

**BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
CHENERY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM
May 4, 2010**

Present: Ms. Ann Rittenburg, Chair
Ms. Laurie Graham
Ms. Becky Vose
Ms. Karen Parmett
Ms. Laurie Slap
Mr. Dan Scharfman
Dr. George H. Entwistle 3rd, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Janice Darias, Acting Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Dr. Gerry Missal, Director of Finance, Administration and Capital Planning
Ms. Julie Silverman, Human Resources Manager

1. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1.1 None

2. OPENING BUSINESS

2.1 Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Rittenburg at 7:35 p.m. in the Chenery Middle School Large Community Room.

2.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Rittenburg led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

2.3 Adjustments to the Agenda

There were not adjustments to the agenda.

2.4 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Entwistle thanked the community for their support with the tragic loss of a Burbank student this week. He commented on the response to the water emergency yesterday, and thanked parents for sending their students to school with water. Dr. Entwistle noted that the search for the Director of Finance, Business and Operations is close to being finalized. He also noted that they will be posting a part time Human Resources Manager position and a part time Development Officer, who will be responsible for seeking alternative sources of revenue.

2.5 Chairman's Report

Ms. Rittenburg noted the recent decisions by the Warrant Committee and the Board of Selectmen related to the budget. She also explained that she, Dr. Entwistle and Bob Antonellis participated in a Race To The Top webinar today. The district is included in the second round of the RTTT grant competition; Massachusetts will submit the proposal by June 1, and states will be notified of the decisions of the RTTT competition at the end of August. She reminded the community about upcoming budget presentations for the PTO/PTAs: Monday, May 10 at 7:30 p.m.; Tuesday, May 11 at 9:00 a.m., both in the Community Room at Chenery Middle School. There will be another School Committee meeting on May 11 at 7:30 p.m. There will be town-wide budget forum presentations on Thursday, May 13 and Thursday, May 20, both at 7:30 p.m.

2.6 Citizens Concerns

There were not citizens' concerns.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3.1 There was no unfinished business.

4. MAJOR BUSINESS

4.1 Chenery Book Awards – Student Recognition

Mary Keenan from the Board of Library Trustee, and Dr. Josephine Fang, from the Friends of Belmont Library presented awards for the 7th and 8th grade Language Arts students: one for excellence in Language Arts and one for most improvement in Language Arts. Dr. Entwistle called each recipient to the front to receive the book award and be seen on camera for the viewers at home. The recipients of the awards are: Lucia Guzikowski, Wesley Tey, Rosy Fitzgerald, Zaria Osborn-Pight, Elaine Miao, Ben Schmelzer, Emilia DeLeo, Justin Jang, Aldis Elfarsdottir, Aleksandra Gosz, Sarah Dankins, and Kenny Madden.

4.2 Student network Acceptable use policy (second reading) – Exhibit A

Ms. Rittenburg introduced the Student Network Acceptable use Policy. Steve Mazzola, Director of Technology, explained the changes made since the first reading. An excerpt of the policy will be included in the student handbooks at BHS and CMS. There will be a presentation to students at orientations at the beginning of the school year, and parents will be notified through the district's listserv.

On a motion offered by Mr. Scharfman and seconded by Ms. Vose, it was

VOTED unanimously (6-0) to approve the Student Network Acceptable Use Policy.

4.3 Crofts Policy – Instruction 6000 Series (second reading) – Exhibit B

Ms. Rittenburg introduced the policy being brought forth for the second reading. Julia Silverman explained that there were some significant questions presented by a School Committee

member, so the subcommittee will meet again on Friday, May 7 to discuss the questions related to the policy, and re-submit the policy for another reading at another meeting.

4.4 School Committee's notice to set the last day of school for 2009-2010 – Exhibit C

Dr. Entwistle explained that there are two last days because of the closing of the Wellington and Belmont High School due to the flooding. The last day for Burbank, Butler, Winn Brook and Chenery is June 17. The last day for Wellington and Belmont High School is June 18. Both June 17 and June 18 are early release days.

