

BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 26, 2008

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Chairman Stephen A. Nelson called this meeting of the School Committee to order at 6:00 p.m. in the School Committee Room, Administration Offices, 123 Cambridge Street, Burlington, Massachusetts. Present: Mr. Michael F. DeSimone, Mrs. Christine M. Monaco, Mr. Thomas F. Murphy Jr., and Mr. John L. Vanella. Acting Superintendent James Picone, Director of Finance and Operations Craig Robinson, Assistant Superintendent Cindy Marchand and Human Resources Director Joanne Faust also in attendance.

TOWN CLERK
BURLINGTON, MA

INFORMATION/REPORTS

Acting Superintendent's Report

Dr. Picone thanked the town, Ways & Means, and Board of Selectmen for establishing a 5% budget guideline, which will deliver good services to students. He noted that this year's budget theme is to put more staff in front of students.

Business/Finance – FY09 Draft Budget Overview

Mr. Robinson presented a FY09 draft budget overview with a total budget of \$34,942,264 including negotiated salary increases. Savings of \$274K are anticipated due to retirements. Principal's capital money will be restored to be used for infrastructure, furniture, or building improvements as recommended by each principal. Current student enrollment is 3,700; higher than projected, 3,724 students are projected for next year. One extra class of grade 5 students will be included in the FY09 budget at Fox Hill and Memorial Schools. Portable classrooms are not being projected: Fox Hill and Memorial principals have plans, which will be presented during the elementary budget review, to accommodate additional classes.

Preliminary warrant articles being proposed for May town meeting are: renovation of two MSMS bathrooms, and BHS and Francis Wyman roofs.

Curriculum & Instruction

Mrs. Marchand reported on the Poetry Out Loud contest held at BHS recently and congratulated winner Brianna Bensenouci who'll go on to the state finals.

RECESS

Chairman Nelson announced a brief recess at 6:45 p.m.

The School Committee resumed the meeting at 7:30 p.m. and Chairman Nelson announced the process for all three Superintendent candidate interviews: each candidate will make an opening statement, School Committee members will ask two questions each, and audience members and administrators would then be asked if they have any questions, and finally, the candidate would be asked to make a closing statement.

Interview of Superintendent Finalist Candidate: Dr. Katherine Darlington

The School Committee meeting conducted an interview with candidate Dr. Katherine Darlington from 7:30 – 8:45 p.m. Each School Committee members asked two

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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, February 26, at **6:00 p.m.** in the School Committee Room, Administration Offices, 123 Cambridge Street, Burlington, Massachusetts.

1. Pledge of Allegiance – **6:00 p.m.**
2. Information/Reports
 - a) Acting Superintendent's Report
 - b) Curriculum/Instruction
 - c) Business/Finance
3. New Business
 - a) FY09 Draft Budget Overview
4. Recess – **6:45 p.m.**
5. **7:30 - 8:45** Interview – Dr. Katherine Darlington
6. Public Participation
7. Adjournment

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