



March 11, 2019
Keith Middle School
6:05P.M.
Pages: 6

**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 LIVRAMENTO, MR. JOHN OLIVEIRA (left at 7:06 p.m.)

ABSENT: NONE

IN ATTENDANCE: MR. ANDERSON, MS. TREADUP, MS. EMSLEY, MR. O'LEARY, MR. MOTTA, MS. WALMSLEY, MS. FERREIRA (Recording Secretary)

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

Approval of Minutes:

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by John Oliveira and seconded by Joshua Amaral, to accept the School Committee meeting minutes as follows: (Supporting document labeled "3")

Special Meeting- January 28, 2019
Regular Meeting- February 11, 2019

Public Comment:

Jose A. Soler- To submit an open meeting law complaint.

Student Representative Report:

Amanda Braga, Student Representative, gave her report.

Superintendent's Report (Mr. Anderson):

Christopher Cummings, CVTE Manager, and Anthony Ucci, Interim Dean at New Bedford BCC campus were introduced to give an update on the Career Vocational Technical Education (CVTE) initiatives in New Bedford High School. It was explained that the NBHS General Advisory Committee/Education Industry Coordinating Council (EICC) has been active for the past several years developing curriculum, post-secondary opportunities, and work-based experiences for the vocational technical pathway.

Mr. Ucci spoke about the importance for students to learn technology and know how it applies to the real world. He stated that NBHS is looking to implement a new business technology program. Mr. Ucci explained that the Manufacturing industry in Southeastern Massachusetts has a need for trained workers. This is a great opportunity for students to be able to work and have a career in our community.

Mayor Mitchell requested an update on Chapter 74. Mr. Cummings explained that NBHS successfully completed "part A" of the application process that focused on partnerships and labor-market demand. He further explained that the district was invited to participate in the final phase of the application "part B", which focuses on curriculum, instruction and the facilities. Evidence for part B will be submitted by April 5th and the district is on track to gathering the materials needed for a successful submittal.

Mayor Mitchell explained that Chapter 74 refers to state laws concerning vocational education funding and there is an application process to expand the vocational programming in NBHS. Mr. Cummings stated that NBHS is requesting approval for the Business Technologies program.

To a question by Jack Livramento it was explained that during the first year, the program would have a range of 15-30 students taking into consideration DESE teacher/pupil ratio guidelines. Mr. O'Leary stated that, through Chapter 74, NBHS would receive around \$17K per student in this program.

Christopher Cotter requested that the list of districts invited to apply to "part B" be shared with the Committee. Mr. Cummings will make the list available for their review.

At this time Mr. Anderson gave a presentation on the academic key levers and Middle School spotlight (PowerPoint attached). He stated that everything should be connected to the four NBPS Objectives: High Quality Instruction, Student Support Systems, Team Excellence, and Community Engagement. Mr. Anderson shared that schools are always reviewing different data points that are used to lead the students to success.

Mr. Anderson stated that his team was able to visit close to 1,000 classrooms which allows them to look at trends and patterns that exists and review the hand-on activities that predicts performance. He shared a graph that shows how NBHS graduation cohort increased from 70.9% to 76% within three years. Mr. Anderson acknowledged that there is still work to be done given that the State's average graduation rate is 85%, but NBHS did great gains in only a few years.

To a question by John Oliveira concerning trends that contributed to the graduation increase. Mr. Anderson explained that the school is reviewing the data, however, NBHS has been recognized for re-engaging students and being more strategic in reaching out to 9th graders to help them stay focus. Another important factor is attendance, if the student attends school there is opportunity to be strategic in the classroom and have a better level of engagement. Mr. Anderson stated that there was also an increase in the advanced placement scores, primarily due to the support given to students to understand the course and prepare them for the test.

Mr. Anderson highlighted the benchmark assessment data results (STAR) in the middle schools and said that it is not exactly a predictor for MCAS, but the scores show different indicators how each school is doing. Ms. Treadup, Deputy Superintendent, explained that we are seeing incremental gains in Middle schools and the data is a forecast of what the MCAS 2.0 would look like in 2019. Ms. Treadup stated that the company, Renaissance, that created the STAR assessment had aligned their benchmarks to MCAS 2.0, however, this will be the first school year that the district would be able to review its accuracy.

Mr. Anderson explained that the benchmark data also serves to review practices that high performing classrooms are implementing and replicate those practices to other middle schools. He also pointed out that it is important to review the information by cohort, to know how a group of students is performing as they advance to their next grade level.