On a motion offered by Mr. Scharfman and seconded by Ms. Vose, it was

VOTED unanimously (6-0) to accept June 17 as the last day of school for Chenery, Burbank, Winn Brook, Butler, and June 18 as the last day of school for Wellington and Belmont high School.

4.5 School Calendar for 2010-2011 – Exhibit D

Ms. Rittenburg introduced the 2010-2011 school calendar, presented for the first reading. Ms. Darias explained the changes in the proposed calendar. Many of these changes are connected to the Teacher Learning Team, the new professional development model to be implemented next year. The School Committee will review the calendar and approve it at the May 11, 2010 meeting. Ms. Rittenburg asked that we present an overview of this professional development plan at an upcoming workshop meeting.

4.6 Leadership Council's Recommended Override Budget Presentation to School Committee

Dr. Entwistle presented the Override Budget and non-Override Budget for FY11. He noted the process of developing the Student Needs Based Budget (approved by the School Committee on March 23, 2010) and the reductions made to the Student Needs Based Budget as a result of the Warrant Committee final allocation (approved by the Warrant Committee on April 28, 2010). He then explained the list of items to be restored in an override budget with the \$1,000,000 that will be allocated to the schools if the override passes. He also reviewed the list of items that will not be restored even if the override passes.

Ms. Rittenburg invited School Committee members to ask questions. There was discussion about the FY11 budgets.

Ms. Rittenburg noted that there will be a public hearing at the May 11 School Committee meeting on the override and non-override budgets before adopting them.

5. REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEES

5.1 Communications and Community Outreach

The Communications and Community Outreach Committee will have a work session on Friday, May 7, 8:30 – 11:30. This meeting will be posted.

5.2 Wellington Building Committee

Ms. Graham shared an update on the Wellington. There is a groundbreaking ceremony scheduled for June 8. Everyone will be invited.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Consent Agenda

- a. High School Band and Orchestra International Trip – Exhibit E
- b. Proposal for Rugby Trip to Argentina – Exhibit F
- c. Award of Bids – Exhibit G
 - Boiler/Burner Repairs
 - Door Repairs
 - Elevator Repairs
 - Glass Repairs
 - HVAC Repair Bid
 - Driver Education Bid
 - Lock Repairs
 - Medical Supplies
 - Physical Education and Athletics
 - Pizza Delivery
 - Plumbing Repair Bid

On a motion made by Ms. Vose and seconded by Ms. Parmett, it was

VOTED unanimously (6-0) to approve the consent agenda.

6.2 Personnel Items – Informational

The following items were submitted for the School Committee's information:

- a. Return from Leave – Exhibit H
- b. Extended Parenthood Leave – Exhibit I
- c. Extra-compensatory Assignments – Exhibit J
- d. Instructional Assignments – Exhibit K
- e. Career leave – Exhibit L
- f. Maternity Leave – Exhibit M
- g. Resignation – Exhibit N
- h. Retirement – Exhibit O

6.3 Approval of Minutes - None

7. FUTURE BUSINESS

- 7.1 Next Meeting Dates: May 11, 2010 – Regular Meeting
CMS Community Room
7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

May 18, 2010 – Workshop (Student Advisory Council)
CMS Community Room
7:30 p.m.

June 1, 2010
Reception and Recognition of Retirees
CMS Community Room – 6:30 p.m.
Recognition of Seniors Receiving President's Volunteer
Service Awards
CMS Auditorium – 7:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting
CMS Community Room – 8:00 p.m.

June 22, 2010 – Retirement Party
Oakley Country Club
4:00 p.m.

June 23, 2010 – Workshop
CMS Community Room
7:30 p.m.

8. ENCLOSURES


- a. Town of Belmont – Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures Over Compliance Applicable To Massachusetts School Districts' End-Of-Year Pupil and Financial Report – For the Year Ended June 30, 2009.
- b. Schedule for Memorial Day Exercises
- c. April 2010 Chenery PTO Newsletter

10. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion offered by Ms. Slap and seconded by Ms. Scharfman it was

VOTED unanimously (6-0) to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by


Laurie Graham
Secretary