



**MINUTES of the “48th District School Committee”  
Special 2013 Meeting**

Membership: Francis J. Fistori, Avon; Germano John Silveira, Braintree;  
Vice Chairman Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., Canton; Chairman Joseph A. Pascarella, Dedham;  
Mr. Robert A. McNeil, Holbrook; Mr. Fess Joyce, Milton; Mr. Kevin L. Connolly, Norwood;  
Mrs. Marybeth Nearen, Randolph and Mr. Charles W. Flahive, Westwood.

**Tuesday, April 23 , 2013**

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS PRIOR TO REGULAR SCHEDULE MEETING**

**Evaluation Subcommittee:** at 5:30 p.m. in Boardroom #402 – Meeting set to tally the returns of the DSC Members’ Superintendent-Director Evaluations.

**Warrant Subcommittee:** at 6:30 p.m. in Boardroom #402  
Agenda: Pre-meeting review of warrant and related invoices. This subcommittee meets before all meetings of the DSC that contain warrant(s). Mr. Charles W. Flahive examined the details of the warrant prior to the meeting. The full committee receives full details of the warrant(s) prior to the meeting.

The Blue Hills Regional Vocational School Forty-Eighth District School Committee Special Schedule Meeting was called to order at **7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 23, 2013** at the Blue Hills Regional Vocational Technical School, William T. Buckley District School Committee Board Room 207A, 800 Randolph Street, Canton, Massachusetts. Chairman Joseph A. Pascarella presided.

**1. ROLL CALL and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE \***

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Messrs. Connolly, Fistori, Flahive, Joyce, Maguire, McNeil; Mrs. Nearen and Messrs. Pascarella and Silveira

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** -0-

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mr. Charles J. Gisoni, Treasurer  
Ms. Rachel E. Rudin, Student Representative to the DSC, School Year 2012-13  
Mr. James P. Quaglia, Superintendent-Director  
Mr. David W. Proule, Business Manager  
Mr. Michael J. Barrett, Assistant Superintendent-Director  
Ms. Terry Longley, Assistant Business Manager

\*On occasion, individual(s) attending the meeting do not sign the attendance sheet. At this meeting there were no visitors present.

Chairman Joseph A. Pascarella announced that the District complies with the revised Open Meeting Law in effect, as of July 1, 2010. This meeting is being recorded in person by the recording secretary. All documents referred to within the meeting are in the Meeting-Record File. Meeting minutes were recorded electronically as well as by person.

**Marathon Moment of Silence:** Chairman Joseph A. Pascarella called for a moment of silence and prayer for those who lost their lives and suffered with the tragedy that struck the Boston Marathon on Monday, April 15, 2013.

**PUBLIC HEARING CHOICE PROGRAM**

**PUBLIC HEARING – CHOICE PROGRAM - Open Public Hearing “Choice Program”** Chairman Joseph A. Pascarella called the Public Hearing to order and welcomed input from Committee Members and Visitors on the “Choice Program” being

implemented at Blue Hills. Superintendent-Director Quaglia, recommended not joining the Program, when asked by the Committee. There were no other comments. Chairman Pascarella moved the question of the "Choice Program" following the conclusion of comments. A motion was made by Member Kevin L. Connolly to close the Public Hearing, which was seconded and passed unanimously Member Connolly further moved to vote to reject School Choice for School Year 2013-14 and supply Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education of the Committees decision, as required by Chapter 76, Section 12-B, Massachusetts General Laws. Motion was seconded by Member Festus Joyce **by ROLL-CALL VOTE**, the Committee:

**VOTED:** To reject School Choice for School Year 2013-14 and provide the DESE Commissioner Mitchell D. Chester with the Committee's decision, as required by Chapter 76, Section 12-B, Massachusetts General Laws.

**(The vote was 9 – 0.)**

2. **Public Comment** - None.

3. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** - Chairman Pascarella moved for the approval of the following District School Committee Meetings: Tuesdays, March 19, 2013 and April 2, 2013. Motion was made by Member Kevin L. Connolly to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion was seconded by Member Robert A. McNeil. Motion was taken to a vote, without discussion and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

**VOTED:** to approve the minutes of the Tuesdays, March 29, 2013 and April 2, 2013 meetings, as submitted. Motion was seconded by Member Robert A. McNeil. Motion was taken to a vote,

**Communications** – The District School Committee receives regular flow of emails which provide the Committee with an accurate synopsis of what is happening within the District School. All email correspondences are archived.

