

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

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

**ABSENT:** NONE

**IN ATTENDANCE:** DR. DURKIN, MR. DEFALCO, DR. RABINOVITCH, MS. EMSLEY, MS. BETTENCOURT,  
MRS. DUNAWAY (Recording Secretary)

Student Representative, Katherine Gomes, was in attendance.

Special Recognition:

- Dr. Durkin introduced the captains of the NBHS football team. The Committee recognized them for their winning season.
- The Committee recognized outgoing member, Marlene Pollock, for her eight years of service.

Approval of Minutes: (Supporting documents labeled "3")

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Mr. Amaral, to accept the following meeting minutes as presented:

- Facilities Sub Committee Meeting: September 23, 2015
- Finance Sub Committee Meeting: October 15, 2015
- Regular Meeting: October 21, 2015

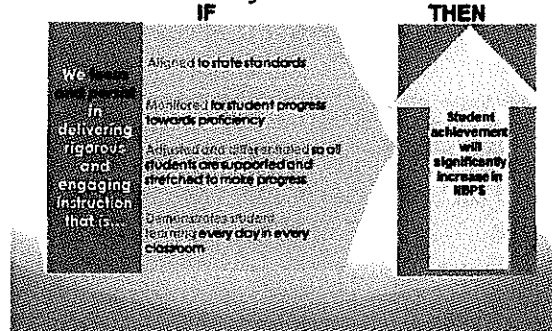
Superintendent's Report (Dr. Durkin): (Supporting documents labeled "4A")

- Dr. Durkin recognized several principals and staff for their achievement in the Spring, 2015 PARCC testing
- Dr. Durkin and Mr. DeFalco gave the following presentation relative to the PARCC results:

# DESE Accountability Results 2015

New Bedford Public Schools  
December 14, 2015

## Theory of Action



## Evidence of Gains

- Demonstrating Improvement
- School Shout-Outs!
- Sustaining and Accelerating Improvement

## Pulaski School

- Moved from **Level 3 to Level 1!**
- Moved up from the **15<sup>th</sup> to the 35<sup>th</sup> percentile in statewide ranking**
- Recognized as a Commendation School
- Met **ALL** achievement targets in ELA and Math
- ELA Growth **up from 43 to 64.5 (+21.5)**
- Math Growth **up from 57.5 to 73 (+15.5)**

Pulaski School is recognized as a Commendation School due to having high achievement, making strong progress and/or narrowing proficiency gaps.

## Taylor School

- Moved from **Level 2 to Level 1!**
- Moved up from the **25<sup>th</sup> to the 47<sup>th</sup> percentile in statewide ranking**
- Recognized as a Commendation School
- Met **ALL** achievement targets in ELA and Math
- ELA Growth **up from 49 to 66 (+17)**
- Math Growth **up from 67 to 75 (+8)**

Taylor School is recognized as a Commendation School due to having high achievement, making strong progress and/or narrowing proficiency gaps.

## Carney Academy

- Moved up from the **42<sup>nd</sup> to 50<sup>th</sup> percentile in statewide ranking**
- Stayed at **Level 2** but aiming for Level 1
- ELA and Math achievement significantly improved but just missed the state target
- Math achievement up **3 points (CPI)** and growth went from **57 to 64 (+7)**
- ELA achievement up **2.3 points (CPI)**

Carney Academy recognized as the highest achieving school, missed state target by just a bit.

## Brooks School

- Moved up from the 5<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> percentile in statewide ranking
- Stayed at Level 3
- ELA Growth up from 30 to 56 (+26)
- Math Growth up from 45 to 67 (+22)
- ELA achievement went 68.8 to 80.7 (+11.9)
- Math achievement went 69.7 to 79.8 (+10.1)
- Well within Level 2 striking distance!

## Rodman School

- Moved up from the 10<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> percentile in statewide ranking
- Stayed at Level 3
- ELA Growth up from 38 to 52 (+14)
- Math Growth up from 43 to 56 (+13)
- ELA achievement went 68.4 to 75.4 (+7)
- Math achievement went 68.8 to 72 (+3.2)
- Well within Level 2 striking distance!

