

**BRISTOL-PLYMOUTH REGIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2024
6:00 P.M.**

BPTA President Tasha Cordero informed the Chair and Superintendent that, moving forward, all school committee meetings would be live-streamed.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Louis Borges, Jr., Chair; Estele C. Borges, Edward F. Dutra, Jr., Timothy J. Holick, George L. Randall, III, Richard J. Spada, Jr., Joseph M. Zinni, Jr.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

James W. Clark, Mark A. Dangoia

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Dr. Alexandre Magalhaes, Superintendent-Director; Andrew Rebello, Assistant Superintendent; Nadine Rose, School Business Administrator; Karen Guenette, Assistant Director/Principal; Jacqueline Boudreau, Treasurer

OTHERS PRESENT:

Taunton resident John Paul Marcoux; Taunton resident Mary Franklin; Melanie Shaw, Pupil Services Administrator

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with Mr. Borges leading all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Borges informed everyone that the meeting is being recorded.

Information: A. Public Comment

Mr. Borges read the rules for public input and asked if Mary Franklin was present.

Mr. Marcoux discussed his concerns regarding bullying.

Ms. Franklin discussed her concerns regarding bullying, staffing classrooms, resignations, retirements, and the school lacking support for math and paraprofessionals.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Information: A. Calendar

Dr. Magalhaes informed the Committee that today was the first day for students, yesterday was the first day for teachers, October 1 we have been invited to the Taunton City Council to talk about the building project, October 2 is the next School Committee meeting, October 14 is Columbus Day, and October 19 is Open House. Discussion was made regarding traffic for the first day of school and for Open House.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action, Minutes: A. Regular Meeting - August 7, 2024

Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 7, 2024.

Motion by Estele C. Borges, second by George L. Randall, III

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Estele C. Borges, Edward F. Dutra, Jr., Timothy J. Holick, George L. Randall, III, Richard J. Spada, Jr., Joseph M. Zinni, Jr.

4. AUDIENCES AND COMMUNICATIONS

Information: A. Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing

Dr. Magalhaes informed the Committee that we received a letter from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts indicating the nursing program will maintain full approval status.

Information: B. Carpentry Donation

A letter was sent to Warren Biss of Biss Lumber thanking him for donating 18 bundles of asphalt shingles to the Carpentry program.

Information: C. Retirement

Dr. Magalhaes informed the Committee that Machine Shop Teacher Bob Palmer retired.

Information: D. Resignation

Dr. Magalhaes informed the Committee that Electrical Teacher Tom Ross is resigning to go back into the industry.

5. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Information, Report: A. Warrant Subcommittee

Mr. Borges reported that nine (9) warrants have been signed for the month of August.

6. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Information: A. Freshmen Orientation

Mrs. Shaw reported that Freshmen Orientation was held on August 26 where 80% of the incoming students attended. She discussed student ambassadors, tours, presentations, attendance policy, dress code, rules and regulations, and the athletics and club fair. She indicated the first day of school went smoothly due to this orientation and the student ambassadors. She thanked leaders Mr. Montesano, Mr. Lebeda, Ms. Slavin, Ms. Reynolds and the Superintendent and Principal for sponsoring this activity.

Questions were asked and answered regarding attendance at freshmen orientation being mandatory and the remaining 20% of the Freshmen students.

Mr. Dutra commented that they did a wonderful job.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Action: A. 2024-2025 Student-Parent Handbook - VOTE

Miss Borges asked to table the vote for the Student-Parent Handbook as she had numerous questions: where are the handbooks and policies on the website, the website needs work as it is not transparent, and to provide the full handbook to the Committee members.

Mr. Dutra also had questions regarding bullying, intimidation, and to send it for a second vote.

Action: B. 2025 Admission Policy - VOTE

Mr. Dutra would like to change the wording in the Admission Policy regarding student eligibility and students who are not residents and suggested the wording be in two different sections, not just one.

Miss Borges would like to table this vote until October. She had questions regarding the unexcused absences, attendance, selection criteria, grading, and the reasoning for the changes.

Mrs. Shaw answered all of her questions.

A question was asked and answered regarding who determines what is an unexcused absence (vacations, field trip, bereavement, medical).

Miss Borges indicated the 40 points for interviews was too high, wanted to know about the admission training, how long the interview lasted, how many applications were received, how many applications were filled out at open house, and asked that the data be sent to her regarding the number of students applying at open house.

Mrs. Guenette discussed ADL, anti-defamation league, no place for hate, having no control over the middle school guidance counselors, attendance, discipline, DESE does not look at excused or unexcused absences, grades, and appeals.

Miss Borges suggested that when a parent finishes an application online, they could acknowledge that they have read the policy, maybe add a check mark. She also asked why a student would get put back on the waiting list when they originally decline to come to the school.

Mrs. Shaw replied there could be many reasons such as their situation in life has changed or the school they chose to go to did not work out.

