

BURGESS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Thursday, January 3, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT:

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

Mrs. Alexander called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Motion 13-19

Mrs. Bellezza moved, seconded by Mrs. Barnicle to approve the Working Session of December 6, 2012.

Discussion:

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

Motion 13-20

Mrs. Bellezza moved, seconded by Mrs. Barnicle to approve the Regular Session of December 6, 2012.

Discussion:

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

FINANCIAL REPORT

- No Significant variances

COMMUNICATIONS

- Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative – First Quarter – FYI
- Class Size Policy IIB – FYI
- Ethics Training – FYI – Committee members will need to complete the online training and either print out and bring back to the committee or provide to the Town Hall.

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):

- Enrollment Data: Total K-6 881/ Total PK-6 961
- **Student/Staff Recognition:** - Geography Bee was held on December 13th, the champion this year was Madison Ricci. Thank you to Mr. Canavan for coordinating this annual event. The

Burgess PTO will sponsor a daylong event on January 16th with international drummer Tony Vacca and his World Rhythms Ensemble. Thanks to the PTO for this sponsorship and Danny Minchoff for coordinating the after school clinic for percussion students.

- **School Security:** In light of the tragic shooting in Newton, CT. in December, Burgess, along with most schools throughout the country, will be reassessing their safety and security protocols, some changes to the daily safety protocols have already been implemented. These focuses are on keeping the exterior doors locked, with the exception of when children are entering the building each morning. Visitors to the school must now enter through the Main Office, rather than being allowed in the East Side Lobby Door. All protocols from the Crisis Management Plan will be reviewed for possible revisions. This process will take into account suggestions from staff members as well as parents.
- **PTO News:**
 - The 5th Annual Bournedale Penny Drive starts on February 1st
 - The Cookie Walks raised \$2000 for the Camp Bournedale Fund
 - Grade 6 students will once again be creating their annual yearbook
- **Change in Traffic Pattern:** With the new East Parking Lot complete and open, a new traffic pattern has been implemented. Busses will drop-off and pick-up on the East Side (lake side) of the school and the parent drop-off and pick-up has been moved to the west side of the building.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Recipe Contest in January – Annually sponsored by the cafeteria, the winning recipe will be prepared and served to the staff and students later in the month.
 - Annual Burgess Talent Show – To be held on Friday, February 1st at 6:00 p.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Judi Ropiak coordinates this event.
 - Annual Ice Safety Programs – January 14th and 15th conducted by Rangers from the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Motion 13-21

Mrs. Barnicle moved, seconded by Mrs. Panek to endorse the new school colors to navy/gold and the new mascot to the Burgess Bears.

Discussion:

VOTE: Unanimous

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Nosek reviewed the Superintendent’s Report:

Motion 13-22

Mrs. Bellezza moved, seconded by Mrs. Barnicle to endorse the Superintendent to begin discussion on the new teacher evaluation process as it pertains to contract language.

Discussion:

VOTE: Unanimous

The proposed 2013-2014 Budget was reviewed page by page. The figure that will be presented at the March Public Hearing will be voted on at the February committee meeting.

PUBLIC ACCESS I

N/A

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Building – New items approved: Display cases, Air conditioning in the kitchen. Considering approval of a second scoreboard for the gym in the future.

TANTASQUA REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs. Barnicle reviewed the Tantasqua Representative Report:

- Concert performed by the Tantasqua Choraleers; they will be touring Ireland in April
- The Budget Subcommittee has scheduled meetings in each town to afford the opportunity for residents to view the budgetary process.
- The Bylaw/Policy Subcommittee noted that the Jr. High and High School Principals have reported that the reaction by students to a possible uniform policy was significantly negative. The committee wants to wait on this and review input from the School Advisory Councils.
- Mr. Starczewski reported that the 8th grade youth ambassadors for the Commonwealth 351 Cities and Towns Civic Education and Leadership Program have been chosen. They are Jessica Hall, Petra Zweibel, Joshua Berthiaume, Noah Scott and Joshua White.
- College Applications- Guidance Department met with all seniors in November and December to help them complete college applications.
- The committee voted in the affirmative on a resolution presented by the Legislative Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion 13-23

Mrs. Barnicle moved, seconded by Mrs. Tuohey to approved Policy JBA on Second Reading and Vote for Adoption.

Discussion:

VOTE: Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS

School Safety – Discussed all areas/ideas regarding school safety. Will revisit at upcoming school committee meetings once Dr. Nosek meets with the Police Chief and Town Manager. The possibility of a School Resource Officer will be reviewed as well.

PUBLIC ACCESS II

Policy descriptions will be placed on the agenda where space is permitted.

Motion 13-24

At 7:58 p.m., Mrs. Bellezza moved, seconded by Mrs. Barnicle to adjourn the meeting.

Discussion:

Vote: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,
Megan Panek
Secretary

MP/km