



**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, May 14, 2013

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING PRIOR TO REGULAR SCHEDULE MEETING

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) to examine the details of the warrant prior to the meeting. The full committee receives pre-meeting warrant information via email the Friday before the current warrant(s) approval.

The Blue Hills Regional Vocational School Forty-Eighth District School Committee Special Meeting was called to order at **7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 14, 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: Ms. Rachel E. Rudin, Student Representative
Mr. James P. Quaglia, Superintendent-Director
Mr. Michael J. Barrett, Assistant Superintendent-Principal
Ms. Jill Rossetti, Director of Academics
Mr. Gene Mastro, Director of Facilities
Mrs. Ana Peach, BHEA Teacher
Mrs. Eileen Dailey, BHEA Teacher
Ms. Rachael Straenle, Student
Ms. Emilie Burns – Student
Ms. Kacy Dotoli – BHEA Teacher
Mrs. Rachael Ray - BHEA Teacher
Mr. Chris Feeney - BHEA Teacher
Mr. Brian Gearty - BHEA Teacher – Union President
Ms. Melonie Fedorchuk - BHEA Teacher
Mr. Aaron Nesselle – Student

*On occasion, individual(s) attending the meeting do not sign the attendance sheet.

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.

2. Presentation, April 2013 School Vacation Dominican Republic Trip Review:

Dominican Republic Trip: Chairman Pascarella recognized Students and Teachers, Ms. Ana Peach, Mrs. Heather Irber and Mrs. Rebecca Ray. The purpose of the appearance was the review of the April 2013 School Vacation Trip with the

Committee. A pictorial tour of the event was presented with highlights of the week focused. Students spoke of the tremendous opportunities that this trip provided. The students saw firsthand a “Dream School” that provides educational opportunities to the students of the Dominican Republic. Blue Hills’ students presented the students at the school with much needed school supplies and were in awe of the primitive learning environment that students in the Dominican Republic are subject to along with continuous, excruciating heat. Twenty-three students attended this event which was self funded with help from student fund raising and a very generous donation from an anonymous donor. Along with learning and viewing the culture of the Dominican Republic the students had a multitude of fun experiences including para-sailing. The students spoke of the bonding with their chaperones whom they nicknamed: “Mom, Auntie and Doc”. Ms. Peach stated that active plans are underway for next year’s trip to “Barcelona, Spain”. A scholarship trip to Barcelono is being planned for a worthy senior. Following the presentation, the students presented the Committee with a handcrafted, signed thank you board, including a group picture. Members of the District School Committee thanked the group for their presence and presentation.

3. Public Comment:

- **Letter and Comments from Brian Gearty, President of the BHEA** – Mr. Brian Gearty was recognized by Chairman Pascarella. Mr. Gearty read into the record a letter and subsequent request to the Committee to reconsider anticipated teacher layoffs with the FY14 Budget for School Year 2013-14.

4 **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** - Minutes of the Tuesday, April 23, 2013 Meeting. Member Kevin L. Connolly moved to accept the minutes as submitted. Motion was seconded by Member Marybeth Nearen and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

VOTED: to accept and approve the minutes from the Tuesday, April 23, 2013 Meeting, as submitted.

5. **Student Representative Report** – Chairman Pascarella recognized Ms. Rachel E. Rudin. Rachel reported:

- **Walk for Hunger** – The National Honor Society participated in a recent *Walk for Hunger* raising \$2850 for the cause of helping those in need. NHS Advisor is Mrs. Rebecca Ray.
- **Teacher Appreciation Breakfast** – Friday, May 10th the students hosted an Appreciation Breakfast for their teachers and staff members with deep appreciation.
- **Senior Field Day** – Because of past weather condition, the Senior Field Trip is scheduled for Thursday, May 16th. Members are invited to attend.
- **“Prom”** – The last day to buy tickets is tomorrow. Everyone is looking forward to the Friday, May 24th Prom to be held at Lombardo’s in Randolph.
- **Lacrosse Team** – The Lacrosse Team needs “one more win” to qualify for the State Tournament.
- **Graduation** – Seniors are in the midst of preparation for their graduation on Tuesday, June 11, 2013.

Committee Members thanked Ms. Rudin for her report on student activities.

6. **DSC Chair Report** – Chairman Pascarella spoke of the proposed dates for the upcoming summer meeting schedule. Proposed dates are Tuesdays, July 23 and August 20, 2013. Secretary Charles W. Flahive commented that there may be a need for an additional meeting to conduct Committee business and was advised that this is possible with a Special Meeting, if necessary. It has been the custom of the Committee to conduct two meetings during the summer months to accommodate member vacations. Following conclusion of discussion and comments. Member Kevin L. Connolly made a motion to approve summer meetings for the District School

Committee on Tuesday, July 23, 2013 at 7 p.m. and Tuesday, August 20, 2013 at 7 p.m. Motion was seconded by Member Fess Joyce and taken to a vote. It was **UNANIMOUSLY**

Voted: to approve summer meetings for the District School Committee for Tuesday, July 23, 2013 at 7 p.m. and Tuesday, August 20, 2013 at 7 p.m.

