

REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEW BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

PRESENT: MAYOR LANG, DR. FLETCHER, ATTY. CLARK, MS. POLLOCK, MRS. USSACH, MR. NOBREGA, MR. POPE

ABSENT: NONE

IN ATTENDANCE: DR. BONNER, DR. SOUZA, D. WINN, H. LARKIN, DR. FRANCIS, L. OLIVEIRA, G. MALITA (recording secretary)

Felipe Andre, Student Representative, was in attendance.

Public input was as follows:

- Evangelos Safioleas – no response from administration to a letter written on August 10th.
- Carol Strupczewski – conditions of rugs at the various schools.
- Luz Torres – upcoming meeting of EPA at Keith on 9/30
- Shad Samagaio, parent of a Winslow School student relative to class size and out of district transfers into the school
- Carol Lopes – Winslow School parent who recommended that everyone should work with the School Committee and administration regarding out of district transfers and class size and not just point fingers.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Pope and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to receive and place on file the minutes of the August 24, 2009 (School Committee meeting); August 24, 2009 (Sub-Committee/Finance); and, the August 31, 2009 (Sub-Committee/Facilities) as recorded.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Pope and seconded by Dr. Fletcher, to receive and place on file the Personnel Report as amended.

APPOINTMENTS

<u>UNIT A</u>		
<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School</u>
Manuel Acevedo	Technology Education	New Bedford High
Jessica Amaral	Kindergarten	Gomes
Jessica Arruda	Special Education	Hayden McFadden
Karla Ayers	Science	Keith Middle
Amy Baldwin	Special Education	Pulaski
Tammy Barboza	Pre-School	Pace Head Start
GinaMaria Boutier	Biology	New Bedford High
Elicia Brum	Special Education	Keith Middle
Joseph Brum	English as a Second Language	New Bedford High
Doria Bryant	English	New Bedford High
Joyce Buckingham	Kindergarten	Pacheco
Kelly Burger	Grade 3	Hayden McFadden
Danna Cabral	Adjustment/Crisis Counselor	Whaling City Alternative
Christy Camara	Special Education	Whaling City Alternative
Kelly Camara	English as a Second Language	New Bedford High
Christine Coelho	Special Education	Roosevelt Middle
Jay Conaty	Social Studies	Keith Middle
Jason Cornaglia	Special Education	Normandin Middle
Brenda Correia	Adjustment Counselor	Trinity Day Academy
Kimberly-Jo Dias	Special Education	Gomes

Kate Donly	Adjustment Counselor	PRAB
Rachel Drouin	Special Education	Kempton
Anne Dziura	Special Education	Gomes
Amy Eddy	Computer	Keith Middle
Stephanie Essenburg	Special Education	Campbell
Christopher Fernandes	Adjustment/Crisis Counselor	Normandin Middle
Cynthia Ferreira	Grade 6	Roosevelt
Janet Ferreira	Special Education	Carney
Lucia Ferreira-Trevino	Title I Literacy Coach	DeValles
Tracie Ferreira	Pre-School	Pacheco
Eamonn Finnerty	Math	New Bedford High
Michelle Fogg	Special Education	Carney
Kellie Freitas	Professional Development	PRAB
Traci Furtado	Special Education	Gomes
Kira Gabriel	Grade 1	Phillips Avenue
Jessica Gaffney	Adjustment Counselor	PRAB
Matthew Gaitane	Math	New Bedford High
Joanna Garibaldi	Special Education	Hayden McFadden
Thomas Gaska	Math	Keith Middle
Jeffrey Giammalvo	Health	Normandin Middle
Jennifer Girouard	Kindergarten	Swift
Kathleen Gonsalves	Physics	New Bedford High
Laurie Greenlees	Special Education	Keith Middle
David Grogan	Science	Keith Middle
Terrance Holliman	English	Whaling City Alternative
Sean Igoe	Special Education	Keith Middle
Kerriane Kelly	Special Education	Gomes
Jennifer Lafferty	Kindergarten	Gomes
Renee Leblanc	Grade 2	Rodman
Paul Letendre	Chemistry	New Bedford High
Amy Lister	Special Education	DeValles
Wm. Jeffrey Lord	Academic Coach	Normandin Middle
Hilario Machado	Science	Whaling City Alternative
Erick Maczpacay	World Language – Spanish	New Bedford High
Kathryn Mahoney	Special Education	Keith Middle
Armando Maldonado	World Language – Spanish	New Bedford High
Mary McClatchey	Special Education	Hayden McFadden
Paul Mickiewicz	Science	Keith Middle
Ryan Mitchell	Social Studies	Keith Middle
Amy Montgomery	Sheltered English Immersion Gr. 5	Hayden McFadden
Lynne Morse	Grade 2	Swift
Lori Mortenson Vastano	Science	Keith Middle
Robert O'Rourke	Science	Keith Middle
Laurie Petrarca	Kindergarten	Rodman
Linda Pina	Guidance Counselor	Roosevelt Middle
Matthew Pacheco	Music	Keith Middle
Marie Poirier	Special Education	Keith Middle
Stasia Revere	Math	New Bedford High
Lisa Richard	Biology	New Bedford High
Alexandria Rioux	Special Education	Normandin Middle
Rosannette Rivera	Art	Roosevelt Middle
Brian Rounseville	Attendance Officer	PRAB
Glenn Rosa	Computer	Keith Middle
Francis St. Vincent	Title I Math	Keith Middle
Melissa Santos	English	New Bedford High
William Schuler	Instructional Tech	Roosevelt
Jill Sheridan	Science	Keith Middle
Joseph Silva, Jr.	Grade 5	Congdon

