

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

PRESENT: MAYOR LANG, MR. NOBREGA, MS. POLLOCK, ATTY. CLARK, DR. FLETCHER, DR. FINNERTY

ABSENT: MRS. USSACH

IN ATTENDANCE: DR. FRANCIS, MRS. LARKIN, DR. CARRIGO, MS. COSTA, MRS. BROWN, MS. BENTO (Recording Secretary)

JUSTIN BRAGA, Student Representative, was in attendance

Public Comment was as follows:

Jennifer Clune, a teacher from the Gomes School, spoke about the many concerns regarding environmental issues at the Gomes School. Mayor Lang indicated to Ms. Clune and the educators that he would address these concerns following the remainder of Public Comment.

Eddie Johnson spoke in favor of naming the track at Mc Coy Field in the name of the late Keith Francis.

At this time Dr. Francis addressed the concerns of Ms. Clune and the group of educators from the Gomes School. The Superintendent indicated that School Department was aware of these concerns and that the concerns are being addressed. Marianne DeSousa from the Board of Health spoke of the concerns regarding the environmental issues at Gomes School and commented in regards to the age of the building and the rugs in the school needing to be removed. Ms. Pollock spoke about a timeline in completing these concerns. Dr. Francis and Mayor Lang addressed the timeline and what issues have been completed already. Dr. Fletcher and Dr. Finnerty both addressed the concerns as well, especially the rugs in the building.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Dr. Fletcher, requesting an update to the concerns at Gomes School for the next school committee meeting.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Atty. Clark, to approve and place on file the minutes from the July 11, 2011 Finance Subcommittee Meeting.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to take items in section 6 out of order.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Dr. Finnerty to receive and place on file the time sensitive request approved administratively for Neil Macedo/Head Girls Volleyball Coach, on behalf of Whaler Volleyball Camp, for permission to use the Keith Gym from August 15-19, 2011, from 9 AM-3 PM, for the 20th Annual Whaler Volleyball Camp, with a waiver of the rental fee. (Supporting document labeled "6A1")

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Atty. Clark to approve a request by Anna Washburn/President/NBHS Soccer Booster Club, for permission to use the NBHS Green House Cafeteria on October 12th or 19th, 2011 from 4 PM-9:30 PM, for a spaghetti supper fundraiser with a waiver of all fees. The Soccer Booster Club also requested permission to use the Print Shop for the printing of the annual ad books to sell as a fundraiser with a waiver of all fees. (Supporting document labeled "6A2")

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to approve a request by Mike Arguin/Whaling City Clippers, for permission to use the Keith Middle School parking lot on Saturday, August 20, 2011 from 8 AM-12 PM, for the set up of Operation Clean Sweep. (Supporting document labeled "6A3")

Mary O' Keefe from Comcast addressed the Committee about the "Internet Essentials" program and the benefits to low income families in receiving internet service at a lower rate.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Dr. Fletcher, to approve a request for "Internet Essentials" by Comcast to be distributed to all students. (Supporting document labeled "6B")

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to approve a request from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to waive #14 of the NBPS Rental Application Form for their public meeting to take place at a NBPS site in September. (Date: TBA) (Supporting document labeled "6C")

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to approve a request from Dan McCarthy & Geoff Smith/NB Half Marathon Race Committee, Inc., to establish a Health & Fitness Club at each of the three middle schools. (Supporting document labeled "6D")

At this time, Dr. Finnerty made a motion to dedicate and name the track and field facility at the McCoy Field in memory of the late Keith Francis. Family and friends of Keith Francis spoke on behalf of this dedication.

A motion was made by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Atty. Clark that an exception is made to depart from the normal procedure of sending requests to the Facilities Subcommittee and vote on this request to name the facility as a whole committee instead.

The roll call vote was as follows:

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| MAYOR LANG-Yes    | MRS. USSACH-Absent |
| MR. NOBREGA-Yes   | MS. POLLOCK- Yes   |
| ATTY. CLARK- Yes  | DR. FLETCHER- Yes  |
| DR. FINNERTY- Yes |                    |

6-Yeas            0- Nays            1- Absent

A motion made by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Dr. Fletcher, to vote on naming the track and field facility at the McCoy Field in memory of the late Keith Francis. (Supporting document labeled "6E")

The roll call vote was as follows:

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| MAYOR LANG-Yes    | MRS. USSACH-Absent |
| MR. NOBREGA-Yes   | MS. POLLOCK- Yes   |
| ATTY. CLARK- Yes  | DR. FLETCHER- Yes  |
| DR. FINNERTY- Yes |                    |

6-Yeas            0- Nays            1- Absent

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Atty. Clark, to take up items 6F1 and 6F2 together.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Atty. Clark, to receive and place on file the time sensitive request approved administratively for the following out of state travel requests.