Jack Livramento shared concerns with regard to the low Middle of the Year (MOY) benchmark scores for Roosevelt and asked for a possible explanation of their performance when compared to other middle schools in the district. Mr. Anderson stated that each school is different, and it is important to look at other factors that may be impacting each individual school (e.g. new teacher, the needs of students are different etc.).

Christopher Cotter suggested to review family mobility in Roosevelt as this may be a factor that contributes to the stability of students and lack of achievement.

Mayor Mitchell commented that it is important to build a data analysis capacity where the district can identify variables that impact the student's performance.

Mr. Anderson concluded by praising the level of engagement that is happening in our schools and invited the community to visit the schools to witness first-hand what is taking place. Mayor Mitchell encouraged parents to take on this opportunity.

To a question by Jack Livramento, Mr. Anderson responded that is important to be creative to engage families and we need to empower all parents to question their child's education. Principals are having different events to engage with families and keep building positive relationships.

It was announced that the last 2 days of schools will be a half a day for students. The purpose will be to conduct a professional development for staff and staff recognition.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is due on March 12th and the district has been working on defining the boundaries. Mr. Anderson explained that this process usually takes 12-14 months, but the district is completing this work in a tighter timeline. He highlighted that his concern is for all the students in New Bedford to have the best possible education, especially making sure students coming to NBPS are receiving the education they deserve.

To a question by Joshua Amaral, Mr. Anderson confirmed that the MOU will come to the Committee for a vote in the near future. In addition, there has to be more discussion regarding the disposition of the former Kempton school building, but it is also an item that will be presented to the Committee for a vote.

Joshua Amaral stated that this has been a frustrating process, as the Board of Education granted additional charter seats regardless that the School Committee voted in opposition. He commended Mr. Anderson for navigating the district in the midst of resolving the situation.

Jack Livramento stated that the proposed plan to mitigate the damage is the best option right now given the circumstances.

Christopher Cotter commended the NBHS on the improvements being made with regard to the graduation rate and advanced placement scores. He went on to say that those are things that will help parents to choose NBHS over a charter school and we need to continue to do the good work.

John Oliveira requested evidence that DESE imposed the Alma del Mar proposal. He stated that the Committee should have resisted the Department of Education.

At 7:06 p.m. John Oliveira left the meeting.

Mayor Mitchell explained that the State's charter law is presumptions in favor of charter expansion and creates a difficult scenario for underperforming districts that are trying to move forward. In NBPS the expansion implies a concerning financial impact and this process has been a frustrating exercise. The Board of Education has already voted, and their decision left the district with a very restricted choice. Mr. Anderson said that we need to continue to focus in supporting the students and staff toward success.

Business Office Report (Mr. O'Leary): (Supporting documents – 7A)

Mr. O'Leary reviewed the financial reports with the Committee. He stated that the Function Code Report is at 60.8% encumbered overall. He explained that we do not anticipate any more tuition placements and we can start balancing those accounts for Circuit Breaker to carry into next year.

The General Expense Report was at 91.1% encumbered. Mr. O'Leary indicated that the Renaissance irregularity is due to vendors services no longer needed for extended learning, the remaining funds will be going to salary savings. The Salary Spenddown report showed an emerging balance of \$500K+ that will be requested for transfers to cover NBHS facilities project.

Mr. O'Leary reviewed the transfer requests and highlighted the transfer that will be funding the pool and locker room project at the high school. The report was also reviewed and approved by the Finance Sub Committee.

On a motion by Bruce Oliveira, and seconded by Jack Livramento, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve the transfers request as presented. (Transfer request attached).

The FY19 Grant Report was reviewed. He explained that the district will be conducting spenddown meetings with the grant managers to ensure they are executing spending appropriately.

MSBA Updates

- He stated that the City Council Finance is discussing the \$250K for improvements to the NBHS field.
- Project Funder Agreement (PFA) is in process for the Parker school roof and Trinity school boiler repair. The district will work with the City to secure the capital match.
- The Brooks project is ongoing (boilers and windows)

Mr. O'Leary explained to the Committee that two Statements of Interest (SOI) must be voted on in order to submit a request to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in regard to a new building to replace DeValles and Congdon elementary schools. He said that City Council would also conduct a vote on the SOI.

Christopher Cotter requested that any future SOI be noted as an agenda item and School Committee be notified ahead of time.

Mr. O'Leary further explained that the DeValles (built around 1918) and Congdon (built around 1907) are school that have structure disrepair, unreliable power, potential pest problems, and water leakage problems. The buildings do not have gymnasium or cafeteria. The plan is to construct a new building for both schools and strategically move students into a modern learning environment.

