

Thursday, March 15, 2018 [*Corrected*]

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STUDENTS & FAMILIES COMMITTEE OF THE BRIDGEPORT BOARD OF EDUCATION, held March 15, 2018, at Geraldine Claytor Magnet Academy, 240 Ocean Terrace, Bridgeport, Connecticut.

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. Present were members Chair Joseph Sokolovic, Ben Walker and Maria Pereira. Board member John Weldon was present. Board member Dennis Bradley arrived subsequently as noted.

Supt. Aresta Johnson, Ed.D., was present.

Ms. Pereira moved to approve the committee's minutes of February 8, 2018, with edits. The motion was seconded by Mr. Walker. Corrections were noted. The motion was approved by a 2-0 vote. Voting in favor were members Pereira and Sokolovic. Mr. Walker abstained.

Anne Gribbon, coordinator of volunteer services for the Board of Education, presented to the board. She said there is an partnership with the 501(c)(3) School Volunteer Association of Bridgeport, an organization that has existed for fifty years, where she serves as the unpaid executive director. There is a board of directors of 32 for the association, which has its own budget and raises its own financing.

Ms. Gribbon said the primary goal is to promote volunteerism. There is a annual citywide read aloud day to kick off the school year, involving about 650 people. Sponsors purchase the books and supplies for the program. She said it was an amazing marketing tool for the schools and often volunteers offer to do even more volunteer hours. She noted Ms. Pereira has been a read-aloud volunteer.

Ms. Gribbon said there are over 500 people who read aloud either weekly, biweekly or monthly. She said last year the read aloud volunteers donated over 10,000 books to classroom libraries.

Ms. Gribbon said reading aloud is especially effective in teaching vocabulary and giving students a chance to hear words they don't come across in everyday life.

Ms. Gribbon said volunteers who commit to more hours can tutor, mentor or be a book buddy. Tutoring is in either reading or math, either individually or in small groups. These volunteers gave an additional five to six thousand books from the association to students to keep at home. She said there are studies that indicate you can judge academic standing of children by the number of books they have in their home.

Ms. Gribbon said the school-based mentoring program has about one hundred volunteers in the district. The mentors spend an hour a week with their individual mentees, typically during lunchtime. The mentors are asked to commit to spending two years with the child. She said some mentors have stayed with students from elementary schools to high school graduation.

Ms. Gribbon said an organization that values volunteer hours said in 2016 the value of a volunteer hour in Connecticut is \$29.29. She said the value of the total hours of volunteers was \$563,000.

Ms. Gribbon said additional connections with the volunteers has led to the donation of about 30,000 books by a publisher.

Ms. Gribbon said the association has a budget of about \$80,000 each year, from grants from companies like Aquarion and Pitney Bowes and organizations like Near & Far Aid Association, individual donations, and foundations. She said some longtime volunteers have died and bequeathed money to the program.

Ms. Gribbon said she oversees partnerships with companies and community organizations. She said she provided a list of the partnerships to the committee. She said the document shows how much value the partnerships add to the schools. She noted PSEG's long partnership with Roosevelt School. She said a lot of churches and temples are in partnerships with schools.

Mr. Bradley arrived at the meeting.

She noted one church did an umbrella drive for the school they were partnering with because of students often don't come to school due to lack of umbrellas.

Ms. Gribbon said when you see the volunteers you realize how many people want to do good and who really care about children.

Mr. Sokolovic said he had volunteered to read in his son's class and he could see kids engaged and interacting.

In response to a question, Ms. Gribbon said the majority of volunteers are non-Bridgeport residents, including a fair number who grew up in Bridgeport.

Mr. Walker thanked Ms. Gribbon for the huge gift she gives to our children. He asked what the board could do to assist. Ms. Gribbon said as the board members meet people who are able to volunteer or donate something to put them in touch with her office.

Ms. Gribbon said she met a woman who worked for Wal-Mart in the pharmacy area, who is a volunteer reader, who has also talked to a school about potential health fairs or things that Wal-Mart might be able to donate.

The committee members thanked Ms. Gribbon.

The next item on the agenda was discussion and possible action on nutrition bids.

Ms. Pereira said at a Finance Committee meeting on November 2nd, Ms. Wong made several statements that concerned her, specifically, that Chaves sent their information after the fact for the bid when they should have sent it with their bid; and that they were the only nonresponsive and noncompliant bidder which meant they could not be considered because it would put us in jeopardy of litigation.

