

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

PRESENT: MAYOR MITCHELL, MR. AMARAL, MR. COTTER, DR. FINNERTY
MR. LIVRAMENTO, MR. NOBREGA, MR. OLIVEIRA

ABSENT: NONE

IN ATTENDANCE: DR. DURKIN, DR. DEFALCO, MS. BETTENCOURT, MS. EMSLEY, MR. O'LEARY,
MR. TETREAUULT, MS. WALMSLEY, MRS. DUNAWAY (Recording Secretary)

The School Committee Student Representative, Cinthya Jimenez, was present.

The Committee gave Special Recognition to:

- Sean McNulty for being the recipient of Partners in Excellence Award
- Fred Pimentel Network For Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) Award

Approval of Minutes:

The Committee voted, on a motion by Mr. Amaral and seconded by Mr. Cotter, to accept the following School Committee meeting minutes as follows: (Supporting documents labeled "3")

- Finance Sub Committee: January 5, 2017
- Finance Sub Committee: February 8, 2017
- Regular Meeting: March 13, 2017
- Budget Session I: March 16, 2017
- Budget Session II: March 23, 2017

Superintendent's Report (Dr. Durkin):

(Supporting documents labeled "4")

- Middle School Redesign

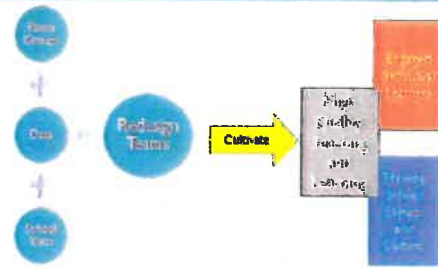
Dr. Durkin addressed the Committee stating that the proposed redesign of the three middle schools is an ambitious undertaking originally involving 15 teachers and now involving 23. The redesign's mission: 1) be good for kids and 2) has to involve those closest to kids – teachers.

Dr. DeFalco explained that a significant amount of time has been spent on conversations on what staff is looking for to develop a plan that they feel is appropriate for their school. He also explained the process as shown below.

MIDDLE SCHOOL REDESIGN

2017

OUR PROCESS



Dr. Paula Bailey, principal of Keith Middle School and her redesign staff followed with a presentation.



OUR VISION

KEITH MIDDLE SCHOOL FOSTERS A COMMUNITY OF SELF-MOTIVATED LEARNERS BY EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS TO ATTAIN ACADEMIC SUCCESS WHILE BECOMING 21ST CENTURY GLOBAL CITIZENS

OUR CORE VALUES

- I. We Value Academic Excellence
 - Intellectual Risk-Taking
 - Persistence and Motivation
 - 21st Century Skills
- II. We Value Respect & Responsibility for All
 - Encouraging, Encouragement, and Appreciation
- III. We Value Partnerships
 - Social Awareness and Honest Communication
 - Community, Family, Teachers, and Students

OUR DESIGN PILLARS



Dr. Bailey stated that her staff wants to create something meaningful to meet students' needs and to determine what students want from their school.

Academic Excellence:

Individual schedules where progress is monitored by staff members. Changes will be made as needed.

Alignment with NBHS. Collaborate with set strategies and language.

Encompass dual enrollment, accelerated learning and Summit Base Camp.

Respect and Responsibility:

Successful behavior programs strengthened

Involvement in the community, peer tutoring and community service.

Intellectual character involving self-discovery with short and long term monitored goals.

Partnerships:

UMD, BCC, Zeiterion, Housing Authority – expand positive behavior programs

Family nights – helping families help their kids

Gain exposure to outlets that promote college and career readiness

To a question from Mayor Mitchell, Dr. Durkin responded that the presentation being given at this meeting was just an overview of what teachers and staff have been working on. She explained that more information will be forthcoming in the future.

Dr. Bailey continued that there was a formal survey distributed to students asking them what they wanted. She reiterated that it was not a district or principal's plan – solely the teachers' plan.

A discussion ensued in regard to the plans.

Dr. Durkin added that the plans are being created with current resources that will be realigned.

Stephen Farrell, principal of Normandin Middle School, and his redesign staff gave their presentation.



