

REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEW BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

PRESENT: MAYOR LANG, MRS. USSACH, MS. POLLOCK, MR. NOBREGA, DR. FLETCHER,
DR. FINNERTY

ABSENT: ATTY. CLARK

IN ATTENDANCE: DR. FRANCIS, MRS. LARKIN, MR. OLIVEIRA, MS. COSTA, MRS. MOURAO
(Recording secretary) AND MASS. DEPT. OF ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY
EDUCATION (DESE): DR. KARLA BAEHR, MS. EVA MITCHELL, MS. LYNDA FOISY

Justin Braga, Student Representative, was in attendance.

Public Comment was as follows:

- Louis St. John – Representing the New Bedford Educators Association, Mr. St. John spoke about his concerns with the DESE District Review Report.
- Paul Toner, Representing the Massachusetts Teachers Association, also expressed concern about the District Review Report.
- Robert Massoud – parent, would like to see more parental involvement and collaboration from everyone.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Dr. Fletcher, to approve and place on file the following minutes:

- June 1, 2011 - Transportation Subcommittee Minutes

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to item 5D out of order.

As part of her report, Superintendent Francis gave a brief overview of what was new in the District. She also welcomed MA DESE state officials, Dr. Karla Baehr, Ms. Eva Mitchell and Ms. Lynda Foisy.

At this time, DESE officials presented the NBPS District Review Report (Report) to the Committee.

Dr. Karla Baehr, Deputy Commissioner, explained the purpose of the District Review. She indicated that she wishes to see NBPS successful and although DESE aware of all of our accomplishments and the steps we have been taking to improve our school system, there is still significant room for improvement.

Ms. Eva Mitchell, School & District Accountability, explained the review process as well as the roles and responsibilities of the Team assigned to our District Review. She indicated that the Report is strictly evidence-based.

Ms. Lynda Foisy, Senior Associate Commissioner for Targeted Assistance spoke about the Level 4 Turnaround Plan for Parker School and informed the Committee that the new plan is currently under review. She also explained the planning support that DESE will provide to our District in light of the Report findings. She informed the Committee that DESE will be sending a .5 FTE Plan Manager to work with our District to provide supporting development with the Level 4 District Turnaround Plan, to prepare quarterly reports indicative of goals being met (or not), be the "eyes/ears across the District", and a "clerk of the works."

At this time, several Committee members expressed their individual concerns with the Report.

Dr. Baehr informed Mayor Lang that DESE plans to complete the review process of the Turnaround Plan for Parker School and let us know by the end of the week if it's been approved.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to take item 6A out of order.

Marissa Perez-Dormitzer talked about the continued efforts with the Recycling Program taking place in the schools. The winner for this month was the Roosevelt Middle School.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mrs. Ussach and seconded by Dr. Fletcher, to take item 6B out of order.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to approve a request from Mark Fuller/Business Agent/ Miss N.B. Scholarship Program, for permission to use the Keith Middle School Auditorium, Box Office, Community Room, Bookstore Room and stage craft on September 23, 2011 from 5:00-9:00 P.M., September 24, 2011 from 9:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M. and September 25, 2011 from 11:00 A.M.-7:00 P.M., for the 59th Annual Miss New Bedford Scholarship Pageant, with a waiver of the rental fees and permission to sell refreshments as well. (Supporting document labeled "6B")

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mrs. Ussach and seconded by Dr. Fletcher, to take item 7 out of order.

Relative to the communication received from the City Council to begin dialogue with Greater New Bedford Regional Vocation Technical High School and establish a mutual Music Program, Dr. Francis informed the Committee that there are several logistical issues with this request. NBPS band students are required to take band classes during the day. Ms. Kerri Quinlan-Zhou, Director of Fine Arts, stated the same and is also concerned that this would be unfair to our students as well as the vocational students as they would not receive similar practice time during the day. She further indicated that if approved, this would drain our resources. Mayor Lang asked Dr. Francis to meet with Superintendent Enos to discuss this further.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to table item 7.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mrs. Ussach and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to take item 6C out of order.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Mr. Nobrega, to approve a request from Denise Gaudette/Director of Support Services/PRAB and Karen Carvalho/Health Facilitator/PRAB, for permission to attend the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program Training of Trainers in Binghamton, NY from July 18 through July 22, 2011, to become certified as trainers in the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program in order to provide support for program implementation district-wide in the 2011-2012 school year, with all expenses paid for by the Title IIA grant. (Supporting document labeled "6C")

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mrs. Ussach and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to take items listed under 6E out of order.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to approve and place on file acceptance of the following donations:

- 1) Heather Larkin/Asst. Supt., for permission to accept donations from Reebok to support the *Where Are YOU Headed?* Summer Basketball Clinics and Attendance Outreach. Reebok's sponsorship of the clinics includes 10 basketballs, Reebok sneakers for the student coaches, t-shirts and other Reebok merchandise. (Supporting document labeled "6E1")
- 2) Marcia Faucher/Principal/Pacheco, for permission to accept a donation from Ahold Financial (Stop & Shop) in the amount of \$45.11 for the school fund. (Supporting document labeled "6E2")

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to table item 6F, School Choice Participation for 2011-2012 school year.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to approve in accordance with School Department Policy DN-R, a recommended list of surplus property located at the Trinity Day Academy, Carney Academy, Hayden-McFadden, Pulaski and Brooks Schools.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to approve the 2011-2012 School Calendar.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to receive and place on file the Financial Report. (Supporting document labeled "5A")

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to receive and place on file the Schedule of Bills – April 2011. (Supporting document labeled "5B")

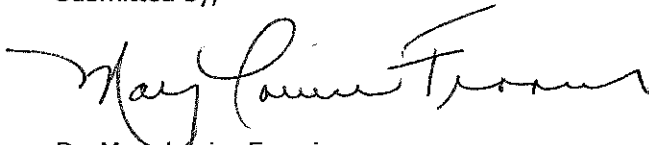
VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mrs. Ussach and seconded by Dr. Fletcher, to receive and place on file the Personnel Report. (Supporting document labeled "5C")

At this time, several members of the School Committee gave their reports.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mrs. Ussach and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to hold Special Meetings and Budget Working Sessions of the New Bedford School Committee on June 20, 2011 (8:30 PM) and June 23, 2011 (7:30 PM). Additional dates, if needed, will be voted on at the June 23, 2011 meeting.

At 10:15 P.M., on a motion by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Mr. Nobrega, the Committee VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adjourn the Regular Session meeting.

Submitted by,



Dr. Mary Louise Francis
Superintendent,
Secretary/School Committee

MLF/csm