Ms. Pereira said she went to purchasing and pulled every single bid of the nine submitted for the bread and bakery products bid, and not

a single one was compliant. She said this was a complete misrepresentation of what was said to us on November 2nd.

Ms. Pereira said Chaves was by far the lowest bidder. She said the bid attachments included one from Calise, who was awarded the bid, and one from Chaves. In almost every case Calise is 75 percent to double the cost of Chaves. She said from a cost analysis based on 2016-17 estimates we're paying \$108,000 more per year on five bread items than if we had gone with Chaves. She added there were 27 items, but she only did the cost analysis on the eight items that Chaves bid on.

Ms. Pereira said this was very troubling to her. She said we are the fiduciaries of every taxpayer dollar and this is just not acceptable. She said she believed representations were made to the Finance Committee on November 2nd that were completely inaccurate and untruthful. She said we have to know that the staff that comes before us is being factual and accurate.

Ms. Pereira said the assertion that Chaves could not be considered because the other bidders had complied has no basis in reality. She said it was outrageous that we're spending \$107,930 more on five bread items. She said there was an attempt to discredit Chaves Bakery, including calling the health inspector at the local and state levels, both of which cleared Chaves.

Ms. Pereira said despite rumors, she had never met John Chaves until last year and she is not related to him. She said serious disciplinary action needs to be taken for misrepresentations that were made to the board.

Mr. Sokolovic said disciplinary action should perhaps be with the Personnel Committee. Ms. Pereira said that would be handled by Dr. Johnson.

Mr. Bradley asked why a more expensive manufacturer was chosen.

Sharlene Wong, nutrition director, said she did not say that Chaves was the only bidder that did not comply. There were two bids that went out. One bid opened on July 12th. Because there were bidders

who didn't comply with all of the requirements, she spoke to Bern Tardy, the head of the city purchasing department, and he recommended that the cleanest thing to do would be to go back out to bid for a second bid and to clarify any questions that any of the bidders might have had as to what was required to be submitted.

Ms. Wong said a second bid was conducted opening on August 18th. Chaves did not bid at the second bid opening. She then consulted Mr. Tardy, who on September 5th said we needed to proceed with awarding based on the second bid opened on August 18th.

In response to a question from Mr. Bradley, Ms. Wong said the company that we decided to go with was the cheapest. She said ten companies bid the first time and the second time eight companies bid. She said several companies were awarded the bid that were the cheapest at that time.

In response to a question, Ms. Wong said she did not make phone calls to companies that submitted cheaper bids previously. She said they probably received something from BidSync. She said the first round of bids was not tabulated because companies were not in compliance.

In response to a question, Ms. Wong said she was only aware that Chaves provided the bread the year before, not that they had previously, as indicated by Mr. Bradley, "provided the same service at a more economical price." She said she was not aware of the total amount of the bread provided by Chaves.

Ms. Wong said Chaves was aware we were bidding a second time. In response to a question from Mr. Bradley, she said she did not personally reach out to anyone.

Mr. Bradley asked if it would be important to know the cost of the services previously provided by Chaves. Ms. Wong said the district spends about \$200,000 a year for bread, but she did know exact numbers.

Mr. Bradley said to be \$100,000 over what we historically pay is a significant upcharge. Ms. Wong said this year it was split between

multiple vendors and a little over \$100,000 was spent this year on the bread bid. She said all our monies come from the federal government and we are tasked with providing the students with the best quality products that we can afford.

Mr. Bradley said there's a saying that all politics are local. He said the funding the district receives ultimately comes from the people. He said vendors like Chaves and Wade's Dairy provide not just service, but what they contribute to the city as whole through taxes. He said Chaves has a \$2 million oven and pays \$200,000 on that oven to the City of Bridgeport. He said if Chaves closed their doors tomorrow and moved to a place where taxes are less, we'd have an unsightly factory abandoned on State Street and Bridgeport would have another problem.

Mr. Bradley said if our rules require the contract to be approved the board, the contracts should come before the board.

Ms. Pereira said it was troublesome that we find that frozen bread can possibly be better than fresh bread. She said we had no problems for two years and suddenly everything and anything was a problem with Chaves. She added the muffins should have been in the bread and bakery bid because companies missed out on the muffin bid.

