



REGULAR MEETING
New Bedford School Committee
Keith Middle School, 225 Hathaway Blvd., New Bedford, MA
Monday, September 20, 2021
6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: MAYOR JON MITCHELL, MR. BRUCE OLIVEIRA, MR. JOSHUA AMARAL, MS. COLLEEN DAWICKI, MR. CHRISTOPHER COTTER, MR. JACK LIVRAMENTO

ABSENT: MR. JOHN OLIVEIRA

IN ATTENDANCE: MR. THOMAS ANDERSON, MS. MARJORIE FERNANDES, MS. KAREN TREADUP, MR. ANDREW O’LEARY, MS. HEATHER EMSLEY, MR. ARTHUR MOTTA, MS. JENNIFER CARLING, MR. ROBERT SHAHEEN, MS. JENNIFER FERLAND, MS. TRINA CAMARAO, MS. DARCIE AUNGST, MR. JOSHUA ALMEIDA, MR. STEVEN HARKEY, RUSSELL LEVENDUSKY, MS. NICOLE BRINE, MS. TARA MONTEBAULT

- 1. *CALL TO ORDER*
- 2. *ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS*

The roll call was as follows:

Mr. John Oliveira – Absent	Mr. Joshua Amaral – Yes
Mr. Christopher Cotter – Yes	Ms. Colleen Dawicki – Yes
Mr. Jack Livramento – Yes	Mayor Mitchell – Yes
Mr. Bruce Oliveira – Yes	6-Yeas, 0-Nays, 1-Absent

- 3. *APPROVAL OF MINUTES*

The School Committee voted on a motion made by Mr. Christopher Cotter and seconded by Mr. Joshua Amaral to approve the August 9, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes and the September 8, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes as presented.

The vote was as follows:

Mr. John Oliveira – Absent	Mr. Joshua Amaral - Yes
Mr. Christopher Cotter – Yes	Ms. Colleen Dawicki – Yes
Mr. Jack Livramento – Yes	Mayor Mitchell - Yes
Mr. Bruce Oliveira – Yes	6-Yeas, 0-Nays, 1-Absent

- 4. *PUBLIC COMMENT*
No members of the community signed up for Public Participation.

- 5. *STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT*
The new 2021-2022 Student Representative’s began by introducing themselves to the Committee. Ms. Sydni Colson (lead) and Ms. Cynthia Torres (alternate) chose to present the report together. They shared how

students are following state guidelines and protocols for mask wearing, social distancing and even one-way hallways and added that the focus is getting back to a somewhat traditional school year. Some updates for New Bedford High School (NBHS) were as follows:

- The return of fall sports: Soccer, Field Hockey, Volleyball and Football.
- A Booster Club is in the works for the entire Athletic Department. The goal of the club will be to fund items like coaches buses for all teams to use.
- NBHS Marching Band had a half-time show during last weekend's game and has their first competition on Saturday September 25th.
- Computer distribution is slow for upperclassman and they are using the paper process. All students should be working electronic soon.
- The Student Advisory Council will be prioritizing college and career planning for upperclassman this year.

6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Thomas Anderson began his report introducing two new administrators: Ms. Tara Montembault, Principal of DeValles Elementary School and Ms. Nicole Brine, Principal of Pacheco Elementary School. He gave an Enrollment update, highlights of Covid-19 close contacts and school protocols being used at this time. He reminded the Committee of prior discussions surrounding the "Test and Stay" program that was offered by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) last school year. He shared that NBPS will be taking part in the program moving forward and DESE will provide testing supplies and staffing for the program. He noted it is a voluntary program. Member, Mr. Christopher Cotter asked about employees being mandated to participate in the "Test and Stay" program. Superintendent Anderson clarified that NBPS is not mandating testing and contracted employees through outside agencies are being mandated by their employer to participate in the NBPS testing or private testing when working in the schools. When the discussion ended the Chairman pointed out this is being considered this school year because they is no remote learning and need to keep as many students in school as possible.

The Superintendent provided an update on the Educational Facilities Liaison (EFL) Program. He shared he has been working with Police Chief, Paul Oliveira and Police Lieutenant Scott Carola of the New Bedford Police Department (NBPD) to get a sense of the program direction. They are reviewing possibilities of EFL's being stationed in one building or moving between buildings, how to get younger students to have more exposure to EFL's and how to make it a more positive model. He said the EFL Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) would be signed over the next few days and posted on the NBPS website. He added that the MOU entails the details of the program. After a few questions from Committee members, he shared the next steps are to review disciplinary practices, consequences for actions, assess what happens within the buildings and are students getting the same reprimand for the same actions. He stated as this process moves along the Committee will be kept updated.

