

BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

March 23, 2010

Agenda

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Chapter 39, Section 23B of the General Laws that a meeting of the Burlington School Committee will be held on Tuesday, March 23, at **7:30 p.m.** in the School Committee Room, Administration Offices, 123 Cambridge Street, Burlington, Massachusetts.

1. Pledge of Allegiance – **7:30 p.m.**
2. Approval of Minutes of 3/9/10
3. Public Participation
4. Information/Reports
 - a) Student Representative
 - b) Subcommittee Reports
 - c) Ways/Means
5. Communication
6. Technology
7. Instruction
8. Old Business
 - a) Approval Warrant Articles
9. New Business
 - a) FY11 Budget – Library/Media/Computers, Inservice Education, Buildings and Grounds, Superintendent's Office and School Committee
 - b) Draft New Policies – Attendance Areas and Assignment of Students to Schools (Time Allowing)
10. Public Participation
11. Executive Session
 - a) Approval of Executive Minutes of 3/9/10
 - b) Contract Negotiations
12. Adjournment

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BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECEIVED

MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2010

2010 JUN 17 AM 9:06

Chairman Thomas F. Murphy Jr. called this meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:30 p.m. in the School Committee Room, Administration Offices, 123 Cambridge Street, Burlington, Massachusetts. Present: Mrs. Christine M. Monaco, Mr. Stephen A. Nelson, Mr. Michael DeSimone present. Mr. John L. Vanella absent. Superintendent Eric Conti and Director of Finance and Operations Craig Robinson also in attendance. Ways & Means members present: Bill Beyer, Tom Killela, and Paul Noonan.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. DeSimone to approve minutes of 3/9/10; motion carried 4-0-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION None.

INFORMATION/REPORTS

Student Representative Stacy DiBona reported on upcoming BHS events.
Subcommittee Reports None.
Ways & Means Nothing to report.

COMMUNICATION

Superintendent Conti thanked Katherine Craven of the SBA for the check presentation ceremony at Memorial School last week.

Mr. Robinson reported that sub bids and general contractor bids for varsity field are due in April. The elementary schools are switching to a cashless lunch program this week.

TECHNOLOGY

A project kickoff meeting was held with CBE, the town and schools last week. The project plan is being completed as well as determining which sites to complete first. BHS will be wired as a wireless site during April vacation.

INSTRUCTION

MCAS testing will begin this week.

OLD BUSINESS

Approve Warrant Articles

Mr. Robinson noted that because the deadline for warrant articles had been moved up, he'd submitted a placeholder list of 15 warrant articles for May town meeting. After discussion about each individual warrant article, it was:

Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. DeSimone to submit placeholder Warrant Article 1 Marshall Simonds Middle School on the May town meeting warrant: That the Town of Burlington/Burlington School Department vote to appropriate the sum of TBD Dollars for Design and Construction of renovations and additions to the Marshall Simonds Middle School, said sum to be expended under the direction of the Burlington School committee, that the Town of Burlington/Burlington School committee acknowledges that the Massachusetts

School Building Authority's ("MSBA") grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the town of Burlington/Burlington School committee incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town of Burlington/Burlington School Committee, and that the sum of \$ TBD be and hereby is appropriated, to be expended at the direction of the School Committee, to pay the cost of designing and construction of renovations and additions to the Marshall Simonds Middle School including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is hereby authorized to borrow said sum under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(3) and Chapter 70B of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town of Burlington. The amount to be raised and appropriated and borrowed by issue of bonds or notes or otherwise provided pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project funding Agreement that may be executed between the Town of Burlington/Burlington School committee and the MSBA; motion carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Mr. DeSimone and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to submit Article 2, System-Wide Pavement for \$500,000 as a placeholder warrant article for May town meeting; motion carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. DeSimone to submit Article 3, Burlington High School Interior Bleacher Replacement for \$230,000 as a placeholder warrant article for May town meeting; motion carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. DeSimone to submit Article 4, Burlington High School Bathroom Renovations for \$60,000 as a placeholder warrant article for May town meeting; motion carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. DeSimone to submit Article 5, Burlington High Access Road Lighting for \$120,000 as a placeholder warrant article for May town meeting; motion carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Mr. DeSimone and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to submit Article 6, Burlington High School

Administrative Area Renovations for \$85,000 as a placeholder warrant article for May town meeting; motion carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Nelson to submit Article 7, Pine Glen School Administrative Area Renovations for \$35,000 as a placeholder warrant article for May town meeting; motion carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. DeSimone to submit Article 8, Pine Glen School Roof Replacement for \$66,000 as a placeholder warrant article for May town meeting; motion carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Mr. DeSimone and second by Mrs. Monaco to submit Article 9, Fox Hill Café Floor Replacement for \$30,000 as a placeholder warrant article for May town meeting; motion carried 3-0-0.

