

REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEW BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
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PRESENT: MAYOR MITCHELL, MS. POLLOCK, DR. FINNERTY, MR. NOBREGA, DR. FLETCHER,
MR. LIVRAMENTO, MR. OLIVEIRA

ABSENT: NONE

IN ATTENDANCE: MR. SHEA, DR. LARKIN, MRS. DALY, DR. CARRIGO, MS. COSTA, MR. HASKELL
MRS. DUNAWAY

Adam Vieira, Student Representative, was in attendance.

After the call to order, a motion was made by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Dr. Fletcher, to nominate Dr. Finnerty as Vice Chair for 2013.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

6 – Yeas 0 – Nays 0 – Absent 1 – Abstention

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Livramento and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to retain the current Sub-Committee assignments for 2013.

At this time, Mr. Shea and Dr. Fletcher handed out awards to students who received a perfect score on the 2012 MCAS test. A certificate signed by Mr. Shea and Mayor Mitchell was given to each student along with a NBPS red and white pen. The distribution of awards was suggested by Dr. Fletcher at a previous meeting. Twenty students received the award.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Mr. Nobrega, to receive and place on file the following minutes:

- Special Meeting – October 2, 2012
- Finance Sub-Committee – November 5, 2012
- Regular Meeting – November 5, 2012
- Regular Meeting – December 10, 2012
- Executive Session – 9/20/10, 12/13/10, 2/15/11, 3/14/11, 5/23/11, 6/6/11, 7/11/11, 9/12/11, 10/17/11, 1/9/12, 2/13/12, 5/31/12, 7/9/12, 8/13/12, 9/10/12, 10/2/12, 11/27/12, 12/10/12

Supporting document 3.

Mayor Mitchell introduced Barry Haskell, Interim Business Manager. Mr. Haskell explained his role along with the role of Mr. Robert Gurek who is sharing the duties. Mr. Haskell gave an overview of financial operations with a focus on what will be needed in the upcoming year in regard to the FY 14 budget. This overview included adding more staff for Computer and Technical Services and Maintenance. He also informed the Committee that they will be looking to reduce an estimated \$750,000 shortfall in the current fiscal year budget.

Supporting document 4A

Mrs. Costa gave an update to the Committee explaining the positions listed on the Personnel Report.

Supporting document 4B

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to receive and place on file the Personnel Report.

Superintendent's Report....

- Mr. Shea publicly thanked Interim Business Managers, Barry Haskell and Bob Gurek for their concentrated work on the budget.
- Addressed School Safety - reporting that safety reviews and checks are done regularly
- Safety training sessions will be done
- Publicly thanked Police Chief Provencher, Sgt. Amos Melo and Safety Officer Peter Cabral noting that there is a great partnership between the police department and New Bedford Public Schools
- Drills for lock downs and evacuations are planned
- School Adjustment Counselors are available to students and staff in time of need
- Will look into improvements as we move forward

As part of the Superintendent's Report, Mrs. Daly updated the Committee on Student Benchmarks. The review covered Monitoring Early Evidence of Change, short term outcomes and final outcomes, District Learning Walk data; data collected at the beginning and end indicate where students are in the learning process. Students have ownership of learning and how they need to improve. Mrs. Daly went on to explain that this testing is part of the District Plan.

Supporting document 4C

Several members gave reports to the Committee.

At this time Ms. Pollock took this opportunity to commend Mayor Mitchell for sending a letter to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education voicing his opposition to the creation of an additional Charter School (City on a Hill) in New Bedford.

Ms. Pollock also brought attention to a letter that was sent by the Executive Office of Education declaring that the proposed Innovation Schools will be considered new schools *not* conversion schools.

Dr. Finnerty took this opportunity to voice his appreciation for being selected as the Vice Chairperson of the School Committee – 2013, and thanked Ms. Pollock, outgoing Vice Chairperson.