→**District School Committee Self Evaluation for 2012-13:** Members are requested to work on their returns.

→ **DSC Student Scholarship** – Member Fess Joyce moved to approve the annual \$500 scholarship provided to a graduating senior. Motion was seconded by Member Kevin L. Connolly. Motion was taken to a vote and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

VOTED: to approve the annual \$500 scholarship provided to a graduating senior.

Chairman Pascarella advised the Committee that the Seniors' Award Night will be conducted here at Blue Hills Cafeterium on Wednesday, May 22, 2013 at 7 p.m. All members are graciously invited to attend this momentous event that rewards outstanding students for the work they have done throughout their student years.

7. Administrative Reports (as needed):

7.1. Treasurer: **C. Gisondi** - Mr. Charles J. Gisondi was not present. The warrant was prepared and presented.

→ **Warrant Approval:** Chairman Pascarella moved to the approval of the Warrant.

Upon motion of Secretary Charles W. Flahive, to approve **FY13 Warrant Number 19 (Vouchers 1077-1079) in the amount of \$752,065.79**. Motion to approve was seconded by Member Germano John Silveira. **Motion to approve** the warrant was taken to a vote and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

VOTED: to approve **FY13 Warrant Number 19 (Vouchers 1077-1079) in the amount of \$752,065.79**.

NOTE: Warrant Subcommittee Chairman Charles W. Flahive had questions on the warrant:

1) Page 10, Vouchers are missing on checks. (Voucher 31260). Research is requested with reply from the Business Office.

7.2 **Business Manager:** Business Manager David W. Proule was not present and attending a professional development event.

→ **RECAP: Total Budget for FY14 = \$17,896,529, down → -0.13% from FY13.**

"Four of the nine District Towns have voted favorably for the District Budget. They are Avon, Milton, Westwood and Holbrook. Canton and Norwood have Town Meetings coming up", reported Superintendent-Director Quaglia.

7.3 **Assistant Superintendent/Principal: M. Barrett** – Chairman Pascarella recognized Mr. Michael J. Barrett. Mr. Barrett addressed the Committee on the following:

7.3.1 **School Year 2013-2014 Program of Studies** – Mr. Barrett introduced Director of Academics Jill Rossetti. Director Rossetti presented a pass out to the Committee detailing any and all changes that have been made to the School Year 2013-2014 Program of Studies and answered questions directed to her by the Committee. Following the presentation, questions and answers the Committee thanked Ms. Rossetti. Secretary Flahive commented that it is very obvious the amount of work that was put into this presentation and complimented Ms. Rossetti further. Mr. Flahive also said he wants more done with the arts at Blue Hills. At the very least, Secretary Flahive would like to see a few music/art clubs start next school year.

7.3.2 **School Improvement Plan** – A snapshot of the School Improvement Plan was provided. Committee Members will have additional time to review and comment.

- **Last Day of School** will be Monday, June 24, 2013, barring any unexpected occurrences.
- **Mock Crash** – Is being set up by the Canton Police for presentation at Blue Hills.

Chairman Pascarella thanked Mr. Barrett for his report.

7.4 **Superintendent/Director James P. Quaglia** was recognized by Chairman Pascarella. Mr. Quaglia provided the Committee with a document entitled:

- **Evaluation:** The Superintendent-Director evaluation process has been completed.
- **Stabilization Fund:** The required district town approvals have been received for the establishment of the District School Stabilization Fund.
- **Strategic Plan** – For the first time in the history of the District, Superintendent-Director Quaglia presented a long-term Strategic Plan to the Members. This Plan is contained in a three-ring book and has input from all school administrators. The members were provided with a guide page by the Superintendent-Director. The future plans for this document include yearly review; coordination with the School Improvement Plan (SIP); and coordination with District Goals. DSC members were invited to give comments and suggestions on the Strategic Plan directly to the Superintendent at their convenience.
- **Hiring Update** - Mr. Quaglia reported by the end of the week a decision will be made on the Director of Vocational Programs position. SPED Director recommendation will be forthcoming as soon as possible.

8. **DSC Business: (Unfinished and New Business)**

- **Graduation Attendance** – This year members will be seated on stage. Seven of the nine members are able to attend this year's graduation scheduled for Tuesday, June 11, 2013 at 6 p.m., outside on the athletic field.
- **MASC/MASS Sponsored Legislative Visit** – At 9 a.m. on Tuesday, May 21, 2013, the State House will be visited by members interested in speaking directly to their elected officers on their schools and the state of education in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This event was previously known as "Day On The Hill".
- **Security Camera Review** – Director of Facilities Gene Mastro was recognized by Chairman Pascarella. Mr. Mastro reported that there are 88 cameras online and working on the west-end, inside and out, of the school building with eight additional camera slots available. The camera security is operating on a "Command-Center Concept" goal with 130 to 140 cameras planned. Mr. Mastro reported that Teacher Mike Sheehan is going to upgrade a plan that indicates camera placements.

Mr. Mastro answered questions and provided additional information. Committee Members thanked Mr. Mastro for his update.

