



## MINUTES of the “49th District School Committee” Special 2014 Meeting

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

### Special Meeting, Tuesday, January 28, 2014

#### Conducted in the William T. Buckley District School Committee Meeting Room, #207A

This evening, prior to the Regular Meeting, subcommittees conducted meetings and recommendations will be forthcoming, resulting from their conduct. The subcommittees were:

- Evaluation
- Finance & Administration
- Warrant.

(Subcommittee Meetings were conducted in Room 402.)

The Blue Hills Regional Vocational School **Forty-Ninth District School Committee** Special Meeting was called to order at **7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 28, 2014** at the Blue Hills Regional Vocational Technical School, William T. Buckley District School Committee Board Room 207A, 800 Randolph Street, Canton, Massachusetts. Chairman Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., presided. It is noted that the Regular Schedule Meeting of Tuesday, January 21, 2014 was cancelled because of a snow storm.

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Messrs. Connolly, Flahive, Maguire, McNeil, Mrs. Nearen and Messrs. Pascarella and Silveira  
**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Messrs. Fistori and McNeil  
**OTHERS PRESENT:** Ms. Jessica C. Leigh, Student Representative  
Mr. Charles J. Gisondi, District Treasurer  
Mr. James P. Quaglia, Superintendent-Director  
Mr. Gene Mastro, Director of Facilities and Grounds  
Mr. Michael J. Barrett, Assistant Superintendent/Principal  
Mr. Angelo Dimitriou, Director of SPED  
Ms. Marybeth Joyce, Director of Admissions  
Mr. David W. Proule, Business Manager  
Ms. Kim Poliseno – BHR Career Coordinator  
Mr. Jamie Arnstein, BHR Teacher  
Ms. Katherine Sullivan, BHR Teacher  
Mr. Joseph Fineran, BHR Teacher  
Mr. Al Dellorco, BHR Teacher

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

Chairman Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., announced that all business conducted at this meeting complies with the revised Open Meeting Law in effect, as of July 1, 2010.

2. **Public Comment** – None.

3. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** – Chairman Maguire moved to the approval of the Tuesday, January 7, 2014 Minutes. Vice-Chairman Charles W. Flahive, moved to approve the Minutes of the Tuesday, December 3, 2013 meeting, as presented. Motion was seconded by Secretary Germano John Silveira. Motion to approve the minutes was taken to a vote and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

**VOTED:** to approve the January 7, 2014 minutes as presented.

4. **Student Representative Report** - School Year 2013-14 **Student Representative Jessica Caroline Leigh** was recognized by Chairman Aidan G. Maguire, Jr. Ms. Leigh provided the following information:

- **“Blackout Dance”** – So far 50 tickets are sold for this dance to be conducted on Friday, January 31, 2014.
- **Girls’ Varsity Basketball** is on a winner’s roll with a current standing of 11 wins and “0” losses.
- **Senior Class Council** is focused on this year’s prom and working on favors and “theme”.
- **National Honor Society** has collected over **300 bags of clothing** for the needy with a drive which ends this Friday.

The Committee thanked Ms. Leigh for her report.

