

RECEIVED

BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

JANUARY 26, 2010

2010 JAN 22 AM 9: 55^{AM}

Agenda

TOWN CLERK
BURLINGTON, MA

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, January 12, 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 Warrant
3. Public Participation
4. Information/Reports
 - a) Student Representative
 - b) Subcommittee Reports
 - c) Ways/Means
5. Communication
 - a) Underage Drinking Public Forum- Burlington Drug & Alcohol Task Force
 - b) Burlington Education Foundation (BEF)
6. Technology
 - a) Implementation Update – Student Management System, Cafeteria Computers, Infrastructure
7. Instruction
 - a) Elementary Enrichment Programs
8. Old Business
 - a) Revised 2010-11 School Calendar – Second Reading
9. New Business
 - a) Out-of-State Travel – Arizona, Pennsylvania, & Spain
 - b) Post-Graduation All Night Party
 - c) Surplus Software
 - d) New Draft Policies – Negotiations & Motor Vehicles Idling on School Grounds
 - e) FY11 Draft Budget
10. Public Participation
11. Executive Session
 - a) Approval of Executive Minutes of 12/8/09
 - b) Contract Negotiations
 - c) Litigation
12. Adjournment

BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

RECEIVED

MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2010

Chairman Thomas F. Murphy Jr. called this meeting of the School Committee to order at 8:00 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, and Mr. John L. Vanella. Superintendent Eric Conti and Director of Finance and Operations Craig Robinson also in attendance.

- APPROVAL OF WARRANT Moved by Mr. DeSimone and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to approve the warrant; motion carried 3-0-2 Mr. Nelson and Mr. Murphy abstained.
- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION None.
- INFORMATION/REPORTS
Student Representative Tracy DiBona reported that Bingo night raised \$1,200 for the Boston Rescue Mission and teacher Mrs. Scanlon is starting a Help for Haiti fund.
- Subcommittee Reports
Mrs. Monaco stated that Town Meeting has granted a playing fields perpetuity clause for the Wildwood property and a state grant has been obtained for half the cost of building fields on the site.
- Sixteen subcontractor bids were filed for the Memorial project. Mr. Robinson noted that general contractor bids would be received on January 28.
- Ways & Means No one in attendance.
- COMMUNICATION
Underage Drinking Public Forum Charlie Franich and Marilyn Belmonte announced a public forum for parents and students will be held on February 9 at the middle school to discuss strategies to reduce underage drinking and the state social host liability law. They also reviewed results of an alcohol survey taken by Burlington parents, seniors, and 8th graders.
- Burlington Education Foundation BEF board members Julie Conley and Paula Booermester announced the recipients of grants for this grant cycle. A total of over \$12,000 was awarded to Burlington schools. Upcoming fundraisers will be a Trivia Night on April 9 and a 5K Road Race on May 23.
- TECHNOLOGY – Implementation Update Dr. Conti reported that:
- X2 student management system will start on February with attendance as the first project; Josh Murphy coordinated five days of training for staff last week
- Cafeteria computers are in place. Swipe cards will be implemented at the high school on 3/1, at the middle school on 3/8, and at the elementary schools on 3/15. Schools will accept cash for one week after beginning to

use the lunch swipe cards

INSTRUCTION

After school enrichment programs at the elementary level appear to be inconsistent. A meeting will be held to discuss creating consistency. As part of the FY11 budget discussions it will be considered to incorporate elementary and middle school after school programs into the budget. Training for the new student management system X2 will be held next week and operational on February 8.

COMMUNICATION

OLD BUSINESS

Revised 2010-11 School Calendar – Second Reading

The 2010-11 school calendar was presented for a first reading at the 1/12 meeting. After Dr. Conti reviewed the revisions with the Committee, it was moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mr. Nelson to approve the 2010-11 school calendar as presented; motion carried 5-0-0.

Mr. Murphy noted that potential advertising on the new BHS scoreboard will be discussed at a future meeting as research is being done.