Ms. Pereira said she does not have faith in Ms. Wong. She said Ms. Wong said in the minutes Chaves sent their information after the fact and they were nonresponsive and noncompliant. Ms. Pereira said none of the vendors were compliant. No bidder supplied two health inspection reports and the nutritional, which were required documents.

Ms. Pereira said Ms. Wong told Dr. Johnson there was a clerical error in regard to frozen bread vendors and then she testified at the committee, according to the minutes, that she did it on purpose because Chaves Bakery bread did not freeze well. She said it can't be both; it's one or the other. Then Ms. Wong awarded bids that she had no right to award. She said Ms. Wong went out to bid for a third time without the superintendent's knowledge and permission.

Dr. Johnson said there were actually two bids and Ms. Wong put that in the minutes the last time.

Ms. Pereira said it went out as frozen, it was corrected from frozen to non-frozen, and it went out to BidSync, and then the final bid was when she claimed that she had to go to bid and put in tons of requirements that would forbid local vendors. She said every obstacle for a local vendor was put up.

Ms. Pereira said she wanted every single bid from the Nutrition Center to come before the board before it's posted so this never happens again.

Ms. Wong said fresh bread does not freeze well. She said Mr. Lanese, the production manager, could say that as well. She said the finance person working on the bids put in that some items should be fresh and some frozen. She said the federal requirements for whole-grain-rich products included some fresh and some frozen products. She said frozen items were better after the three-day holidays because freezing fresh bread changes the composition of the bread and it gets dry and hard.

Ms. Wong said we only went out to bid twice. The revision removed the words "fresh" and "frozen." Mr. Tardy put an addendum out in June and the date of the bid opening was moved out a week or two. Mr. Tardy did not want to issue a new bid, so he notified people that there would be a new bid opening on July 12th.

Ms. Wong said that because the old bid was supposed to open in fiscal year it had a 2016-17 bid number. When the bid opening was changed, Mr. Tardy had to give it yet another bid number so it was given a 2017-18 bid number. There were two bid numbers attached to the bid that opened on July 12th.

Ms. Wong said because we had so many issues with compliance Mr. Tardy said the cleanest and easiest thing was to have a second bid opening, which took place on August 18th.

Mr. Walker said Mr. Bradley was succinct in his plea to look local and Ms. Pereira is spot on with the violation of our board policies about all

bids coming before this board. He said where he teaches there are protocols about budget, and if they are not followed he risks termination of his job. He said circumvention of the process bothered him more than the lack of local support.

Mr. Walker said it should have been such a huge red flag to have three vendors that bid the first time around and not in the second bid. He said Ms. Wong should have reached out to find out why there was no bid the second time, especially when it's a vendor already in place. He questioned why we're not making extra effort to reach out to Chaves Bakery about this.

Ms. Wong said because we put out purchase orders for all purchasing it is not considered a contract until the purchase is made. Every transaction that she makes is under \$25,000. She said she understood the board policy is that items over \$25,000 need board approval.

Mr. Weldon said because this program is federally funded regulations prohibit any geographic preference. He said it sounds like everybody who bid the first time received notification for the second go-around. Beyond that, he asked why anyone would believe that someone who bid the first go-around wouldn't bid the second time, until you find out after the fact after several companies decided not to.

Mr. Weldon said the purchasing procedures specify that no contract, agreement or MOU in excess of \$25,000 can be entered into without board approval, but a purchase order is not a contract. The purchase order is an accounting mechanism that allows you to buy something. He said he didn't see why anyone would expect to be hearing about purchases that don't exceed \$25,000. He said he really wondered what we're talking about here.

Ms. Pereira said there were three bids. Mr. Weldon said there was one bid with an addendum extending the date, that was the same solicitation. He said he understood the staff reached out to get information, and at the end they canceled the whole process because they weren't getting the information needed. The process was killed and started again.

Mr. Weldon said buying part of an item was considered bid-splitting. Mr. Walker said if the bread contract is pieced out, isn't it the same process? Mr. Weldon said these are different standalone items that together don't compose a finished product. He said it was in our financial best interest to pick the bidder for each individual item. Designating an exclusive provider causes the board to lose economic advantage.

Ms. Pereira said Mr. Weldon's comment are completely inaccurate. She said the language of the bid calls for the awarding the contract to the vendor whose response is most advantageous to the city; cost, price and other factors specified in the solicitation considered under a best value analysis as provided by the city ordinance. The bid says the board reserves the right to make awards by item, to reject any and all bids and to reject any one or more items or part of the bid. She said the board has that power, not Ms. Wong.

