



**MINUTES of the “49th District School Committee”
Regular Schedule 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.

Tuesday, March 18, 2014

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

On Monday, March 5, 2014 a Personnel & Negotiation Subcommittee Meeting was conducted and Mrs. Nearen will report to the Committee on the recommendations brought forth at that meeting. Subcommittee Chairman was out of town for this meeting and Mrs. Nearen took on the duties of the Chair with his absence.

Prior to this Regular Schedule Meeting, subcommittees conducted meetings and recommendations will be forthcoming, resulting from their conduct. The subcommittees were:

- Personnel & Negotiations (Monday, March 5, 2014)
- Warrant.

(Subcommittee Meetings were conducted in Room 402.)

The Blue Hills Regional Vocational School **Forty-Ninth District School Committee Regular Schedule Meeting** was called to order at **7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18, 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.

1. ROLL CALL and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE *

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: -0-

OTHERS PRESENT: Student Representative Jessica Caroline Leigh
Mr. Charles J. Gisondi, District Treasurer
Mr. James P. Quaglia, Superintendent-Director
Assistant Superintendent/Principal Michael J. Barrett
Dean of Students Thomas G. Cavanaugh
Mr. David W. Proule, Finance Manager
Ms. Terry Longley, Assistant Business Manager
Ms. Kristy Littlehale, BHEA Teacher
Mr. Richard Spada, BHEA Teacher
Ms. Jill Bearse, BHEA Teacher
Mr. Robert Foley, BHEA Teacher
Mr. Howard Canning, BHEA Teacher, Computer Technology

*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.

Welcome: On behalf of the District School Committee, **Mr. Howard Canning**, a newly-hired Computer Technology Instructor was welcomed by Chairman Aidan G. Maguire, Jr. The Committee wishes Mr. Canning great success with this new position.

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2. **Student Representative Report** - School Year 2013-14 Student Representative Jessica Caroline Leigh was recognized by Chairman Aidan G. Maguire. Ms. Leigh presented a report on some of the student activities that are occurring:

* **Food for the Hungry:** Student Council has generated well over 40 large boxes of non-perishable foods to donate to a pantry. The donations from students and staff were substantial. Students realize that hunger goes beyond the holiday seasons. Keeping this in mind, the students believed that a post-holiday collection would be more effective assisting the needy hungry.

* **Prom 2014:** The theme has been chosen and it is: "PARIS"

* **Honor to Our Military:** The National Honor Society is planning on securing a new plaque to honor our military personnel that are Blue Hills Regional Graduates to be displayed in an area yet to be chosen within the school.

* **MCAS:** Students will be taking MCAS tests next week.

* **Spring Semi-Formal:** Scheduled for Friday, March 31, 2014 at the Randolph Elks at 7 p.m. This will be the final "Semi-Formal" of the school year.

* **Spring Sports:** Are up and running and started yesterday (Monday).

Following conclusion of Ms. Leigh's report, Members of the District School Committee expressed their appreciation for Ms. Leigh's update.

3 **Public Comment** – None.

4. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** - Chairman Maguire moved for the approval of the following District School Committee Meeting minutes: **Tuesday, February 25, 2014 and Tuesday, March 4, 2014**. A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Charles W. Flahive, to approve the minutes of the District School Committee Meetings: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 and Tuesday, March 4, 2014 Minutes, as presented. Motion was seconded by Member Fran Fistori. Motion was taken to a **vote**, without discussion and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

VOTED: to approve the minutes of the District School Committee Meetings of **Tuesday, February 25, 2014 and Tuesday, March 4, 2014 Minutes, as presented.**

5. **DSC Chair Report** – Chairman Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., inquired about "**ChromeBooks**" for **DSC members**, recalling that sometime ago, this had been mentioned. Superintendent-Director Quaglia replied that he would much rather see iPads provided to the District School Committee and this is a work in progress.

