



MINUTES of the Regular Schedule 2012 Meeting “FORTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE”

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

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Before the District School Committee Regular Schedule meeting the Warrant Subcommittee and Curriculum & Advisory Subcommittee conducted meetings.

The Blue Hills Regional Vocational School Forty-Seventh District School Committee Regular Schedule Meeting was called to order at promptly at **8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 6, 2012** 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, Joyce, Maguire, Pascarella, Riman and Silveira
MEMBERS ABSENT: Messrs. Austin and Flahive
OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. James P. Quaglia – Superintendent-Director
 Mr. David W. Proule – Business Manager
 Mr. Michael J. Barrett –Assistant Superintendent-Principal
 Mr. Charles J. Gisondi – Treasurer
 Mr. Brandon Phillips, School Year 2011-12 Representative to the District School Committee
 Ms. Jill Rossetti, Director of Academics, Blue Hills Regional Technical School
 Mr. William Groh, BHR Teacher

For Your Information Note: Joanne is on vacation and this meeting is being recorded in person by Ms. Laurie Colbert (Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Director).

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

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

NOTE: The listings of matters on the meeting’s respective agendas are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

2. Public Comment – Chairman Pascarella requested public comment. There was none.

3. Review of Academic Texts – Chairman Pascarella recognized Director of Academics Jill Rossetti. Director of Academics Rossetti provided the Committee with a document entitled **“2012 Budget for Academic Textbooks”** and proceeded to make a presentation to the Committee regarding the texts and their appropriateness for the students’ subject learning. A budget of \$35,428.00 for FY12, carries a balance of \$2,629.24 with fastidious spending. Director Rossetti reviews the academic texts constantly with subject teachers. A recent challenge by a student parent on the quality of the books being used by teachers and students brought an immediate response from Director Rossetti. Director Rossetti stated that the highly-qualified teachers of Blue Hills are using books that more than meet a high standard for students’ learning. Director Rossetti spoke of the text book industry, a \$4 billion industry, and the lure they provide for text –book replacements is astounding. Blue Hills is

ahead of the comprehensive standards and complex learning techniques using the texts that are available and used with their learning. Students learn to analyze and comprehend through multiple teaching elements with the books and texts that are used as tools for successful learning. Director Rossetti reviewed the ***“New Program of Studies” (2012-13)*** with a cover designed by Teacher Joann Murphy of the Visual Communications Program. This publication provides a comprehensive definition of the offerings at Blue Hills Regional Technical School referencing Academic, Technical and Character opportunities available at Blue Hills. Director Rossetti stated that MCAS standards are due to change and Blue Hills is focused on this, geared to continue the escalation of student scores. A question and answer period transpired. Member Riman had questions on Vocational Program texts. Superintendent-Director James P. Quaglia stated that Director of Vocational Programs Denise O’Loughlin is the person to answer these questions and stated that Mrs. O’Loughlin will appear at a future meeting. Vice Chairman Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., stated that he has concerns about current maps being used in the curriculum and that these should be updated to reflect the current world. Chairman Pascarella asked Ms. Rossetti what her opinion on iPads, Kindles and devices of these kind being used with instructions. Director Rossetti stated that this learning avenue is being explored and researched by Blue Hills Administration. Director Rossetti stated in her concluding remarks, “Textbooks don’t inspire students, teachers do.” Members of the District School Committee thanked Director Rossetti for her informative presentation and written documentation.

4. **Minute Approval** – None.

5. **Communications:**

Agenda – DSC Regular Session Meeting, Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Emails: Regular transmissions of emails are sent to the District School Committee with/on information and activities relative to the operation of the school. The District is intent on using this cost-saving method of communication within its operation. Sent emails are archived and available for the inspection of any and all interested parties.

6. **Student Representative** –Mr. Brandon Phillips was recognized by Chairman Joseph A. Pascarella. Mr. Phillips provided the following report:

- **“Day on the Hill”** - Student Brandon Phillips is looking forward to his participation at the State House in Boston for the MASC Sponsored Day on the Hill on Tuesday, March 27, 2012.
- **“Talent Show”** - Turnout for the “Talent Show” contestants went well and the event is scheduled for Friday, March 30th at 7 p.m.
- **Arts at Blue Hills** – Student Representative Phillips spoke with Assistant-Superintendent/Principal Michael J. Barrett about a recent play he attended “An Apron Full of Beans” and the possibility of bringing the performance to Blue Hills. There will be further research on this matter.

7. **DSC Chair Report** – Chairman Pascarella addressed the Committee stating that the reason for the late start of this evening’s meeting was to accommodate a Dedham Finance Meeting on the FY13 Budget.

Breakfast/ Busing Situation: Chairman Pascarella brought up the recent discussions regarding students not participating in the breakfast program being required to stay on the bus until normal school- arrival

time. Chairman Pascarella stated:

“The Blue Hills DSC and School Administration has been asked to look into whether there is any possibility of bringing the bus riders into the school early, instead of having to wait on the bus for the homeroom bell to ring. We certainly understand that having the students wait on the buses at arrival is not ideal; but this has been the practice at Blue Hills for many years. However, if a student chooses to take advantage of the breakfast program, they are welcome to enter the cafeteria for breakfast on drop off. For those who choose to remain on the bus, we are quite confident and have been assured by our bus company...First Student...that all the students on the bus are quite comfortable. As far as the DSC is concerned, the present scenario is the best we have to offer at this time. However, the DSC and School Administration at Blue Hills will continue to monitor the situation.”

