

<p style="text-align: center;">REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEW BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES</p>

PRESENT: MAYOR MITCHELL, DR. FINNERTY, DR. FLETCHER, MR. LIVRAMENTO, MR. NOBREGA, MR. OLIVEIRA, MS. POLLOCK

ABSENT: NONE

IN ATTENDANCE: DR. DURKIN, DR. LARKIN, MS. DALY, MR. MURPHY, MS. BRADSHAW, MRS. DUNAWAY

Adam Vieira, Student Representative, was in attendance.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mr. Oliveira, to accept and approve the following minutes as submitted:

- Sub Committee Meeting – Transportation: April 10, 2013
- Sub Committee Meeting – Facilities: August 8, 2013
- Regular Meeting: September 16, 2013

Superintendent's Report:

- Dr. Durkin introduced the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) Certificate of Academic Excellence Recipients. The following recipients are first and (tied for) second in the senior class at New Bedford High School.
 - Emma Finnerty
 - Halle Berger
 - Emma Vazquez
- Dr. Durkin introduced Sonia Walmsley, newly appointed Implementation Manager for Quality Services for English Language Learners. Ms. Walmsley will start at her new post in November.
- An Accelerated Improvement Plan (AIP) Update was presented: What Does Rigorous Instruction Look Like?
- New Bedford High School Update:
 - More computers have been placed in classrooms for teachers
 - Copy Center is up and running
 - Library Media Centers will be opened
 - Curriculum Work: Teachers for teachers in core subjects
 - Special Education scheduling is under control
 - Drop Out Programs are being reviewed
- *Your Voice Matters* Update:
 - Website link is now available in Portuguese and Spanish
 - 45 entries to date, most were anonymous entries
 - 11 responses were sent to those who submitted their contact information
 - Anonymous comments/concerns will be addressed on a periodic update via the website

To a question from Mr. Livramento regarding the status of a comprehensive technology plan, Mr. Murphy responded that a plan is not yet nailed down in regard to infrastructure issues but they are working on a process

that will be ongoing. Funding sources have to be found with a possible MSBA one time appropriation to update technology.

Business Office Report:

- Mr. Murphy updated the Committee on salary on non-salary items
- Challenges include finding good data from previous years to rely on to project budget on particular line items.
- Energy audit to be undertaken in buildings
- FY15 Cost Center budget worksheets will be going out in November

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Ms. Pollock, the Committee voted to receive and place on file the Business Office report.

Personnel Report:

- Ms. Bradshaw informed the Committee that hiring was up to date. Positions were filled from openings that occurred over the summer from retirements or terminations
- Some large classes, but there are limited resources to remedy the situation
- Dr. Durkin added that the budget is very tight and administration is doing their very best to stay within the confines of the budget

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, the Committee voted to receive and place on file the Personnel report.

Dr. Finnerty gave an update on the Superintendent's Evaluation and outlined how things will flow. Evaluation will be presented in June and a timeline leading up to that time will be decided upon. Twelve indicators will be used and the evaluation will be based on and aligned with the Administrator/Teacher evaluations along with the Accelerated Improvement Plan (AIP).

Dr. Finnerty also stated that he and Dr. Durkin will meet and bring proposals to School Committee. Review of goals will take place in early spring with Summative Evaluation in June.

Ms. Pollock, representative from the School Committee to the Southeastern Massachusetts Educational Collaborative (SMEC) gave the quarterly report as follows:

At the SMEC Board meeting on September 30, 2013, the following topics were discussed:

- 1) The revision to the SMEC Articles of Agreement have yet to be approved by the DESE. The major sticking point is the process by which SMEC develops and votes the budget. Because of SMEC's adult services and the timing of the state contracting process, we don't usually have our adult service contract budget numbers until late May/early June. Since our school service budgets and adult service budgets are funded separately, we try to have our student service budget developed and approved by the Board in March/April in order to give the districts the tuition figures that they need for the new fiscal year as early as possible. The DESE is insisting that we have only one budget, with all program budget activity approved by the Board simultaneously. This could result in a major delay in giving the districts the tuition and student services budget information. Catherine Cooper is meeting again with the DESE representatives on October 15th to try to come to a resolution. Once an agreement on budget process/language is reached and the revision to SMEC's Articles of Agreement receives DESE approval, it will be presented to the SMEC Board for approval and then presented to each member district for final approval. Catherine Cooper will notify the School Committees when it is time to put this issue on their respective agendas.
- 2) SMEC is undergoing Strategic Planning using a professional facilitator. The Strategic Planning Committee includes two superintendents, two special education directors, a SMEC parent and SMEC staff. The process started during July and is anticipated to conclude with the final report in February. A survey will be distributed to all constituents soon to gather information from those who were unable to participate on the Committee. Districts will receive a copy of the final Strategic Planning document upon completion.
- 3) The SMEC Board was given information regarding revenue projections and updated budget figures for FY14.
- 4) The Collaborative has hired a new Business Manager as of September 16th, Jill Brillhante. Jill is a DESE licensed school business manager with an MBA and formerly served as the Asst. Business Manager for Bristol Plymouth Vocational High School.