To a question by Jack Livramento, Mr. O'Leary responded that each school currently have 300+ students and the new proposed school would serve around 400 students. This will be an opportunity to redistrict the boundary line in the next few years.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Joshua Amaral, the Committee voted on the following as written:

Having convened in an open meeting on March 11, 2019, prior to the closing date, the School Committee of the City of New Bedford in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated February 20, 2019 for the James B. Congdon Elementary School located at 50 Hemlock St., New Bedford, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future:

Priority 7 - 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.

This SOI is specifically for replacement of an obsolete building; 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 City/Town/Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

6 – Yeas 0 – Nays 1– Absent

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Jack Livramento, the Committee voted on the following as written:

Having convened in an open meeting on March 11, 2019, prior to the closing date, the School Committee of the City of New Bedford in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated February 20, 2019 for the John B. DeValles Elementary School located at 120 Katherine St., New Bedford, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future:

Priority 7 - 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.

This SOI is specifically for replacement of an obsolete building; 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 City/Town/Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

6 – Yeas 0 – Nays 1– Absent

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

Personnel Report (Ms. Emsley) (Supporting document labeled “7B”)

Ms. Emsley reviewed the personnel report with the Committee. She reported that there were 15 appointments, 0 retirements, 7 resignations, and 37 transfers since the last personnel report in February. She also shared that there were 16 substitutes. A position vacancy report as of 3/8/2019 was provided to the Committee.

Ms. Emsley reminded the Committee on the following items: that the district involuntary bid transfer process is available on the website; the paraprofessional bid transfer process will begin the week of March 18; the Special Education Department will conduct in person interviews on Saturday, March 30th at Keith Middle School; the annual career fair is scheduled for Saturday, May 4th at Keith Middle School.

Jack Livramento asked for an explanation with regard to the large number of transfers. Ms. Emsley stated that the district wide transfer process occurs annually to discourage mid-year movement and disruption in the classrooms, and it is part of the union contract. Because it only happens once a year, there is tendency for a lot of movement during that process. The transfers will become effective for the 2019-20 school year.

Christopher Cotter was pleased that the middle schools have a safety officer position in place.

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

School Committee Reports

Mayor Mitchell stated that the district has made tremendous progress in building physical safety measures to protect student and staff. In addition, training and emergency drills have been put in place.

Several members commented about the conduct that all School Committee members are expected to have, especially when conveying a disagreement. They took the opportunity to apologize for the frantic moments that emerged in the last few meetings.

At 7:46 P.M., on a motion by Joshua Amaral and seconded by Bruce Oliveira, the Committee voted to adjourn the Regular Meeting and enter to Executive Session for the following purpose:

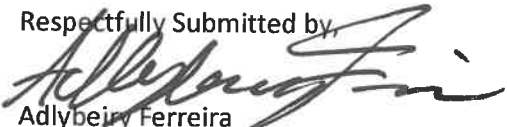
To consider the potential disposition of the H.A. Kempton School to the Alma del Mar School (Executive Session #6)

The roll call vote was as follow:


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

6 – Yeas 0 – Nays 1– Absent

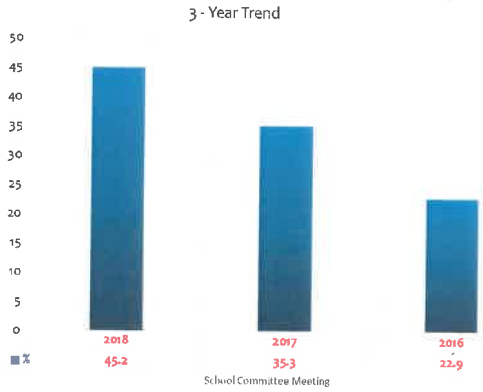
Respectfully Submitted by,


Adlybeiry Ferreira
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,


Thomas Anderson
Superintendent, Secretary/School Committee

Advanced Placement Score: (3 or better)



School Committee Meeting

MCAS 2.0 2018 vs. STAR MOY 2019					
	MCAS ELA & STAR Reading		Math		
	MCAS 2.0 2018	STAR MOY 2019	MCAS 2.0 2018	STAR MOY 2019	
KEITH	Grade 6	24	18	Grade 6	21
	Grade 7	16	27	Grade 7	23
	Grade 8	21	24	Grade 8	19
	Total	21	26	Total	21
NORMANDIN	Grade 6	29	28	Grade 6	22
	Grade 7	20	25	Grade 7	14
	Grade 8	18	24	Grade 8	16
	Total	22	30	Total	18
ROOSEVELT	Grade 6	31	26	Grade 6	33
	Grade 7	17	25	Grade 7	14
	Grade 8	26	15	Grade 8	15
	Total	25	22	Total	21

School Committee Meeting

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ACADEMIC FOCUS

KEY LEVERS

- Strengthening vocabulary development, writing, reading comprehension instruction, math (conceptualization), higher order thinking
- Meeting the needs of diverse learners
- Enhancing the instructional leadership capacity throughout NBPS
- Ensuring the students' socio-emotional needs are met so they are mentally available for learning.