OUR VISION
 WE ARE COMMITTED TO DEVELOPING A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS WHO ARE ACADEMICALLY PROFICIENT, DEMONSTRATE STRONG CHARACTER AND EXHIBIT SELF-CONFIDENCE.

OUR CORE VALUES
 At NORMANDIN, OUR STAFF AND STUDENTS VALUE ..

- WORKING HARD AND PERSEVERANCE
- BEING SUPPORTIVE TO ONE ANOTHER
- STAYING SAFE AND RESPECTFUL

OUR DESIGN PILLARS

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| <p>Community of Learners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A group of people who share the same values and beliefs. | <p>Proficiency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students demonstrating that they have learned the knowledge and skills as they progress through their education. | <p>Self-Confidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A student's ability and capacity to accomplish a task or deal with challenges. |
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Community of Learners:
 Morning meeting with breakfast. Discuss news and announcements in the building.
 Spirit wear – dress for success
 Mentoring groups – bridge builders, sense of community – start small and be realistic
 Teacher leaders – have a shared vision. Students learn and teachers lead. Schedules developed for students' needs, not teachers.

Proficiency:
 Adjust schedules to meet students' needs.
 Professional development expansion.
 Summit base camp – personalized learning model to help students reach proficiency.
 Goal setting, mentorship, gaps filled

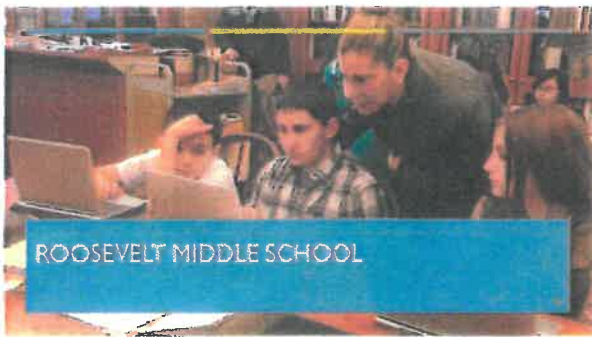
Self Confidence:
 Want students to know that intelligence is not pre-determined. Instill self-confidence.
 Students are the main focus. Conferencing to look at their scores and progress from grades 3-8.
 Expand community partnerships, volunteer at college fairs.
 Let students know that NBHS is great and plan visits to the high school.
 Send students to elementary schools to read, etc.

At this time, Mr. Livramento asked if the middle schools will collaborate on their individual plans and share ideas.

Mr. Farrell responded that they are already collaborating and that they are also visiting schools regionally and state-wide.

To a question from Mr. Cotter, Mr. Farrell responded that teachers have autonomy over the curriculum.

Dan Bossolt, principal of Roosevelt Middle School presented with his redesign staff. In his opening, he stated that it was important for students to be engaged in school and the surrounding neighborhood.



OUR VISION
 ROOSEVELT MIDDLE SCHOOL'S VISION IS TO PROVIDE AN EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT WHICH WILL EMPOWER AND INSPIRE ALL STUDENTS TO BE INNOVATIVE THINKERS WHO POSSESS THE 21ST CENTURY SKILLS NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE PERSONAL SUCCESS AND CONTRIBUTE POSITIVELY TO OUR DIVERSE COMMUNITY

OUR CORE VALUES

- I. We Value Respect
 - Meaningful Relationships
 - Respect of Others
- II. We Value Motivation
 - Growth Mindset
 - Individual Needs and Passions
- III. We Value Success
 - Persistence to Achieve
 - Academically Prepared

OUR DESIGN PILLARS

<p>Enrichment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance Unified Arts Pathways • Redesign Enrichment Learning Time (MARS) • Expand Positive Youth Development Opportunities 	<p>Leadership and Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formalize Shared Leadership Opportunities • Expand Personalized Learning Pathways through the Summit Learning Program, Advanced Learning, and Dual Enrollment • Embed Accountable Talk as school-wide instructional focus 	<p>Climate and Culture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish Shared Vision Committees • Enhance Positive Behavior Intervention System (PBIS) to improve our Tiered Model of Support • Create Daily Academic Support to include Advisory • Restructure counseling staff to create additional SAC support for Tier 2&3 students
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Engagement:
 More pathways for unified arts.
 Math and reading – support utilizing ELL and Sped staff.
 Have Wraparound Manager seek out opportunities for positive youth development.
 Survey students and parents – reach out to partners for additional support if there are “bumps in the road”.

