

BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES  
CHENERY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM  
January 18, 2011

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** This meeting of the School Committee was determined to have been held in violation of the Open Meeting Law, and therefore the proceedings are considered to be null and void, however the School Committee is still providing these minutes as a courtesy to the public.

Due to an oversight relating to the fact that the meeting was held the day after a legal holiday - (MLK Day) notice of the meeting was inadvertently not filed with the Town Clerk in time to meet the requirement to file "at least 48 hours in advance of a public meeting, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays." An effort to remediate the error, by using the Emergency Meeting exception to the Open Meeting Law was ultimately deemed an improper use of the exception, continuing to leave the School Committee out of compliance with the law.

All necessary steps to remediate the violation of the Open Meeting Law were taken in the School Committee meeting of February 15, 2011.

Please note that the meeting held on January 18, 2011 was broadcast live by the Belmont Media Center and a digital recording of the proceedings, in full, is available for viewing "on demand" on the Belmont Media Center website at [www.belmontmedia.org](http://www.belmontmedia.org).

Present: Ms. Ann Rittenburg, Chair

Ms. Laurie Graham

Ms. Karen Parmett

Ms. Laurie Slap

Mr. Dan Scharfman

Ms. Rebecca Vose

Dr. George H. Entwistle 3<sup>rd</sup>, Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Janice Darias, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

Mr. Anthony DiCologero, Director of Business, Finance and Operations

1. OPENING BUSINESS

1.1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Rittenburg at 7:38 p.m. in the Chenery Middle School Community Room.

2. WORKSHOP

2.1 District-Wide Destiny Library Project

Representatives of parent volunteers from each of the elementary schools made a presentation to the School Committee on the work they have completed so far. Kathleen Kim, coordinator of the Butler parent volunteers, led the presentation. She also discussed the importance of a library program in preparing students for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. More than 40 volunteers have donated nearly 800 hours of work to automate

the library collections at each elementary school. The collections at the middle and high school are already automated.

## 2.2 Acceptable Use Policy

Steve Mazzola, Director of Technology, explained the two changes suggested for the Acceptable Use Policy. On page 1 of the policy, change "grades 5-12" to "grades K-12." On page 4, change the policy to state that it is referenced in each school's student handbook. These changes better align the AUP with the new district Anti-Bullying Policy, the Children's Internet Protection Act, and the state regulation MA 201 CMR 17.

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

**VOTED** unanimously (6-0) to adopt the Acceptable Use Policy as presented in Exhibit A, 1-18-11.

## 2.3 Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Members of the Health, Safety, and Security Advisory Team, Rosemary Peterson, Nursing Services Coordinator, and Kristen St. George, Chenery Middle School Principal, presented the results of the 2010 administration of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey. The survey was administered to students in grades 7 through 12. The survey was last administered, at the high school only, in 2002. Members of the School Committee asked questions about the survey following the presentation.

## 2.4 Review of Budget Work and Schedule

Dr. Entwistle updated the School Committee on the ongoing work of the Leadership Council to operationalize the Available Revenue Budget for FY12. He noted in particular that the presentation of the preliminary Available Revenue Budget was intended to provide a real sense of the impact that getting to that targeted number would have on the entire organization, K-12. It is now the task of the Leadership Council to work out the details of meeting the commitments to reduce to the targeted budget number, and, while the details may shift slightly, the overall impact will not change.

Ms. Rittenburg explained the process of budget development.

Mr. DiCologero clarified some aspects of the FY12 Budget Book, such as the change in FTEs from one year to the next as a result of a change in the account that a salary is charged to.

Ms. Rittenburg noted the key piece of information in the presentation: that the bottom line is that the Available Revenue Budget does not provide sufficient funds to prepare all students for the future in the way the community expects. She noted that it is up to the community to decide what they need to do, including discussing these issues with the School Committee, Warrant Committee, Selectmen, and Town Meeting members.

3. FUTURE BUSINESS

3.1 Next Meeting Dates: January 26, 2011  
Work Session – 8:30 a.m.  
SAB Conference Room

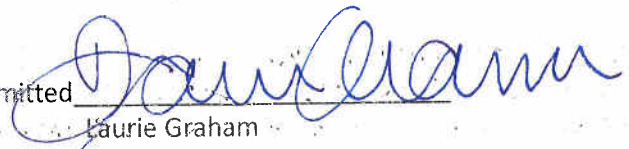
February 1, 2011  
Regular Meeting – 7:30 p.m.  
CMS Community Room

4. ADJOURNMENT

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

**VOTED** unanimously (6-0) to adjourn at 10:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



Laurie Graham  
Secretary