

**BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**Day One of Two-Day Retreat**  
**Wellington Community Room**  
**AUGUST 20, 2013**

Present: Ms. Laurie Graham, Chair  
Ms. Anne Lougée, Secretary  
Mr. Kevin Cunningham  
Ms. Elyse Shuster  
Ms. Laurie Slap  
Dr. Thomas Kingston, Interim Superintendent  
Ms. Janice Darias, Assistant Superintendent  
Mr. Anthony DiCologero, Director of Business, Finance and Operations

1. **OPENING BUSINESS**

1.1 Call to order

After breakfast and informal conversation, Ms. Graham called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m.

2. **MAJOR BUSINESS**

2.1 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kingston updated the committee on a variety of issues – building security, new administrative staff, class-size distribution to date, upcoming back-to-school events, and a legal opinion regarding the Special Education Stabilization Fund protocol. He also informed the group that next year (FY'15), the Town's Capital Endowment Fund may provide \$25,000 to \$30,000 towards the new continued implementation of the mathematics series that is being rolled out this academic year.

In addition, Dr. Kingston indicated that the School Committee's evaluation of him is slated to take place at its September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting and that his self-evaluation and goals for the coming year will be forthcoming prior to that.

2.2 Public Service Announcement

The attendees viewed a Public Service Announcement video, produced by members of the Belmont Media Center and spearheaded by Mike McAllister, about the Belmont Public Schools. Reactions to it and a discussion of its possible uses followed.

3. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Ms. Graham asked that the committee enter into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation as doing so in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body.

At 9:17 a.m., on a motion offered by Ms. Slap and seconded by Ms. Shuster, it was

VOTED by roll-call vote 5-0-0 to enter into executive session.

4. **LUNCH RECESS**

At 11:25 a.m. on a motion offered by Ms. Slap and seconded by Ms. Shuster, it was

VOTED by roll-call vote 5-0-0 to return to open session and immediately recess for lunch.

5. **MAJOR BUSINESS (CONTINUED)**

The group reconvened at 12:07 p.m. and discussed the potential makeup of a screening committee and search timeline for seeking a permanent Superintendent. A one-page document drafted by Mr. Cunningham announcing the search was reviewed and suggested changes were discussed. This document will be presented to the District Leadership Council tomorrow for its review and input.

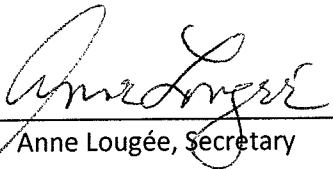
Regarding the upcoming joint meeting of the School Committee and the Board of Selectmen on September 23<sup>rd</sup> for the purpose of appointing a School Committee member to replace Ms. Griffiths, it was concluded that inquiries for additional information from interested townspeople should be directed to Dr. Kingston as he will not be voting the appointment.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 3:15 p.m. on a motion offered by Ms. Lougée and seconded by Ms. Shuster, it was

VOTED unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted by

  
Anne Lougée, Secretary