## Middle Schools

Middle School	2014 Statewide Ranking	2015 Statewide Ranking
Roosevelt Middle School	5 <sup>th</sup> percentile	11 <sup>th</sup> percentile (+6)
Keith Middle School	5 <sup>th</sup> percentile	10 <sup>th</sup> percentile (+5)
Normandin Middle School	5 <sup>th</sup> percentile	9 <sup>th</sup> percentile (+4)

- All middle schools increased in ELA growth an average of 6 points and in math an average 5.5 points
- Across all three middle schools -5 out of the 6 achievement categories showed improvement towards the state targets in both ELA and math

## Overall District Results

- Level 1 Schools - 3
- Level 2 Schools - 6
- Level 3 Schools - 10
- Level 4 Schools - 2
- Level 5 School - 1

*No new schools designated as Level 4 or 5.*

*Hayden-McFadden will undergo a deep review and construct a new Turnaround Plan for the 2016-17 school year subject to approval by the Commissioner.*

## Accelerating, Sustaining, and Launching Gains

- Our strategy is working in creating the conditions for improved gains
- The focus areas of Leadership, Curriculum, and Instruction MATTER! Where we have succeeded, we see the convergence of all three areas; where we have not, we are diving deeper.
- More resources needed for ELL students to produce greater gains
- More time on learning is critical for all schools.

Dr. Durkin explained that Hayden McFadden Elementary School will undergo a new turnaround model and will convene a Local Stakeholders Group. Dr. Durkin concluded by thanking the School Committee for their support.

Dr. Finnerty congratulated staff in the district for their hard work and commitment and asked what is being done to support principals. Dr. Durkin answered that principals and staff are supported as best as she and her Guiding Coalition Team (GCT) can by offering a process in goal setting in schools, strong mentoring program with experienced principals in the district, and ongoing outreach. She added that it is a constant work in progress.

Mr. Livramento thanked all teachers, principals and administrators for their hard work.

Mr. Amaral stated that he is not an advocate of assessment and looks at other types of things as a measurement of success such as all schools and offices being refocused with administration on the right track.

Ms. Pollock mentioned that there were dark days but commended the Committee and said it was exciting seeing the successes.

Mr. Oliveira stated that he was glad that the schools and district have the opportunity to celebrate its success.

Mayor Mitchell recognized how hard everyone is working. He also praised principals and noted that teaching is a lot harder and the level of engagement is deeper.

Business Office Report (Dr. Rabinovitch): (Supporting documents labeled "4B"):

Financial Statement

- Dr. Rabinovitch stated that the cost centers were on target for spending to date

Dr. Finnerty explained that the Finance Sub Committee reviews the Business Office reports at a meeting scheduled before the Regular School Committee meeting, therefore many of their questions have been answered previously.

Transfer of Funds

- Dr. Rabinovitch explained that four transfers would need to be approved by the full committee. This item was reviewed and referred by the Finance Sub Committee.

Dr. Finnerty made a motion to approve the four transfers; Mr. Livramento seconded the motion. Mayor Mitchell questioned why funds were being requested to transfer from Middle Schools sports to fund health education at the alternative schools. He said he was under the impression that if funds were available in the Middle School Sports account, that it would be used to expand the program. Dr. Rabinovitch explained that the Director of Health, Athletics and Phys. Ed., Tom Tarpey, felt that his budget could fund the health education program at the alternative schools and it would not have impact on the Middle School sports'

budget. Mayor Mitchell asked to have more information provided to the full committee before approving this particular transfer.

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Amaral and seconded by Mr. Oliveira, to amend the previous motion and approve the following transfers (3):

December Meeting				Request for Transfer of Funds						
50539510	2305	511110	Teacher Salaries High School	01438460	1220	521050	CAO Other Expenditures	1,000.00	Misc expenses	CAO
12438420	2210	511110	Renaissance Clerical Salary	20638430	3100	511110	Renaissance Parent Liaison Salary	45,270.08	Correction on account number	Renaissance
40534940	4300	520004	Ext Maint Keith HVAC Cont Svs	40538440	3600	520004	School Security Keith Cont Svs	2,500.00	police details for remainder of the year	Keith

MSBA

- Hannigan: Design estimates have been done
- Taylor @ Sea Lab: Construction work is underway
- Accelerated Repair Projects: Five elementary schools – will be taken into consideration by the MSBA at the end of January

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Livramento, to accept the Business Office Report.

