

REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEW BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

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

ABSENT: MRS. USSACH

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

Felipe Andre, Student Representative, was in attendance.

Public input was as follows:

- Marianne Sylvester – Representative from United Interfaith Action – Review of Drop Out Initiatives
- Eddie Johnson – Request review of why RIF program is not allowed to continue
- Luz Torres – Request for more communication to parents when meetings occur regarding the contamination and clean up of Keith Middle School and NBHS

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mr. Pope to change the agenda sequence as follows: Public Comment, Approval of Minutes and Superintendent’s Report – followed by Executive Session and back to Open Session.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Pope and seconded by Dr. Fletcher to receive and place on file the minutes of the September 14, 2009 (Sub-Committee/Finance); September 14, 2009 (School Committee Meeting); September 16 (Sub-Committee/Curriculum) September 25 (Special School Committee Meeting) and the September 25, 2009 (Sub-Committee/School Building) as recorded.

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

A: APPOINTMENTS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School</u>
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UNIT A

Robert C. Amble	English	Roosevelt Middle
Kimberly Carr	Special Education	Keith Middle
Alyssa Chase	Special Education	Keith Middle
Gretchen Cholette	Grade 5	Campbell
Lindsey Costa	Grade 6	Roosevelt Middle
Andrew Cunha	Chemistry	New Bedford High
Jennifer Ferreira	Grade 3	Hayden McFadden
Ronald Ferreira	Special Education	New Bedford High
Pamela Hood	Kindergarten	Dunbar
Brian Jalbert	Math	Keith Middle
Brian McMahon	Biology	New Bedford High
Anna Melillo	Kindergarten	Brooks
Jennifer Murphy	Grade 1	Hannigan
Louis O’Rourke	Biology	New Bedford High
Joan Ramanauskas	Special Education	Carney
Henry Silva	Math	Whaling City Alternative Program
Jessica Silva	Kindergarten	Winslow
Bonnie Stone	Special Education	Keith Middle
Michael J. Tarasenko	School Psychologist	PRAB
Vanessa Tavares	Grade 3	Pulaski
Nilda Thorburn	SPED Early Childhood PDD	Carney Academy

Lori-Ann Weeks	Kindergarten	Phillips Avenue
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CIVIL SERVICE

Cynthia M. Cordeiro	PI Cafeteria Helper	PRAB
Anibal C. Cruz	PI Cafeteria Helper	PRAB
Rosemary Freitas	PI Cafeteria Helper	PRAB
Lucas J. Gadbois	PI Cafeteria Helper	PRAB
Laretha M. Ouellette	PI Cafeteria Helper	PRAB
Maria Pacheco	PI Cafeteria Helper	PRAB
Cidalia P. Sousa	PI Cafeteria Helper	PRAB

NON-UNION

Janet O'Neil	Part-time English/Social Studies Teacher	Parenting Teens Program
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B: RETIREMENTS

ADMINSTRATOR

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School</u>
Donald Vasconcelles	10-14-2010	Headmaster	New Bedford High

UNIT A

Filomena Torres	03-15-2010	Special Education	Pacheco
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CIVIL SERVICE

Isabel A. Santos	09-25-2009	4-hour Cafeteria Helper	Gomes
Irene P. Sylvia	09-29-2009	4-hour Cafeteria Helper	Gomes

PARAPROFESSIONAL

Joyce Fonteneau	10-09-209	SPED EC	Ottiwell
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C: RESIGNATIONS

UNIT A

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School</u>
Kristy A. Drauschke	09-18-2009	Biology	New Bedford High
Rachel Martin	09-08-2009	Elementary	
Hollie Mello	08-24-2009	Elementary	
Julianna R. Pacheco	08-31-2009	Math	Keith Middle
Amy Rubino	08-30-2009	Kindergarten	Hayden McFadden
Mary Lou Schuler	10-16-2009	Academic Coach	Roosevelt Middle

CIVIL SERVICE

Jamie Greenberg	06-19-2009	P. I. Cafeteria Helper	PRAB
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PARAPROFESSIONAL

Debora Colon	09-30-2009	SPED Secondary	Keith Middle
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D: TRANSFERS

UNIT A

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Stephanie Curvelo	Grade 5 at Campbell	Grade 5 at DeValles
Lynn Drayton	Grade 5 at DeValles	Grade 1 at DeValles
Kellie Freitas	Professional Development Facilitator	Librarian at Keith Middle

Sara Jacobsen	Grade 3 at Hayden McFadden	Grade 5 at Lincoln
Jami Mello	Grade 5 at Lincoln	Grade 2 at Lincoln
Erin Mello	Grade 2 at Ottiwell	Grade 5 at Ottiwell
Helena Oliveira	Kindergarten at Campbell	Grade 1 at Campbell
Sandra Robinson	Grade 5 at Hathaway	Grade 3 at Hathaway
Delia Silva	Kindergarten at Hathaway	Grade 1 at Hathaway