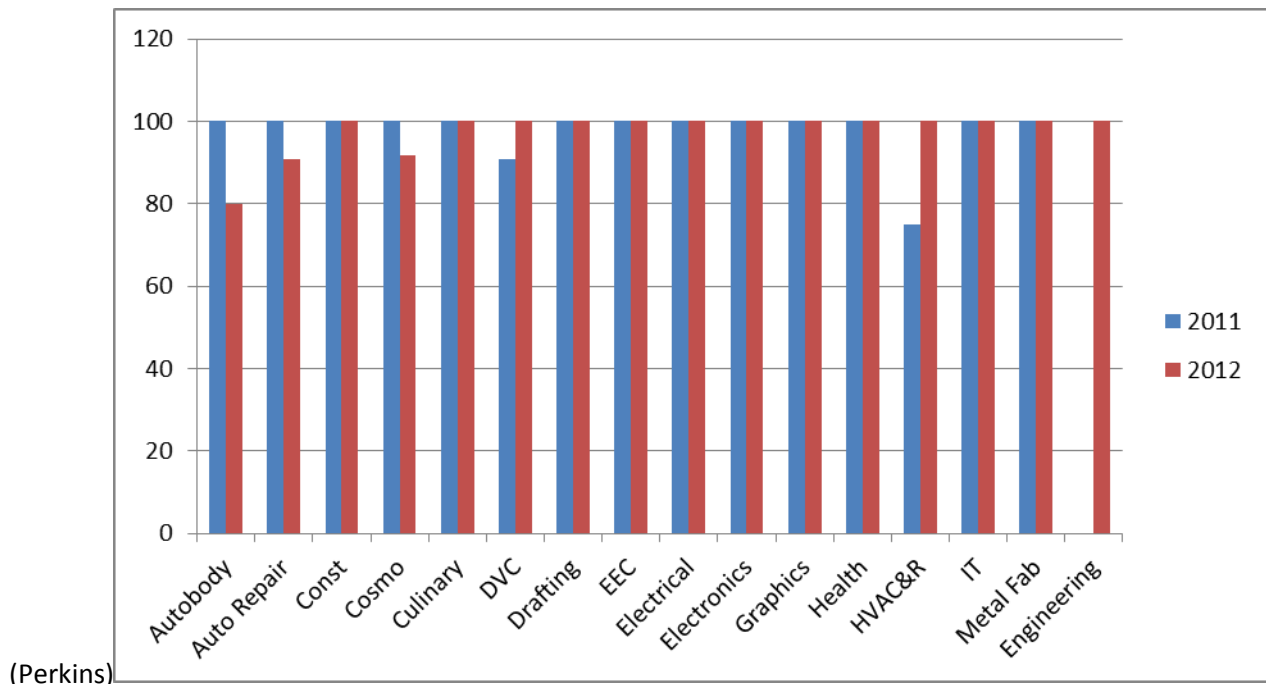
5. **Chairman’s Report:** Chairman Maguire stated and recognized that **Senior Michaela Adams has broken a Blue Hills Record as of last night with achieving the highest number of baskets with Girls Basketball.**

6. **Administrative Reports**

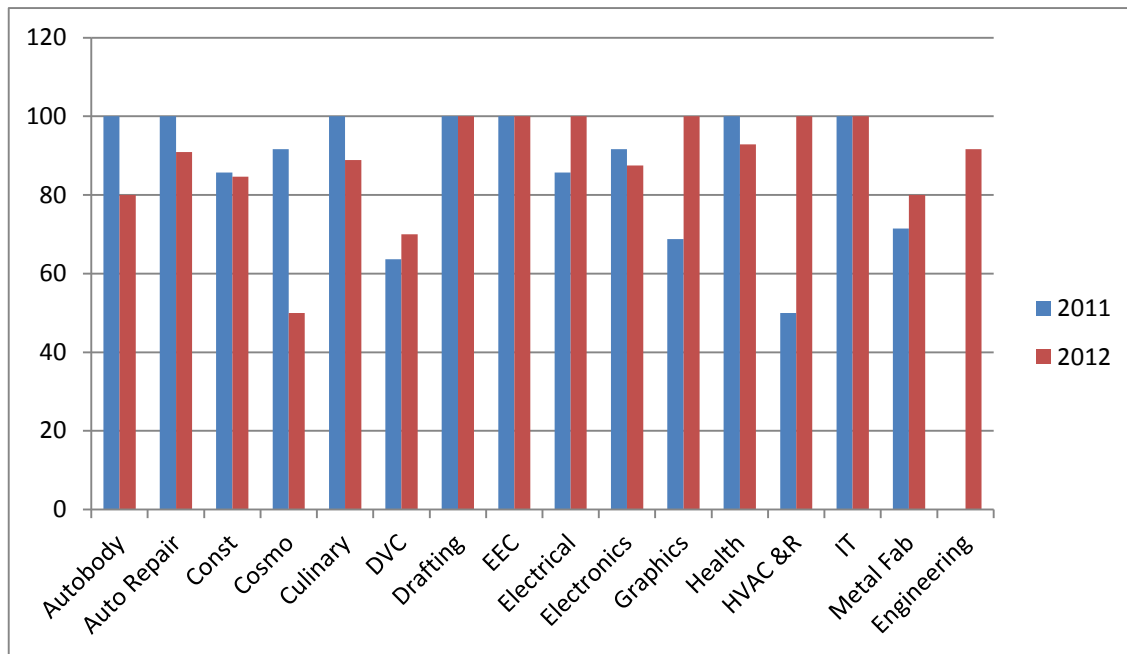
6.1 **One Year, Follow-up Data Report to DESE from the Class of 2012** – Chairman Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., recognized Coordinator of Career Assessment, Planning, and Placement Kimberly Polisenno. Ms. Polisenno presented the following information to the District School Committee:

	# of Graduates	Responses (% Resp.)	Positive Placement (Perkins)	Positive Placement (Ch. 74)	Military	Employed Related	Additional Education	Employed Non-Related	Unemployed	Not in Labor Force
Blue Hills Regional	201	160 79.6%	157 98.13%	141 88.13%	8 5%	39 24.38	94 58.75%	16 10%	3 1.88%	0 0%

Positive Placement



Positive Placement (Chapter 74)



Following the presentation review, Ms. Polisenio provided a question and answer session with the Committee. Mrs. Nearen asked how many students participate in the school’s internship program. Ms. Polisenio stated that there are currently 32 student participants. Ms. Polisenio has operated productive on-site and off-site job fairs for the Blue Hills’ students. These events have opened doors to Blue Hills’ Students with employment. Members of the District School Committee thanked Coordinator Polisenio for her report.

6.2 **SPED Mid-Year Report** – Chairman Maguire recognized Director of Special Education Angelo Dimitriou. Mr. Dimitriou provided a detailed report entitled, including a “Guidance Update”:

**SPECIAL SERVICES – JANUARY 2014**

187 students (22% of the school population) receive special education services - IEP

An additional 40 students have Accommodations Plans – 504s

Disability Type	2014
Autism	7 (4%)
Intellectual	7 (4%)
<b>Emotional</b>	13 (7%)
Health	28 (16%)
<b>Communication</b>	33 (17%)
<b>Specific Learning Disability</b>	70 (37%)
<b>Neurological</b>	23 (12%)

**Local Trends**

Incoming 9th graders – 30% IEPs and 504 Plans

Communication – Decrease in 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades, significant increase in 9<sup>th</sup> graders

Specific Learning and Neurological – Diagnostic Changes

Emotional – Undiagnosed mental health and/or significant increase in psychiatric hospitalizations

Often times, disabilities co-exist such as a learning disability and health

### **National Trends**

Medical Advancement and impact on all disability types

Autism Spectrum Disorders – High functioning/Aspergers/PDD

Emotional Disorders - Support that is required for non-IEP students

### **DESE Coordinated Program Review -- May 2014 submission**

<b>Special Education Areas</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2009</b>
Not Implemented	3	0
Partially Implemented	16	4
Corrective Action Required	19	4
Commendable	0	2

### **SCHOOL SERVICES**

- Academic
- Emotional
- Language, Reading, Transition

### **Professional Development Activities**

- Evaluation Tool/Methods
- NEASC
- De-escalation
- IEPs
- Transition

### **Potential Financial Challenges**

- Supporting students with more significant needs
- Independent evaluations
- Alternative Placement (Discipline, Dept. of Children Families, Tutoring)
- Homeless Education – Transportation Costs
- Future of Medicaid Reimbursement and/or federal grants
- Litigation Fees
- Labor – Hours spent on difficult cases (meetings, hearing, ~~ete~~etc.)

### **Guidance Update**

College applications, parent financial aid night programs, college admissions information night

Admission tours and interviews

Educere Credit Recovery registration

Excessive absence letters

ASVAB testing and interpretation

SAT prep course organized through Continuing Ed (tent.)

MCAS proctoring

**Success Highways**

Target freshmen struggling with academic motivation, confidence and making social connections through small group support and discussions led by counselors.

**Noticeable trends:**

- Increased financial need of students' families leading to increased reports of anxiety in students (increased counseling),
- Increased applications to community colleges because of affordability,
- Increased students with home responsibilities (watching siblings, part-time work to help financially, decreased time for school work)
- Increased hospitalizations requiring increased tracking of students' make up work

Following conclusion of presentation, questions and answers; the Committee thanked Director Dimitriou for the thorough report and its details.

**6.3 Treasurer: C. Gisondi**

**6.1.1 Warrant Approval:** Chairman Maguire entertained a motion for the approval of FY14 Warrant Number 11, (Vouchers 1041) in the amount of \$921,966.29 dated January 28, 2014. Vice Chairman Flahive moved FY14 Warrant Number 11, (Vouchers 1041) in the amount of \$921,966.29 dated January 21, 2014. Motion was seconded by Member Marybeth Nearen. Motion was taken to a vote, without discussion, and **UNANIMOUSLY**

**VOTED:** to approve FY14 Warrant Number 11, (Vouchers 1041) in the amount of \$921,966.29 dated January 21, 2014.

**501C Accounts:** Treasurer Charles J. Gisondi continues the work that must be done with the 501C Accounts. Resolution will be forthcoming and reported back to the Committee.

**6.4 Business Manager:** Chairman recognized Business Manager David W. Proule. Mr. Proule reviewed the content of the FY15 Proposed BUDGET NON SAL accts only (dated 1.6.14) with the members.

