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BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

October 27, 2009

2009 OCT 23 AM 10:11 AW

Agenda

TOWN CLERK

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, October 27, 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 10/13/09
3. Approval of Warrant
4. Public Participation
5. Information/Reports
 - a) Student Representative
 - b) Subcommittee Reports
 - c) Ways/Means
6. Communication – Teaching American History Grant & Fulbright Travel
7. Technology
8. Instruction – MCAS Summary
9. Old Business
 - a) District Improvement Plan – Second Reading
 - b) New Draft Policies – Second Reading
 - i) English Literacy & Fluency Policy
 - ii) Public Participation at School Comm. Meetings, Special Procedures for Conducting Business, School Comm. Policy Development, Policy Adoption, Policy Revision and Review, School Comm. Review of Regulations, Policy Disseminations, Suspension of Policies
10. New Business
 - a) Out-of-State Travel – New Hampshire
 - b) Approval of Statements of Interest
 - c) New Draft Policies – First Reading
 - i) School Committee-Staff Communications, Use of Electronic Messaging, New School Comm. Member Orientation, School Comm. Conferences, Conventions, and Workshops, School Comm. Member Compensation & Expense, School Comm. Legislative Program and School Comm. Memberships
11. Public Participation
12. Executive Session
 - a) Approval of Executive Minutes of 10/13/09
 - b) Contract Negotiations
 - c) Litigation
13. Adjournment

BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECEIVED

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2009

2009 NOV 24 PM 3: 36/aw
Vice Chair Christine Monaco 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, Chairman Thomas F. Murphy Jr. (8:10 p.m. arrival), 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. DeSimone and seconded by Mr. Nelson to approve minutes of 10/13/09; motion carried 3-0-1 (Mr. Vanella abstained).
- APPROVAL OF WARRANT Moved by Mr. DeSimone and seconded by Mr. Vanella to approve the warrant; motion carried 3-0-1 (Mr. Nelson abstained).
- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION None.
- INFORMATION/REPORTS
Student Representative Ms. DiBona reported on fundraisers and a pancake mix collection for the food pantry.
- Subcommittee Reports Mrs. Monaco inquired if varsity field will receive new lights. Mr. Robinson replied they will be replaced if they fit in the project budget. He also reported that a preliminary drawing for the field was received today and a meeting with town boards will be held on Thursday. A survey crew is beginning work, the new field will be completed during football season, but the bleachers and restrooms may not be completed by then. Athletic Director Ed Gillis has contacted Woburn to discuss using their football field if varsity field is not complete.
- Ways & Means No one in attendance.
- COMMUNICATION – Teaching
American History Grant &
Fulbright Travel Social Studies Coordinator Jane Hundley provided a comprehensive powerpoint presentation and video clips on the Making Freedom: Teaching American History Grant (available on the Superintendent's blog). This is a \$1 million three-year grant to be shared by five districts: Burlington, Lexington, Bedford, Somerville and Woburn. Jane reviewed components of the grant which include: workshops, seminars, study tours, and book groups. If all criteria from the grant are met, there is the opportunity to add a fourth year to the grant.
- Ms. Hundley also shared her participation in a six-week travel study to India this summer which she was awarded from the Fulbright-Hays program.
- TECHNOLOGY Cisco will submit a final proposal and financing terms in the next couple weeks. An update will be provided at the November 17 meeting.
- INSTRUCTION
MCAS Summary Dr. Conti reviewed a 47 slide powerpoint presentation on AYP, NCLB, and MCAS scores from last spring (available on the Superintendent's blog dated 10/28/09). The slides included data on English language arts and math MCAS scores for grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10. He reviewed slides showing score trends from 2003-2009 and identified next steps for Burlington Public Schools.

Dr. Conti explained a new "student growth percentile" being made available by the Massachusetts DESE and released publicly today (on the Superintendent's blog dated 10/28/09). Student growth percentile measures changes in individual student's performance over time. As this is the first year for scores in grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 10, no trends are available yet. Next fall parents will receive a growth percentile from last year to next year; typical average percentiles are identified as low, typical, or high. Growth percentiles are currently available for fourth & fifth grade students; if parents want their child's growth percentile score, they should contact the school principal.

OLD BUSINESS
District Improvement Plan -
Second Reading

The 2009-10 District Improvement Plan was presented by Dr. Conti at the October 13 meeting. Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to approve the 2009-10 District Improvement Plan as presented; motion carried 5-0-0.