PARAPROFESSIONALS

Janice Ballard	SPED EC at Ottiwell	SPED TR V small group at New Bedford High
Alan Brown	SPED M-Pod at Pulaski	SPED w/student at Keith Middle
Gabriela Correia	SPED w/student at New Bedford High	SPED small group at Keith Middle
Sandra Dias	SPED TR III at Hayden McFadden	SPED small group at Hayden McFadden
Florentina Fernandes	SPED EC classroom at Gomes	Kindergarten at Gomes
Brenda Harrison	SPED w/student at DeValles	SPED EC small group at Hathaway
Maria Lima	SPED w/student at New Bedford High	SPED large group at Whaling City
Teresa Linhares	SPED w/student at New Bedford High	SPED TR V small group at New Bedford High
Roshan Lopes	SPED w/student at New Bedford High	SPED w/student at Keith Middle
Crystal Richard	SPED w/student at Roosevelt Middle	SPED w/student at Roosevelt Middle
Linda Rose	SPED w/student at Parker	SPED EC small group at Parker
Nancy St. Pierre	SPED w/student at Normandin Middle	SPED w/student at New Bedford High
Michelle Simmons	SPED w/student at Carney Academy	SPED EC small group at Pacheco
Elizabeth Souza	Elementary at Brooks	SPED EC classroom at Gomes
Martha Teodoro	Preschool Daycare at Gomes	SPED w/student at Roosevelt Middle
Carol Tremblay	SPED Elementary at Pulaski	SPED small group at Ottiwell

E: ASSIGNMENTS

UNIT A

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Lynn Cotter	SPED EC at Carney	SPED EC ASD at Carney
Heather Duane	Adjustment/Crisis Counselor at Normandin	Guidance Counselor at Normandin
Meaghan Healey	Grade 3 at Pulaski	Kindergarten at Pulaski
Anne Souza	Kindergarten at Swift	Grade 2 at Swift
Deirdre Tarpey	English at Keith Middle	Academic Coach at Keith Middle
Martin Teixeira	Tech Ed at New Bedford High	Computer at Keith Middle

CIVIL SERVICE

James Duggan	Custodian, 1 st shift at Normandin	Custodian, 1 st shift at Carney
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PARAPROFESSIONALS

Brooke Miller	Normandin	SPED EC at Pulaski
Morgan Rivet	Hayden McFadden	SPED Elementary w/student at Carney
Shariles Trinidad-Nunes		SPED w/student at Pulaski
Ann Viveiros	Swift	Kindergarten at Parker
Donna Wingrove	New Bedford High	SPED Secondary w/student at New Bedford High

F: SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

Ian Abreu	Lisa Barton	Karen Calnan
Caroline L. Carlson	Jennifer Cetenich	Kevin Couto
Jason DeMello	Diane Duprey	Morgan Faria
Jeremiah Foster	Jason Jacintho	Patricia M. Lavoie
Humaira Niazi	Christopher R. Nunes	Janet O'Neil
Nicole Rousseau	Shawn Sousa	

G: SUBSTITUTE PARAPROFESSIONALS

Nichole Almeida	Chelsea Demers	Eleanor Estrella
Luke Farrell	Ana S. Ferraro	Nicole Morse
Connie S. Root	Vivian Taylor	

H: SUBSTITUTE AIDES

Lea Durocher	Patricia M. Livramento	Lynsey M. Medeiros
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I: SUBSTITUTE NURSE

Kimberly Murray		
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J: TERMINATIONS**CIVIL SERVICE**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School</u>
Debra Asquino	PI Cafeteria Helper	PRAB
Melissa Delgado	PI Cafeteria Helper	PRAB
Jade Finley	PI Cafeteria Helper	PRAB
Roger Rebeiro	PI Cafeteria Helper	PRAB

PARAPROFESSIONAL

Jessica Zitano-Pimental	Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program	New Bedford High
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K: ATHLETICS

Casey Cetenich	Interim Freshman Field Hockey Coach	New Bedford High
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L: CROSSOVER

Sheila Kelly-Chase	Lead Guidance Counselor at NBHS	Guidance Counselor at NBHS
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Superintendent's Report was as follows:

Congratulations to two of our NBHS students: Margaret Poyant and Tong Wu who have been named Commended Students in the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program. This distinction recognizes students for their exceptional academic promise.

Scott Paiva who matriculated last school year and is now a freshman at Suffolk University – earned 3rd place in NFTE New England's National Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge.