Mr. Weldon says he sees the term Board of Education used interchangeably to mean the panel of nine versus the operating entity that runs the school system. Ms. Pereira said there is no other term for the nine-member Board of Education. Mr. Weldon said in a purchase-order scenario a contract is not created until an order is placed against that purchase order and the contract is for the very specific number of items you have chosen to purchase.

Ms. Pereira said you can't go against the language of the bid. She said the entire bid must be followed. She said the language indicates that the board will award the contract at its next regular meeting.

Mr. Weldon asked if Ms. Pereira was saying if Ms. Wong had come to the board and made a presentation and recommended approvals, that would satisfy the requirements. Ms. Pereira said that would.

Mr. Weldon said if we do that in the future, that solves the problem.

Mr. Sokolovic said almost every single problem we have with this would be avoided if it had fresh eyes on it. Mr. Weldon said the board should do that going forward.

Mr. Bradley said it's bigger than that because it's not just about adhering to the rules. He said our directors who are concerned about freshness of bread did no research to see what we were previously paying for bread and no analysis. He said it's criminal when directors tell us they did no research or analysis as to how much money we used to pay on bread and how much we're now paying. He said we should hold directors accountable about how money is spent.

Mr. Bradley said we make all of his hoopla about relatives, but he was curious about why someone would pick a more expensive bid. He said he would hope and pray it was not something nefarious.

Mr. Weldon said we are going down a slippery slope because Ms. Wong works for Dr. Johnson and Dr. Johnson works for us. He said it was ultimately Dr. Johnson's decision. Mr. Sokolovic said he agreed with Mr. Weldon. Mr. Weldon said Mr. Bradley was casting aspersions into the integrity of the person who runs the nutrition program in a public meeting, which is inappropriate.

Mr. Weldon said the process was done and we're two months from the end of the school year, and we've agreed that going forward the nutrition bids come before the board.

Ms. Pereira said the figures were provided by Ms. Wong and it's not okay to spend \$108,000 more for bread. Mr. Weldon said she provided it line by line to whoever provided the best price for each individual item. Ms. Pereira said they were all given to Calise. Mr. Weldon said other people chose not to bid.

Mr. Sokolovic said it was not our place to advocate for discipline. He said if we disagree that Dr. Johnson didn't take an action, we have to take that up with Dr. Johnson. He said if he was Dr. Johnson sitting here she might think we want Ms. Wong to be disciplined and it might bias her towards disciplinary action. He said that should be done in executive session.

Ms. Pereira said we have to know that people that come before us are honest and accurate. Mr. Sokolovic said it was important that Dr. Johnson ensures that happens.

Ms. Wong said the numbers Ms. Pereira was using to calculate the costs were based on the previous fiscal year's menu; this year's menu is vastly different and a lot of different items have been purchased, including less quantities of hamburgers and hotdogs. She said Mr. Lanese and Mr. Esposito can attest less has been spent on bread this year because of the different menu.

Ms. Wong said she was very offended that Ms. Pereira said she was dishonest. She said she had a national reputation, serving on the School Nutrition Association board as an executive director. She said she takes great offense to being accused of lying.

Ms. Wong said she returned about \$1.4 million to the board so they could take money out of the internal service fund. This year, already \$1.55 million has been given back, which means she had to make a profit in her department. She said she watches every penny.

Ms. Wong said a lot of different breads are being offered this year and the children like them. She said she wants to serve bread that children eat rather than throw away.

Mr. Sokolovic said he didn't think we could do much more at this level. Ms. Pereira said going forward the nutrition bids need to come before this committee and the full board. Ms. Wong said she would not have a problem with that.

Tom Lanese said he had been with the Nutrition Department for 23 years. He said in Ms. Wong's defense in no way was she trying to go outside the rules and regulations. He said he had put his heart into this program. He said Ms. Wong's made a lot of changes; she's really tightened belts financially. He noted there is a lot of time and effort put into tasting foods and breads, including by students and parents. He said the department went into Hawaiian and pretzel rolls and different frozen breads because of the preference of students.

Mr. Bradley said the buck stops with the Board of Education to see things are run effectively. He said it was concerning that numbers were asked about prior years and we don't have figures. He said the \$100,000 increase identified by Ms. Pereira was concerning. He said we have a duty to working men and women that they don't exploit our

communities and take the factories out of here and send them to another country or state. He said Chaves provides a quality product, employs Bridgeport residents and pays taxes.