4. **Student Representative Report** – Ms. Rachel E. Rudin was recognized by Chairman Pascarella. Ms. Rudin reported:

- **Dominican Republic Trip** – Ms. Rudin reported on the trip she attended along with 22 students and chaperones, Ms. Ana Peach, Ms. Rebecca Ray and Ms. Heather Irber during April School Vacation. Ms. Rudin enthusiastically spoke of the fun they all had combined with learning the culture of the people of this land. Rachel and her fellow schoolmates attended Dominican school sessions and witnessed the limits the people have to face in their learning environment and also the poverty that exists. Ms. Rudin stated, "This trip gave me something that will stay with me the rest of my life as well as life-changing experiences. Along with this, I now have a deep gratitude for all the material things I have in the USA that I used to take for granted." Ms. Rudin stated that at a future DSC meeting her fellow travelers wish to further review the trip and their experiences with the Committee Members.
- **Prom** - The Prom preparation is going well. Juniors and Seniors will celebrate at "Lombardos" in Randolph on Friday, May 24, 2013. Tickets will be \$50 each and a selected picture frame will be their prom favor.
- **"The Yellow Dress"** – Juniors and Seniors were presented with a play that depicts abuses that may occur with dating and steps that can be taken to stamp out this kind of abuse.

Member Fess Joyce directed comments to Ms. Rudin with deep appreciation for her reports to the Committee on school activities for students. Mr. Joyce stated: "We really do appreciate the job you do for us, Rachel."

5. **DSC Chair Report** – Chairman Pascarella reminded members that MASC would be conducting training sessions geared to new member trainings on Saturday, April 27, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. The workshops will be conducted at Blue Hills.

6. **Administrative Reports (as needed):**

6.1. **Treasurer: C. Gisondi** - Mr. Charles J. Gisondi was recognized by Chairman Pascarella. Mr. Gisondi presented the Warrant for approval.

\* **Warrant Approval:** Chairman Pascarella moved to approve the Warrant.

Upon motion of Secretary Charles W. Flahive. to approve FY13 Warrant Number 18 (Vouchers 1072 - 1076) in the amount of \$857,344.46. Motion to approve was seconded by Member Marybeth Nearen. **Motion to approve the warrant was taken to a vote and it was UNANIMOUSLY**

**VOTED:** to approve FY13 Warrant Number 18 (Vouchers 1072 - 1076) in the amount of \$857,344.46.

**6.2 Business Manager: D. Proule** - Business Manager David W. Proule was recognized by Chairman Pascarella.

\* **Lunch Program Increase** – Mr. Proule provided the Committee with a review of the nine town lunch program charges. There was extensive discussion on the necessity of this increase, including the 28% increase on products needed to operate the program. Member Nearen mentioned that “outsourcing” is being done at many schools with their cafeteria/food supply program. Mrs. Nearen introduced a motion to explore. Member Charles W. Flahive asked why there are no students working in the cafeteria as part of the full learning experience with the Culinary Arts Program. Mr. Flahive received a historical on the students leaving the cafeteria and additional information will be provided. The discussion generated a ROLL CALL VOTE on exploring an outsourcing food service arrangement. The exploration of outsourcing the cafeteria food program failed by majority vote (**5 no, 4 yes**). Business Manager David W. Proule continued his discussion on the increase of the lunch program by 25 cents. This increase will not affect milk cost or breakfast program charge. Chairman Pascarella moved the question of approving a 25 cent increase to the lunch program, effective September 2013. Member Germano John Silveira moved to approve a 25 cent increase to the lunch program as requested by Business Manager Proule. Motion was seconded by Member Joyce. Motion was taken to a vote and it was by **MAJORITY**

**VOTED:** to approve a 25 cent increase to the lunch program, effective September 2013, as requested by Business Manager Proule. (Member Flahive voted against the increase. All others for the increase.)

❖ **FY14 – Budget** > Mr. Proule addressed the Committee and informed them that an individual from the Town of Braintree has supplied the nine District Towns with a document reporting inaccurate information. The Committee working with the Superintendent-Director and Business Manager provided an accurate response, line by line, to this document. The erroneous information provided to the District Towns was the Braintree Auditor's attempt to persuade other District Towns to amend assessments for the FY14 Blue Hills Budget. Members asked many questions and received answers. Mr. Proule once again outlined the formula that is dictated by the State in establishing minimum contributions established and the set of respective member town assessments. The assessments are established with per capita member town values. Following the completion of the review of this document and its corrections it was the sense of the full Committee to send the completed response and corrections (**Entitled: Response to Town Auditor Recommendations**) to all parties of interest including all District Town Officials. Once again, it is noted:

- **Total Budget for FY14** = \$17,896,529, down → -0.13% from FY13.
- Finance & Administration Subcommittee Meeting – There was discussion regarding an additional Finance & Administration subcommittee meeting and a number of differences of opinions on the necessity of the meeting. **A roll call vote was taken on this matter with a 5 to 4 failure.**

6.3 **Assistant Superintendent/Principal: M. Barrett** – Mr. Barrett was recognized by Chairman Pascarella and addressed a number of issues.