Teaching and Learning:
 Building based content groups. Model classroom for other teachers.
 Summit learning, Adv. Learning Grades 6 & 8, Dual Enrollment for grade 8
 Literacy strategies in every lesson. Students talk about curriculum with collaboration led by the students.
 Base some of our school wide PD to make learning move in right direction.

Climate and Culture:
 Enhance teaching and learning, social emotional awareness. Outreach to community for fundraising opportunities to visit the school store, preferential seating and other strategies to develop spirit of growth and achievements.
 Spirit wear to give sense of belonging.
 ELT opportunities – schedule change to offer support and advisory on regular basis.
 Re-position support staff to meet needs of students.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN....

<p>Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher Quality Learning High Quality Teaching High Quality Staff Engagement & Shared Responsibility Collaborative Relationships High Quality Results 	<p>Collaboration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher Quality Teaching Equipped Collaboration Shared Leadership 	<p>Community Connections</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcoming Schools Citizenship Partnerships College & Career Readiness
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Dr. DeFalco thanked the redesign teams for their time and dedication to the plans.

The principals commented that they were grateful to all partners who helped with the redesign and that they are looking forward to smiling students, project based learning, problem solving, and being successful on high stakes testing.

On a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Mr. Oliveira, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to take Item 7A, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education – Quarterly Monitoring Report, out of order.

Laura Richane, representing the DESE and Thomas Pandiscio, District Monitor, presented the Quarterly Monitoring Report, highlighting the following in a presentation:

New Bedford Public Schools Accelerated Improvement Plan Monitoring Report



Presented to the School Committee
April 10, 2017

DEPARTMENT OF
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
EDUCATION

Introduction


- Reporting period: December–March
- Hallmarks of AIP implementation:
 - Transparent communication
 - Integrated strategies
 - Reflective practice
 - Balance of support and accountability
- Careful study of middle school redesign



DEPARTMENT OF
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
EDUCATION

**Strategic Objective 1:
Implementing Rigorous Standards;
Monitoring Student Progress**


- Implementation included:
 - Learning walks; discussions about instruction
 - Examination of student work
 - Analysis of MOY data
 - Curriculum development
- Recommendations:
 - Continue using learning walks to reflect on and improve instruction
 - Analyze and share data related to progress and challenges at New Bedford High School



DEPARTMENT OF
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
EDUCATION

**Strategic Objective 2:
Systems to Support Student Needs**

- Implementation included:
 - Continued PBIS implementation and planning
 - Differentiated supports coordinated by BBSTs
 - Continued training, support for ELL instruction
- Recommendations:
 - Continue to critically examine and learn from practices in successful and struggling schools
 - Provide details of the comprehensive plan to improve the middle schools



DEPARTMENT OF
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
EDUCATION

Strategic Objectives 3 & 4: Professional Development & Shared Vision for NBPS

- **Implementation included:**
 - Professional development based on School Improvement Plans and observational data
 - Continuing Aspiring Administrators, mentor programs
 - Community engagement activities
 - Attendance campaign
- **Recommendations:**
 - Identify community engagement activities with the greatest impact on students' learning and outcomes
 - Review attendance data and establish improvement goals for the new attendance initiative

2019-2020 Department of Education and Services - Education



Process and Performance Ratings

- **Process ratings:**
 - *Fully Embedded* – 2 Initiatives
 - *Practices in Place* – 3 Initiatives
 - *Technical Implementation Stage* – 6 Initiatives
- **Performance ratings:**
 - *Partially Reached Performance Goals* – 11 Initiatives

2019-2020 Department of Education and Services - Education



DESE officials stated that when compiling the report, they look for all benchmarks and evaluate what strategies are working and what needs to be tweaked. They added that the next step would be to eliminate the DESE monitoring to prepare the district to leave Level 4 designation. In this process, the DESE will be looking at trends, improvements, acceleration and a great deal of alignment and cohesion such as: Are school improvement plans highly linked to the district plan? Are strategies for Level 4 and 5 schools in alignment with the district plan and is the fiscal plan in alignment with the educational plan? This is a critical piece and an important signal to the DESE that the community and district are working in the same direction. We will also be looking to see if any detractors have been eliminated.