Dr. Finnerty suggested that an area at the Paul Rodrigues Administration Building (PRAB) be dedicated to collecting reading materials and other media for members of the School Committee to use.

Student Representative gave his report.

Mayor Mitchell introduced Pres. Dana Mohler-Faria (President – Bridgewater State University), to update the Committee on the Superintendent Search. President Mohler-Faria informed the Committee that the Focus Group meetings were very helpful. He stated that although the deadline for submission of applications is January 16, the pool of candidates to this point seem to be very good. Timeline is still on schedule to submit names of the best candidates to the School Committee in February.

Ms. Lynne Ribeiro of the Regional Refuse District picked the recycling contest winner – Winslow School.

Supporting document 7A

At this time, Cheryl Henlin/Environmental Planner/City of New Bedford, briefly explained her request for authorization for Mayor Jonathan F. Mitchell, Chairman/ex-officio of the School Committee, to sign an Activity and

Use Limitation (AUL) for a planned solar installation on two lots on Liberty St. (Map 70, Lot 227 and Map 76, lot 256) listed under the care and custody of New Bedford High School.

Supporting document 7D

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Mr. Nobrega, to approve the above mentioned request.

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Mr. Oliveira, to table a request by David Vieira/President/New Bedford Youth Soccer Association, for permission to use Normandin Middle School on Saturdays 8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. and Sundays 10:00 – 3:00 P.M., from March through mid June and Saturdays 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. from August through mid November with a waiver of all fees. (Rental:\$1620 Custodial: To open storage area: \$4860)

Supporting document 7E1

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Mr. Oliveira, to table a request by Leonard Sylvia/Athletic Director/GNBRVTHS, for permission to use the field at Campbell School for soccer practice Monday-Friday from August through October from 3:00 – 5:30 P.M.

Supporting document 7E2

Public Comment followed:

- Eddie Johnson – Innovation School concerns
- Ricardo Rosa - Innovation School concerns
- Lou St. John – Charter/Innovation Schools
- Sandra Cunha - Innovation School concerns
- Kate Lynch - Innovation School concerns
- Andrea White - Innovation School concerns
- Jim Rottler - Innovation School concerns
- Amy Mello - Innovation School concerns
- Emma York – Innovation School Support
- Justin Braga – Innovation School Support
- Rachel Lassey - Innovation School concerns
- Carol Strupczewski – Concerned about backpack use in schools
- Deb Dixon - Innovation School concerns

At this time, Mayor Mitchell introduced Eva Mitchell – Associate Commissioner/Center for District and School Accountability/Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, to update the Committee on the Level 4 Monitoring Quarterly Progress Report/Quarter Sept. – Nov. 2012.

Ms. Mitchell reviewed the Four Accelerated Improvement Plan objectives:

- Prepare all NBPS students for college and career success by implementing rigorous standards
- Develop a collaborative culture of using data to improve instructional practice and decision-making
- Expand school and staff capacity to deliver effective engaging instruction to all students
- Raise expectations for student achievement and increase student ownership of their learning in collaboration with families and community organizations

The four AIP objectives were each summarized by a key question:

- What do students need to know and be able to do?
- How will we know that they have learned it?
- What will we do when they haven't learned it? What will we do when they already know it?
- (Students ask:) What do I do when I haven't learned it yet, or already know it?

Ms. Mitchell went on to summarize the report, stressing the importance of having the AIP strategies reach all classrooms in tangible ways that impact teachers' practice. The district should ensure that teachers are provided with timely, reliable assessment data and concrete strategies for improving instruction based on classroom observations, Learning Walk trends and AIP goals.

Supporting document 7C

Voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Livramento, 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, Campbell School and Paul Rodrigues Admin. Bldg.

At 9:20 P.M., on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mr. Livramento, the Committee voted to go into Executive Session without returning to Open Session, for the purpose of discussions in regard to the following:

- Non-Union Personnel Contracts

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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Submitted by,

Michael R. Shea
Interim Superintendent,
Secretary/School Committee

MRS/lpd