9. **DSC Subcommittee Reports (as needed):**

- **Buildings, Facilities, Safety and Security** – Subcommittee Chairman Aidan G. Maguire, Jr. reported on the meeting that will be conducted on Monday, May 20, 2013 to discuss the Pool Project and Plans for the athletic fields' improvements.
- **Finance & Administration** – Report on 5.8.13 Meeting was provided by newly-elected Subcommittee Chairman Marybeth Nearen. Funding is being requested for lining of athletic fields for all games, not just varsity. Mrs. Nearen suggested that necessary revenue could be secured from the Pool and Recreation Account, if unavailable through the maintenance or athletic accounts.

- **Athletic & Extracurricular** – Subcommittee Chairman Charles W. Flahive – Report on 5.7.13 Meeting. Chairman Flahive stated that the subcommittee recommends that all athletic department positions be advertised anticipating numerous openings in the fall. The subcommittee also wants to have District Treasurer look into the 501 Account for the Boosters and help them to make sure the account is in order
- **Evaluation** – Subcommittee Chairman Fran Fistori – Report on 5.7.13 Meeting. Chairman Fistori stated that the Evaluation Subcommittee has completed the Superintendent-Director Quaglia evaluation with review of all comments noted and rubric calculations provided to all members. Chairman Fistori thanked the members for their input with this responsibility. The Committee followed the recommendations of the DESE Superintendent’s Evaluation. The subcommittee unanimously recommended that the Personnel & Negotiation subcommittee negotiate the Superintendent-Director’s Contract.
- **Personnel & Negotiation Subcommittee** – Subcommittee Chairman Charles W. Flahive report on 5.9.13 Meeting. Mr. Flahive stated that the subcommittee discussed the Superintendent’s contract in executive session and was in receipt of said contract. Another topic was the new teacher evaluation process and designing the bargaining language. Mr. Flahive stated: “We have to look into a facilitator for this project, but we have to keep funding in mind.” Ms. Rossetti provided the Committee with a document from “*Ribas Associates and Publications, Inc., Presents: Interest Based Bargaining Approach to Joint Labor-Management Educator Supervision and Evaluation System Development Aligned with DESE Expectations*” for their review.
- **Policy Subcommittee** – Subcommittee Chairman Germano John Silveira will be calling a meeting shortly to continue the review of the final letters of the District Policy Book (K & L).

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

Recent Communication from Dr. Michael Meyers: “We in the engineering department have had the 7-year pleasure of **Mr. Bernie H. Baher** presenting to our students. Bernie, an expert in ‘non-destructive’ testing procedures, possesses a wealth of knowledge that interests our students. His lectures are very well prepared through hours of preparation. Bernie always includes handouts, demonstrations and provides many visual references. He will have open discussions and an all important question and answer session at the lectures end. We hope to have this valuable resource speak for years to come.” It is noted that Mr. Baher “donates” his time and talents to this endeavor and the District is very grateful to Mr. Baher for all the service he has provided over the past 49 years.

Statement from Member Kevin L. Connolly: Member Connolly verbally apologized to the Committee for a remark he made in a recent email.

Members Self Evaluation – Chairman Pascarella reiterated the importance of the completion of this evaluation. Member Nearen stated that she would like to have some additions to the content of this evaluation tool.

Employment Handbook – Member Marybeth Nearen would like to see a formal “Employee Handbook” offered to employees. There exists a faculty handbook, but no general employee handbook. Mr. Quaglia stated that this has been a work in progress for some time.

11. Executive session: Chairman Pascarella moved to enter into executive session at 9:10 p.m. The Chairman called **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 and is subsequently declared by Chairman Pascarella. By **UNANIMOUS** Roll-Call Vote, the

Committee moved into executive session and will return to the regular meeting for an Open Session Vote and to adjourn.

As a result of discussions, recommendation of the Personnel & Negotiation Subcommittee and decision made in executive session, a vote was taken. Chairman Pascarella accepted a motion from Member Germano John Silveira to approve the general terms of Superintendent-Director James P. Quaglia's Contract as recommended by the Personnel & Negotiation Subcommittee for a term from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016 as presented and subject to review by School Counsel Motion was seconded by Member Kevin L. Connolly, taken to a **ROLL CALL VOTE** and **BY MAJORITY**

VOTED: to approve the general terms of Superintendent-Director James P. Quaglia's Contract as recommended by the Personnel & Negotiation Subcommittee for a term from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016 as presented and subject to review by School Counsel

AYE: Messrs. Connolly, Fistori, Joyce, Maguire, Pascarella and Silveira

NAY: Mr. Flahive **ABSTAIN:** Mrs. Nearen and Mr. McNeil

Secretary Charles W. Flahive stated that he was against the "three-year term" of the contract which mandated his no vote.

12. **Adjournment** – Following conclusion of all District School Committee's regular meeting and executive session, 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 **10:25 p.m.**

The Committee's **next meeting** will be a **Regularly Scheduled District School Committee Meeting** conducted in the William T. Buckley District School Committee Board Room 207A, at **7:00 p.m., on May 21, 2013, unless** otherwise posted.

Minutes Approved:

Minutes submitted by:

Charles W. Flahive, Secretary

Joanne Kuzborski, Recording Secretary