Deputy Superintendent, Ms. Karen Treadup highlighted assessment tools being used for students in the areas of English, Language, Arts and Math. She shared how teachers target areas of learning loss and assist students. She shared information surrounding interim, ongoing and optional formative assessments.

Next, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, Mr. Andrew O'Leary stated NBPS is working on Capital Planning and began his presentation with a site proposal update on the Central Kitchen Project for Food Services. Mr. O'Leary began with the feasibility study and shared the work occurring in school kitchens, and that the projects are funded by the US Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National School Lunch and Breakfast program reimbursements. The reimbursements are revenue for the district to re-invest. In the past, it has been re-invested into the high school kitchens and this time it will be re-invested into the NBPS Central Kitchen as stated in meetings last school year. Meetings have been ongoing with the team, architects, project manager, consultants, mechanical, electrical, plumbing and fire protection services. He added that the current Central Kitchen for the schools is inadequate to meet NBPS needs: inadequate loading dock, below grade kitchen,

unsafe access to loading area, lack of adequate delivery conditions, impedes traffic, inefficient production, antiquated equipment, and lack of cost saving equipment, inadequate storage, dysfunctional training space and limited utility upgrades.

Mr. O’Leary pointed out that NBPS services meals to all the parochial schools in the city as well and stated some schools have cooking kitchens and others do not. He stated an un-biased approach was taken to look at proposed properties. The Architectural Consulting Group (ACG) initially researched several City, State and private-owned lots throughout the City. The ACG representative and NBPS did a drive by tour and toured four possible standing structures for possible purchase acquisitions: Whaling City Storage - North Street, Beacon Hardware - Church Street, Shaw’s Market – King’s Highway and Revere Copper – North Front Street. Prior to NBPS followed the request of the City Council to examine all 600 City owned property parcels for suitable sites and came up with a short list of possible properties. These properties were compared and the North Street property is very adaptable. Mr. O’Leary included a proposed view of the property, applicable codes for the building, phases of the project, debt service for NBPS and pros and cons of the acquisition. He concluded the update with a review of the Food Service financial balance sheet.

Mr. O’Leary reviewed other Capital Investment Planning information including construction and enrollment at schools, transportation and the maintenance shop. He shared building renewal over the past decades have been funded by the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) and the City and stated the district is entering a unique period for spending substantial funds on capital projects over the next three years and will deploy 4 levels of funding coming available: ESSER, MSBA, USDA and City CNA bonds. He shared information in regards to past and current facility assessments being done and what needs to be upgraded at older schools within the district and how Esser funding can help achieve it. He then reviewed the MSBA process moving forward and concluded with an update of the active Capital Projects.

The Superintendent then gave an overview of his continued goals for the 2021-2022 school year and stated he would be giving an update on data points and his goals at the October meeting. The Committee and Superintendent had a quick discussion surrounding Early College, Advance Placement classes, Dual Enrollment and the International Baccalaureate program application status. Member, Mr. Cotter added a closing comment. He stated, due to the NBPS district being locked into the bottom 10% of districts in the state for the next 3 years, he would like the Committee to write a letter of opposition to DESE and State Legislators in regards to this freeze. He feels the Committee needs to make known it is opposed to this decision.

The School Committee voted on a motion made by Mr. Joshua Amaral and seconded by Mr. Bruce Oliveira to draft a letter to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Massachusetts State Legislators in opposition of the state policy measurement for exiting the lowest 10% of schools.

The vote was as follows:

Mr. John Oliveira – Absent	Mr. Joshua Amaral – Yes
Mr. Christopher Cotter – Yes	Ms. Colleen Dawicki – Yes
Mr. Jack Livramento – Yes	Mayor Mitchell - Yes
Mr. Bruce Oliveira – Yes	<i>6-Yeas, 0-Nays, 1-Absent</i>

7. OTHER REPORTS

A. Finance & Operations - Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, Mr. O’Leary gave an overview of the following reports: General Expense, Function Code, Salary Spenddown, Transfer, Grant and Health Insurance. Member, Mr. Bruce Oliveira stated for the record that the Finance Sub-Committee reviewed and recommended an approval of the transfers.

The School Committee voted on a motion made by Mr. Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Christopher Cotter to accept the Transfer report as presented to the School Committee.