6. **Administrative Reports:**

6.1 **Discipline/Attendance Report:** Dean of Students Thomas G. Cavanaugh was recognized by Chairman Maguire and proceeded to speak on the state of the discipline and attendance, first semester SY2013-14, at Blue Hills Regional Tech. Mr. Cavanaugh had supplied the Committee with a detail analysis of any and all infractions of the rules and regulations maintained at Blue Hills. Mr. Cavanaugh is an expert on discipline and has been in this field for

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30 years. What Mr. Cavanaugh has discovered during these years is: 95-98% of problems with discipline are generated from 3-5% of the students. Mr. Cavanaugh stated, "We have a good group of students and only a couple of situations where suspensions were warranted. I have found that the students who get into fights in school do it here because it will be broken up." Mr. Cavanaugh continued: "Attendance, overall, is very good with a 94.9% average per day." Mr. Cavanaugh concluded his presentation with a question and answer session. Following conclusion, members of the District School Committee thanked Dean Cavanaugh for his in-depth reports and presentation.

6.2 Treasurer: C. Gisondi - Treasurer Charles J. Gisondi was recognized by Chairman Maguire following presentation of the FY2014 Warrant Number15 (Vouchers 1053-1056) in the amount of \$918,875.50, dated March 18, 2014. All members received a copy of the backup documents for this Warrant, prior to this meeting. The Warrant Subcommittee recommended approval with reconciliation of questions.

6.2.1 Warrant Approval: Chairman Maguire moved to the approval of Warrant #13. Vice Chairman moved to approve FY2014 Warrant Number15 (Vouchers 1053-1056) in the amount of \$918,875.50, dated March 18, 2014. Motion was seconded by Member Kevin L. Connolly. Motion to approve was taken to a vote and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

VOTED: to approve FY2014 Warrant Number15 (Vouchers 1053-1056) in the amount of \$918,875.50, dated March 18, 2014.

6.3 Business Manager: D. Proule – Chairman Maguire recognized Mr. David W. Proule, Business Manager. Mr. Proule advised the Committee that the Auditors are finishing up the FY13 Audit and will report back to the Committee shortly.

- **FY15 Tentative Budget Town Fin/Com Visits** – Administrators and DSC Members are in the process of visiting Town Finance Committees/Commissions and Finance Officers at their town offices to answer questions on the FY15 Budget.
 - **Town of Holbrook Visit** – Generated questions regarding health-insurance costs.
 - **Town of Westwood** – Has indicated they are supporting the Blue Hills FY15 Budget as presented. Vice-chairman Charles W. Flahive has spoken with their Finance Committee. Remaining District Towns have meetings set up for FY15 Budget perusal.

Auditors, Powers & Sullivan, Certified Public Accountants – Mr. Proule reported that the auditors are finishing up their audit for FY13 and will report back to the Committee shortly.

6.4 Assistant Superintendent-Principal – Chairman Maguire recognized Assistant Superintendent/Principal Michael J. Barrett.

- **PARCC Program:** Mr. Barrett stated that Blue Hills Regional Technical School is piloting the testing for Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC). PARCC represents a group of states working together to develop a set of assessments that measure whether students are on track to be successful in college and their careers. These high quality, computer-based K–12 assessments in Mathematics and English Language Arts/Literacy give teachers, schools, students, and parents better information whether students are on track in their

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learning and for success after high school, and tools to help teachers customize learning to meet student needs. The **PARCC** assessments should be ready for participating states to administer during the 2014-15 school year. Vice-Chairman Charles W. Flahive stated that the PARCC Program should be “**watched**” carefully as there is quite a bit of controversy about this item.

- **NEASC** – The accreditation visit is set for April 28, 2014 through May 1, 2014. Mr. Barrett stated that Blue Hills will have a team of 26-individuals coming to visit the school and implement a fine-tuned inspection of all facets of Blue Hills.
- **Graduation, Class of 2014:** Scheduled for Tuesday, June 10, 2014 at 6 p.m. (with a just in case rain date of the next day, a Wednesday. Mr. Barrett is working with Judy Bass to identify an appropriate “inspirational” speaker. Once again, Members of the District School Committee will sit on stage facing the graduates and their family and friends.

6.5 **Superintendent/Director: J. Quaglia** – Chairman Maguire recognized Superintendent-Director James P. Quaglia.

