

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

The Special Meeting was called to review the report of the Screening Committee

Mayor Mitchell addressed the Committee and thanked members of the Search Committee for their work in identifying the finalist for the next Superintendent.

Joshua Amaral, who was part of the Screening Committee, stated that 23 applications were reviewed and 10 people were selected for preliminary interviews of one hour each. He felt confident in the candidates the Screening Committee is bringing forward.

Mayor Mitchell introduced Mr. Don Macrino, from the search firm Hazard Young Attea & Associates (HYA) who addressed the committee. Mr. Macrino gave an overview of the process done before selecting the candidates. He mentioned that his firm held focus groups and an electronic survey was available to the community to provide insight on the following:

- 1) What are the valuable characteristics of New Bedford Public Schools (NBPS);
- 2) What are the limitations/needs of NBPS; and
- 3) What are the desired characteristics of the next Superintendent.

Mr. Macrino disseminated copies of the findings and said that the responses were consistent and that the Screening Committee used this report to identify the finalist. Mr. Macrino pointed out that there were 39 people who applied but that only 23 completed the application, 10 were interviewed and four finalists were selected.

Mr. Macrino explained that the task of the School Committee would be to determine who would be the Superintendent, make a public announcement, conduct a comprehensive background check, negotiate the contract and appoint the new Superintendent.

Mr. Macrino went on to announce the four finalists to the School Committee:

- Mr. Thomas Anderson- present Superintendent of Schools in Randolph, MA;
- Dr. Robert J. Gerardi- present Superintendent of Schools in Maynard, MA;
- Dr. Heather D. Larkin- present Director of guidance and pupil personnel in New Bedford Regional Vocational High School; and
- Mrs. Ana C. Riley- present Superintendent of Schools in Portsmouth, RI.

A timeline of the next steps and a summary of the finalist's resume were disseminated to the Committee.

During the week of March 12, School Committee members will visit the candidates' district. On March 19, 20, 21 and 23 the finalist will tour some of the schools and meet with staff and students on the day of their interview (to be announced).

A vote on the appointment of the new Superintendent will take place during a Special Meeting on March 26, 2018.

A discussion ensued with regard to questions to ask the candidates in the final interview. Mr. Macrino will be submitting potential questions to the Committee and they will also have the opportunity to suggest some questions. The Committee will meet before the interviews to have a consensus regarding the questions to ask the candidates.

At 7:00 P.M., on a motion by Christopher Cotter and seconded by Jack Livramento, the Committee voted to adjourn the meeting.

The roll call vote was as follows:

John Oliveira – Yes  
Christopher Cotter – Yes  
Jack Livramento – Yes  
Bruce Oliveira - Yes

Joshua Amaral– Yes  
Colleen Dawicki - Yes  
Mayor Mitchell – Yes

7 – Yeas      0 – Nays      0 – Absent

Respectfully Submitted by,

  
Adlybeiry Ferreira  
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,

  
Mayor Mitchell  
School Committee Chairman