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BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

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OCTOBER 28, 2008

2008 OCT 24 AM 9:09

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, October 28, 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 Warrant
3. Public Participation
4. Information/Reports
 - a) Student Representative
 - b) Subcommittee Reports
 - c) Ways/Means
5. Instruction
 - a) Sarah Ward
 - b) Response to Intervention
6. Technology – Update
7. Communication
 - a) Variance Report
 - b) FY2010
8. Old Business
 - a) District Wide Parental Involvement Policy & Title 1 Supplement – Second Reading
 - b) Teachers Draft Calendars 2009-10 and 2010-11 – Second Reading
 - c) District Improvement Plan – Second Reading
9. New Business
 - a) Establishment of Essential School Health Service Program Revolving Account
 - b) School Committee Member Ethics, Organizational Meeting, and Officers Policies – First Reading
10. Public Participation
11. Executive Session
 - a) Approval of Executive Minutes of 10/24/08
 - b) Contract Negotiations
 - c) Litigation
12. Adjournment

BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

RECEIVED

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 28, 2008

2008 DEC -3 AM 9: 24

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

- APPROVAL OF WARRANT Moved by Mr. Vanella and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to approve the warrant. Motion carried 3-0-2; Mr. Murphy and Mr. Nelson abstained.
- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION None.
- INFORMATION/REPORTS
 Student Representative Ms. Burke reported that the Halloween dance, which is the largest dance of the season, was a success. A BHS pep rally will be held the day before Thanksgiving.
- Subcommittee Reports None.
- Ways & Means No one in attendance.
- INSTRUCTION
 Sarah Ward Mrs. Marchand reported that PAC invited consultant Sarah Ward to give a presentation last week on how to deal with and help students who have executive functioning issues.
- Response to Intervention Superintendent Conti provided a detailed, comprehensive presentation on Response to Intervention, including: definition, philosophy, essential components, and the Elementary Principals gave their perspectives (this presentation is available on the Superintendent's blog). They would like to implement this program next September. The School Committee discussed: how it would work, classroom schedules, staffing, assessments and logistics of students, progress monitoring, and intervention. Dr. Conti was requested to provide a monthly update on this subject including infrastructure, support needed, and progress.
- TECHNOLOGY - Update Mr. Robinson reported that the administration is working on identifying a technology program and funding sources for this town-wide project.
- COMMUNICATION
 Variance Report Mr. Robinson stated that this monthly report was

included in tonight's packet and the budget is in good shape at this time. He expressed concern regarding long-term absences; there are currently 11 known staff pregnancies. Permanent substitutes will be used for these absences and new per diem subs will be hired. He noted that the district might need to request additional funding for the May town meeting.

FY2010

Due to upcoming elections and the possibility of question 1 passing (elimination of state income taxes), the Committee agreed to defer this discussion until the November 18 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

District Wide Parental
Involvement Policy & Title 1
Supplement – Second Reading

These two draft policies were presented for a first reading on October 14. Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Murphy to adopt the District Wide Parental Involvement policy and Title 1 Supplement policy as presented; motion carried 5-0-0.

Teachers Draft Calendars
2008-09 and 2009-10 -
Second Reading

The Committee discussed concerns about the scheduling of professional development days three years in advance. The School Committee agreed to delay these two items. The Superintendent will contact the BEA president regarding the flexibility of changing professional development dates that are published up to three years in advance so they can be included in the BEA contract agreement as required and will also inquire of attorney Darren Klein discussions during BEA contract negotiations regarding professional development days. Correction requested: Labor day date for 2009.

District Improvement Plan –
Second Reading

Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Murphy to accept the District Improvement Plan 2008/2009; motion carried 5-0-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Establishment of Essential
School Health Service Program
Revolving Account

Supervisor of Nurses, Trish Peach, has submitted a written request to establish a revolving account to administer the receipt of \$4,500 annually for five years from Wilmington, who is the district's mentor for the Essential School Health Service Program. Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Vanella to authorize the establishment of an Essential School Health Service Program revolving account; motion carried 5-0-0. The Superintendent was requested to ask Wilmington how long they've had this program in their town.

School Committee Member
Ethics, Organizational Meeting
and Officers Policies – First
Reading

The Committee requested a change to the draft policy School Committee Organizational Meeting to include in the first sentence: which will initially be chaired by the Superintendent of Schools. As this is a first reading, the Committee will take the three policies under advisement and vote at the November 18 meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman DeSimone 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. Murphy at 9:40 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 10:40 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon D. Gilbert
Recording Secretary

Date submitted: 11/18/08

Date approved: 11/18/08