Additional discussion was made regarding why a student would get put back on the waiting list when they originally decline to come to B-P, where do they get put on the list, possibly putting those students on a separate tier to not jump other students on the list, inaccurate information received from middle schools, taking out the word intentionally in Section IX, the appeal process, a rubric for interviews, requesting the supporting documents to the admission policy, and use both mail and e-mail for the application process.

Motion to table the 2025 Admission Policy vote to the October meeting.

Motion by Estele C. Borges, second by Joseph M. Zinni, Jr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Estele C. Borges, Edward F. Dutra, Jr., Timothy J. Holick, George L. Randall, III, Richard J. Spada, Jr., Joseph M. Zinni, Jr.

Action: C. 2024-2025 Early Childhood Education Center Handbook - VOTE

Motion to accept the changes to the 2024-2025 Early Childhood Education Center Handbook as presented.

Motion by Timothy J. Holick, second by George L. Randall, III

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Estele C. Borges, Edward F. Dutra, Jr., Timothy J. Holick, George L. Randall, III, Richard J. Spada, Jr., Joseph M. Zinni, Jr.

Action: D. 2024-2025 Post-Secondary Dental Assisting Program Handbook - VOTE

Motion to accept the changes to the 2024-2025 Post-Secondary Dental Assisting Program Handbook as presented.

Motion by Timothy J. Holick, second by Edward F. Dutra, Jr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Estele C. Borges, Edward F. Dutra, Jr., Timothy J. Holick, George L. Randall, III, Richard J. Spada, Jr., Joseph M. Zinni, Jr.

Action: E. 2024-2025 Practical Nurse Program Student Handbook - VOTE

Motion to accept the changes to the 2024-2025 Practical Nurse Program Student Handbook as presented.

Motion by Edward F. Dutra, Jr., second by Timothy J. Holick

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Estele C. Borges, Edward F. Dutra, Jr., Timothy J. Holick, George L. Randall, III, Richard J. Spada, Jr., Joseph M. Zinni, Jr.

Action: F. 2024-2025 Teacher Handbook - VOTE

Motion to accept the changes to the 2024-2025 Teacher Handbook as presented.

Motion by Edward F. Dutra, Jr., second by Timothy J. Holick

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Estele C. Borges, Edward F. Dutra, Jr., Timothy J. Holick, George L. Randall, III, Richard J. Spada, Jr., Joseph M. Zinni, Jr.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Information: A. 2024-2025 District/School Improvement Plan - First Reading

Dr. Magalhaes indicated the 2024-2025 District/School Improvement Plan is being given to the Committee members for a first reading.

Action: B. Practical Nurse Program Admission Policy Changes - First Reading/VOTE

Dr. Magalhaes indicated the only change to the Practical Nurse Program Admission Policy is taking out the wording "applicants must be 18 years of age or older" so the program can capture the 17 year old who graduates from high school. This change is being given to the Committee members for a first reading.

Information: C. Superintendent Evaluation

Mr. Borges reported the Superintendent-Director met his professional practice goals and his student learning goals and exceeded in his district improvement goals. For Standards I-IV, he was tabulated proficient in all four areas. He thanked all Committee members for their input.

Action: D. Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2) to hear and review BPTA Grievance

Motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of hearing and reviewing the BPTA's Grievance in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2).

Motion by Estele C. Borges, second by Edward F. Dutra, Jr.

Roll call: Mr. Borges, yes; Miss Borges, yes; Mr. Dutra, yes; Mr. Holick, yes; Mr. Randall, yes; Mr. Spada, yes; Mr. Zinni, yes

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Mr. Borges stated the Committee will not be returning to open session after adjourning from the executive session.

Motion to not return to open session after adjourning from executive session.

Motion by George L. Randall, III, second by Estele C. Borges

Roll call: Mr. Borges, yes; Miss Borges, yes; Mr. Dutra, yes; Mr. Holick, yes; Mr. Randall, yes; Mr. Spada, yes; Mr. Zinni, yes

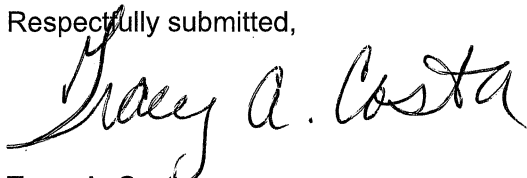
Final Resolution: Motion Carries

9. ADJOURNMENT

Action: A. Adjournment

The regular meeting ended at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tracy A. Costa
Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary

Documents referenced during the meeting:
Public Input Rules and Sign In Sheet

Calendar

8/7/24 Regular Meeting Minutes

8/7/24 Letter from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

8/8/24 Thank You Letter

8/12/24 Retirement Letter

8/20/24 Resignation Letter

Warrant Report

2024-2025 Student-Parent Handbook

2025 Admission Policy

2024-2025 Early Childhood Education Center Handbook

2024-2025 Post-Secondary Dental Assisting Program Handbook

2024-2025 Practical Nurse Program Student Handbook

2024-2025 Teacher Handbook

2024-2025 District/School Improvement Plan Changes

Practical Nurse Program Admission Policy Changes