- ❖ **CPR training** is set for all staff on April 25<sup>th</sup>, as a professional development activity. Members of a team from the Canton Fire Department will provide the intense training and subsequent certification will be provided to faculty and staff.

Member Marybeth Nearen was a proponent of this event.

- ❖ **SkillsUSA** Thirty students will be going to compete at Blackstone this Thursday. Any member wishing to attend is graciously invited by the students and their Advisor, Mr. Bob Foley.
- ❖ **Homework Club** – The satellite Homework Club is up and running. Seven students were present today and each student had an individual helper.
- ❖ **School Improvement Plan** – Mr. Barrett reported that the School Improvement Plan is nearly ready for the review and approval of the full Committee and an electronic copy will be sent as soon as possible.

6.4 **Superintendent/Director James P. Quaglia was recognized by Chairman Pascarella.** Mr. Quaglia was recognized by Chairman Pascarella.

- ❖ **Strategic Plan** – A District Strategic Plan will be submitted for review at the next District School Committee Meeting. This is a major step for the District and has been produced by the Superintendent-Director for the betterment of the students and school.

#### 7. **DSC Business (Unfinished and New):**

- **Personal Goal:** Secretary Charles W. Flahive stated that he will not be complacent when executing responsibilities with District School Committee commitments. Mr. Flahive is intent in seeing arts reintroduced to the curricula and the field projects matriculate to the Committee's satisfaction. Mr. Flahive's personal goal with his membership on the District School Committee is to see the school a better place for the students.
- **Increasing Enrollment:** Vice Chairman Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., provided the Committee with a recent advertisement in a local paper by "South Shore Vocational Technical High School" advertising student openings for the 2013-14 year in a number of programs and would like to see Blue Hills consider the same type of marketing for programs with openings.

#### 8. **DSC Subcommittee Reports (as needed):**

- ❖ **Warrant Subcommittee** – Met prior to the DSC Meeting, as it does each and every meeting where a warrant is submitted for full-Committee approval. Questions arose on the following items and will be answered and clarified by the Business Manager:

- 1) Page 21 of the Warrant Document – Transportation - \$7,339.41
- 2) Page 23 and 24, \$84.50 and \$83.73 – "Book Thief"
- 3) Page 8. Avon Public Schools - \$504.00
- 4) Page 15. Lifeguard, 15 hours, \$135.00 (No longer works here.)

- ❖ **Personnel & Negotiation** – Will set a meeting soon to work on the FY14 Superintendent-Director Contract.
- ❖ **Evaluation Subcommittee** – Returns on the Superintendent-Director's FY13 Evaluation were returned by seven of the nine members and Chairman Fran Fistori and Joanne are double checking the tallies before distribution to all members. The Superintendent-Director also provided a "self-evaluation" which will be copied and distributed to all members as soon as possible. Members gave oral comments on their returns and one member provided written comments that will be reviewed at a future Evaluation Subcommittee meeting to be set as soon as possible. The evaluation instrument used was the document that was recommended by DESE. Members also commented orally with the open-session evaluation, sharing their opinions of the Superintendent's job performance.

**9. Discussion or Suggestions for the Good of the District, Including Newsworthy Educational Items**

- **Enrollment Objectives** – Secretary Flahive expressed his disappointment in learning that a Westwood 8<sup>th</sup> Grader had been eliminated from enrollment allegedly because of unsatisfactory results with his interview.
- **Sports’ Banquets** – Vice Chairman Maguire stated that he would like to see more publicity given to respective sports banquets.
- **Student Government Day** – Vice Chairman Maguire would like to see more promotion of this event to students to stimulate student interest in government and how it works.

10. **Executive session:** By **UNANIMOUS roll call vote**, the Committee voted to move into executive session as provided under executive session to discuss collective bargaining, strategies and/or possible litigation under Open Meeting Law, Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a) (b), 2, 3 of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts General Laws. Open meeting discussion may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body executive session. Following conclusion of executive session, with all regular business completed the Committee will move into regular session solely to adjourn.

11. **Adjournment** – Following conclusion of all District School Committee’s regular meeting, Chairman Pascarella accepted a motion from Member Germano John Silveira, seconded by Member Fran Fistori to close the Regular Session Meeting of the District School Committee.

It was **unanimously:**

**VOTED:** to adjourn the Regular Scheduled Meeting, with all regular business concluded, at **11:49 p.m.**

The Committee’s **next meeting** will be a **Regular Schedule Meeting** conducted in the **William T. Buckley District School Committee Board Room (#207A), on May 7, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.,** unless otherwise posted.

Minutes Approved:

Minutes submitted by:

Charles W. Flahive, Secretary

Joanne Kuzborski, Recording Secretary