New Draft Policies – Second
Reading

Pupil Services Director Cath Estep submitted an English Literacy and Fluency Policy for a first reading at the October 13 School Committee meeting. Moved by Mr. DeSimone and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to adopt policy IHBEA-1 English Literacy & Fluency Policy; motion carried 5-0-0.

The following policies were presented at the 10/13 meeting for a first reading: BEDH, BG, BGC, BGE, and BGF. Moved by Mr. DeSimone to adopt policy BEDH Public Participation at School Committee Meetings replacing policy 1440; motion carried 5-0-0. Moved by Mr. DeSimone and seconded by Mr. Nelson to adopt policy BG School Committee Policy Development; motion carried 5-0-0. Moved by Mr. DeSimone and seconded by Mr. Nelson to adopt policy BGC Policy Revision and Review; motion carried 5-0-0. Moved by Mr. DeSimone and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to adopt policy BGD School Committee Review of Regulations; motion carried 5-0-0. Moved by Mr. DeSimone and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to adopt policy BGE Policy Dissemination; motion carried 5-0-0. Moved by Mr. DeSimone and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to adopt policy BGF Suspension of Policies; motion carried 5-0-0.

NEW BUSINESS
Out-of-State Travel

Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Vanella to approve out-of-state travel for Molly Leary to New Hampshire on November 3, 2009; motion carried 5-0-0.

APPROVAL OF STATEMENTS
OF INTEREST

Superintendent Conti requested that the School Committee review and approve three Statements of Interest for submission to the Massachusetts School Building Authority. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that the Statements of Interest priority order is:

1. Memorial School project
2. Marshall Simonds Middle School addition/renovation
3. Burlington High School elevator
4. Burlington High School roof replacement

Chairman Murphy read the following: Having convened in an open meeting on October 27, 2009, the Burlington School Committee of Burlington Public Schools, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building

Authority the Statement of Interest dated 11/13/09 for an addition/renovation at Marshall Simonds Middle School, 114 Winn Street, Burlington, MA which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) which Burlington Public Schools may be invited to apply to the Massachusetts School Building authority in the future; (5) replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility and (7) replacement or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Burlington Public School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority. Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Vanella to approve the Marshall Simonds Middle School addition/renovation statement of interest as read by Chairman Murphy. **Vote of School Committee Yes: 5 No: 0**

Chairman Murphy read the following: Having convened in an open meeting on October 27, 2009, the Burlington School Committee of Burlington Public Schools, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest dated 11/13/09 for an elevator at Burlington High School located at 123 Cambridge Street, Burlington, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which Burlington Public Schools may be invited to apply to the Massachusetts School Building authority in the future; (3) prevention of the loss of accreditation and (7) replacement or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Burlington Public School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority. Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. DeSimone to approve the Burlington High School elevator statement of interest as read by Chairman Murphy. **Vote of School Committee Yes: 5 No: 0**

Chairman Murphy read the following: Having convened in an open meeting on October 27, 2009, the Burlington School Committee of Burlington Public Schools, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest dated 11/13/09 for the Burlington High School roof replacement located at 123 Cambridge Street, Burlington, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which Burlington Public Schools may be invited to apply to the Massachusetts School Building authority in the future; (5). Replacement, renovation, or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy

conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Burlington Public School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority. Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to approve the Burlington High School Roof replacement statement of interest as read by Chairman Murphy. **Vote of School Committee Yes: 5 No: 0**

Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Vanella to approve minutes for the statements of interest portion of the October 27, 2009 School Committee meeting; motion carried 5-0-0.

New Draft Policies – First Reading

The following policies were taken under advisement as a first reading and will be voted on at the November 17 School Committee meeting: BIA New School Committee Member Orientation, BID School Committee Member Compensation and Expense, and BK School Committee Memberships. Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Vanella to table policy BHC School Committee – Staff Communications; motion carried 5-0-0. Moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mr. Nelson to table policy BHE Use of Electronic Messaging by School Committee members; motion carried 5-0-0. Moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mr. Nelson to table policy BIBA School Committee conferences, Conventions, and Workshops; motion carried 5-0-0. Moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to table policy BJ School Committee Legislative Program; motion carried 5-0-0.

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 10:30 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. DeSimone at 11:15 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon D. Gilbert
Recording Secretary

Date submitted: 11/17/09

Date approved: 11/17/09