Praveen Singhal	Chemistry	New Bedford High
Joanna Siino	Special Education	Keith Middle
Christine Silva-Ramos	Kindergarten	Ashley
Ashley Slater	Social Studies	Normandin Middle
Geoffrey Smith	Special Education	Keith Middle
Mark Souza	Elementary Music	PRAB
Dylan Smith	Math	New Bedford High
Erin Sullivan	Chemistry	New Bedford High
Fritha Sylvia	Grade 6	Keith Middle
Mark Waters	Social Studies	New Bedford High
Michelle Yuille	Grade 6	Normandin Middle

CIVIL SERVICE

Richard Glass	Junior Plant Engineer	New Bedford High
Kendra Francis	Clerk/Typist	New Bedford High
Roberta Laprade	Clerk/Typist	Pulaski
Kellie Medeiros	Lunch Aide	Ottiwell
Patricia Paulsen	Bookkeeper	PRAB

RETIREMENTS

UNIT B

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School</u>
Patricia Hamilton	09-01-2009	Instructional Supervisor	Roosevelt

UNIT A

Kathleen Goncalo	01-21-2010	World Language – Spanish	New Bedford High
Carol A. Pisarczyk	08-28-2009	English	Roosevelt

CIVIL SERVICE

Cynthia Ferreira	09-09-2009	7 hour Cafeteria Helper	Hayden McFadden
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RESIGNATIONS

UNIT A

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School</u>
Susan L. Ramey	09-08-2009	English	Roosevelt Middle
Kaitlyn B. Walsh	08-21-2009	Math	New Bedford High

CIVIL SERVICE

Kim Rozario	08-24-2009	Cafeteria Helper	New Bedford High
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TRANSFERS

UNIT A

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Wm. Jeffrey Lord	Instructional Supervisor at Normandin	Academic Coach at Normandin
Catherine Oliveira	Grade 3 at Hathaway	Grade 3 at Brooks
Elizabeth Reed	Instructional Supervisor at Keith	Science Teacher at Normandin
MaryLou Schuler	Instructional Supervisor at Roosevelt	Academic Coach at Roosevelt
Lisa Simon	Instructional Supervisor at Normandin	Grade 6 Teacher at Normandin

CIVIL SERVICE

Luz Fleming	Clerk/typist at Normandin	Clerk/typist at Phillips Avenue
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ASSIGNMENTS**UNIT A**

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Brian Rounseville	Physical Education at New Bedford High	Attendance Officer at PRAB
Thomas Tarpey	Physical Education at Keith	Physical Education at New Bedford High