A conversation ensued in regard to testing and Dr. Durkin noting that all students are capable of succeeding with high level teaching, professional development and partnerships.

Mayor Mitchell asked Dr. Pandiscio about the DESE's interaction in working with the district and his role as monitor. Dr. Pandiscio stated that they read and understand the AIP along with benchmarks and work that the district is involved with. They also observe meetings, learning walks, instruction and meet with the leadership team. Dr. Pandiscio added that the district's work is very transparent and open and he doesn't see that very often in his work as a monitor. He went on to say that plans are integral to one another and the district has systematic changes in place that will be sustainable. He added that there are no secrets and sees only honesty and integrity. He visits four to six times a quarter and observes four to five classrooms per visit. This year he has targeted the middle schools, Hayden McFadden and Pulaski. Dr. Pandiscio concluded that he looks for the ability of the district to sustain success and added that literacy and ELL efforts have to be sustained and meet key needs.

On a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to take Item 6D, Student Representative's Report, out of order.

The Student Representative gave her report.

Dr. Durkin continued with her report:

- District Lines for South End Schools.

Dr. Durkin and Dr. DeFalco addressed the Committee stating that a city-wide redistricting is not needed at this time. A thorough analysis revealed that the Lincoln School area was the most populated and there is currently a need to have neighborhood ELL students transported to the Gomes School to attend ELL programs. Out of 650 students currently enrolled at the Gomes School, 400 students are largely from the Lincoln area. It is suggested that the newcomer program, currently at Gomes School, be moved to the new south end school being built on Emery St. (former site of the Hannigan School). The analysis also revealed that there would be no need to draw the redistricting lines west of Gomes School as both DeValles and Congdon Schools are under capacity.

No one signed up for Public Comment.

Business Office Report (Mr. O'Leary): (Supporting documents – 6A)

Mr. O'Leary reviewed the financial reports with the Committee. He stated that the salary spend down is accurate and the department and school budget costs centers have minimal activity. He noted that the change in the NBHS cost center reflects the introduction of the \$900,000 free cash which is targeted for 1:1 tablets for students.

Mr. O'Leary requested that the Committee allow him to close out accounts for FY17. This is an annual occurrence that takes place in regard to the budget.

On a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve the request by the Business Manager, Andrew O'Leary, to close out accounts for FY2017.

MSBA

- Window installation should be complete within the month.
- Parker School OPM is ready.
- Windows on target for installation – Parker and Brooks Schools.

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

Several Cost Centers presented their FY2018 budget as follows:

Mr. Al Oliveira, Director of Facilities, outlined his proposed budget. He stated that he is comfortable with the Facilities staff who are doing the work that was formerly "farmed out". He continued that he is concerned that he cannot find substitutes when needed. He also included removal of old and worn carpet and replacing it with tile at several schools, as one of the cost center priorities.

The FY17 budget is \$2,978,382 and the FY18 proposed budget is \$2,961,426. The decrease represents a difference in salary projections.

To a question by Mr. Livramento, Mr. Oliveira responded that he and his counterparts on the city side work well in assisting one another.

Mr. Robert Tetreault, Information Technology Manager, outlined his proposed budget of 2,022,427 (FY17 is \$1,708,132). The increase comes in the way of salaries and maintenance of contractual services. He stated that his cost center budget was 1/3 salary and wages, 1/3 networking and contracts and 1/3 capital outlay for equipment. His plan includes providing a laptop for staff at the middle schools and adding chrome books and chrome book carts to classrooms. NB K-Nect provided 1:1 devices for students at the high school.

Included in the presentation were a list of expenditures, year-to-year budget comparisons and a complete list of computers/devices in each school/building and ratio of device to student.