- **IBB Training (Impact Based Bargaining):** Mr. Quaglia advised the group that this item had been addressed in a March 5, 2014 Personnel & Negotiation Subcommittee Meeting. Vice Chairman Charles W. Flahive stated that it was the Committee’s hope that legal counsel was not needed for the training sessions and to see just how the Committee could do without counsel present. It is further the will of the Committee to go into this training process with an open set of eyes and ears and see if this process will work. It was determined that it is the “will of the Committee to start training without counsel” at the trainings and if the Committee determines that it requires counsel, then the Committee will move quickly in that direction.
- **Restructuring/Reorganization:** A subject also discussed at the 3.5.14 Personnel & Negotiation Subcommittee meeting was a Restructuring/Reorganization Plan. A memorandum dated March 18, 2014, was read into the record (on file) in its entirety. Mr. Quaglia stated:

“As Superintendent Director of Blue Hills Regional Technical School District, I respectfully request that the district review and approve this proposed Reorganization Plan. The plan is designed to create positions that function more effectively and efficiently within our district, as follows:

CURRENT POSITION	PROPOSED POSITION
Assistant Superintendent/Principal	Principal
Business Manager	Assistant Superintendent for Business and Personnel

Both new positions would take effect on July 1, 2014 (FY15).”

Mr. Quaglia requested a vote by the full Committee this evening to meet the timelines necessary for the reorganization. After considerable discussion, it was the sense of the Committee not to include salary range with this approval and to also conduct an additional Personnel & Negotiation Subcommittee Meeting on Tuesday, March 25, 2014.

Following discussion, Chairman Maguire accepted a motion from Member Marybeth Nearen to accept the Superintendent-Director’s recommendation for reorganization with the elimination of current positions of

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Assistant Superintendent/Principal and Business Manager to proposed positions of Principal and Assistant Superintendent and Personnel. Motion was seconded by Member Kevin L. Connolly. Motion was taken to a **VOTE** and it was by **MAJORITY**

VOTED: to accept the Superintendent-Director's recommendation for reorganization with the elimination of current positions of Assistant Superintendent/Principal and Business Manager to proposed positions of Principal and Assistant Superintendent for Business and Personnel.

ROLL CALL VOTE, as follows:

YES: Member Francis J. Fistori, Avon; Secretary Germano John Silveira, Braintree; Chairman Aidan G.

Maguire, Jr., Canton; Member Marybeth Nearen, Randolph; Vice Chairman Charles W. Flahive, Westwood.

NO: Member Joseph A. Pascarella, Dedham; Member Kevin L. Connolly, Norwood

ABSTAIN: Member Fess Joyce, Milton; Member Robert A. McNeil, Holbrook.

The vote carried with a majority vote of 5 – 4.

7. **Unfinished Business and New Business** – None.

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

➤ **Warrant Subcommittee:** Recommended the approval of this evening's warrant.

➤ **Personnel & Negotiation Subcommittee:** Acting Subcommittee Chairman Nearen stated that a meeting was conducted on Wednesday, March 5, 2014 at 6 p.m. and addressed questions that will be brought before the full committee this evening, and subsequently were Impact Based Bargaining (IBB) and Reorganization/Restructuring Plan. Subcommittee Chairman Charles W. Flahive was not present at this meeting.

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

- **Congressman Stephen Lynch** - Member Kevin L. Connolly stated that he is hoping to have Congressman Stephen Lynch visit the school.
- **Networking** - Mr. Quaglia stated that he is going to contact Secretary of Education Matt Malone for a possible visit to the school.

10. It was determined that an **executive session** was unnecessary.

11. **Adjournment** – Following conclusion of all District School Committee's open meeting business. Chairman Maguire

accepted a motion from Member Fess Joyce and seconded by Member Fran Fistori to close the Regular Session Meeting of the District School Committee.

It was **unanimously**:

VOTED: to adjourn the Regular Schedule Meeting, with all regular business concluded, at **8:58 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 Tuesday, April 1, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.**, unless otherwise posted.

Minutes Approved:

Minutes submitted by:

Germano John Silveira, Secretary

Joanne Kuzborski, Recording Secretary