Moved by Mr. DeSimone and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to submit Article 10, Francis Wyman auditorium chair replacement for \$114,000 as a placeholder warrant article for May town meeting; motion carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. DeSimone to submit Article 11, Francis Wyman Library A/C Installation for \$75,000 as a placeholder warrant article for May town meeting; motion carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Nelson to submit Article 12, Town-Wide Computer Equipment Replacement for \$200,000 as a placeholder warrant article for May town meeting; motion carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. DeSimone to submit Article 13, Water Line Installation @ Burlington High School for an amount to be determined as a placeholder warrant article for May town meeting; motion carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to submit Article 14, Floor Replacement Pine Glen School for an amount to be determined as a placeholder warrant article for May town meeting; motion carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. DeSimone to submit Article 15, Greenhouse Installation @ Francis Wyman for \$10,000 as a placeholder warrant article for

May town meeting; motion carried 4-0-0.

Mr. Robinson was requested to submit the renovation of Marshall Simonds middle school bathrooms for possible reimbursement to the Mass. School Building Authority.

The School Committee will prioritize these warrant articles at an April School Committee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

FY11 Budget – Superintendent Office

The Superintendent’s office budget decreased –7.10% to \$912,553 (-\$69,789). Ways & Means requested that Mr. Robinson create a salary page for the entire clerical union.

School Committee

This budget increased 2.9% to \$225,800 (+\$6,440). A \$10,000 increase was for the teachers’ education incentive.

Inservice

Budget was level funded at \$202,878.

Library

The library budget is up 3.25% to \$636,730 (+\$20,072).

Buildings & Grounds

This budget is up 1.39% to \$4,341,699 (+\$59,329).

Mr. Robinson reviewed a slide showing the average teacher salary increase over ten years as 6.2% per year (step increases and negotiated salary increases). The ten year overall school budget increase was an average of 4.43%. To meet the FY11 2.5% budget guideline, \$900,00 needs to be cut from the proposed draft budget. Chairman Murphy noted that the BEA executive board attended a meeting to discuss possible concessions, however, they refused a wage concession last year and thus far there is no indication this year that they would consent to a concession and the impression given was that if the BEA consented to a concession, they’d want something in return. The Superintendent recommended that potential changes need to be sustainable, continuing programmatic changes.

Potential savings of \$554,000 were identified as:

- retirements – estimated \$250K in savings
- eliminate restoration of guidance counselor at Fox Hill - \$55K
- reduce one third shift custodial position at BHS - \$43K
- reduce one clerical position due to retirement - \$34K
- switch contracted carpentry services to an in-house employee - \$18K
- eliminate elementary Italian program - \$154K (3.4 FTE positions/5-6 teachers)

An additional \$344K or a 1% cut from the FY11 budget is needed. The School Committee requested a menu of budget cut options for the April 6 budget meeting and a list of what budget items are due to increased student enrollment. The School Committee discussed concerns of: program losses, employee layoffs, reductions in state aid, and a difficult financial/economic climate for the next few years.

Mrs. Monaco requested that Dr. Conti contact Bob Hogan regarding a marine who dropped out of school to fight in the Korean war receiving a Burlington high school diploma.

Mrs. Monaco also requested that report cards not be distributed on Fridays due to a parent concern about creating anxiety with the need to wait a few days to contact a teacher with concerns.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

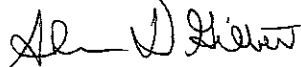
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mr. Nelson at 10:45 p.m. to go into executive session to approve minutes and discuss contract negotiations. Motion carried 4-0-0. Mr. Murphy, aye; Mrs. Monaco, aye; Mr. Nelson, aye; Mr. DeSimone.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Nelson at 11:45 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 4-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon D. Gilbert
Recording Secretary

Date submitted: 4/13/10

Date approved: 4/13/10

