

**BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
CHENERY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM
JUNE 4, 2013**

Present: Ms. Laurie Graham, Chair
Ms. Anne Lougée, Secretary
Mr. Kevin Cunningham
Ms. Pascha Griffiths
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

Ms. Graham called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Graham led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3 Citizens' Concerns

There were no citizen's concerns.

1.4 Adjustments to the Agenda

1.5 Chairman's Report

Ms. Graham updated the Committee on upcoming community and sports events. Ms. Graham acknowledged the 2013 graduates who celebrated at the All-Night Party which was held on June 2nd.

Ms. Graham thanked all the Town and School Administrators for their work on the 2013-2014 budget.

1.6 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kingston announced that the Foundation for Belmont Education is partnering with Belmont Public School on innovation initiatives. The School Department had received a donation of \$50,000 to begin research into instructional practices. Some of the innovation will entail work that will be web

based. Dr. Kingston stated that he anticipates that by the end of four years, students will be using technology to master content.

Dr. Kingston announced three opportunities for parents of 8th graders to learn about the new iPad initiative at Belmont High School. The meetings will be held at Belmont High School on June 10 at 6:00 p.m, June 11 at 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Teachers will receive training after school is out in June. Individuals will have the option of purchasing their own iPad which will be set up for his/her high school program. The FBE will be purchasing iPads for the School Department which will be loaned to students if they choose that option. Dr. Kingston stated that this is a wide-spread attempt to explore what it means to deliver 21st century instruction. There will be opportunities on July 24, 25 and 29 and August 13 and 20 for students to attend two hour iPad training sessions at Belmont High School. Parents are required to attend the first hour of a session.

1.7 Director of Finance, Business and Operations' Report

Mr. DiCologero announced that the 2013-2014 School Department Budget was passed by Town Meeting. He stated that administrators have put out public bids for supplies and services and the Business Office has been reviewing accounts for the end of the fiscal year which was June 3.

2. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

3. **MAJOR BUSINESS**

3.1 Student Services Program Descriptions and DCAP – Exhibits A1 – A6

Mr. Ken Kramer, Director of Student Services, Ms. Mary Jane Weinsten, Assistant Director of Student Services and Ms. Peg Hamilton, Director of the Preschool Program provided the School Committee with an overview of the following programs offered through the Student Services Department.

The District Curriculum Accommodation Plan includes Professional Development, Mentoring, Consulting, Curriculum Design, Data Analysis, English Language Learner Program and Student Support Services.

The Academic Support/Learning Center Program which serves Special Education students requiring pull-out academic support.

The ASD/Intensive Inclusion Support Program serves Special Education students with autism spectrum disorders and other related disorders.

The Socio-Emotional Support Programs serve Special Education students with Social/Emotional Disabilities.

The Preschool Program serves Special Education Students aged 3-5. Ms. Hamilton is responsible for reaching out to the community through the Child Find Program to daycare providers, parents and pediatricians to let people know that screenings are available.

3.2 Paul Browne – Food Service Update

Mr. Paul Browne, Director of Food Service, provided an update on the latest developments in meal legislation and their impact on the Belmont Public Schools Food Program.

Beginning in 2013, nutrition standards stated that foods sold in schools had to be either a fruit, vegetable, dairy product, protein or whole grain-rich grain product, or a combination food that contains at least one-quarter cup of fruit or vegetable. The food must also contain 10 percent of the Daily Value of a nutrient cited as a public health concern in the 2012 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. That includes calcium, potassium, vitamin D or dietary fiber. Mr. Brown stated that the introduction of more fruits and vegetables has made great headway, although he has noticed that students at the high school are not purchasing lunch as often.

Mr. Browne explained that the Burbank School has Taste Test Tuesday where students try a new food and vote on whether they would like to see it added to the regular menu.

Mr. Browne mentioned that one concern he has is that money be spent on equipment repair. He is working with the Technology Director to add freezer alarms to the walk-in freezers. Mr. Brown stated that the new Point of Sale system has been successful and it allows parents to track what students have purchased for lunch as well as keeping track of their account balance. Mr. Browne explained that no student is ever refused lunch if they do not have the money in their account. They are provided a choice of sandwiches.

Dr. Kingston announced that Mr. Browne will be retiring at the end of this school year and he thanked him for all of his years of service to the students of Belmont.

3.3 Trip Proposals – Exhibits B1-B4

Mr. Darias gave a brief overview of the upcoming trips that the students will take next year.

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

VOTED 5-0-1 with one abstention to approve the BHS Chorus Tour – Vienna & Sallzburg, Austria – Exhibit B1; the trip to China for students of Chinese and Social Studies students – April 2014 – Exhibit B2; the trip to France for French students – April 2014 – Exhibit B3; and the trip to Spain for Spanish students – April 2014 – Exhibit B4.

3.4 LABBB/EDCO vote to elect representatives

Ms. Graham explained that the School Committee is required to vote on representatives to LABBB and EDCO before the end of the school year. She suggested putting off the vote for EDCO representative until the next meeting.

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

VOTED unanimously to elect Dr. Kingston as representative to the LABBB Collaborative for 2013-2014.

4. **SUBCOMMITTEE/LIAISON UPDATES (as needed)**

4.1 Student Representative

There was no student representative in attendance.

4.2 Finance Subcommittee

Mr. Cunningham explained that the Finance Subcommittee has begun their long-term planning and the Chair of the Board of Selectmen has announced that a team will be created to work on long-term planning.

4.3 Policy Subcommittee

Ms. Graham stated that the Policy Subcommittee has reviewed the attendance policy.

4.4 Curriculum & Instruction Subcommittee

Ms. Graham stated that the Curriculum & Instruction Subcommittee has not met and does not plan to meet over the summer.

4.5 Capital Budget Committee

Ms. Lougée stated that the Capital Budget Committee met last night before the Town Meeting and that the Capital Budget will come before Town Meeting tomorrow, June 5.

4.6 Warrant Committee

Ms. Slap stated that the Warrant Committee has been preparing for Town Meeting and that there will be another joint meeting before the end of the summer.

4.7 Wellington Building Committee

Ms. Graham stated that the Wellington Building Committee will meet next week. The Certificate of Occupancy will be issued soon.

5. **OTHER BUSINESS**

5.1 Consent Agenda

5.2 Personnel Items

Extra-compensatory Assignments – Exhibit C

5.3 Business Items

5.4 Approval of Minutes

Ms. Graham stated that the Committee would vote on the minutes of May 21 at the next School Committee meeting.

6. **FUTURE BUSINESS**

Upcoming Meetings:

June 11, 2013

Finance Subcommittee Meeting
SAB Conference Room – 8:00 a.m.

June 18, 2013

Finance Subcommittee Meeting
SAB Conference Room – 8:00 a.m.

June 18, 2013

School Committee Meeting
CMS Large Community Room – 7:30 p.m.

June 25, 2013

Finance Subcommittee Meeting
SAB Conference Room – 8:00 a.m.

7. **ENCLOSURES**

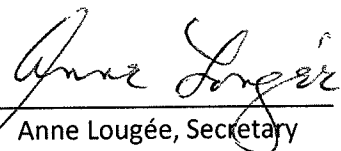
There were no enclosures

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:20 p.m. on a motion offered by Ms. Slap and seconded by Ms. Lougée, it was

VOTED unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by


Anne Lougée, Secretary