The vote was as follows:

Mr. John Oliveira – Absent	Mr. Joshua Amaral – Yes
Mr. Christopher Cotter – Yes	Ms. Colleen Dawicki – Yes
Mr. Jack Livramento – Yes	Mayor Mitchell - Yes
Mr. Bruce Oliveira – Yes	<i>6-Yeas, 0-Nays, 1-Absent</i>

The School Committee voted on a motion made by Mr. Jack Livramento and seconded by Mr. Christopher Cotter to accept the Finance and Operation reports as presented to the School Committee.

The vote was as follows:

Mr. John Oliveira – Absent	Mr. Joshua Amaral – Yes
Mr. Christopher Cotter – Yes	Ms. Colleen Dawicki – Yes
Mr. Jack Livramento – Yes	Mayor Mitchell - Yes
Mr. Bruce Oliveira – Yes	<i>6-Yeas, 0-Nays, 1-Absent</i>

- B. Personnel Report – Ms. Heather Emsley, Executive Director of Human Capital Services (HCS), shared the hiring appointments: 2 from Unit B, 100 from Unit A, 22 AFSCME, 17 NBSSU, 31 non-Union and 39 Paraprofessionals. She noted that three candidates rescinded their acceptance of employment, making the total number of new hires 208. There were a total of 8 retirements, 58 resignations, and 15 transfers. She closed her report with HCS updates to the Committee.

The School Committee voted on a motion made by Mr. Jack Livramento and seconded by Mr. Bruce Oliveira to place the Personnel report on file as presented to the School Committee.

The vote was as follows:

Mr. John Oliveira – Absent	Mr. Joshua Amaral – Yes
Mr. Christopher Cotter – Yes	Ms. Colleen Dawicki – Yes
Mr. Jack Livramento – Yes	Mayor Mitchell - Yes
Mr. Bruce Oliveira – Yes	<i>6-Yeas, 0-Nays, 1-Absent</i>

- C. School Committee Report: Only the Chairman, Mayor Mitchell offered a report. He shared information supporting the Friends of New Bedford Athletics. It is group that supports the NB athletes with a variety of items needed outside of what is provided by the schools. He wanted the community to know the group is getting started with a variety of fundraisers to begin assisting athletes.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Consideration of approval to rename the Sea Lab Education Center the Dr. Frederick M. Kalisz Jr. Center. This is the second and final reading. (Initial recommendation from the Facilities Sub-Committee – per School Committee Policy: FF)

The School Committee voted on a motion made by Mr. Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Joshua Amaral to approve the change of name of the Sea Lab Education Center to the Dr. Frederick M. Kalisz Jr. Center as presented to the Committee.

The vote was as follows:

Mr. John Oliveira – Absent	Mr. Joshua Amaral – Yes
Mr. Christopher Cotter – Yes	Ms. Colleen Dawicki – Yes
Mr. Jack Livramento – Yes	Mayor Mitchell - Yes
Mr. Bruce Oliveira – Yes	<i>6-Yeas, 0-Nays, 1-Absent</i>

B. Consideration of the first reading of the following policies to amend/adopt (reviewed and approved by the Policy Sub-Committee).

- File: EBCFA Face Coverings

The School Committee voted on a motion made by Ms. Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Christopher Cotter to approve the first reading and move forward to a second and final reading of the EBCFA Face Coverings policy.

The vote was as follows:

Mr. John Oliveira – Absent

Mr. Christopher Cotter – Yes

Mr. Jack Livramento – Yes

Mr. Bruce Oliveira – Yes

Mr. Joshua Amaral - Yes

Ms. Colleen Dawicki – Yes

Mayor Mitchell - Yes

6-Yeas, 0-Nays, 1-Absent

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The School Committee voted on a motion made by Mr. Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Christopher Cotter to adjourn the meeting and enter into Executive Session for the following purpose:

A. Per MGL 30A & 21(a) 3. To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and negotiations with union personnel:

- New Bedford Educators Association Unit A
- New Bedford Educators Association Unit B
- Federation of Paraprofessionals

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. John Oliveira – Absent

Mr. Christopher Cotter – Yes

Mr. Jack Livramento – Yes

Mr. Bruce Oliveira – Yes

Mr. Joshua Amaral – Yes

Ms. Colleen Dawicki – Yes

Mayor Mitchell - Yes

6-Yeas, 0-Nays, 1-Absent

10. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned 8:25 PM

Submitted by:



Marjorie Fernandes
Senior Executive Assistant
Recording Secretary, School Committee