**6.5 Assistant Superintendent-Principal** – Mr. Michael J. Barrett was recognized by Chairman Maguire and proceeded to report:

- **Annual Joint Dinner Meeting** with School Council scheduled set for Tuesday, December 17, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. was unfortunately cancelled because of a storm. The Committee would like to have this event rescheduled as soon as possible.

- **NEASC** – Mr. Michael J. Barrett reported that NEASC hotel accommodations have been made for the April 28<sup>th</sup> through May 1<sup>st</sup> accreditation visit, with 16 members inspecting and analyzing the school.
- **School Improvement Plan** – Mr. Barrett presented a detailed report on the status of the School Improvement Plan and provided a hard-copy of this report for all members (On file).
- **ChromeBooks** – Complete distribution has been implemented.

Members expressed their appreciation to Mr. Barrett.

**6.4 Superintendent/Director: Superintendent-Director James P. Quaglia** was recognized by Chairman Maguire.

**Award contract and bid alternate for the Bridge Repair Project:** Superintendent-Director Quaglia introduced Director of Buildings and Facilities Gene Mastro recommended that the award of the bridge project go to Patriot Restoration at a cost of \$49,000.00. Following discussions, Chairman Maguire entertained a motion: Member Kevin L. Connolly moved to approve the recommendation of Mr. Mastro with the award of the bridge restoration going to Patriot Restoration, as presented, in the amount of \$49,000.00. Motion was seconded by Secretary Germano John Silveira. Following discussion the motion was taken to a vote and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

**VOTED:** to approve the recommendation of Mr. Mastro with the award of the bridge restoration project going to Patriot Restoration, as presented, in the amount of \$49,000.00.

**Submission of this year's MSBA Statement of Interest: The following was read in its entirety by Chairman Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., at this meeting, into the record:**

"Having convened in an open meeting on January 28, 2014, the Blue Hills Regional District School Committee, located in Canton, Massachusetts hereby votes to authorize the Superintendent - Director to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority, a Statement of Interest for the repair of Blue Hills Regional Technical School, located at 800 Randolph Street, Canton Massachusetts." Chairman Maguire accepted a motion from Member Kevin L. Connolly:

" I move to authorize the Superintendent - Director to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority, a Statement of Interest for the repair of Blue Hills Regional Technical School, located at 800 Randolph Street, Canton Massachusetts." Motion to approve was seconded by Member Marybeth Nearen. Motion was taken to a vote and it was

**UNANIMOUSLY**

**VOTED:** to authorize the Superintendent - Director to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority, a Statement of Interest for the repair of Blue Hills Regional Technical School, located at 800 Randolph Street, Canton Massachusetts.

- **District Policy Book** – Mr. Quaglia stated that the review of the Policy Book has been completed by Attorney Paige Tobin and Members will be receiving a review copy shortly.
- **Employees Handbook** – Superintendent-Director Quaglia continues his project on the development of the All Staff Employee Handbook.

7. **Unfinished Business and New Business**

- **Curriculum & Advisory Committee Meeting** will be conducted on Wednesday, 1.29.14 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss matters of curriculum with Directors of Academics and Vocational Programs. A report will be provided by Chairman of the Curriculum & Advisory Committee, Charles W. Flahive.
- **Finance & Subcommittee Meeting** are ongoing and posted on the FY15 Budget Calendar. The February 11, 2014 Special Meeting will be primarily focused on an intense overview of all line items, as **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED by the Committee Members present.**
- **Evaluation Subcommittee** – Meeting was postponed.

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

- **Warrant Subcommittee** – Subcommittee Chairman Flahive recommended the approval of the Warrant.

9. **Discussion or Suggestions for the Good of the District**, Including newsworthy educational items:

10. **Executive Session** – Although anticipated, it was determined that an executive session was not needed at this time and all Committee business was conducted in open session.

11. **Adjournment** – Following conclusion of all District School Committee's regular meeting and executive session. Chairman Maguire accepted a motion from Member Fess Joyce and seconded by Member Joseph A. Pascarella 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 **8:17 p.m.**

The Committee's **next meeting** will be a **Special Meeting** conducted in the **William T. Buckley District School Committee Board Room (#207A), on Tuesday, February 11, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.,** unless otherwise posted.

Minutes Approved:

Minutes submitted by:

Germano John Silveira, Secretary

Joanne Kuzborski, Recording Secretary

**MINUTES APPROVED:**

**Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., Chairman**