8. DSC Subcommittee Reports:

- **Personnel & Negotiation** – Was taken to executive session to safeguard the integrity of the contract discussions. Meetings have occurred with the union contracts.
- **Warrant** - Chairman Richard Riman reported that the subcommittee had a question on the distribution of funds to LPN students. This question will be directed to Director of Admissions and Financial Aid Marybeth Joyce and a reply will be forthcoming. Chairman Riman also questioned rental charges and a \$71,000 charge for training items.
- **Policy Subcommittee** –The Policy Subcommittee continues to review the Policy Book for updating and recommendations to the full Committee on a regular basis of scheduled meetings.
- **Curriculum & Advisory Subcommittee** – Chairman Kevin L. Connolly reported a meeting was conducted this evening (March 6, 2012) to review proposed off-campus projects for the Construction Technology Program. Director of Vocational Programs Denise O'Loughlin and Lead Teacher of the Construction Technology Department Robert Foley met and provided recommendations for SY12-13 Off-Campus Projects. Chairman Connolly recommended the following projects for School Year 2012-13 Off-Campus Projects:

Two (2) -story addition to include bedrooms & family room

Peter & Melissa Dunn
84 Franklin Street
Milton, MA 02186

Renovation of a single family home, owned by town of Braintree, converted into office space at 1969 Washington Street.

Town of Braintree
Joseph C. Sullivan, Mayor
1 JFK Memorial Drive
Braintree, MA 02184

Member Riman requested, for ethics reasons, if there is any affiliation with the selected projects and Blue Hills Employees and was assured there was not. Following conclusion of discussion, Chairman Pascarella moved the question for approval of two projects for off-campus School Year 2012-13. Subcommittee Chairman Kevin L. Connolly made a motion to approve the above – entitled projects. Motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Aidan G. Maguire, Jr. Motion was taken to a vote without further discussion, and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

Voted: to approve of the two projects for off-campus School Year 2012-13, **Two (2) -story**

addition to include bedrooms & family room. Peter & Melissa Dunn, 84 Franklin Street, Milton, MA 02186 and Renovation of a single family home, owned by Town of Braintree, converted into office space at 1969 Washington Street. Town of Braintree, Joseph C. Sullivan, Mayor 1 JFK Memorial Drive Braintree, MA

9. **Unfinished Business:** None.

10. **New Business:** None.

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

11.1 Treasurer: C. Gisondi - No report.

11.2 **Business Manager:** Chairman Pascarella recognized Business Manager David W. Proule. Mr. Proule announced that the Auditors (Powers & Sullivan, Certified Public Accountants, will be presenting on March 20 the Audit for FY11 (Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2011).

- **Tentative FY13 Budget Vote:** As posted in the Calendar for the FY13 Budget, a vote was requested on the Tentative FY13 Budget. Chairman Pascarella accepted a motion from Vice Chairman Maguire, Jr., to approve the Tentative FY13 Budget in the amount of \$17,919.470. Motion was seconded by Member Fess Joyce. Motion was taken to a vote and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

VOTED: to approve the Tentative FY13 Budget in the amount of \$17,919.470.

11.3 **Assistant Superintendent/Principal:** Chairman Pascarella recognized Mr. Michael J. Barrett.

- **Girl's Basketball** – The Girls' Basketball Team will play Friday night (8/9). Team Members are well on their way to the Championship.

11.4 **Superintendent/Director James P. Quaglia:** Chairman Joseph A. Pascarella recognized Mr. James P. Quaglia, We had a preliminary visit from Mr. Bauman an expert on accreditation of schools who is looking at the current Blue Hills' LPN Program.

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

- **Breakfast Program** - Member Germano John Silveira requests an update on the Breakfast Program.
- **Tuition System (LPN Program)** – Ms. Marybeth Joyce explained the Federal Financial Assistance Program for students of the school's LPN Program. Funding comes into the school from the Federal Government and disbursed through Blue Hills. Ms. Joyce's explanation answers the question directed by Member Richard Riman. The term "reimbursement" was the flag for questions.
- **Milton Visit** – Member Fess Joyce complimented the administrators for the fine job they did with presentation of the FY13 Budget.

13. **Warrant** - Chairman Joseph A. Pascarella accepted motion for the following warrant:

Upon motion of Member Kevin L. Connolly, seconded by Vice Chairman Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

VOTED: to approve **FY12 Warrant No. 14 Vouchers 1068-1070, dated March 6, 2012 in the amount of \$680,913.19.**

Chairman Pascarella called for a five-minute refreshment break before calling the executive session to order.

14. **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 and requires executive session. Chairman Pascarella advised the audience that the Committee would leave the executive session solely for the purpose of adjournment. The District Recording Secretary was asked to leave. Member Joyce excused himself. The executive session was covered by Chairman Joseph A. Pascarella.

15. **Adjournment** – Following conclusion of all District School Committee's regular meeting and executive session. Chairman Pascarella accepted a motion from Member Charles W. Flahive 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 Scheduled Meeting at **10:07 p.m.**

The Committee's **next meeting** will be a **Regular Meeting** conducted in the **William T. Buckley District School Committee Board Room (#207A)**, on **March 20, 2012** at **7:00 p.m.**, unless otherwise posted.

Minutes Approved

Respectfully submitted by:

Chairman Joseph A. Pascarella

Laurie Colbert (Acting Recording Secretary)