This past summer, the district's goal was for our 12,000 plus students to read at minimum two books, with a district-wide total goal of 30,000 books read. We may have fallen short, but New Bedford students read 17,465 books, and this was across grades kindergarten through twelfth. I commend our readers for nearing the goal and families who supported and encouraged their children to read this summer. A special thank you to community groups, the New Bedford Public Library System and our partners who donated books or provided summer school programs centered on literacy, thereby ensuring that students read during the summer.

Students across the district celebrated in multiple ways such as: a parade of characters, school-wide book shares, presentations of projects, read-alouds, special guest readers, teachers reading their favorite books to their classes, student success walls, story tellers, book-in-a-bag project, and reading fairs. Our top readers for the challenge are Rosalie Sequeira, Kayli Vieira and Asorliz Aviles at the elementary level. Rosalie read 128 books this summer while both Kayli and Asorliz each read 100 books. At the middle school level, Isaiah Botelho read 47 books. Our top readers each received a \$20.00 gift certificate to Barnes and Noble, of course to buy more books. The second place readers at the elementary level

received a \$15.00 gift certificate. The challenge also wants to celebrate and recognize the classes at each level who read the most. Shauneen Milton's second grade class at Taylor School is to be commended for reading 339 books. Cathy O'Malley's sixth grade class read a total of 200 books, and Lisha Cabral's High School AP English class read a total of 82 books. Ms. Milton and Ms. O'Malley's class received a pizza party while Ms. Cabral's class, each student will receive a \$5.00 gift certificate to Barnes and Noble.

Reading Is Fundamental, Inc. prepares and motivates children to read by delivering free books and literacy resources to those children and families who need them most. All RIF programs combine three essential elements to foster children's literacy: reading motivation, family and community involvement, and the excitement of choosing free books to keep.

RIF's accomplishments are due in part to the generous support of the U.S. Department of Education, corporations, foundations, community organizations, and thousands of individuals. The School District for the past two years has been working the Kiwanis club and Pastor Chavier who are credible in providing the RIF program and is state recognized. No other organization has been designated RIF in the New Bedford area.

Update on this fiscal year's budget:

Mr. Oliveira stated that as of September 26, 2009 the budget was out of balance by 1.5M. By working with Mrs. Larkin and Dr. Francis, the budget shortfall was trimmed and as of October 19 it is down to \$455,170. This was possible by using Title I, Title IIa and IIb grant funds to offset some of the School Departments expenses. Mr. Oliveira stated that there is currently a spending freeze in effect.

Dr. Fletcher asked if we could make it to the end of the fiscal year in June. Mr. Oliveira said it would be possible if there are no emergencies.

Report on New Bedford's dropout rate, currently the statistic for this year is – 11.3%. Update will be forthcoming with official dropout rate.

As part of the Superintendent's Report, Edward Lambert from the Urban Initiative-UMASS Dartmouth gave a Power Point presentation on a joint venture to address the dropout issue on the SouthCoast and our partnership with the National Dropout Prevention Center at Clemson University.

Mr. Lambert stated that the focus would be to try to change the dropout and graduation rates. He went on to explain that in order for businesses to expand, educated workers would be needed. He went on to describe risk factors, best strategies for dropout prevention and conditions for success.

The first item of New Business was also taken out of order.

At this time Ms. Luz Torres addressed the Committee further regarding communications relative to the contamination and clean up at Keith and NBHS. Ms. Torres said that she would like parents to receive more information on the progress of the clean up and the results of tests.

Dr. Bonner explained that the School Department has to be notified first by the City with the schedule of PIP (Public Involvement Planning) meetings, clean up schedule, etc. and that the information was readily available on the City's website via a direct link from the New Bedford Public School website.

Mayor Lang reiterated that extensive information is on the City's website, the newspaper and Cable TV.

Dr. Fletcher proposed that the issue be investigated further.

A suggestion was made that in the future, parents could be updated using the new iAutoAlert system. Dr. Bonner said that this automated phone call to parents will work well providing that parents supply updated phone numbers to their child's school. The new system is currently being tested and should be fully operational soon.

At 8:22 P.M., on a motion by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Mr. Pope, a roll call vote was taken to go into Executive Session and to return to Regular Session thereafter:

A Roll Call Vote was taken as follows:

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

YEAS – 6 NAYS – 0 ABSENT – 1

Regular Session resumed at 9:45 P.M.

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 October 19th meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee.

Ms. Pollock gave a report on the September 16th meeting of the Curriculum Sub-Committee.