Reviewed by:



Thomas Anderson
Superintendent
Secretary, School Committee



REGULAR MEETING
New Bedford School Committee
Keith Middle School, 225 Hathaway Blvd., New Bedford, MA
Monday, October 18, 2021
6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: MAYOR JON MITCHELL, MR. BRUCE OLIVEIRA, MR. JOSHUA AMARAL, MS. COLLEEN DAWICKI, MR. CHRISTOPHER COTTER, MR. JACK LIVRAMENTO

ABSENT: MR. JOHN OLIVEIRA

IN ATTENDANCE: MR. THOMAS ANDERSON, MS. MARJORIE FERNANDES, MS. KAREN TREADUP, MR. ANDREW O'LEARY, MS. HEATHER EMSLEY, MR. ARTHUR MOTTA, MS. JENNIFER CARLING, MR. MATTHEW KRAVITZ, MS. DARCIE AUNGST

1. *CALL TO ORDER*

2. *ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS*

The roll call was as follows:

Mr. John Oliveira – Absent	Mr. Joshua Amaral – Yes
Mr. Christopher Cotter – Yes	Ms. Colleen Dawicki – Yes
Mr. Jack Livramento – Yes	Mayor Mitchell – Yes
Mr. Bruce Oliveira – Yes	6-Yeas, 0-Nays, 1-Absent

3. *PUBLIC COMMENT*

No sign ups for public participation. Member, Mr. Christopher Cotter moved a motion forward to place a written public comment on file.

The School Committee voted on a motion made by Mr. Christopher Cotter and seconded by Mr. Joshua Amaral to accept and place on file the written public comment as presented.

The vote was as follows:

Mr. John Oliveira – Absent	Mr. Joshua Amaral – Yes
Mr. Christopher Cotter – Yes	Ms. Colleen Dawicki – Yes
Mr. Jack Livramento – Yes	Mayor Mitchell – Yes
Mr. Bruce Oliveira – Yes	6-Yeas, 0-Nays, 1-Absent

4. *STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT*

Student Representative, Ms. Sydni Colson gave the Committee New Bedford High School (NBHS) updates. The following are a few:

- SAT's were held on Saturday, October 2nd and the PSAT's were held on Wednesday, October 13th.

- NBHS Marching Band came in 1st place in the Home Competition.
- Class elections were held and the new senior class President is Ms. Dona Bonnie, the class Secretary is Mr. Angel Cruz and reported that she, the Student Representative is the new class Vice President.

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Thomas Anderson began his report with school updates, thanked parents and staff for all their support and continuing work to be done. He shared with the Committee that New Bedford Public Schools (NBPS) has been approved for Part A of the Early College designation process and has been invited to Part B, which deadline is December 15th. He updated the Committee on the status of ESSER funding and went on to review his 2021-2022 Superintendent goals:

- Goal 1 – Professional Practice: Participate in conferences, workshops and meetings
- Goal 2 – District Improvement: Exit lowest 10% of school districts
- Goal 3 – Student Achievement: Graduation increase
- Goal 4 – District Improvement: District enrollment increase
- Goal 5 – District Improvement: Reduce chronic absenteeism
- Goal 6 – Student Achievement: Advanced Placement score increase
- Goal 7 – Student Achievement: SAT score increase

The Superintendent discussed college and career readiness including civic preparation. He gave a quick review of the MassCore Framework for programs of study and showed the differences between educational routes for graduating seniors. He concluded with a data review in regards to the outcomes of the NBPS strategic plan. He requested to change Goal #2 to focus on MCAS scores and to combine Goals 6 and 7 (College Readiness).

6. OTHER REPORTS

A. Finance & Operations - Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, Mr. Andrew O'Leary gave an update on the Capital Projects and reviewed the following reports: General Expenses, Function Code, Transfers, Health Insurance, Grants and Salary Spenddown.

The School Committee voted on a motion made by Mr. Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Joshua Amaral to accept the Transfer report as presented.

The roll call was as follows:

Mr. John Oliveira – Absent	Mr. Joshua Amaral – Yes
Mr. Christopher Cotter – Yes	Ms. Colleen Dawicki – Yes
Mr. Jack Livramento – Yes	Mayor Mitchell – Yes
Mr. Bruce Oliveira – Yes	6-Yeas, 0-Nays, 1-Absent

The School Committee voted on a motion made by Mr. Christopher Cotter and seconded by Mr. Jack Livramento to accept the Finance and Operations reports as presented.