PARAPROFESSIONALS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School</u>
Barbara Barlow	SPED EC w/student	Campbell
Sonia Bernardo	SPED EC w/student	Pulaski
Ruth Conceicao	SPED Secondary Small Group	Normandin
Joyce Fonteneau	SPED EC Classroom	Ottiwell
Elizabeth Fortes	SPED EC Classroom	Gomes
Juana Jones	SPED EC w/student	Pulaski
Barbara Lewis	SPED Secondary w/student	New Bedford High
Janis O'Berry	SPED Elementary Small Group	Pacheco
Dominga Ocasio	SPED Secondary w/student	New Bedford High
Maria Palhota	SPED Secondary w/student	New Bedford High
Annette Provencal	SPED Elementary Small Group	Hayden McFadden
Ivanea Teixeira	Preschool Day Care	Gomes
Doris Velez	SPED Elementary Classroom	Swift
Helena Vieira	SPED Secondary w/student	New Bedford High

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

Anne Cunha	Ronald Ferreira	Sandra Galindo
Laura McDaniels	Vanessa Tavares	

ATHLETICS

Marco DeBrito	Assistant Football Coach	New Bedford High
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ADDENDUM**APPOINTMENTS****UNIT B**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School</u>
Louise Murphy	Assistant Principal	Normandin Middle

RE-ASSIGNMENTS**ADMINISTRATORS**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School</u>
Deborah D. Cimo	Principal	Kempton
Richard Desrosiers	Principal	Keith Middle

ASSIGNMENTS

UNIT B

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School</u>
Ross Grace, Jr.	Acting Assistant Principal	Keith Middle

Superintendent's Report was as follows:

Staff Recognition - Donna Maxfield a teacher at New Bedford High School has been selected to attend the 2009 Presidential Academy sponsored by the US Department of Education.

Program Recognition - Our Smooth Sailing into Kindergarten Program has been recognized by the National Center for Children and Families Teachers' College, Columbia University for its efforts in transitioning students into Kindergarten. I commend Anne Furtado, the kindergarten teachers and staff that fall under our kindergarten grant for their work.

Class Size - Enrollment for kindergarten is up across the district. Last year we enrolled 1076 students. As to date, we have registered 1267 students. As of Friday, we have added four additional kindergarten classrooms at the following sites: Ashley, Pacheco, Rodman and Winslow. As of today, we are establishing a new kindergarten class at Pulaski and continue to monitor growth. Currently, there are 16 classes across the K-5 grade span that are 30+ students.

NCLB- Notices are going out this week to students in underperforming schools that explains their options for school choice under the guise of NCLB and Supplemental Education Services (SES). Parents have until October 14 to apply, and will be notified by October 29. Criteria for selection of students is based upon: eligibility for free or reduced lunch, academic performance on MCAS or district assessment and availability of grade and class size. Parents will be able to select from four schools: Taylor, Pacheco, Hannigan and Campbell.

Summer Reading Campaign - will culminate on Wednesday, September 16 with a district-wide celebration of literacy. The elementary and middle school classes that have read the most books will receive a pizza party. The individual student who has read the most at each level will receive a gift certificate from Bakers Books/Barnes and Nobles. At the high school level, the English class that has read the most books, each participant will receive a gift certificate from Bakers Books/Barnes and Nobles.

MCAS – Superintendent conducted a PowerPoint presentation.

On a question by Atty. Clark as to what a parent can do when his/her child does not meet AYP, Dr. Bonner responded that they have the right to supplemental services that provides tutorial services for students after school. Also the school district has adopted a new Homework policy. In addition, children need to be encouraged to read to their parents and have conversations of what they are reading and then go one step further and apply it to his/her own experiences.

Atty. Clark requested that the Committee be kept posted on the number of responses received from parents for supplemental in order for the Committee to get the word out.

On a question by Dr. Fletcher as to whether there was any literacy programs for children, Dr. Bonner responded that there were some things they were going to put into place this year. However, there had been Family Literacy & Math nights held at the building level.

Dr. Fletcher then initiated a discussion on class size.

Dr. Bonner advised the Committee that at this time there were 16 hot spots in the district where class size was over 31 and asked that the Committee give her guidance on class size.

Mayor Lang agreed that there was a need to set a maximum class size and requested the Superintendent to go over the class sizes for each grade at every school in order to make that determination this evening which Dr. Bonner proceeded to do.

Dr. Fletcher stated that he would like to make a motion that no class be higher than 30 in grades 1-5 and no higher than 25 for kindergarten and Ms. Pollock seconded the motion.

Atty. Clark suggested that where there were classes of 30 or over that a paraprofessional be provided. In terms of the budget, there were several positions at PRAB that were not necessary and do not provide direct services to children.