1. Manuel Acevedo & Henry Mastey/NBHS Engineering Academy Committee, to attend the National Academy Foundation 2011 Conference in San Francisco, CA from July 15-19, 2011, as part of our commitment with National Academy Foundation and part of the RTTT project, with all expenses paid for by the RTTT Grant.

- Denise Gaudette/Co-Director, ESSC Program, to attend the National SDFS Conference in Baltimore, MD from August 8-10, 2011, to represent the District, in accordance with the approved grant application for the Elementary and Secondary School Counseling Grant, with all expenses paid for by the ESSC Grant.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to take up items 6G1 and 6G2 together.

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

- Darcy Fernandes/ Principal/Roosevelt, for permission to accept \$68.75 from the Triage Career Solutions for an attendance reward program and \$500 from the Greater N.B. Regional Refuse Management District for rewards for students involved with the recycling program.
- The New Bedford Public Schools --Books for 3rd grade classes throughout the district from the New Bedford Kiwanis Club in partnership with RIF, Int.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to approve a request for transfer of funds from Andrew Kulak/Headmaster/NBHS: \$6,000 from account 4001-2415-31-505- 4049 (Services Media & Library) to 4001-2415-31-505-00-8002 (Other Inst. Equipment for use in Library) and \$14,000 from account 4001-2415-31-505-66-5031 (Other Ins. Mat. Library Use, Trade Books) to 4001-2415-31-505-66-5030 (Library Textbooks).

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

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Atty. Clark, to receive and place on file the Schedule of Bills for June 2011. (Supporting document labeled "5B")

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

Dr. Francis informed the Committee of two principal resignations and plans for filling those positions as well. In addition, she informed the Committee of the progress with regards to the plan manager for the District Turnaround Plan and of the new plan manager that Cambridge Education brought on to replace Desi Nesmith.

At this time, several members of the School Committee gave their reports. Dr. Finnerty and Dr. Fletcher both addressed the use of the public libraries for parents to encourage children to read more. Dr. Fletcher spoke of the deserving honor of the Arthur Dutra Memorial Garden at Sea Lab. Ms. Pollock informed the Committee of the savings of 1.2 million dollars in transportation last year.

Student Representative, Justin Braga, spoke of the clean up and the NBHS and the preparations being made at the High School for the beginning of the school year. He also informed the members of the upcoming Education Rally.

Mayor Lang discussed the September 11th memorial events taking place throughout the City to mark the 10th anniversary since the attacks.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Atty. Clark, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of:

- Unit A & Unit B Negotiations Update
- Para Union Negotiations Update
- Non Union Contract

The roll call vote was as follows:

MAYOR LANG-Yes

MRS. USSACH-absent

MR. NOBREGA-Yes  
ATTY. CLARK- Yes  
DR. FINNERTY- Yes

MS. POLLOCK- Yes  
DR. FLETCHER- Yes

6-Yeas            0- Nays            1- Absent

At 9:45 PM the Committee returned from Executive Session to continue the Regular Session Meeting.

On a motion made by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to vote to nominate Jane L. Daly for the position of Assistant Superintendent for Accountability and School Improvement.

A discussion ensued amongst the School Committee Members in regards to Mrs. Daly's qualifications and background for this position.

The roll call vote was as follows:

MAYOR LANG-Yes  
MR. NOBREGA-Yes  
ATTY. CLARK- Yes  
DR. FINNERTY- Yes

MRS. USSACH-absent  
MS. POLLOCK- Yes  
DR. FLETCHER- Yes

6-Yeas            0- Nays            1- Absent

At 9:55 PM, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Dr. Fletcher, the Committee VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting.

Submitted by,



Dr. Mary Louise Francis  
Superintendent,  
Secretary/School Committee

MLF/rjb