Ms. Wong said her finance manager gave Chaves a heads-up e-mail about the bid. Mr. Bradley said there should be a mission statement by the head of the department to give a heads-up to local vendors.

Mr. Weldon said under the FAR if you do that for one, you have to do it for all; you can't just call Chaves.

Mr. Sokolovic said this is one of the reasons the board voted on the memo that went out indicating everybody should follow policy. He said past practices should not longer be an excuse.

Mr. Weldon said the board spends a lot of money. He asked if we're going to be asked to approve every single expenditure. Ms. Pereira said, yes, for expenditures over \$25,000. Mr. Sokolovic said that was per board policy and the city charter. Ms. Pereira said that was covered in state statute as well.

Ms. Wong said she had the documentation on the cost of bread over the last two years, but she couldn't put her hand on it. Mr. Sokolovic said it's moot at this point and we should try to avoid the same problems moving forward.

Mr. Bradley left the meeting.

The next item on the agenda was the transportation agreement with First Serve.

Dr. Johnson said First Serve is a nonprofit that promotes tennis programs for students. They have a 14-passenger van and would like to loan the van to the Central High tennis team at no cost. She said the issue was sent to Shipman & Goodwin, along with insurance information from Progressive. Counsel made some suggestions for revision to make sure the board is covered.

Andrew McConnell said he was a teacher at Central, the tennis coach, and a board member of First Serve Bridgeport. He said First Service provides tennis programs and clinics as well as education,

tutoring, mentoring and SAT prep. Last year, a \$5,000 scholarship was given to a graduating senior to Fairfield University.

Mr. McConnell said the eventual goal is to save the Central tennis program, which was cut from the athletic department, and to bring tennis back to Harding and Bassick.

Mr. McConnell said First Serve's insurance policy has a rider indemnifying the board of any liability. He said he would be driving the van with another teacher as a backup. He said there is Central signage on the van.

In response to a question, Mr. McConnell said he is covered by the insurance policy, along with Coach Woods, and another coach if and when he is approved. He said he had to get a special driver's license from DMV to drive the van.

Ms. Pereira moved to approve the contractual agreement with First Serve. The motion was seconded by Mr. Walker and unanimously approved.

Dr. Johnson said she would submit all the documentation in the board packet for the next meeting.

The next item was discussion and possible action on parent engagement strategies.

Delores Mason said after the last meeting she had conversations with parent leaders and principals about improving parent engagement. She said there were four webinars last week, with 23 participants, and Survey Monkeys.

Ms. Mason said all schools are expected to have their expenditures in no later than April 4th; and further reminders have been provided.

Ms. Mason said she shared the district's strategic plan with the parents. She said Dr. Johnson has promised her support for the strategic plan and updates will be made to the goals of the plan.

Ms. Mason said the anonymous survey results indicated that a few PAC and PTSO presidents do not feel welcome in their schools. She said that will be addressed.

Ms. Mason said PAC and PTSO elections were discussed at length.

Ms. Mason said the most updated list of PACs and PTSOs indicated Bassick and Bryant are in the process of full elections. Other schools are holding elections to hold vacancies.

Ms. Mason said she was waiting until the elections are complete before a new round of training. She said she sent notice to all principals requesting they share with PAC leaders efforts to hold elections to fill vacancies. She said training will be held in April and early May for the 2018-19 school year. There will be ongoing webinars.

Ms. Mason said a grandparents luncheon will be held on May 11th, at the North End Branch Library. She said the event will include art, a speaker and a musical performance by Winthrop School students.

Mr. Sokolovic said the webinar he participated in was very informative and he was glad to hear it had unlimited capacity for participants.

Ms. Mason said there was discussion in the webinar about parents who feel the dialect of Portuguese being used by the district in phone blasts is difficult for Portuguese speakers from Brazil. She said she would work on that issue.

Ms. Mason said she also shared information about the Every Student Succeeds Act. She said the act changed references to parent involvement to parent engagement and defined parent inclusive of any family member involved in a child's life.

Shaquana Shaw was recognized. She said was a parent of two Claytor Magnet students, as well as a board employee. She said she was elected to be the PAC vice president at Claytor, but had to leave the position because she was employed by the board. She said she would always be a parent first and involved with her children's

education. She asked how the barriers to her involvement could be broken.

