

BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

August 25, 2009

Agenda

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AUG 21 2009

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, August 25 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 Minutes of 7/21/09
3. Public Participation
4. Information/Reports
  - a) Subcommittee Reports
  - b) Ways/Means
5. Instruction – Student Enrollment Figures
6. Technology
  - a) Cloud Computing
  - b) Student Information System
7. Communication
  - a) New Staff Update
  - b) Summer Projects Update
  - c) New Memorial Update
  - d) Varsity Field Update
  - e) Upcoming Statements of Interest
8. Old Business
  - a) Integrated Preschool Handbook - Second Reading
  - b) Nstar Lighting Grant Proposal Authorization
9. New Business
  - a) Fox Hill School Telephone Pole
  - b) School Committee Meeting Schedule 2009-10
10. Public Participation
11. Executive Session
  - a) Approval of Executive Minutes of 7/21/09
  - b) Contract Negotiations
  - c) Litigation
12. Adjournment

BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

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MINUTES OF August 25, 2009

2009 OCT 30 AM 10: 28

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to approve minutes of 7/21/09; motion carried 3-0-2 (Mr. Nelson and Mr. DeSimone abstained).

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION None.

INFORMATION/REPORTS

Subcommittee Reports

Chairman Murphy reported that the new Memorial building site plan was reviewed with the Planning Board last week with the process continued to their September meeting. This evening the Board of Health voted favorably on the drainage of the site plan. The town will review the Winn Street traffic corridor as it's not part of the Memorial project and is not eligible for reimbursements for widening or improvements.

Mrs. Monaco noted that the Recreation Commission is pursuing a grant to build fields at Wildwood. With the construction of Memorial and the Mitre link there may be a shortage of playing fields.

Ways & Means No one in attendance.

INSTRUCTION – Student Enrollment Figures

Dr. Conti noted that class sizes remain steady, 9<sup>th</sup> grade orientation was held today with 190 students attending, new teacher orientation is tomorrow and the staff reports back on Monday. BHS has a student enrollment of 1029 for 2009-10.

TECHNOLOGY

Cloud Computing

The Superintendent informed the Committee that the cloud has been constructed creating a network to use more web-based products (i.e., students, teachers, parents will have a single sign in home screen to access SIMS and Blink network. The town has been included in technology discussions. Administrators have met with Bob Mercier and the Board of Selectmen last month to discuss technology infrastructure – the next step is to schedule a joint meeting with vendors and financial personnel.

Student Information System

A meeting was held today with the new Student Information Management Systems (SIMS) provider X2. X2 is web-based and will have: electronic grade books, parent access to their student's information, and online sign up for BHS courses, etc. The current SIMS (Winschool) is being discontinued in 2010. Both systems will run concurrently and then in mid-January will be converted to the new X2 system.

COMMUNICATION

New Staff Update

Dr. Conti provided the committee with a 2009-10 new staff chart and explained that all new staff will be introduced at Monday's system-wide staff meeting.

Summer Projects Update

Mr. Robinson reported on completed school summer projects: - partial roof replacements at BHS and Francis Wyman

- new Francis Wyman playground to open in mid-September
- playground repaved and fencing completed at Fox Hill
- fitness center retrofitted at BHS
- renovate and paint boys and girls locker rooms
- renovate 8 bathrooms at the middle school
- construction of Sprouts Daycare from former locker room at Francis Wyman

New Memorial Update

Mr. Robinson summarized recent accomplishments: design work is completed and site plans have been reviewed with the Planning Board and Board of Health. Construction bids are scheduled for January. Construction is anticipated to begin in early 2010 with the relocation of utilities prior to any site work. A proposed redistricting plan will be presented in the spring to allow for community input. A staging plan will be reviewed with the School Committee as soon as it's completed.

Varsity Field Update

Mr. Robinson related that the selection committee, chaired by Principal Larkin, narrowed 12 submitted bids to four finalists for interviews in September. The project is expected to start in late spring 2010 and will include an elevator design. A recommended bidder will be recommended to the School Committee in late September.

Upcoming Statements of Interest

The SBA has an October deadline for prioritized statements of interest to be submitted for a possible 50% project reimbursement. Mr. Robinson explained that Burlington would like to submit three for consideration:

1. Renovation and addition at Marshall Simonds Middle School (proposed new project)
2. HVAC system at the Middle School (project completed)
3. Roofs at BHS and Francis Wyman (project completed)

Mr. Robinson will provide an estimate at an upcoming School Committee meeting and the Committee will need to authorize the Superintendent to file the statements of interest.

OLD BUSINESS

Integrated Preschool Handbook – Second Reading

This document was presented at the July 21 meeting for a first reading. Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. DeSimone to approve the 2009-10 Integrated Preschool Handbook; motion carried 5-0-0.

Nstar Lighting Grant Proposal Authorization

At the previous meeting, Mr. Robinson reviewed proposals from Nstar to install energy efficient lighting at Francis Wyman, Fox Hill, and BHS. A significant rebate will be provided upon the completion of each project along with large yearly energy cost and usage reductions. The net bill total for the three projects will be spread out over two years with no interest on the monthly Nstar bill. Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Vanella to approve the Nstar Business Solutions program for Francis Wyman, Fox Hill, and Burlington High School and authorize Craig Robinson to sign agreements; motion carried 5-0-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Fox Hill School Telephone Pole

The town DPW department is requesting approval to place a telephone pole in the back of the Fox Hill school to hold a box that will read the new automatic water meters. After a short discussion, it was moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. DeSimone to authorize the installation of a telephone pole in back of Fox Hill School in a location mutually agreeable to Craig Robinson and Mr. Sanchez; motion carried 5-0-0.

School Committee Meeting  
Schedule 2009-10

The 2009-10 School Committee meeting schedule was reviewed. Additional meetings to review the FY11 budget will be added at a later date.

Dr. Conti provided a lengthy explanation regarding letters sent to parents of Pine Glen and Francis Wyman students about the No Child Left Behind Act I and Adequate Yearly Progress deficits and school choice (comprehensive details are available on the Superintendent's blog).

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

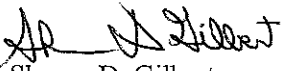
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Murphy 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. Nelson at 9:35 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. Nelson at 10:00 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sharon D. Gilbert  
Recording Secretary

Date submitted: 9/22/09

Date approved: 9/22/09