Staff Summer Schedule - Discussion

Dr. Conti commented that a four day staff summer schedule is doubtful due to: the Recreation Dept. has concerns that all their campers would fit into Francis Wyman on any inclement Fridays and the custodial union is requesting overtime to staff Francis Wyman on Fridays. Francis Wyman would be open on Fridays to also accommodate the LABBB and Afterschool program.

NEW BUSINESS

Out-of-State Travel

Dr. Conti submitted a request to attend the AASA National Conference in Phoenix on February 9 – 11. His expenses will be covered by Virtual High School and he will use vacation days. Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Vanella to approve out-of-state travel for Superintendent Conti to Phoenix, Arizona on February 9-11, 2010; motion carried 5-0-0. Dr. Conti and Principal Conti are requesting approval to attend the EduCon 2.2 technology conference in Philadelphia. Travel will be by car and one hotel room; expenses will be paid out of the curriculum budget. Moved to approve out-of-state travel for Superintendent Conti and Principal Larkin to Philadelphia, PA on January 29 –31 to attend the EduCon 2.2 conference; motion carried 5-0-0. Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. DeSimone to approve out-of-country travel for BHS students and chaperones to Spain on February 17-25, 2011; motion carried 5-0-0.

Post-Graduation All Night Party

The BHS Post Grad Party Committee will be hosting the 20th Annual Post Graduation Party for the 2010 senior class on Sunday, June 6 and are requesting funds for the facility and associated custodial and cafeteria expenses. Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Vanella to assume the facility and associated custodial and cafeteria

expenses for the Post Graduation party on Sunday, June 6, 2010; motion carried 5-0-0.

Surplus Software

Dr. Conti explained that the School Department has outdated/unusable software and computer components and inquired how the Committee would like to dispose of this material; the Committee suggested disposing of material based on age or current value. The School Department currently only has a policy for disposing of furniture and textbooks.

New Draft Policies

The School Committee conducted a first reading of the following draft policies:

- EEAJ – Policy Regarding Motor Vehicle Idling on School Grounds (a mandated State policy)
- H – Negotiations
- HA Negotiation Goals
- HB Negotiation Legal Status
- HB School Committee Negotiating Agents

Mr. Robinson noted that to comply with the motor vehicle idling policy, signage will need to be installed at all six schools.

The Committee held a brief discussion on which of the draft negotiation policies are needed and requested Chairman Murphy to make changes to policy HF – School Committee Negotiating Agents. As this is a first reading, these policies will be voted on at the next meeting.

FY11 Draft Budget

The Superintendent noted that to maintain services the School Department will need a 3.5% budget increase, Ways & Means has approved a 2.5% guideline, and principals are requesting an increase of 4.98%. A shortfall of \$900,000 is anticipated. A 1% concession by the BEA would save \$250K; however the BEA has declined to reopen negotiations at this time. Mr. Robinson noted that administrators will provide to the School Committee a menu of possible reductions: elimination of programs, larger class sizes, concessions, reductions, and options to eliminate the deficit. Dr. Conti suggested that FY11 be considered as a two year budget process as the new Memorial will open next year, all contracts are due for negotiation, and to explore the potential of contract extensions for one year, which would spread increases over two years. The Superintendent expressed concern with the possible loss of programs (which are people) and unemployment costs; would rather utilize retirements, attrition, and cut administrative positions. He also suggested that this process be as public and transparent as possible. Mr. Nelson suggested explaining to staff the town's purpose of the stabilization and rainy day fund.

January 26, 2010

Mrs. Monaco suggested that a meeting be set up with the BEA executive board to discuss potential courses of action.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mrs. Monaco at 9:50 p.m. to go into executive session to approve minutes, discuss contract negotiations and litigation. Motion carried 5-0-0. Mr. Murphy, aye; Mrs. Monaco, aye; Mr. Nelson, aye; Mr. DeSimone, aye; Mr. Vanella, aye.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mr. Nelson at 10:30 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon D. Gilbert
Recording Secretary

Date submitted: 2/23/10

Date approved: 2/23/10