- 5) The Board reviewed the Executive Director's goals for FY14 and approved a job description and evaluation tool to use for the Collaborative Treasurer. The Board appointed the Chair and Vice Chair to the Evaluation Subcommittee to conduct the evaluations of the Executive Director and Treasurer.
- 6) The Executive Director informed the Board that the DESE still has not appointed a representative to serve on the Collaborative Board as mandated by recent legislation, due to conflict of interest issues. A DESE employee will be attending at least one meeting of each collaborative board this year, in a non-voting capacity, as an interim measure.
- 7) Frank Kuthan from Acushnet was appointed as Board chair for the year and Jim O'Brien from ORR was appointed as vice chair.
- 8) The next SMEC Board meeting will be held on November 21, 2013 at 6:30 P.M.

Student Representative gave his report.

Public Comment:

1. Dale Easton – Library Teen Services: Asked for permission to disseminate literature in the secondary schools.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Mr. Oliveira, the Committee voted to approve the following requests for out state field trips:

1. Melissa Morin/Irene Vasques/Christine Buraszewski/Teachers/Congdon School for permission to take 64 students and eight chaperones to Escobar Farm in Portsmouth, RI on Wednesday, October 23, 2013, at no cost to the local budget.
2. Noreen Burns/Teacher/Trinity Day Academy for permission to take six students and two chaperones to Johnson and Wales University in Cranston, RI on Wednesday, October 30, 2013, at no cost to the local budget.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mr. Oliveira, the Committee voted to approve a request from Sandra Cunha/Teacher/NBHS, for permission to travel to Manchester, NH to attend a NEASC conference as a member of the NBHS Steering Committee, from October 28 – October 30, 2013.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Ms. Pollock, the Committee voted to authorize Dr. Finnerty, School Committee Delegate, to vote "yes" on the following resolutions to be presented at the MASC/MASS Joint Conference annual business meeting on November 8, 2013. (Full report attached.)

1. Funding for K-12 Transient Student Success
2. Performance Assessment for Readiness for College and Career
3. Teacher Evaluation
4. Evaluation of the Commissioner of Education
5. Confirming Actions from 2012

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, the Committee voted to approve a request to declare, in accordance with School Department Policy DN-R, a recommended list of surplus property located at New Bedford High School, Parenting Teen Program and Paul Rodrigues Administration Building.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mr. Oliveira, the Committee voted to receive and place on file a request from Councillor David Alves/New Bedford City Council on behalf of the Lucio Family, the members of the Portuguese-American War Veterans Organization and the World War II Veterans, to meet with representatives of the School Committee, City Council Special Committee on Memorials and Dedications and the Alma del Mar Charter School to discuss a remedy to the decision by Alma del Mar to place a portable classroom over a long standing World War II Veterans Monument.

A brief discussion took place. The members felt that since the former Ottiwell School property was transferred from the School Committee to the City Council in August, the issue should be handled by the City Council and the City Administration.

No action was taken by the Committee in regard to a request from Councillor Brian Gomes/New Bedford City Council that the School Committee, the Mayor/Administration in conjunction with the City Council, find the funds to

reinstate four nurses who were cut from the FY 14 School Department budget in order to provide adequate nursing care for all students across the City.

At 7:40 P.M., on a motion by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, the Committee voted to go into Executive Session without returning to Open Session, for the purpose of discussions in regard to the following:

- Collective Bargaining Sessions
Level III Grievances: New Bedford Educators Association, Inc.
- Collective Bargaining Strategies
Negotiations: Unit B – New Bedford Educators Association, Inc.
- Collective Bargaining Strategies
Negotiations: American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME Local 641)

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mayor Mitchell – Yes	Dr. Fletcher – Yes
Ms. Pollock – Yes	Mr. Livramento - Yes
Mr. Nobrega – Yes	Dr. Finnerty – Yes
Mr. Oliveira - Yes	

7 – Yeas	0 – Nays	0 – Absent
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Respectfully Submitted by,

Lisa P. Dunaway

Reviewed by,

Pia Durkin, Ph.D.
Superintendent,
Secretary/School Committee

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