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**BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**FEBRUARY 10, 2008**

**Agenda**

2009 FEB -5 AM 9:37

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 ~~on~~ Tuesday, February 10, 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. Approval of Minutes of 1/27/09
4. Public Participation
5. Information/Reports
  - a) Student Representative
  - b) Subcommittee Reports
  - c) Ways/Means
  - d) EdNets
6. Instruction
  - a) RTI Update
  - b) Mass Bay Calculus
  - c) Speakshop
7. Technology
  - a) Follow-Up with Town
  - b) “Schools from the Inside” – Marshall Simonds Middle School Video
8. Communication
  - a) Transportation Bid
  - b) FY10 Draft Budget Review
9. Old Business
  - a) Draft Policies: School Attorney, School Comm. Meetings, Executive Sessions, Notification of School Comm. Meetings, Rules of Order, Voting Method, Minutes, Public Participation, Special Procedures for Conducting Hearings – Second Reading
10. New Business
  - a) BHS Post Graduation Party
  - b) Proposal for BHS Amnesty International Club
  - c) Out-of-State Travel
  - d) Draft Policies: Special Procedures for Conducting Hearings, School Committee Policy Development, Policy Adoption, Policy Revision & Review, School Comm. Review of Regulations, Policy Dissemination, and Suspension of Policies - First Reading
11. Public Participation
12. Executive Session
  - a) Approval of Executive Minutes of 1/27/09
  - b) Contract Negotiations
  - c) Litigation
13. Adjournment

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BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 10, 2009

Chairman Michael F. DeSimone 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. Stephen A. Nelson, Mrs. Christine M. Monaco, Mr. Thomas F. Murphy Jr., and Mr. John L. Vanella. Superintendent Eric Conti, Director of Finance and Operations Craig Robinson and Assistant Superintendent Cindy Marchand also in attendance.

- APPROVAL OF WARRANT                      Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Vanella to approve warrant; motion carried 3-0-2 – Mr. Murphy and Mr. Nelson abstained.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES                      Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Murphy to approve minutes of 1/27/09; motion carried 5-0-0.
- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION                      None.
- INFORMATION/REPORTS                      Mr. Murphy announced that a School Building Comm. Subcommittee Reports meeting will be held Thursday, February 12.
- Ways & Means                              No one in attendance.
- EdNets                                      EdNets President Richard Trembowicz provided a comprehensive presentation on his company's services. EdNets would provide advanced communication technology at no out-of-pocket cost and the opportunity to increase school funding through the EdNets loyalty program – OurKids Win! Currently over 600 businesses participate in the program. Membership is free for parents, faculty, and Burlington residents – membership is obtained on-line by registering credit or debit cards. When those cards are used at participating businesses, an automatic rebate is applied to Burlington Public Schools. Security components were reviewed. A financial five-year projection table was presented showing possible fundraising dollars. The company is seeking a three-year contract with Burlington with a leadership team being created. There are no financial liabilities for Burlington schools if projected dollars are not realized. EdNets fee is \$74,000 per year with a sliding fee schedule the first year. Mr. Trembowicz was requested to provide: a list of participating communities, a sample contract, and security and encryption documents. Dr. Conti will follow up with EdNets and a possible contract (which the School Committee would need to approve). The Superintendent noted that this rebate program could create a regular recurring income stream for technology. This presentation will be available on the Superintendent's blog.
- INSTRUCTION                                      An updated common elementary schedule is being RTI Update presented to elementary staff this week, which includes

required amounts of time for language arts, math, and common planning time. The Superintendent expects that the elementary principals will present the schedule to the School Committee for approval at the March 24 meeting.

Mass Bay Calculus

The high school is offering a calculus course this semester that will result in high school and college credit if students pass a final exam. It is a program with Mass. Bay Community College and BHS teacher Ms. Boyle who teaches three sections of the course. Principal Larkin hopes to expand the program for the future to offer a liberal arts certificate to students in conjunction with Mass. Bay and to have qualified BHS faculty teach the courses. The program is grant funded.

Speakshop

Principal Larkin and teacher Georgia Wingrove explained that two evening academy students are participating in a Spanish Speakshop with a tutor from Guatemala in live time. The tutor prepares lessons, speaks Spanish with students and assigns homework and tests. Students receive high school credit for a second year foreign language. A computer link to this program will be offered on the high school website.

TECHNOLOGY

Follow-Up with Town

Dr. Conti reported that meetings are on-going and noted that a funding mechanism needs to be identified for technology for the town and schools.

MSMS Video

A "Schools from the Inside" video program about Marshall Simonds Middle School will be airing on BCAT.

COMMUNICATION

Transportation Bid

Mr. Robinson stated that a bid opening was held on January 30 for student bus transportation. Four vendors requested bid packets but only one bid was received from A&F Bus (the current provider). A&F Bus met all qualifications of the bid specification, the cost increased 22% and there will be no gas escalation increase for year one of the contract. Mr. Robinson will review possible redistricting of high school bus routes for better efficiency. The School Committee will be asked to approve a FY10-12 bus contract with a two-year renewal provision at a future meeting.

FY10 Draft Budget Review

Dr. Conti explained that the draft budget meets the 3% guideline and maintains services and programs as well as allowing the implementation of a "Response to Intervention" program. Individual budgets will be reviewed over the next four or more meetings. The School Department budget will be reviewed at the April 1 Ways & Means meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Draft Policies

After discussion, it was moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to defer agenda items on new

draft School Department policies until an upcoming meeting; motion carried 5-0-0.

NEW BUSINESS

BHS Post Graduation Party

Moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to assume custodial and cafeteria worker costs for the BHS Post Graduation Party on 6/7/09; motion carried 5-0-0.

Proposal for BHS Amnesty International Club

Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Murphy to approve the creation of an extra-curricular advisor position for the Amnesty International Club for the 2009-10 school year; motion carried 5-0-0.

Out-of-State Travel

Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Murphy to approve in-state travel for the Model UN Club to the Model UN Conference on March 20 – 22, 2009 with the provisions that two chaperones accompany the group; motion carried 5-0-0.

Moved by Mr. Nelson and second by Mr. Murphy approve out-of-state travel for Guidance Staff on Monday, March 2, 2009; motion carried 5-0-0.

Moved by Mr. Murphy and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to approve out-of-state travel for an Art Field trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art on Friday, May 1, 2009 with the number of chaperones required by School Department policy; motion carried 5-0-0.

Draft Policies

These policies will also be deferred until a future meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In response to a question from the press, Mr. Robinson replied that the cost for year 1 for bus transportation is \$829,260 for regular education students.

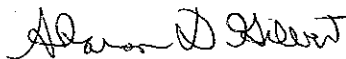
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman DeSimone announced that the Committee had a need for executive session and would only return to public session for the purpose of adjournment. Moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mr. Murphy at 9:45 p.m. to enter into executive session to approve minutes, discuss contract negotiations, and litigation. Motion carried 5-0-0. Mr. DeSimone, aye; Mr. Murphy, aye; Mrs. Monaco, aye; Mr. Nelson, aye; Mr. Vanella, aye.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon D. Gilbert  
Recording Secretary

Date submitted: 2/24/09  
Date approved: 2/24/09