

## **BURGESS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Meeting of Thursday, November 6, 2014

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

### ALSO PRESENT:

Jeff Zanghi, Assistant Superintendent; Kathleen Pelley, Principal; Karen Miarecki, Recording Secretary; teachers and members of the community

Mrs. Alexander started the Regular Session at 6:31 p.m.

### MINUTES

#### **Motion 14-70**

Mrs. Bellezza moved, seconded by Mrs. Tuohey to approve the Minutes of October 2, 2014 Regular Session.

Discussion:

VOTE: Unanimous

#### **Motion 14-71**

Mrs. Johnson moved, seconded by Mrs. Tuohey to approve the Minutes of October 2, 2014 Executive Session.

Discussion:

VOTE: Unanimous

### FINANCIAL REPORT

- Shortfall in Contracted Services due to additional Behavior Therapist time needed. Will be covered with excess in Special Ed, as less 1:1 assistants are currently needed than budgeted.

### COMMUNICATIONS

Memo from Deb Boyd re: FY 16 School Budget Liaisons - FYI

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

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

- **Enrollment Data:** Total 989 as of September compared to October 2013 of 979
- **Curriculum Instruction and Assessment:** MCAS Report, Parent/Teacher Conference were held Tuesday, November 4th and Wednesday November 5th. SRO Hillary DaDalt organized a District Attorneys' safety presentation. Report cards will be issued on December 5th. Continue to evaluate the Reading Wonders core program for Grades 1 and 2.
- **Professional Development:** Plans are underway to introduce students to the A.L.I.C.E safety protocol.
- **Recognitions:** Congratulations to the fifth and sixth grade band members who participated in All-Bands Night under the direction of Mr. Minchoff.

- **School Improvement Council:** Met on October 14th; MCAS results and Safety procedures were discussed.
- **Ferry Beach Ecology School:** A group of fifth grade parents traveled to Ferry Beach on Thursday, November 6th. Wonderful opportunity to visit; had a great experience. Able to watch the morning lesson and lunch (to be able to see policies were in place for allergies/safety).
- **Special Assemblies:** On October 30th, Officer DaDalt coordinated the annual Halloween Safety Programs for students in Kindergarten through grade three.
- **Recycling News:** The "Green Team" began their weekly pick-ups of recyclable paper in early October. The "Pouch Brigade", under the direction of Terri Tsongalis, collects and counts juice pouches in order to send them off to be recycled.
- **Events:** See the November Calendar of Events posted on the Burgess website and in The Connection.

**Mr. Zanghi reviewed the 2014 MCAS Discussion and Report:**

Highlights discussed:

- Effects of the NCLB Waiver - Reducing proficiency gaps by half by 2016-17 (New CPI Goal will be 94.4 Goal by 2017)
- Progress and Performance Indicator (PPI)
- Changes on 2014 MCAS Reporting
- English Language Arts / Reading 3rd - 6th Grade; multiyear trend
- Mathematics - Grades 3-6; multiyear trend
- Science - Fifth Grade; multiyear trend
- ELA/Math - Reviewed advanced/proficient/needs improvement and warning percentages for grades 4-6. ELA Analysis - the percentage of students in warning and needs improvement has decreased from 47% to 16%. The percentage of students in Advanced/Proficient has increased from 54% to 83%. Math - Over the three years that the cohort has taken the Mathematics MCAS exam, the percentage of students in warning and needs improvement had decreased from 39% to 19%. The percentage of students in Advanced / Proficient has increased from 61% to 81%.
- 2014 Accountability Data
- English Language Arts MCAS School Achievement and Growth

Mr. Zanghi will provide actual goals at a follow up meeting as well as a breakdown for proficient and advanced percentages for measuring.

Mrs. Alexander expressed the committee's celebration of the successes of the above; commending all the teachers/staff for all their hard work.

Mrs. Pelley reviewed the Commendations/Positive Trends and Improvement Opportunities.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

None

PUBLIC ACCESS I

None

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

None

TANTASQUA REPRESENTATIVE - Reviewed the following:

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Question regarding difficulty with transitioning to the "Go Math Curriculum". We always expect some transition issues and this will continue to be monitored. Harcourt will be coming in to address any issues/training the coaches to assist in the technology piece; this will take place at the end of November.

PUBLIC ACCESS II

None

**Motion 14-72**

At 7:41 p.m., Mrs. Panek moved, seconded by Mrs. Bellezza, to adjourn the meeting.

Discussion:

Vote: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Tuohey

Secretary

KT/km