A Roll Call Vote was taken on the main motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Ms. Pollock as follows:

Mayor Lang	- Yes	Mrs. Ussach	- Yes
Dr. Fletcher	- Yes	Mr. Nobrega	- Yes
Atty. Clark	- Yes	Mr. Pope	- Yes
Ms. Pollock	- Yes		

YEAS – 7 NAYS – 0 ABSENT – 0

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mr. Pope to receive and place on file the Superintendent's Report.

Reports were received from Committee members on various events attended since the previous meeting.

Student Representative, Filipe Andre, gave a brief report on activities at NBHS.

Dr. Fletcher reported on the August 24th meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Pope and seconded by Atty. Clark to receive and place on file said report.

Mr. Nobrega reported on the August 31st meeting of the Facilities Sub-Committee.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Atty. Clark and seconded by Mr. Pope to receive and place on file said report.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mr. Pope to receive and place on file the following consent agenda items:

- Financial Statement from Office of Finance & Operations (September 14, 2009 Finance Committee)
- Facilities Reports for May-July 2009 (August 31, 2009 Facilities Committee)
- Excess Property Reports for April-June 2009 (August 31, 2009 Facilities Committee)
- Transfers of Funds within the Student Services Department (September 14, 2009 Finance Committee)

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Mr. Pope, to approve the proposed playground improvement submitted by the Ashley School PTO.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mr. Pope, that the following schools be submitted in order of their priority to the Massachusetts School Building Authority: 1) Campbell; 2) DeValles; 3) Winslow; and, 4) Brooks.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mrs. Ussach and seconded by Mr. Pope, to approve a Feasibility Study of New Bedford High School.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Mr. Pope, to authorize acceptance of the following donations and that letters of appreciation be sent on their behalf:

- Swift School – checks of various amounts from Target's "Take Charge of Education" program.
- Pulaski School - \$243.07 from Target's "Take Charge of Education" program.
- Hayden-McFadden - \$1245.00 from Massachusetts Cultural Council

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mr. Pope, to grant the Pulaski School PTO use of the cafeteria and school grounds for a Halloween event to be held on Saturday, October 31st from 2-5:30 PM and that all fees be waived; secondly, for permission to conduct a fundraiser drive for a new playground for the school.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to grant the NBHS Soccer Boosters Club use of the Green House Cafeteria at NBHS for a spaghetti supper on October 22, 2009 from 4-9 PM with all fees waived.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Mr. Nobrega, to grant the Whaling City Kids Wrestling Team use of the wrestling room at NBHS from October 13-November 24, 2009 on Tuesday evenings from 5:15-6:30 PM with waiver of all fees.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Pope and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to grant approval for the following field trips:

- NBHS GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM – an overnight trip to participate in the Tournament of Champions in Holyoke, MA on October 9, 2009.
- NBHS GREAT OUTDOORS CLUB – an overnight camping trip to Camp Cachalot in Carver, MA from October 23-25, 2009.

Mr. Pope then submitted a proposal that a standing committee of the School Committee be established to focus on the achievement of greater diversity within the New Bedford Public School system and that said committee be comprised of himself, Dr. Fletcher and Ms. Pollock.

A Roll Call Vote was taken as follows:

Mayor Lang	- Yes	Mrs. Ussach	- Yes
Dr. Fletcher	- Yes	Mr. Nobrega	- Yes
Atty. Clark	- Yes	Mr. Pope	- Yes
Ms. Pollock	- Yes		

YEAS – 7 NAYS – 0 ABSENT – 0

It was the consensus of the members present that a special meeting of the School Committee be held on Friday, September 25th at 5:00 PM in the Community Room at Keith Middle School to discuss class size and its impact on the FY '10 budget.

At 9:15 PM a motion was made by Atty. Clark and seconded by Mr. Pope, to adjourn.

Roll Call Vote was taken as follows:

Mayor Lang	- Yes	Mrs. Ussach	- Yes
Dr. Fletcher	- Yes	Mr. Nobrega	- Yes
Atty. Clark	- Yes	Mr. Pope	- Yes
Ms. Pollock	- Yes		

YEAS – 7 NAYS – 0 ABSENT – 0

Submitted by,

PSB/gm

Portia S. Bonner, Ph.D.
Secretary, School Committee