

The Regular Meeting of the Brockton School Committee was held this evening in the George M. Romm Theatre at Brockton High School.

Present: Mayor Carpenter; Chair; Mr. Minichiello, Vice-Chair; Superintendent Smith, Secretary; Mr. Henningson, Mr. Jordan, Mr. Robinson, Mrs. Sullivan, Mrs. Wilson

Absent: Mrs. Joyce

Also Present: Executive Team Members A. Petronio, E. Barry, M. Thomas, C. Murray, J. Saba-Maguire, S. Terrasi, E. Cancell, S. Wolder; Kim Gibson, BEA President; Diane Lynch

Note: These minutes contain a summary of the meeting and list items that were under discussion.

Mayor Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m., followed by a salute to the flag.

### Hearing of Visitors

Mayor Carpenter asked speakers to limit their comments to under three minutes and advised that School Committee was not required to respond to statements or questions. He then invited visitors to address the Committee. Mrs. Christine Vallon, Plouffe School Health Teacher, and Mrs. Linda Hains, Ashfield School Health Teacher, spoke separately with respect to the elimination of health teacher positions at the middle schools and the importance of the curriculum for those students. The Superintendent responded, saying the work they do is valued every day, and every position that was eliminated is not one the district can afford to lose. Mayor Carpenter also responded and acknowledged the critical need for curriculum that fosters "prevention through education", speaking about drug and substance abuse education. The Superintendent said she continues to work on identifying positions to bring back before the end of the school year.

### Consent Agenda

Mayor Carpenter explained the purpose of the Consent Agenda, and asked members if they wished to remove any items for discussion; there were no requests.

#### **Mr. Minichiello moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda.**

- *Approval of June 2, 2015 Regular School Committee Meeting Minutes*
- *Approval of June 9, 2015 Finance Subcommittee Meeting Report*
- *Approval of April 8, 2015 CSAB Meeting Minutes*
- *Approval of 2015-2016 School Committee Meeting Dates*
- *Acceptance of Notification of Personnel Actions: Leaves of Absence, Resignations, Retirements*

Voted: to adopt the recommendation, unanimous.

### Superintendent's Report

#### **BHS Student Representative Report**

Jessica Freeborn congratulated the 922 BHS students, plus 27 alternative school students, who graduated on June 6<sup>th</sup>; she reported the spring musical production of Anything Goes took top State honors at the recent MET awards in Boston, including best musical, lead, support, costuming and overall dance. Jessica thanked School

Committee for the experience of serving on the committee. The Superintendent and Mayor presented Ms. Freeborn with a certificate of appreciation and a gift from the School Committee for her dedication and service.

Superintendent Smith made the following announcements:

- Appointment of Ms. Bonnie Brady to the position of permanent I.B. Department Head at the Plouffe School, and Mr. Dan Corbett to the position of permanent Math Department Head at BHS
- Appointment of Mrs. Diane Lynch as the new Interim Huntington School Principal, as Mrs. Saba-Maguire takes on the Executive Director of Learning and Teaching preK-5 position on a full-time basis
- Brookfield School held a "Choose to be Nice" celebration where attendees took a "promise pledge" to be kind; over the past few months Principal Brower and the school have been practicing kindness within the school and in the neighborhood
- Brockton School Department received a "Common Good Award" for its support of the United Way
- A dedication in memory of former principal Dianne Gosselin will be held at the Downey School on June 24<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.
- The district received two sizeable grants: \$387,000 Extended Learning Time Grant at the Raymond School for additional learning time, and \$140,000 Out of School Time Grant at the Baker School for after school programs

#### **PARCC Update**

The Superintendent reported that the Board of Education held a public forum on PARCC on June 10<sup>th</sup>, members of the school department attended and presented pros and cons. She said the Board is expected to make a decision on high-stakes testing by late fall. The Superintendent said she is anticipating a follow-up with School Committee at the August 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, about the district's experiences with the test this year.

#### **Ratification of MOA between the School Committee and the BEA**

The Superintendent spoke briefly about the long process that has finally resulted in the memorandum of agreement being presented to School Committee for ratification tonight. She thanked the many participants on both negotiating teams for the hundreds of hours that were spent during the process.

Mrs. Kim Gibson, BEA President, thanked both teams; she said this was different than traditional bargaining and included members' input, she thanked those who worked on the subcommittees. Negotiating team members Robinson, Sullivan, and Minichiello thanked all of the participants, all stated they felt this was a fair and equitable contract. Mayor Carpenter expressed his appreciation as well.

**Mr. Minichiello moved to ratify the Memorandum of Agreement between the Brockton School Committee and the Brockton Education Association.**

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

#### **Items to Refer to Subcommittee**

The Superintendent brought forward the need for a Policy and a Superintendent Contract subcommittee meeting to be scheduled in July.

## Unfinished Business

### 2015-2016 School Calendar

Mayor Carpenter asked the Committee to vote on the adoption of the school calendar; which was held off pending successful bargaining of the BEA contract.

**Mr. Robinson moved to adopt the Brockton Public Schools 2015-2016 Academic Calendar as presented.**

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

## New Business

School Committee members took this opportunity to inform about the following:

- Mr. Henningson reported he gave testimony at a recent hearing at the State House with respect to a bill on high-stakes testing and PARCC.
- Mr. Minichiello said he attended a luncheon at BHS with the Entrepreneurial Club at which Jamie Bush, nephew of George Bush, spoke. He acknowledged Mr. Cedric Turner and Mr. John Jerome for being instrumental in the program. He also acknowledged the lacrosse program that is beginning to take hold; there are currently almost 35 boys and girls participating.
- Mr. Robinson announced the Barrett Russell Peace Garden's "grand opening" on Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9 a.m.; he thanked Mr. Thomas and Youth Build.
- Mrs. Sullivan announced the Community Schools summer programs brochures are now available at all schools and on the website
- Mayor Carpenter acknowledged Mr. Bob Hogan, Brockton High Schools Drama Instructor, who received the Rotary Club Award for community service. He also acknowledged Plouffe and Arnone students who participated in the Flag Day ceremony at City Hall.

### FY2016 Budget

Mr. Minichiello reported that earlier this evening the School Committee held a Public Hearing on the Budget as required by MGL, and as a matter of business, the next step is to adopt the School Committee recommended budget.

**Mr. Minichiello moved to adopt a School Committee recommended budget of \$165,072,500 for Net School Spending, and \$7,582,528 for Non-Net School Spending, providing the City Council makes no further cuts to the Mayor's requested FY16 School Department appropriation.**

Voted: to approve the motion, unanimous.

Mr. Minichiello stated that with this vote, the School Committee has adopted the budget, but can still make adjustments to how the money will be spent; Mayor Carpenter said the City Council vote will be taken on Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Smith, JD  
Superintendent/Secretary  
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