

BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
CHENERY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM
June 21, 2011

Present: Ms. Laurie Graham, Chair
Mr. Kevin Cunningham
Ms. Karen Parmett
Ms. Laurie Slap
Mr. Dan Scharfman
Ms. Rebecca Vose
Dr. George H. Entwistle 3rd, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Janice Darias, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Mr. Anthony DiCologero, Director of Business, Finance and Operations

1. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1.1 Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Graham at 7:00 p.m. in the Large Community Room at Chenery Middle School.

1.2 Executive Session

At 7:01 p.m. on a motion offered by Mr. Scharfman and seconded by Ms. Slap, it was

VOTED unanimously (6-0) on a roll call vote to enter Executive Session for the purposes of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining and in preparation for labor contract negotiations with union and non-union personnel given that a discussion in Open Session may have a detrimental impact on the School Committee's bargaining position.

The Committee announced that they would return to Open Session in the Community Room at the conclusion of the Executive Session and moved to the Small Community Room for the Executive Session.

2. OPENING BUSINESS

2.1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order before the Executive Session, at 7:00 p.m.

2.2 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Entwistle updated the committee on several areas:

- With the finalization of labor negotiations with the teachers, the FY12 budget was finalized and RIF letters were rescinded on June 17.

- He is conducting evaluation conferences for the Leadership Council members who report to him. He will be completing their evaluations prior to his last day.
- He met with the Dr. Thomas Kingston today to support the transition to his work as Interim Superintendent.
- He noted the changes to the 2011-2012 calendar and asked Ms. Darias to highlight these changes. An announcement about these changes is posted on the BPS web site.
- In a recent Newsweek poll, Belmont High School is listed as number 110 of all high schools in the nation.
- He will be meeting with Ms. Darias to plan for the next phase of Professional Learning Teams.
- The last day of school was June 17, 2011. Dr. Entwistle's last day in the district will be June 29, 2011. He thanked the School Committee for their support during his two years in Belmont.

2.3 Chairman's Report

Ms. Graham noted that Dr. Thomas Kingston has been selected as Interim Superintendent, and the School Committee is in the process of finalizing a contract with him.

Ms. Graham invited the members of the School Committee to share their thoughts with Dr. Entwistle given that his final day is next week. Everyone thanked him for his service.

3. NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Request to honor Mr. Samaria – Exhibit A

Ms. Graham noted that there are guidelines for naming a school building, portions of a school building, or school grounds, which were written in 1989.

Brianna Normile presented her proposal, to name the gymnasium at the Wellington School after Mr. Richard Samaria. If the proposal is approved, Ms. Normille pledged to work with the school personnel and the Wellington PTO to design the plaque and plan a ceremony after the school is open.

Ms. Graham read from the guidelines and noted that this proposal meets the guidelines. Aside from this proposal, the School Committee needs to review the guidelines and the process for naming.

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

VOTED (6-0) that the gymnasium of the new Roger Wellington School be named the "Richard Samaria 'Mr. S' Gymnasium," and that a privately funded plaque so naming the gymnasium be mounted, and that the School Committee chair work with Ms. Brianna Normile of

Belmont to determine the further wording of the plaque, and the date and circumstances of any naming ceremony.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 New Hardtop Proposal for the Daniel Butler School – Exhibit B

Mr. Cunningham noted that this is a separate project from the Butler playground proposal, and also wanted to make sure that work completed to replace the hardtop will not be affected by future work on the playground.

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

VOTED (6-0) to approve the Consent Agenda.

5. WORKSHOP

5.1 New Common Core Standards

Ms. Darias gave a presentation on the new Massachusetts Frameworks for English Language Arts and Literacy and Mathematics, both of which include the Common Core State Standards along with additional standards specific to Massachusetts. In the presentation she highlighted changes to each of the Frameworks, and the work that has been done and will be ongoing to adjust the Belmont Public Schools curricula to ensure alignment with the new Frameworks.

5.2 School Committee Planning:

--Long range planning

--Planning for next year

Mr. Cunningham explained ideas that he and Ms. Slap developed to prepare groundwork for long-term financial planning for the schools. Ms. Slap added that summer is a good time to reflect on the budget process, and make recommendations to the entire School Committee by mid-September.

Ms. Graham noted that the School Committee Chair can appoint a subcommittee. She would be comfortable appointing a subcommittee tonight, to include Mr. Cunningham and Ms. Slap, and anyone else who is interested.

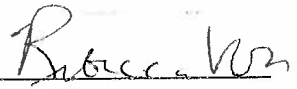
Ms. Graham appointed Mr. Cunningham and Ms. Slap to work as a subcommittee to prepare for long-term financial planning for the Belmont Public Schools.

6. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:30 p.m. on a motion offered by Ms. Vose and seconded by Mr. Scharfman, it was

VOTED unanimously (6-0) to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rebecca Vose", written over a horizontal line.

Rebecca Vose

Secretary