Mr. Tetreault's concerns include the challenge of providing adequate cabling and electricity and only having six field representatives for the district this size. To a question from Mr. Oliveira, Mr. Tetreault responded that his department was getting as much life as it can out of every computer and upgrading with memory and new software. He commented that his department also uses resources such as formerly-leased and donated equipment.

Personnel Report (Ms. Emsley) (Supporting document labeled "6B")

Ms. Emsley reviewed the personnel report with the Committee. She reported that there were 12 appointments since the last personnel report in March. There was one retirement and sixteen resignations listed; transfers totaled 1.

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

Several members gave reports.

NEW BUSINESS

On a motion by Mr. Amaral and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, to pass to a second reading, a proposal from the Facilities Sub Committee to name the school, newly constructed on the site of the former John Hannigan School, the Irwin M. Jacobs Elementary School. Consideration of a vote to approve the proposal will be taken up at the May 8, 2017 School Committee Meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Cotter, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, to approve of the 2017/18 school calendar. The school calendar will be in effect for all schools except: Gomes, Hayden McFadden and Parker Elementary Schools. The aforementioned schools will have their own school calendar created in accordance with a specific grant or accelerated improvement plan which does not require School Committee approval.

On a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Cotter, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, to approve a request from Chu Kwen Ho/Doug Motta/Peter Schuyler/NBHS, to travel to Grapevine, TX, from July 9 – July 12, 2017, to attend the NAFnext 2017 Professional Development Conference.

On a motion by Mr. Amaral and seconded by Mr. Cotter, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, to approve the following requests for Out of State Field Trips:

- Roosevelt Middle School – permission to take two students and four chaperones to Atlanta Georgia, May 19-21, 2017, to compete at the SeaPerch Nationals at Georgia Tech. (Transportation revolving fund)
- Carney Academy – permission to take 114 students and 23 chaperones to visit Roger Williams Zoo in Rhode Island on June 2, 2017. (Student Activities fund)
- Carney Academy – permission to take 143 students and 29 chaperones to Roger Williams Zoo in Rhode Island on June 14, 2017. (Student Activities Fund)
- Jane Jacobsen/NBHS – permission to take 50 students and five chaperones to New York City on April 27, 2017, to visit the NYC Buying District. (No cost to the local budget)
- Taylor School/Grades 1 & 3 – permission to take 84 students and 12 chaperones to Providence Place Mall on June 16, 2017, to visit the IMAX theater/Under the Sea. (Transportation revolving fund)

On a motion by Mr. Livramento and seconded by Dr. Finnerty the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to declare, in accordance with School Department Policy DN, a recommended list of surplus property located at the following locations: Administration Building and New Bedford High School.

On a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Cotter, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to grant a utility easement to NStar Electric Company, d/b/a Eversource Energy, for the purpose of placing a transformer pad and to distribute electricity over the premises located at 64-66 Emma St. and 33 Emery St. New Bedford, MA, and that the New Bedford City Council be authorized and directed hereby to grant such utility easement (Assessors Map 131, Lots 3 and 122).

At 9:18 P.M. on a motion by Mr. Livramento and seconded by Mr. Cotter, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to go into Executive Session without returning to Open Session for the following purposes:

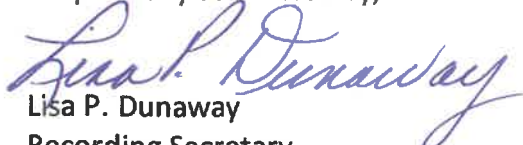
- To discuss strategies in regard to litigation
- To discuss strategies with respect to negotiations with union personnel:
 - American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

The roll call vote was as follows:

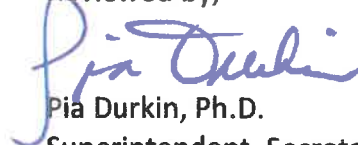
Mayor Mitchell – Yes	Mr. Amaral – Yes
Mr. Cotter – Yes	Mr. Livramento - Yes
Mr. Nobrega – Yes	Dr. Finnerty – Yes
Mr. Oliveira - Yes	

7 – Yeas 0 – Nays 0 – Absent

Respectfully Submitted by,


Lisa P. Dunaway
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,


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

