

RECEIVED
BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MAY 11, 2010

Agenda

2010 MAY -7 AM 9:26

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, May 11, 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. Spotlight on Excellence – BHS Winter Athletes
3. Approval of minutes of 4/13/10 and 4/27/10
4. Approval of warrant
5. Public Participation
6. Information/Reports
 - a) Student Representative – SCAB Committee
 - b) Subcommittee Reports – Varsity Field Update
 - c) Ways/Means
7. Instruction – School Improvement Plan Schedule
8. Technology
9. Communication – Town Meeting Summary

10. Old Business
 - a) Draft New Policies – Attendance Areas & Assignment of Students to Schools – Second Reading
 - b) Nurse Supervisor Job Description – Second Reading
 - c) Redistricting Schedule

11. New Business
 - a) Out-of-State Travel – Salem, NH
 - b) Marshall Simonds Renovation Committee Members
 - c) Afterschool Program Handbook – First Reading
 - d) BHS Summer Fitness Proposal
 - e) School Choice – Public Hearing
 - f) Step 5 Cafeteria Union Grievance

12. Public Participation

13. Executive Session
 - a) Approval of Executive Minutes 4/27/10
 - b) Contract Negotiations

14. Adjournment

BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MAY 11, 2010

RECEIVED
MAY 11 7:05
BURLINGTON, MA

Chairman Christine M. Monaco 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: Mr. Thomas F. Murphy Jr, Mr. Stephen A. Nelson., Mr. Michael DeSimone, Mr. John L. Vanella, and student representative Tracey DiBona. Superintendent Eric Conti, and Director of Finance and Operations Craig Robinson also in attendance.

SPOTLIGHT ON EXCELLENCE

Twenty-six BHS student athletes were presented a certificate of recognition for their winter sports accomplishments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mr. DeSimone to approve minutes of 4/13/10; motion carried 5-0-0. Moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mr. DeSimone to approve minutes of 4/27/10; motion carried 5-0-0.

APPROVAL OF WARRANT

Moved by Mr. DeSimone and seconded by Mr. Vanella to approve warrant motion carried 3-0-2 Mr. Nelson and Mr. Murphy abstained.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Town Meeting member Paul Valleli provided lengthy input on providing a "world class education" to Burlington students.

INFORMATION/REPORTS

Student Representative – SCAB
Committee

Tracey DiBona reported on a number of upcoming BHS activities. Sophomore SCAB member Walter Kikuchi provided an update on the planning of the freshman-sophomore semi-formal.

Subcommittee Reports – Varsity Field
Update

Mr. Nelson noted that they are awaiting advice for splitting up the project specifically delaying the restrooms. The School Committee has requested that the focus be put on the playing field and bleachers.

Ways & Means

No one in attendance.

Instruction – School Improvement
Plans

Dr. Conti noted that the high school and middle school will be scheduled for the May 25 meeting to review their School Improvement plans. The four elementary schools will be scheduled for the June 22 meeting.

Communication – Town Meeting
Summary

The Superintendent reported that last night Town Meeting was provided with a summary page of the FY11 budget and were e-mailed the entire budget today. The school budget will be the first item on town meeting agenda tomorrow night.

Instruction

MCAS testing is being conducted at the elementary schools this week.

Technology

Currently awaiting delivery of equipment for the infrastructure project.

OLD BUSINESS

Draft New Policies – Second Reading

Moved by Mr. DeSimone and seconded by Mr. Nelson to adopt policy JC Attendance Areas; motion carried 5-0-0. Moved by Mr. DeSimone and seconded by Mr. Vanella to adopt policy JCA

Assignment of Students to schools; motion carried 5-0-0. These two new policies will replace current policy 3118.

Nurse Supervisor Job Description –
Second Reading

This item was previously on agendas for April 13 and 27. Moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mr. Murphy to approve the Nurse Supervisor Job Description; motion carried 5-0-0.

Redistricting Schedule

At the School Committee's request, Dr. Conti reviewed a proposed elementary redistricting timeline identifying tasks and processes from May – March 2011. It's anticipated that approximately 150 students will be redistricted to the new Memorial. Mr. Robinson provided a Compass planning system demonstration, which showed the current four elementary school districts and map of streets which also shows the number and location of students in each district. The next step will be to insert new kindergarten students into the database to begin identifying new boundaries while leaving room for growth at each school.

NEW BUSINESS

Out-of-State Travel

Moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mr. Murphy to approve out-of-state travel to Canobie Lake in Salem, NH for BHS students and chaperones on Friday 5/21/10; motion carried 5-0-0.

Marshall Simonds Renovation
Committee Members

Dr. Conti and Chairman Monaco submitted a list of proposed members for the Marshall Simonds Middle School Renovation Committee. Moved by Mr. DeSimone and seconded by Mr. Nelson to accept the Marshall Simonds Middle School Renovation Committee member list as stated with the exception of adding one more middle school parent; motion carried 5-0-0.

Afterschool Program Handbook –
First Reading

As this is a first reading for the Afterschool Handbook, the Committee took it under advisement and will vote on it at the May 25 meeting.

BHS Summer Fitness Proposal

Athletic Director Ed Gillis and coaches have submitted a BHS Summer Fitness proposal. It would offer strength and conditioning program for six weeks during the summer, five days a week for three-hour sessions. A fee of \$50 per student for the program is proposed. If more than one sibling applies the family will be given a half-price discount for additional students, with a maximum of \$100 per family. Moved by Mr. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Vanella to approve the BHS Summer Fitness Proposal for BHS students and school department employees; motion carried 5-0-0.

School Choice 2010-11 – First
Reading

BHS Principal Patrick Larkin presented a proposal for 2010-11 school choice: continue offering 10 spots to freshman and open up five openings each in grades 10, 11, and 12. This would allow students moving out of Burlington to continue at BHS and also allow school department teachers to enroll their children if so desired. If more than five students apply, a lottery system would be used. Mr. Larkin noted that the proposed number of students would not impact course selection. After a brief positive discussion on limited School Choice, the School Committee took

the matter under advisement, and will hold a public hearing and vote at the May 25 meeting. Principal Larkin will report to the School Committee in September on the number of school choice students enrolled.

The School Building Authority has requested the insertion of the phrase "which may or may not include entering into a contract with a construction management at risk firm" to warrant article 32, Marshall Simonds Middle School to be voted on at the May 12 session of May town meeting. Moved by Mr. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Nelson to amend warrant article 32 Marshall Simonds Middle School to add the words "which may or may not include entering into a contract with a construction management at risk firm" motion carried 5-0-0.

Step 5 Cafeteria Grievance

AFSCME representative Jim Breslin requested that the Step 5 Cafeteria grievance be heard in executive session citing past history of conducting grievances in executive session, case law, and the absence of written notice to hear the grievance in public session. The School Committee stated that it's trying to have transparency, to hear grievances in public session unless it's required to be held in executive session. After a brief discussion, the School Committee requested the school administration to notify school employee unions that it's the School Committee's intent to hear grievances in public session when it's legal to do so; grievances will only be heard in executive session when there are extenuating circumstances. Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Murphy to consider hearing the Step 5 Cafeteria grievance in executive session; motion carried 5-0-0. Mr. Murphy, aye; Mrs. Monaco, aye; Mr. Nelson, aye; Mr. DeSimone, aye; Mr. Vanella, aye.


EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mr. Nelson at 9:45 p.m. to go into executive session to approve minutes, discuss contract negotiations, and a step 5 cafeteria grievance. Motion carried 5-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mr. Nelson at 10:45 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon D. Gilbert
Recording Secretary

Date submitted: 5/25/10

Date approved: 5/25/10