

**BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES  
CHENERY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM  
SEPTEMBER 23, 2014**

Present: Ms. Laurie Slap, Chair  
Ms. Anne Lougée, Secretary  
Mr. Kevin Cunningham  
Ms. Lisa Fiore  
Ms. Laurie Graham  
Ms. Elyse Shuster  
Mr. John Phelan, Superintendent  
Ms. Janice Darias, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction  
Mr. Anthony DiCologero, Director of Business, Finance and Operations

Also present: Mr. Bill Skelley, BG (Ret) Kevin Ryan, Mr. William French, and Mr. Larry Christofori

1. **OPENING BUSINESS**

1.1 Call to order

Ms. Slap called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. explaining that the School Committee had been in Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining prior to the beginning of the meeting.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Slap led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3 Citizens' Concerns

There were no citizens' concerns.

1.4 Adjustments to the Agenda

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

1.5 Chairman's Report

Ms. Slap updated the Committee on recent and upcoming events throughout the town. She thanked High School Principal Dan Richards and Senator Will Brownsberger for their work to make October Massachusetts Principals Month.

## 1.6 Superintendent's Report

Mr. Phelan explained that the Town is preparing to engage in the Green Fleet Policy and asked the School Committee to review the document in their packet in preparation for discussion at its next meeting. He stated that he will be provided with more information from the Board of Selectmen regarding the program.

Mr. Phelan asked the School Committee to review the copy of his Superintendent's Entry Plan which he will be formally presenting to the School Committee and public at a later date.

Mr. Phelan updated the School Committee on the work of Belmont teachers during the September 17<sup>th</sup> early release/professional development day. They worked on District Determined Measures and discussed how to use the data. He noted that the Professional Aides received training on the new anti-bullying law. Mr. Phelan announced that Belmont has again been designated as a Level 1 District and stated that this is a testament to the hard work by all of the professionals in Belmont as well as the students and parents.

Mr. DiCologero updated the School Committee on the work he has been doing to close out FY14. He presented the FY14 year to date expenditure report and explained that the figures in the report were taken from MUNIS (the Town's accounting system). Mr. DiCologero stated that the School Department had an ending positive balance of \$6,034 for FY14 and the money will be reverted to the Town.

## 2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

## 3. MAJOR BUSINESS

### 3.1 Veterans' Memorial

Mr. Bill Skelley and BG (Ret) Kevin Ryan updated the School Committee on a project they hope to implement regarding Veterans' Memorials. Part of the project would involve refurbishing and upgrading the World War I Memorial located near the Lions Club. The group would then work to expand the Clay Pit Pond veterans' memorial site in order to recognize veterans from additional wars. They also hope to re-create the World War II Memorial which had been destroyed. They would like to locate the World War II memorial on the front lawn of the White Field House. Mr. Skelley and Mr. Ryan asked the School Committee for their support for the project since some of the work would take place on school property. The School Committee invited Mr. Skelley and his group to attend another meeting once they had a design plan in place.

### 3.2 White Field House Update – Exhibit A

Mr. Larry Christofori presented an overview of the recent renovations made to the White Field House. He explained that the project was supported by a fundraising campaign that garnered over \$51,000 from approximately 80 contributors from the community. The White Field House, which had

not been updated since it was dedicated in 1948, is used by student football, hockey and track athletes. Mr. Christofori explained that the renovation involved the disposal of old lockers, extensive cleaning, painting and electrical work. The revitalized facility has 70 new lockers, numerous benches, Internet access, LCD screens and projectors, and emergency signage and lighting. The upper floor can be used by female athletes in the winter and spring seasons, and the lower level by male athletes all three seasons. Additionally, the James Paul White dedication plaque was refinished and a contemporary newspaper illustration from the 1948 Memorial Day dedication ceremony was framed and hung in the main entry. Mr. Christofori thanked the various individuals and groups who helped with the project.

Mr. Phelan thanked Mr. Christofori and Mr. Rick Jones for all their time and commitment to the project.

### 3.3 School Committee Subcommittee Assignments & Appointments – Exhibit B

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

**VOTED** unanimously to appoint David Goldberg for a 3-year term to the Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC).

### 3.4 Vote to discard English Books – Exhibit C

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

**VOTED** unanimously to declare the materials described in Exhibit C as surplus which can be disposed of.

### 3.5 Vote to approve out of state trip – Exhibit D

Ms. Darius explained that Grade 5 students have attended the Ferry Beach Ecology School for several years. The students will be divided into two groups with one group attending the first part of the week and the second group attending the last part. She stated that the program has been very successful.

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

**VOTED** unanimously to approve the Grade 5 Ferry Beach Ecology Trip to Saco, ME from June 1 – 5, 2015.

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

### 4.1 Student Representative

There was no student representative in attendance.

### 4.2 Finance Subcommittee

Ms. Lougée explained that the Finance Subcommittee met this morning and reviewed possible changes on how the budget is presented to members of the Warrant Committee, Town Meeting and other residents. She stated that they will be reviewing recommendations from the Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials (MASBO) as well as looking at how other school districts handle budget presentation. Ms. Lougée also noted that the subcommittee reviewed the meeting schedule and determined they would continue to meet on the mornings of days that School Committee business meetings takes place.

4.3 Policy Subcommittee

The Policy Subcommittee has not met.

4.4 Curriculum & Instruction Subcommittee

The Curriculum & Instruction Subcommittee will meet on September 29<sup>th</sup>.

4.5 Capital Budget Committee

The Capital Budget Committee has not met.

4.6 Warrant Committee

The Warrant Committee will meet on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

4.7 Wellington Building Committee

The Wellington Building Committee will meet on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

4.8 Financial Task Force

The Financial Task Force will meet on September 25<sup>th</sup>.

5. **OTHER BUSINESS**

5.1 Consent Agenda - none

5.2 Personnel Items - none

5.3 Business Items – None

5.4 Approval of Minutes - none

6. **FUTURE BUSINESS**

Upcoming Meetings:  
September 29, 2014

Curriculum & Instruction Subcommittee Meeting  
Winn Brook School Curriculum Center – 8:30 a.m.

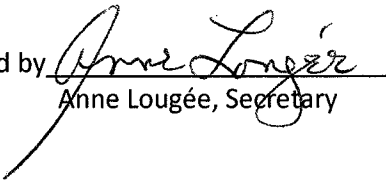
7. **ENCLOSURES**  
Green Fleet Policy (Draft)  
Superintendent's Entry Plan  
FY14 Closeout  
Veterans' Memorial

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:45 p.m. on a motion offered by Ms. Graham and seconded by Ms. Shuster, it was

**VOTED** unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by

  
Anne Lougée, Secretary