School Committee Meeting

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IMPORTANCE OF CULTURE

“The health of an organization provides the context for strategy, finance, marketing, and everything else that happens within it, which is why it is the single greatest factor determining an organization’s success. More than talent. More than knowledge. More than innovation.”

—Lencioni, *The Advantage: Why Organizational Health Trumps Everything Else in Business* (2012), p. 2

School Committee Meeting

8

MOVING TO GREAT

What do great corporations or organizations do differently than good or average organizations?

- Seek and confront the brutal facts
 - Get the right people on the bus and in the right seats
 - Retaining talent (support and develop quality)
- (Collins, 2001)

School Committee Meeting

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THANK YOU

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

2/28/2019

FOR APPROVAL

FROM		TO									
Org	Func	Obj	Description	Org	Func	Obj	Description	Amount	Reason	Amount	Reason
S1259551	2430	540005	Rodman Classroom Supplies	S1258480	2210	580008	Rodman Principal Equipment	400.00	secretary chair		
S1403150	2410	540005	Winslow Workbooks	S1408441	5300	520004	Winslow Lease of Equipment	225.00	new lease price increase		
S5109550	2430	540005	Trinity Day Classroom Supplies	S5108442	5300	520004	Trinity Lease of Equipment	167.84	new lease price increase		
S6159540	4230	520004	Sea Lab Maint of Equipment	S6159550	2430	540005	Sea Lab Classroom Supplies	5,000.00	Additional Supplies		
S6155740	2358	520004	Sea Lab Prof Development Services	S6159550	2430	540005	Sea Lab Classroom Supplies	125.00	Supplies for care of fish		
S6159510	2305	511480	Sea Lab Teacher OT	S6159550	2430	540005	Sea Lab Classroom Supplies	1,000.00	Supplies for care of fish		
S6159540	4230	520004	Sea Lab Maint of Equipment	S6150330	4110	511480	Sea Lab Custodial OT	500.00	Custodian OT 1 weekend day for care of fish		
S6153150	2410	540005	Sea Lab Workbooks	S6150330	4110	511480	Sea Lab Custodial OT	1,000.00	Custodian OT 1 weekend day for care of fish		
S1259551	2430	540005	Rodman Classroom Supplies	S1258415	5300	520004	Rodman Lease of Equipment	90.00	new lease price increase		
S2020240	4210	520004	Maintenance of Grounds Contracted Serv	S2020350	4110	540005	Custodial Supplies	20,000.00	supply order for district wide custodial use		
S2024740	4300	520004	Extraordinary Maintenance HVAC Cool	S2020350	4110	540005	Custodial Supplies	20,000.00	supply order for district wide custodial use		
S2024640	4300	520004	Extraordinary Maintenance HVAC Heat	S2020350	4110	540005	Custodial Supplies	20,000.00	supply order for district wide custodial use		
S1353150	2410	540005	Taylor Workbooks	S1358450	2210	540005	Taylor Principal Office Supplies	500.00	Book study for teachers		
S0703150	2410	540005	Jacobs Workbooks	S0709550	2430	540005	Jacobs Classroom Supplies	3,000.00	Additional school supplies		

FROM		TO				Amount	Reason		
Org	Func	Obj	Description	Org	Func	Obj	Description	Amount	Reason
S0453080	2410	580008	Carney Textbooks	S0455480	2451	580008	Carney Classroom Instructional Tech Equipment	4,000.00	Purchase of laptops
INFORMATIONAL:									
S0208440	1410	520004	Mailroom Services	S0098480	1410	580008	Payroll Equipment	3,000.00	Desk replacements payroll office
S0208450	1410	540005	Mailroom Supplies	S0098480	1410	580008	Payroll Equipment	600.00	Desk replacements payroll office
S0145750	2358	540005	Deputy Supt Professional Development Supplies	S2135760	2358	521050	District Wide Professional Development Other Expenses	1,678.54	Conference Expenses
S5103080	2410	580008	Trinity Textbooks	S5103150	2410	540005	Trinity Workbooks	69.75	purchase of books
S0128440	1230	520004	Ed Access Contractual Services	S0121410	1230	511110	Ed Access Translations OT	5,000.00	Shift funds from contractual to employee pay for translations