The roll call was as follows:

Mr. John Oliveira – Absent	Mr. Joshua Amaral – Yes
Mr. Christopher Cotter – Yes	Ms. Colleen Dawicki – Yes
Mr. Jack Livramento – Yes	Mayor Mitchell – Yes
Mr. Bruce Oliveira – Yes	6-Yeas, 0-Nays, 1-Absent

B. Personnel Report – Ms. Heather Emsley, Executive Director of Human Capital Services (HCS), shared there were 66 appointments with 26 from Unit A (96.2% licensed), 6 from AFSCME, 5 from NBSSU, 15 non-union and 14 paraprofessionals. There is 4 retirements 1 from Unit A, 2 from AFSCME and 1 non-union. There

were 23 resignations with 9 from Unit A, 4 non-union, 1 NBSSU, 5 AFSCME and 4 paraprofessionals. There were 11 transfers with 2 from Unit A and 9 paraprofessionals.

Ms. Emsley shared HCS updates and included that the NBPS Wellness Fair will be held the week of November 15th at the Keith Middle School.

The School Committee voted on a motion made by Mr. Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Joshua Amaral to place the Personnel report on file as presented.

The roll call was as follows:

Mr. John Oliveira – Absent	Mr. Joshua Amaral – Yes
Mr. Christopher Cotter – Yes	Ms. Colleen Dawicki – Yes
Mr. Jack Livramento – Yes	Mayor Mitchell – Yes
Mr. Bruce Oliveira – Yes	6-Yeas, 0-Nays, 1-Absent

C. School Committee Report: Member, Mr. Christopher Cotter offered a report and congratulated the NBHS Marching Band for the wonderful job they did in this year’s marching band competition hosted by the high school.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration for the approval of Fall River Public Schools request to join the South Coast Educational Collaborative, as a member, with full benefits, privileges and responsibilities and subject to terms and conditions of the Collaborative Agreement.

The School Committee voted on a motion made by Mr. Christopher Cotter and seconded by Ms. Jack Livramento to approve the Fall River Public Schools request to join the South Coast Education Collaborative as presented.

The roll call was as follows:

Mr. John Oliveira – Absent	Mr. Joshua Amaral – Yes
Mr. Christopher Cotter – Yes	Ms. Colleen Dawicki – Yes
Mr. Jack Livramento – Yes	Mayor Mitchell – Yes
Mr. Bruce Oliveira – Yes	6-Yeas, 0-Nays, 1-Absent

B. Request for approval for new positions for Food Services and the Finance and Operations Office as presented: Assistant Cafeteria Manager and Bookkeeper II

The School Committee voted on a motion made by Mr. Bruce Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Joshua Amaral to approve the Assistant Cafeteria Manager position for Food Services and the Bookkeeper II position for Finance and Operations Office as presented.

The roll call was as follows:

Mr. John Oliveira – Absent	Mr. Joshua Amaral – Yes
Mr. Christopher Cotter – Yes	Ms. Colleen Dawicki – Yes
Mr. Jack Livramento – Yes	Mayor Mitchell – Yes
Mr. Bruce Oliveira – Yes	6-Yeas, 0-Nays, 1-Absent

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The School Committee voted on a motion made by Mr. Jack Livramento and seconded by Ms. Colleen Dawicki to adjourn the meeting, not return to open session and enter into Executive Session for the following purpose(s):

A. Per MGL 30A & 21(a) 3. To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and negotiations with union personnel:

- New Bedford Educator’s Association – Unit A
- New Bedford Educator’s Association – Unit B
- American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
- New Bedford Support Specialist Union (NBSSU)
- Federation of Paraprofessionals

The roll call was as follows:

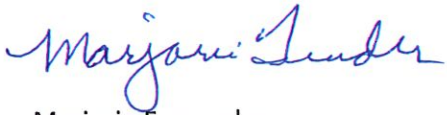
Mr. John Oliveira – Absent
 Mr. Christopher Cotter – Yes
 Mr. Jack Livramento – Yes
 Mr. Bruce Oliveira – Yes

Mr. Joshua Amaral – Yes
 Ms. Colleen Dawicki – Yes
 Mayor Mitchell – Yes
 6-Yeas, 0-Nays, 1-Absent

9. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned 7:48 PM

Submitted by:



Marjorie Fernandes
 Senior Executive Assistant
 Recording Secretary, School Committee

Reviewed by:



Thomas Anderson
 Superintendent
 Secretary, School Committee