Mr. Nobrega gave a report on the September 25th meeting of the School Building Sub-Committee.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Atty. Clark and seconded by Dr. Fletcher to receive and place on file the following consent agenda items:

- Financial Statement from Office of Finance & Operations (October 19, 2009 Finance Committee)
- Schedule of Bills for the months of August and September from the office of Finance and Operations (October 19, 2009 Finance Committee)

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

- Ottiwell School – Backpacks and school supplies from First Congregational Church of Lund's Corner
- Parker School - \$42.39 from Target's "Take Charge of Education Program
- Lincoln School - \$44.97 from Target's "Take Charge of Education Program
- DeValles School - \$61.73 from Target's "Take Charge of Education Program
- Phillips Ave. - \$50.00 from a "friend"
- Pacheco School - \$35,000 from Dr. & Mrs. Irwin Jacobs to be managed by The Community Foundation
- Keith Middle School – Four boxes of fabric and five bags of quilting fabric
- Hayden-McFadden School – Assorted school supplies from the Full Gospel Christian Fellowship Church
- New Bedford Public Schools/Fine Arts – Fifteen free In-School Concerts (trio of NBSO musicians) for grades 3 & 4 valued at \$3375 and one free Young People's Concert at the Zeiterion Theatre on 3/2/10 for third grade students valued at \$6000.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mr. Pope, to take up the following item that was previously tabled.

- Savoy Nursing and Rehabilitation Center to use New Bedford High School as an evacuation center in the event of an emergency or disaster.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mr. Pope, to approve the following use of facilities requests and to grant a waiver of all fees.

- Savoy Nursing and Rehabilitation Center to use New Bedford High School as an evacuation center in the event of an emergency or disaster.
- Bernadino Silva on behalf of O.L.O.A. (Our Lady of Assumption) Basketball Program to use the gymnasium at Gomes School for practice Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:00 – 9:00 P.M. to begin September 2009 – March 2010.
- Westport Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 6-18 to utilize the Sea Lab Building on Thursday evenings from 6:00 – 8:00 P.M. for seven weeks to instruct teachers and community members in Boating Safety Practices.
- Denis Lawrence, Jr. on behalf of SouthCoast Children’s Theatre to sell candy, commercially wrapped baked goods, and water during the intermission of each performance of their production of “Dear Edwina” as part of their fund raising efforts.
- Chic Rose, Recreation Director/City of New Bedford to accommodate elementary after school programs at Hayden McFadden and Gomes Schools Monday – Thursday, 2:30 – 5:00 P.M. (school days only) from mid October to mid April.
- New Bedford Whaler Organization (POP Warner) to use the Green House cafeteria for their annual banquet on February 16, 2010 with a waiver of all fees.

Ms. Pollock voiced concern about the funding for waiving of fees.

Dr. Bonner questioned the request by American Cancer Society in regards to their Relay for Life event and explained that custodial fees were not waived in the past and that these fees may be quite hefty.

Mr. Oliveira stated that \$24,000 was set aside for outside groups to use facilities with waiver of fees. The Committee asked for an estimated cost to the School Department if fees are waived for this particular request by the American Cancer Society.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Dr. Fletcher, to table a request by the American Cancer Society, on behalf of the Relay for Life of Greater New Bedford, to hold its annual community event at Paul Walsh Field on June 18 and 19, 2010 with waiver of all fees.

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

- Maurice Ouellette and Sandra Rivera/NBHS – Fifty students and five chaperones to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City on December 4, 2009.
- Kristina Farrell Dahlene/NORMANDIN MIDDLE SCHOOL- Approximately 42 students and six chaperones to travel to Italy from Aug. 16 – Aug. 25, 2010.
- Diane Robinson/NBHS – Fifty students and five chaperones to the American Museum of Natural History in New York City on December 4, 2009.
- Irene Vasques/Ellen Moreau/Congdon School – Fifty students and six chaperones to Escobar’s Highland Farm in Portsmouth, RI on October 21, 2009.
- Helena Almeida/NBHS – Talent Search students to the following locations and dates:
 - Twelve students and two chaperones to Yale University, New Haven, CT on October 24, 2009.
 - Twenty students and two chaperones to Providence College, Providence, RI on October 27, 2009.
 - Twelve students and two chaperones to Brown University and Providence, RI on October 31, 2009.
 - Twenty students and two chaperones to New England Tech, Warwick, RI on December 8, 2009.

At this time Dr. Fletcher explained that he was nominated in May to be the voting delegate to the Massachusetts Association of School Committees business meeting on November 18, 2009 and would now like to nominate Ms. Pollock to be the alternate delegate.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a vote by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mr. Pope to designate Ms. Pollock as the alternate voting delegate to the Massachusetts Association of School Committees business meeting on November 18, 2009.

At 10:13 P.M. a motion was made by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mr. Pope, to adjourn the Regular Meeting and to return to Executive Session.

Roll Call Vote was taken as follows:

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

YEAS – 6 NAYS – 0 ABSENT – 0

Submitted by,

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

PSB/lpd