

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NEW BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

PRESENT: MAYOR MITCHELL, MS. POLLOCK, ATTY. CLARK, DR. FINNERTY, DR. FLETCHER, MR. LIVRAMENTO, MR. NOBREGA

IN ATTENDANCE: DR. FRANCIS, DR. LARKIN, MRS. DALY, DR. CARRIGO, MS. COSTA, MRS. BROWN, MRS. MOURAO

Student Representative, Justin Braga, was not in attendance at this meeting.

Mayor Mitchell read from a prepared statement regarding the District's Turnaround Plan. He informed the Committee that a letter dated January 30, 2012 from Lynda Foisy, DESE Senior Associate Commissioner, had been received indicating that the District's Turnaround Plan was not acceptable. He stated that New Bedford Public Schools has been working to produce a plan that will satisfy the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education since last summer and that it has yet to be approved. Mayor Mitchell emphasized the need for dramatic changes in our system other than what has already been submitted in the District's Turnaround Plan. Dr. Francis indicated that the District has worked diligently with DESE and has always taken their advice when preparing the Plan. The District is waiting to hear from DESE to see who the outside organization identified by DESE will be to work with us.

A discussion ensued about communication and assistance with the Plan.

Motion by Atty. Clark and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to invite Commissioner Chester to a School Committee meeting at his convenience.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mayor Mitchell – Yes	Dr. Fletcher – Yes
Ms. Pollock – Yes	Atty. Clark – Yes
Mr. Nobrega – Yes	Dr. Finnerty – Yes
Mr. Livramento – Yes	

7 – Yeas 0 – Nays

Dr. Fletcher and Dr. Finnerty discussed meeting with the Commissioner during his visit to New Bedford Public Schools on February 10, 2012 to express their feelings and to inform him that the School Committee wants to cooperate with DESE.

Motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to amend the previous motion, and to wait to invite the Commissioner after he visits the District on February 10, 2012.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mayor Mitchell – Yes	Dr. Fletcher – Yes
Ms. Pollock – Yes	Atty. Clark – Yes
Mr. Nobrega – Yes	Dr. Finnerty – Yes
Mr. Livramento – Yes	

7 – Yeas 0 – Nays

Motion by Atty. Clark and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, to schedule "follow-up" bi-weekly meetings from now until the April 2nd deadline for updates on the Plan.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mayor Mitchell – Yes
Ms. Pollock – Yes
Mr. Nobrega – Yes
Mr. Livramento – Yes

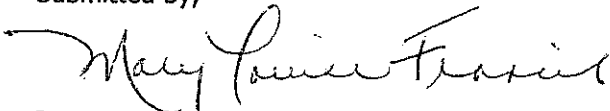
Dr. Fletcher – Yes
Atty. Clark – Yes
Dr. Finnerty – Yes

7 – Yeas

0 – Nays

At 9:05 P.M., on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Ms. Pollock, the Committee VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adjourn the special meeting.

Submitted by,



Dr. Mary Louise Francis
Superintendent,
Secretary/School Committee

MLF/csm