

BURGESS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Thursday, April 5, 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Katherine Alexander, Chair
Megan Panek, Vice Chair
Patricia Barnicle, Tantasqua Representative
Kristen Tuohey, Secretary
Mary Bellezza, Committee Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Dr. Erin Nosek, Associate Superintendent; Dan Carlson, Principal; Karen Miarecki, Recording Secretary; teachers and members of the community.

Mrs. Alexander started the Regular Session at 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Motion 12-06

Mrs. Barnicle moved, seconded by Mrs. Tuohey to approve the Minutes of March 1, 2012 Regular Session

Discussion: To strike "Karen Miarecki" as present at the meeting

VOTE: Unanimous, as amended

FINANCIAL REPORT

No significant changes – Special meeting may be needed to discuss budget; will touch base with Mrs. Boyd.

COMMUNICATIONS

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. Carlson reviewed the Principal's Report, which was included in the packet, below were the topics discussed in detail (the full report can be viewed upon request):

Staff Recognition

- Two sixth grade students, Meghan Meserole and Eamon McHugh were selected by their teachers to be recipients of the Young Citizenship Award sponsored by the Tri-Community Exchange Club.
- Chorus and band students – Performance at the Sturbridge Senior Center under the direction of Mr. Krilovich and Mr. Minchoff.
- All-Region Band Concert was held on March 22nd at Tantasqua Regional High School
- Congratulations to the sixth grade student William Farland who was selected as this year's winner of the Sturbridge Optimist Club Essay Contest.

Reviewed Enrollment Data: (the full report can be viewed upon request)

Professional Development – Early release day is scheduled for May 4th. Literacy Leader and Math Coaches will meet with teachers to discuss the revisions planned for the Standards Based Report Cards.

MCAS Testing- Students in grades 3-6 completed the MCAS Tests in the areas of Reading/Language Arts. Thanks to Mary Jaeger, Sue Littleton and Jack Canavan for overseeing the administration and return of these tests.

Donations:

- The John Thomas and Special Friends Fund will donate an iPad 2 to the Creative Pathways Program. The value of the donation is approximately \$500.00.
- A Pear Export Pro Drum Set will be donated to the Instrumental Music Program by Bob Carey. The value of the donation is approximately \$800.00

Events:

Kindergarten Orientation on April 4th, Scholastic Book Fair, April 9-12th, Parent-Teacher Conferences April 10th and April 11th, PTO sponsored Bingo Night, April 12th and spring vacation, April 16th-20th.

Motion 12-07

Mrs. Barnicle moved, seconded by Mrs. Bellezza to accept the donations of the iPad 2 value of \$500.00 and the Pear Export Pro Drum Set value of \$800.00 to be used as stated in the Principal's Report.

Discussion:

VOTE: Unanimous

Motion 12-08

Mrs. Barnicle moved, seconded by Mrs. Panek to deem the list of books provided in the packet as obsolete.

Discussion:

VOTE: Unanimous

In addition:

- Sarah Swift – Sixth Year for Burgess to take part in the Read to Feed Program (Heifer International)
- Memorial Day Program Service provided by the school - Discussion of how to include the town in the celebration provided by the school, as there is limited space. Possible solutions include providing video taping for the town, utilizing the Town Common or Old Sturbridge Village as a location spot, as well as additional options to be reviewed. Mr. Carlson will look into all these options to see which one would be best suitable.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Nosek reviewed the Superintendent's Report:

- Curriculum Mapping Grant – Seven teachers from Burgess applied
- Day on the Hill – Teacher evaluation

PUBLIC ACCESS I

Irene and George Paige – Inquired about waivers for Kindergarten for cut-off times for starting school. The school committee noted that the school goes by adopted policy.

Irene also suggested (in regards to the Memorial Day Celebration location) utilizing live stream in the school for upper/lower gym area.

Thomas Cloutier noted he would look into discussing live streaming with the high school for utilization at Burgess Elementary School (for the Memorial Day Celebration).

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

TANTASQUA REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs. Barnicle reviewed the Tantasqua Representative Report:

- Welcomed and congratulated Dr. Erin Nosek as the new Superintendent of Schools
- School committee meeting – Public Hearing at Tantasqua passed the budget of \$19,581,699.00
- PowerPoint on New Teacher Evaluation Process
- Curriculum Subcommittee – Writing in the Curriculum Standards
- Bylaw and Policy – Working on bylaws
- Tech Committee Meeting – Two new programs to be implemented at the technical school: Business Tech and Hotel Management.

OLD BUSINESS

- School Committee Self-Evaluation – Reviewed the evaluation in detail, discussing options for the future such as more interactive utilization provided for the community, a possible Facebook page for communication (provided/supported by the committee members) with public relations. Discussed seeking the policies to review on how to relate to questions that are asked of the committee members. Mrs. Nosek will provide the “Public Relations Plan for the School Committee” to be provided at upcoming committee meetings. Mrs. Barnicle suggested that the school committees of all the elementary schools get together for one meeting per year to discuss challenges/ideas; this will be discussed for the future.

Motion 12-09

Mrs. Barnicle moved, seconded by Mrs. Bellezza to approve Policy JEB on Second Reading and Request for Vote for Adoption

Discussion:

VOTE: Mrs. Alexander – Yes, Mrs. Barnicle – Yes, Mrs. Bellezza – Yes, Mrs. Tuohey – Yes, Mrs. Panek - Abstained

NEW BUSINESS:

- Public Hearing – School Choice Vote for May 3 - FYI

Motion 12-10

- Mrs. Barnicle moved, seconded by Mrs. Panek to approve Policy BEC on First Reading
Discussion: Strike “to deliberate”.

VOTE: Unanimous, as amended

- Building Use Application and Report – Mr. Carlson reviewed the Building Use Report provided in the packet (the packet will be revamped once the school is completely finished).
- Spring pictures –Mrs. Panek inquired as to why there are fall and spring pictures. Mrs. Alexander noted that part of proceeds go to the student activity fund. Mr. Carlson said that there are a large number of parents that want the pictures for “Easter” photos. Mrs. Panek would like to see what the dollar amount is in the spring vs. the fall for proceeds.
- Teacher notification for next year – Mrs. Bellezza was wondering if notification of student’s teachers could be provided to the parents at the end of the school year. Mr. Carlson said the protocol used was set in place about seven years ago by looking at many different schools, parental input. With having 80-100 new students each summer and placing in appropriate classes for their needs; possibly overloading some classes makes it difficult to change other ones; recommendation is to hold off until the fall for parent notification.

PUBLIC ACCESS II

Motion 12-11

At 8:12 p.m., Mrs. Panek moved, seconded by Mrs. Barnicle, to adjourn the meeting.

Discussion:

Vote: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Tuohey
Secretary

KT/km