Out-of-State travel (Supporting documents labeled 8F):

- Justine Medina (Principal)/Julianna Pasetto (Assistant Principal)/Megan Beaulieu (Teacher)/Amanda Paiva (Teacher) - permission to travel to Atlanta, Georgia from July 19- 20, 2018, to attend the Ron Clark Academy Experience- Educator Training. (Expenses, approx. \$1500 per participate, to be paid by the Principal Discretionary Fund- from Dr. Irwin Jacobs)

On a motion by Christopher Cotter and seconded by Jack Livramento, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve the following request for Overnight Field Trip (Supporting documents labeled 8G):

- Stephen Bethoney/New Bedford High School- Permission to take 15 students and 2 chaperones to Devens, MA, from June 18-22, 2018, to attend the Annual JROTC Cadet Leadership. (Expenses to be paid by: student \$40, and transportation revolving fund)

Before the Overnight Field Trip vote, Mr. Cotter asked for clarification on the expenses for said trip. Mr. O’Leary explained that \$40 will be paid by the students and transportation will be paid through the transportation revolving fund.

On a motion by Joshua Amaral and seconded by Jack Livramento, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve a request to declare, in accordance with School Committee Policy DN, a recommended list of surplus property located at Paul Rodrigues Administration Building.

A discussion ensued with regard to the long-range Fine Arts and Athletics Strategic Plan. Joshua Amaral recommended to delegate the plan to a Policy Subcommittee meeting or an ad hoc Committee to define the goals of the community and School Committee. Christopher Cotter suggested that the Committee have a discussion around which qualified consultant is to oversee the plan before approving such request.

To a question by Collen Dawicki, Bruce Oliveira explained that the Chairman of the School Committee is responsible to assign the members of the ad hoc Committee in the event that such Committee is needed.

On a motion by Joshua Amaral and seconded by Christopher Cotter, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to table item 8I, Fine Arts and Athletics Strategic Plan.

At 7:37 P.M., on a motion by Jack Livramento 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 strategies with respect to negotiations with union personnel:
 - New Bedford Educators Association- Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to reflect a change in working conditions at Hayden McFadden Elementary School
 - New Bedford Educators Association- Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with regard to the Innovation Plan at Renaissance Community School for the Arts.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

5– Yeas 0 – Nays 2 – Absent

At 8:06 P.M., on a motion by Christopher Cotter and seconded by Joshua Amaral, the Committee voted to go back into Open Session.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

5 – Yeas 0 – Nays 2 – Absent

Ms. Emsley explained that the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for Hayden McFadden contains the following: Student instructional day change to 7:45 AM – 3:30 PM, up to 18 days of Professional Development, and that the work year calendar be sent to staff members by May 15th.

On a motion by Jack Livramento and seconded by Christopher Cotter, the Committee voted to ratify a Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) between the New Bedford School Committee and Unit A of the New Bedford Educators Association, Inc. with regard to a change in working conditions at Hayden McFadden Elementary School. (Supporting document 8J)

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

5 – Yeas 0 – Nays 2 – Absent

Ms. Emsley explained that the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for Renaissance Community Innovation School was UNANIMOUSLY approved by the educators at Renaissance. The MOA reflects a variety of changes, related to the Student instructional day and the Staff work day, that supports the new innovation plan.

On a motion by Joshua Amaral and seconded by Jack Livramento, the Committee voted to ratify a Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) between the New Bedford School Committee and Unit A of the New Bedford Educators Association, Inc. with regard to the Innovation Plan at Renaissance Community School for the Arts (Supporting document 8K)

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

5 – Yeas 0 – Nays 2 – Absent


At 8:15 P.M., on a motion by Jack Livramento and seconded by Christopher Cotter, the Committee voted to adjourn the meeting

The roll call vote was as follows:


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

5 – Yeas 0 – Nays 2 – Absent

Respectfully Submitted by,


Adlyberry Ferreira
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,


Andrew O'Leary
Business Manager