

**BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF JANUARY 22, 2008**

RECEIVED

Chairman Stephen A. Nelson called this meeting of the School Committee to order at 6:15 p.m. in the School Committee Room, Administration Offices, 123 Cambridge Street, Burlington, Massachusetts. Present: Mr. Michael F. DeSimone, Mrs. Christine M. Monaco, and Mr. Thomas F. Murphy Jr. Acting Superintendent James Picone, Director of Finance and Operations, Craig Robinson and Assistant Superintendent Cindy Marchand also in attendance. Mr. John L. Vanella absent.

APR 15 AM 10:52  
TOWN CLERK  
BURLINGTON, MA

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Nelson announced the need for executive session to consider preliminary superintendent applications. It was moved by Mr. Murphy and seconded by Mr. DeSimone to enter executive session at 6:15 p.m. Mr. Nelson, aye, Mr. DeSimone, aye; Mrs. Monaco, aye; Mr. Murphy, aye. Motion carried 4-0-0.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Mr. DeSimone and seconded by Mr. Murphy to approve minutes of 1/8/08; motion carried 4-0-0.

**APPROVAL OF WARRANT**

Mr. Murphy made the following statement: As you know, since the immediate family members of three School Committee members are teachers, the Committee cannot reach a quorum due to conflicts under the Conflict of Interest Law. We have been advised by counsel to invoke the Rule of Necessity to allow us to vote on any matter involving the financial interests of such family members, and by this statement, are invoking the rule. Detailed disclosures regarding the matter were made at the Committee's April 11, 2006 meeting and recorded in the minutes, and are also on file with the Town Clerk and may be viewed in the Town Clerk's office. Moved by Mr. Murphy and seconded by Mr. DeSimone to approve the warrant; motion carried 4-0-0.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

**INFORMATION/REPORTS**

Student Representative -  
SCAB Committee

Ms. Harrington reported on a freshman fundraiser for Valentine's day and upcoming dances on 2/29 and 3/21. SCAB members Jenna Burke and Sid Noreyani reported on preparations for the junior and senior proms.

Acting Superintendent's Report

Dr. Picone announced that student representative, Katrina Harrington, has been selected as a semi-finalist in the Coca-Cola scholarship program. At the 1/28 Town Meeting, the School Department has a warrant article for the Superintendent search in the amount of \$25,000 on the agenda. He reported that \$14,466 has been spent to date. Possible additional expenses would be for consultant Dr. Calabrese and any travel expenses for superintendent finalists. Chairman Nelson stated that the Committee is continuing with the review of superintendent applications and the Committee will conduct approximately 10 interviews with semi-finalists

the first week of February. Finalists will then be selected and public interviews will be held at the end of February.

NEW BUSINESS

Burlington Public Schools  
Web Site

By consensus, this item was taken out of order. Consultant Joan Tuttle gave a SMART BOARD presentation of the updated Burlington Public Schools web site. The newly expanded site includes pages on: the 6 schools, the preschool, Superintendent, School Committee, Pupil Services, Human Resources, Finance & Operations, Curriculum, Teacher Links, BEF Foundation, Athletics, Calendar, and BEF Foundation.

INFORMATION/REPORTS

Curriculum/Instruction

Mrs. Marchand reported on the planning of the two professional development days in March. Elementary teachers will focus on math offerings and professional learning opportunities. Middle school teachers will work on writing and SMART BOARDS. BHS teachers will examine high school work.

Business/Finance

Mr. Robinson noted that the draft FY09 budget presentation will begin at the 2/12 meeting and will be presented on a SMART BOARD (there are 21 boards system wide). He stated the budget guideline is 5% and his personal goal is 4.9% for the School Department.

Subcommittee Reports

Nothing to report.

Ways & Means

No one in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS

Phonics Adoption – Second  
Reading

Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Murphy to adopt the *Wilson Foundation* Program as previously presented; motion carried 4-0-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Out-of-State Travel - Model  
Schools

Moved by Mr. Murphy and seconded by Mr. DeSimone to approve out-of-state travel for up to five staff members to be named to travel to the Model School Conference in Orlando, FL on June 22 – 24, 2008; motion carried 4-0-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

After Chairman Nelson announced that the Committee had completed executive session business earlier this evening, it was moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Murphy at 8:35 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 4-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon D. Gilbert  
Recording Secretary

Date submitted: 3/4/08

Date approved: 3/4/08

**BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**JANUARY 22, 2008**  
**Agenda**

RECEIVED

2008 JAN 18 AM 9:40

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 22, at **7:30 p.m.** in the School Committee Room, Administration Offices, 123 Cambridge Street, Burlington, Massachusetts.

1. **EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:00 p.m.** – Consider Preliminary Superintendent Applications
2. Pledge of Allegiance – **PUBLIC SESSION - 7:30 p.m.**
3. Approval of Warrant
4. Approval of Minutes of 1/8/08
5. Public Participation
6. Information/Reports
  - a) Student Representative - SCAB Committee
  - b) Acting Superintendent's Report
  - c) Curriculum/Instruction
  - d) Business/Finance
  - e) Subcommittee Reports
  - f) Ways/Means
7. Old Business
  - a) Phonics Adoption – Second Reading
8. New Business
  - a) Burlington Public Schools Web Site – Joan Tuttle
  - b) Out-of-State Travel – Model Schools Conference, Orlando, FL
9. Public Participation
10. Executive Session
  - a) Approval of Executive Minutes of 1/8/08
  - b) Contract Negotiations
  - c) Litigation
11. Adjournment