Personnel Report (Ms. Emsley) (Supporting document labeled “4C”)

Ms. Emsley reviewed the personnel report with the Committee. She reported that there were 26 new hires, 15 retirements and nine resignations since the last report in November. There remain several vacancies at the high school, middle school and elementary levels.

A lengthy discussion ensued in regard to the need for larger support settings for students who have challenging behavioral issues.

Ms. Bettencourt explained how placements are made along with the protocol that is followed. Dr. Durkin added that it is not a “one size fits all” alternative and many supports have been put into place including wraparound staff to deal with non-school based issues.

It was suggested that a presentation be given at the next School Committee meeting.

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral, to accept the Personnel Report.

Public Comment:

- Chris Cotter – Curriculum concerns
- Gillie Safioleas – Placement of Public Comment on the agenda

Dr. Durkin explained to the Committee that previously, approval was given for every school (K-8) to be given PARCC testing except Hayden McFadden Elementary School and would now like to include the school in taking this particular test as opposed to MCAS in the upcoming spring (2016). MCAS will continue to be given at the high school through 2019.

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Mr. Oliveira, to approve Hayden McFadden Elementary School's participation in the administration of Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) testing.

Dr. Durkin explained that due to the student enrollment increase and the current structure of one assistant assigned to the sixth grade and one to the eighth grade and both splitting the seventh grade at Keith Middle School, she felt that a third assistant assigned to the seventh grade was needed. At Congdon School, there is an additional 100 plus students that have enrolled this school year.

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to approve the addition of the following positions:

- Assistant Principal – Congdon Elementary School
- Assistant Principal – Keith Middle School

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral to have the following policies pass to a second reading: (reviewed and approved by the Policy Sub Committee as part of the district's ongoing revision of the complete policy manual. This project is in consultation with the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC)):

## **SECTION B**

### **BOARD GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS**

- BA SCHOOL COMMITTEE OPERATIONAL GOALS
- BAA EVALUATION OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES
- BB/BBAA SCHOOL COMMITTEE LEGAL STATUS/MEMBER AUTHORITY
- BBA SCHOOL COMMITTEE POWERS AND DUTIES
- BBAA SCHOOL COMMITTEE AUTHORITY
- BBB SCHOOL COMMITTEE ELECTIONS
- BBBA/BBBB SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS/OATH OF OFFICE
- BBBC/BBBD/BBBE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER RESIGNATION/REMOVAL FROM OFFICE/UNEXPIRED TERM FULFILLMENT
- BCA SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER ETHICS
- BDA SCHOOL COMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
- BDB SCHOOL COMMITTEE OFFICERS
- BDD SCHOOL COMMITTEE - SUPERINTENDENT RELATIONSHIP
- BDE SCHOOL COMMITTEE SUB COMMITTEES
- BDF ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
- BDFA SCHOOL COUNCILS

- BDFA-E-1 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
- BDFA-E-2 SUBMISSION AND APPROVAL OF THE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
- BDFA-E-3 CONDUCT OF SCHOOL COUNCIL BUSINESS
- BDG SCHOOL ATTORNEY
- BDH CONSULTANTS TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
- BE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

## **SECTION C**

### **GENERAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION**

- CA ADMINISTRATION GOALS
- CB SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT
- CBD SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT
- CBI EVALUATION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
- CC ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION PLAN
- CCB LINE OF AUTHORITY AND STAFF RELATIONS
- CDA (ALSO GCO) EVALUATION OF THE PROFESSIONAL STAFF
- CE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCILS, CABINETS AND COMMITTEES
- CF SCHOOL BUILDING ADMINISTRATION
- CH POLICY IMPLEMENTATION
- CHA DEVELOPMENT OF REGULATIONS
- CHB (ALSO BGD) SCHOOL COMMITTEE REVIEW OF REGULATIONS
- CHC REGULATIONS DISSEMINATION
- CHCA APPROVAL OF HANDBOOKS AND DIRECTIVES
- CHD ADMINISTRATION IN POLICY ABSENCE
- CL ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS
- CM SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT

## **SECTION D**

### **FISCAL MANAGEMENT**

- DA FISCAL MANAGEMENT GOALS
- DB ANNUAL BUDGET
- DBB FISCAL YEAR
- DBD BUDGET PLANNING
- DBE/DBF DISSEMINATION OF BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS/HEARINGS AND REVIEWS
- DBJ BUDGET TRANSFER AUTHORITY
- DD FUNDING PROPOSALS AND APPLICATIONS
- DH BONDED EMPLOYEES AND OFFICERS
- DI FISCAL ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING
- DID INVENTORY CONTROL POLICY
- DIE AUDITS
- DJ PURCHASING

- DJA PURCHASING AUTHORITY
- DJE BIDDING REQUIREMENTS
- DJGA SALES CALLS AND DEMONSTRATIONS
- DK PAYMENT PROCEDURES
- DKA PAYROLL PROCEDURES
- DKC EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS
- DN MANAGEMENT OF SURPLUS SUPPLIES

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to approve to declare, in accordance with School Department Policy DN-R, a recommended list of surplus property located at Normandin Middle School.

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Amaral and seconded by Mr. Oliveira, to approve the following out of state field trips:

- Elizabeth Carr/Teacher/Renaissance to take 43 students and six chaperones to Providence, RI to visit the Rhode Island School of Design on January 12, 2016. (No cost to the district.)
- Col(R) Stephen Bethoney to take 22 students and three chaperones to Providence, RI (Dunkin Donuts Center), to see the Providence Bruins on January 8, 2016. (No cost to the district.)

Dr. Rabinovitch explained the highlights of the proposed agreement between NBPS and Old Rochester Regional High School in regard to rental and custodial costs associated with the NBHS swimming pool.

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to approve a rental agreement between New Bedford Public Schools and Old Rochester Regional High School (Re: NBHS swimming pool). (From the Facilities Sub Committee)

At 8:30 P.M., on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral, the Committee voted to go into Executive Session with the intent to return to Open Session.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mayor Mitchell – Yes	Mr. Amaral – Yes
Ms. Pollock – Yes	Mr. Livramento - Yes
Mr. Nobrega – Yes	Dr. Finnerty – Yes
Mr. Oliveira - Yes	
7 – Yeas	0 – Nays
	0 – Absent

At 9:13 P.M., on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral, the Committee voted to re-enter Open Session.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mayor Mitchell – Yes	Mr. Amaral – Yes
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Ms. Pollock – Yes  
Mr. Nobrega – Yes  
Mr. Oliveira - Yes

Mr. Livramento - Yes  
Dr. Finnerty – Yes

7 – Yeas      0 – Nays      0 – Absent

In regard to the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), Ms. Emsley explained that the CBA would involve the Assistant Principal at Gomes School. There will be an eight day increase, a \$9000 stipend and required professional development.

On a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, the Committee voted to approve a Collective Bargaining Agreement between the School Committee and Unit B of the New Bedford Educators Association as modified. Modification shall apply to employee(s) and position(s) at Alfred Gomes School in relation to the Extended Learning Time (ELT) grant.

At 9:15 P.M., on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral, the Committee voted to adjourn the meeting.

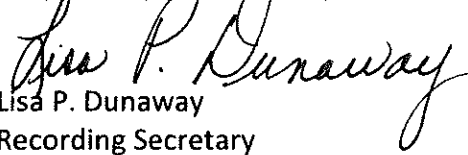
The roll call vote was as follows:

Mayor Mitchell – Yes  
Ms. Pollock – Yes  
Mr. Nobrega – Yes  
Mr. Oliveira - Yes

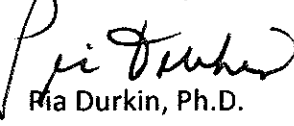
Mr. Amaral – Yes  
Mr. Livramento - Yes  
Dr. Finnerty – Yes

7 – Yeas      0 – Nays      0 – Absent

Respectfully Submitted by,

  
Lisa P. Dunaway  
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,

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