Mr. Sokolovic said he can feel Ms. Shaw's frustration because now that he is a board member he can no longer participate in some aspects of his son's school.

Ms. Pereira said no employee of the board can serve on a school PAC or PTSO according to the school PAC bylaws. The same rule applies to elected officials.

Dr. Johnson said a parent who could not hold a PAC office could still be fully involved in parent activities.

Ms. Smith said the PAC president at this school does not show up for meetings. Ms. Pereira said under the online PAC bylaws there are rules for how to remove a non-functioning PAC member. She said the principal is responsible for a functioning PAC. Ms. Smith said the principal indicated he has nothing to do with the PAC.

Ms. Mason said she spoke to Mr. Douglas and there will be a meeting at March 28th at Claytor School to discuss the upcoming election. She said the president was outgoing at this point.

Ladondra Maddox, the vice president of the PAC at Claytor Magnet, was recognized. She said she hasn't seen the president since before Christmas. She added she had tried her very best to communicate with the president.

In response to a question, Ms. Mason said all schools have a newsletter that goes out periodically. She says she receives it on a monthly basis or semester basis. Mr. Walker said we should be more proactive with the newsletter.

Ms. Smith said although she had not been informed of tasting opportunities by the Nutrition Center, the bread in school has been better.

Mr. Walker said often people when they get assigned offices don't step up. He said he tells students all the time you don't have to have a title to be a leader.

Ms. Maddox said the group of parents at Claytor are really involved and committed.

Ms. Mason said the home-school coordinators would previously get the information to the parents about the parent nutrition committee for food tastings. She said she sends the requests from Ms. Wong to the PAC leaders and principals to get parents for the tastings. Ms. Smith suggested there be a phone blast for that.

Ms. Mason said a lot of families participated in the bread tasting.

Dr. Johnson said there is an RFP out for the foster grandparent program the district had in the past. The district is applying for that in partnership with The WorkPlace.

Ms. Pereira said she wanted to be sure that when PAC elections occur everybody has to be running at the same time. She said vacancies should only be filled until the term ends; not for a whole two years. Ms. Mason said that was the case and the principals are collaborating well about the elections.

Ms. Mason said one principal of a school had a lot of parent engagement, but because it's a high immigrant population the parents are frightened to have their names in documentation. She said Title I funds do not require an organized group, but we do have to prove we have parent engagement.

The next item was on future graduation venues and dates. Mr. Sokolovic noted it was covered in the Finance Committee as well. He said a lot of parents don't like the idea of having one venue for graduation.

Dr. Johnson said there were some conversations from parents that they would like a more intimate setting than the Harbor Yard Arena. She said Bassick had been the Klein for a long period of time, but they outgrew the Klein. She added there are now seven different high school ceremonies.

Dr. Johnson said in making plans for 2019 the hope is that Central can use Kennedy Stadium and Harding will use its new field. Options for BMA on the University of Bridgeport campus and for Fairchild Wheeler at Sacred Heart University are being explored.

Ms. Pereira noted the amount of tickets available to families would be reduced in the smaller venues.

Dr. Johnson said the contract for the Arena for \$37,000 was discussed at the Finance Committee meeting, but it did not move forward to the board agenda.

Mr. Walker said there was a problem in New Haven where people got locked out of a graduation because a ticket system did not work. He said some of the information provided by speakers about the graduations at the Arena at the board meeting was false. He said he wished the stage could be turned to face one side of the Arena.

Mr. Weldon suggested that a quick phone call be made to Sacred Heart University about the availability and cost for this year's graduation. This might resolve the cost issue.

Dr. Johnson said she hoped to have board action on this year's contract at the next meeting. She said phone calls were being made about a potential Plan B if needed.

Ms. Pereira said she would send an e-mail to place the issue on the next board agenda. She said she would reach out to Mr. Taylor about the issue.

Ms. Pereira said if it the vote at the committee was 1-1, then a quorum was not present in any event.

Mr. Walker said he didn't think it was necessary to change the graduations from the Arena on one day because each school building is not capable of hosting their own graduation because of size. He added that some parents gave some misinformation during public comment that was responded to by a board member and the misinformation was perpetuated.

Ms. Pereira moved to postpone the Parent Convention update to the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Walker and unanimously approved.

Ms. Pereira moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was seconded by Mr. Walker and unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John McLeod

Approved by the committee on April 5, 2018