

REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEW BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

PRESENT: MAYOR LANG, DR. FLETCHER, MS. POLLOCK, MR. NOBREGA, DR. FINNERTY,
MRS. USSACH

ABSENT: ATTY. CLARK

IN ATTENDANCE: DR. FRANCIS, MRS. LARKIN, MR. OLIVEIRA, MS. COSTA, MRS. DUNAWAY
(Recording secretary)

Justin Braga, Student Representative, was in attendance.

Public Comment was as follows:

1. Pat Reynolds – Concern over students walking home from Keith
2. Terry Lopes – Concern over being harassed by students
3. Jerry Pinto – Call for more police presence at dismissal time at Keith and NBHS

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Dr. Fletcher to take up the three requests for approval of minutes together.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Ms. Pollock to receive and place on file the minutes of the following meetings:

- July 14, 2010 – Transportation Sub-Committee
- July 20, 2010 – Transportation Sub-Committee
- August 9, 2010 – Regular School Committee Meeting

Mr. Oliveira reviewed the Financial Statement from the Office of Finance and Operations.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mrs. Ussach to receive and place on file the Financial Statement from the Office of Finance & Operations.

Ms. Costa gave an update to the Committee on matters relative to the Personnel Report.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mrs. Ussach to receive and place on file the Personnel Report.

The Superintendent's Report included the following topics:

- Update – Start of School
- Education Jobs Bill
- Race to the Top (RTTT) Update
- Commendation Schools
- Commissioner's District Grant
- Academic Achievement Grants
- Plan and Memorandum of Understanding with Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
- Parker Elementary School – Level 4 Update
- Anti-Bullying Update
- Environmental Curriculum Request and Committee
- EEE and West Nile Virus Precautions

Helder Angelo, Director of School Support gave an overview of the latest district MCAS scores.

Mayor Lang and Mr. Nobrega presented Gale Malita, retired Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and School Committee, with a gift to honor her 40 years of dedicated service to the New Bedford Public Schools and School Committee.

Teacher Wally Williams (Whaling City Jr/Sr High School), was recognized for receiving the first annual Braveheart Award.

At this time a discussion ensued about class sizes. Mayor Lang expressed that Dr. Francis has the full authority to make decisions relative to keeping class sizes reasonable.

Several School Committee members and the Student Representative gave reports.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Dr. Fletcher, to receive and place on file the report from the Student Representative.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to take up all requests for use of facilities, including items on the addendum, altogether.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to approve a request by Latisha Silva, Co-Chair, on behalf of the South Central/South First St. Neighborhood Association, for permission to use the Gomes School from 6:30 – 8:00 P.M. on September 27, October 25, November 29, 2010; January 31, February 27, March 26, April 30, May 28 and June 25, 2011 for meetings, with a waiver of all fees.

Nancy Feeney addressed the Committee in regard to the request by NBHS After Prom event committee.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to approve a request by Nancy Feeney/Coordinator, on behalf of the New Bedford High School After Prom event committee and Ashley Ford/Co-Sponsor, for permission to use the east parking lot and restroom facilities at New Bedford High School from 8:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. on October 23, 2010 to host the DriveOne4urschool event, with a waiver of the rental fee.

Susan Nedar and Bruce Lackey addressed the Committee in regard to their request on behalf of the South Coast Theatre Co.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Ms. Pollock, to approve a request by Susan Nedar and Bruce Lackey, on behalf of South Coast Theatre Co., for permission to use the Bronspiegel Auditorium and Little Theatre at New Bedford High School from 6 – 10:00 P.M. on October 18 – 20; 5:30 – 10:00 P.M. on October 21 & 22; 12:30 – 10:00 P.M. on October 23 and 12:30 – 6:00 P.M. on October 24, 2010, with a waiver of the rental fee.

Michael Arguin, representing the Whaling City Clippers, addressed the Committee relative to his request to use Paul Walsh Field on October 2, 2010 with a waiver of the rental fee. It was mentioned that there would be a conflict in field usage which may lead to a possible change of date. Mr. Arguin assured the Committee that he would pay rental/custodial fees, for at least one of two games owed, before the play off game in question and continue to pay costs associated with usage of the field.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to approve a request by Michael Arguin, General Manager, on behalf of the Whaling City Clippers, for permission to use Paul Walsh Field on a date/time to be determined for a playoff game, with a waiver of the rental fee.

Bernardino "Butch" Silva, on behalf of the OLOA basketball team, addressed the Committee in regard to a waiver of fees request and usage of the Gomes School gym.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to approve a request by Bernardino "Butch" Silva, Coordinator, on behalf of Our Lady of Assumption basketball team, for

permission to use the Gomes School gym on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6 – 9:00 P.M. from September, 2010 through March, 2011, with a waiver of all fees.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to approve a request by Anna Washburn, President, on behalf of the NBHS Soccer Booster Club, for permission to use the New Bedford High School Green House Cafeteria, on October 13, 2010 from 3:30 – 9:30 P.M., for a Spaghetti Dinner fund raiser, with a waiver of all fees.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to approve a request by Chic Rose, Director, on behalf of the New Bedford Recreation Department, for permission to use Hayden-McFadden School and Gomes School, Monday – Thursday from 2:30 – 5:00 P.M. (school days only) to accommodate elementary after school programs, with a waiver of all fees.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to take up all requests for approval of acceptance of donations together.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Mr. Pollock, to approve the following requests to accept donations:

- 1) Susan Beck/Principal/Dunbar School - 125 back packs and supplies from the Verizon Pioneers for the Dunbar School students.
- 2) Deborah Cimo/Principal/Kempton School- \$66.25 from the Target Take Charge of Education Program for the school fund.
- 3) New Bedford Public Schools - \$1500 from Dr. Jeanne Bonneau/Principal/Normandin Middle School for deposit into the teacher payroll line of the School Department budget.
- 4) Marcia Faucher/Principal/Pacheco School - \$52.00 from the Terracycle Inc. recycling program for the school fund and \$48,500 from Dr. & Mrs. Irwin Jacobs through the Community Foundation
- 5) Matthew Riley/Principal/Taylor School - \$74.10 from the Terracycle Inc. recycling program and \$34.44 from the Target Take Charge of Education Program for the school fund.
- 6) Andrew Kulak/Headmaster/NBHS - \$38.78 from Olympia Sports for the school fund.
- 7) Jamie Camacho/Principal/Gomes School - CD "Read Alongs" and Cassette Player from DonorsChoose.org; Books for the kindergarten students from Gifts to Give and \$66.14 from Target Take Charge of Education Program for the school fund.
- 8) Arthur Dutra/Principal/Hannigan/Sea Lab - \$640 from Mayor Scott W. Lang (Campaign Committee) for scholarships in memory of David Babcock.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to take up and approve the requests for distribution of flyers together.

- 1) Donna Pires, on behalf of Grace Church After School Program, for permission to distribute flyers announcing their *After School and Summer Program* to the Elementary and Middle Schools throughout the district.
- 2) Fatima Araujo/Association Membership Director, on behalf of the YMCA Southcoast, for permission to distribute its Fall through Summer Program Guide and Summer, 2011 Camp Brochures to all students in grades 1 – 6 throughout the district.
- 3) Cheryl Henlin/Environmental Planner/City of New Bedford, for permission to distribute Public Information Planning Meeting (PIP) flyers to staff/students at New Bedford High School and

Keith Middle School, announcing a meeting regarding the Parker Street Waste Site, on September 22, 2010 at Keith Middle School.

- 4) City Council President Denis Lawrence, on behalf of SouthCoast Children's Theatre, for permission to distribute flyers to eighth grade students at Normandin Middle School, announcing the play "*Diary of Anne Frank*" to be performed at Holy Family-Holy Name School Auditorium on October 1-2, 2010.
- 5) Donna Howard/Resident Services Coordinator, on behalf of United Front Homes, for permission to distribute flyers announcing their "Dance United" program to students at Carney Academy and Keith Middle School.
- 6) Emily Burton, on behalf of the Marion Institute, for permission to distribute Connecting for Change Conference flyers announcing free family programs on October 23- 24, 2010, to all students in the district.

At this time, Ms. Pollock questioned a request by the Narragansett Council/Boy Scouts of America to distribute flyers throughout the district. Mayor Lang suggested that the request be held until the matter could be looked into further. Permission to be granted upon review.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to approve a request from City Council President Denis Lawrence, on behalf of SouthCoast Children's Theatre, for permission to sell refreshments during intermission at their Spring, 2011 production of "*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*" at Keith Middle School. Sales and consumption to be restricted to the Community Room only and that refreshment options be limited to non-peanut, non-soda like products.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to approve a request from Tasha Fonseca/Teacher/Drama Club Advisor/NBHS, on behalf of the New Bedford High School Drama Club, to waive all custodial fees associated with the Drama Club's fall play, *All My Sons*, to be held December 2 – 5, 2010.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Dr. Fletcher, to approve a request that New Bedford Public Schools allow its students, with proper school ID, free admission to all New Bedford High School regular season "home game" athletic events.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Mrs. Ussach to amend the previous vote to include a stipulation that High School and Middle School students will gain free admission to regular "home game" athletic events provided they are not absent or tardy on the day of the game.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, 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, Lincoln School, Kempton School and Brooks School.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mrs. Ussach and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to approve a request that the School Committee advise the City Council Property Committee to formally request permission to destroy at site any unusable surplus furniture and equipment at the former Lincoln Elementary School.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Dr. Fletcher, to approve a request approval to implement the following project for the 2010 – 2011 school year:

- MA 21st Century Community Learning Centers – High School Innovation Grant = \$150,000

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to receive and place on file a communication from New Bedford City Council requesting that the School Committee and Superintendent provide the New Bedford City Council with the detailed Fiscal Year 2011 budget book and to continue the practice each fiscal year.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, to receive and place on file a communication from New Bedford City Council/City Councillor Steven Martins, on behalf of the Lincoln School neighborhood residents, requesting that the School Committee re-visit drop off and pick up plans for students attending Lincoln School in regard to street accessibility should there be a public safety emergency. Issue to be looked into by school administration in conjunction with the Traffic Commission.

A motion was made by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of collective bargaining.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

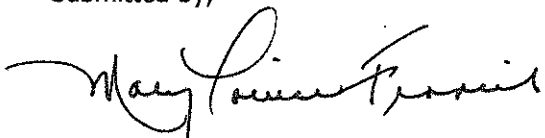
6 - Yeas

0 - Nays

1 - Absent

At 9:24 P.M., on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Mrs. Ussach, the Committee VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adjourn the Regular Session meeting.

Submitted by,



Dr. Mary Louise Francis
Superintendent of Schools
Secretary, School Committee

MLF/lpd