

BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

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MINUTES OF MARCH 31, 2009

2009 MAY 28 AM 10:09

Vice Chairman Thomas F. Murphy Jr. called this meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. in the School Committee Room, Administration Offices, 123 Cambridge Street, Burlington, Massachusetts. Present: Mrs. Christine M. Monaco, and Mr. John L. Vanella. Chairman Michael F. DeSimone and Mr. Stephen A. Nelson absent. Superintendent Eric Conti, Director of Finance and Operations Craig Robinson and Assistant Superintendent Cindy Marchand also in attendance. Ways & Means members in attendance: Bill Beyer, Brad Bond, Nolan Glantz, and Paul Noonan.

TOWNSHIP CLERK  
BURLINGTON, MA

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

BEA President Diana Marcus read a prepared statement explaining that two meetings have been held with school administrators to discuss a possible wage concession. The BEA remains committed to open communication and are team players. They are grateful to be employed and allowed to teach Burlington students; everyone is feeling the pressure of the economic downturn. Due to many unknowns, the BEA feels now is not the time to make decisions about wage concessions and reductions but understands there are deadlines to be met for budgeting/planning purposes. The School Committee thanked Ms. Marcus for the comments presented, noted that concessions made would be restored if funding became available, but they may need to identify reductions in the FY2010 budget due to deadlines.

COMMUNICATION

Update on Memorial School Project

Mr. Robinson reported that the SBA has approved the Memorial school reimbursement rate at 51.1% and have agreed to the schematic design and budget. He attended a training session last week on how to submit bills to the SBA from contractors. Once bills are submitted, reimbursement will be forthcoming after two weeks. KBA architects are working on and consulting faculty on classroom finishes and details. Test borings and soil testing on the site will begin this spring. The opening of the new school is on schedule for September 2011.

OLD BUSINESS

Elementary Schedule – Second Reading

Dr. Conti reviewed with the Committee a draft elementary schedule showing daily uninterrupted learning blocks of: 90 minutes of Language Arts, 60 minutes of Math, and 30 minutes of Intervention/Extension time. Specials (art, music, and gym) are scheduled around these three daily blocks. Moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to accept the new elementary schedule as presented this evening; motion carried 3-0-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Out-of-State Travel

Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Vanella to approve out-of-country travel to Costa Rica for BHS students and chaperones on February 12 -20 2010; motion carried 3-0-0.

Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Vanella to approve out-of-country travel for chaperones Jane Hundley, Anita Mason, Rosemary DeSousa, and Rachel Zucker to China on April 15-26 2009; motion carried 3-0-0.

Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Vanella to approve out-of-state travel to Culpeper, VA on April 20 - 23, 2009 for School Department staff; motion carried 3-0-0.

Approval of School Weed

This request is being proposed due to understaffing at the Rec. Dept. in the

is in supplies, contracted services, and equipment. The Superintendent and Mr. Robinson declined to identify specific budget/staff reductions at this time.

Mrs. Monaco questioned why if the school unions agree to a wage concession that \$350,000 is adequate but if a concession is rejected then the School Department is responsible for \$700K+ of the town deficit? Ways & Means member Bill Beyer explained that if the wage concession is approved by town and school unions the Town, in a spirit of cooperation, will provide \$450K from the municipal budget and the additional \$390K from the stabilization fund. If the wage concession is declined, a reduction of \$700K will be required from the School Department operating budget.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

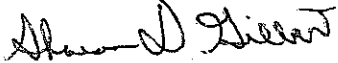
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice Chairman Thomas F. Murphy, Jr. 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 Mrs. Monaco at 8:45 p.m. to enter into executive session to approve minutes, discuss contract negotiations, and litigation. Motion carried 3-0-0. Mr. Murphy, aye; Mrs. Monaco, aye; Mr. Vanella, aye.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mr. Murphy at 10:35 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon D. Gilbert  
Recording Secretary

Date submitted: 4/14/09

Date approved: 4/14/09

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2009 MAR 27 PM 1:21

**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, March 31, at **7:00 p.m.** in the School Committee Room, Administration Offices, 123 Cambridge Street, Burlington, Massachusetts.

1. Pledge of Allegiance – 7:00 p.m.
2. Public Participation
3. Communication
  - a) Update on Memorial School Project
4. Old Business
  - a) Elementary Schedule – Second Reading
5. New Business
  - a) Out-of-State Travel
  - b) Approval of School Weed Control, Bushes, Flower Beds, Mulch
6. FY10 Budget Review – School Committee, Superintendent, In Service, Buildings & Grounds, SPED Accommodated Accounts
7. Proposed Budget/Staff Reductions
8. Public Participation
9. Executive Session
  - a) Contract Negotiations
  - b) Litigation
10. Adjournment