

BROCKTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

David E. Crosby Administration Building
43 Crescent Street, Brockton, MA 02301
(508) 580-7511 Fax: (508) 580-7513

The Honorable Robert F. Sullivan
Chair/Mayor of Brockton

Kathleen Ann Ehlers
Vice-Chair

James F. Cobbs, PhD
**Secretary/Acting Superintendent
of Schools**



Committee Members

Joyce J. Asack
Kathleen A. Ehlers
Claudio Gomes
Ana C. Oliver
Tony A. Rodrigues
Judy A. Sullivan
Timothy J. Sullivan

February 15, 2024

Re: Request for National Guard Assistance at Brockton High School

Dear Mayor Sullivan and Chair of the Brockton School Committee,

We, the undersigned members of the Brockton School Committee, write to you with a matter of utmost urgency regarding the safety and well-being of our students, staff, and the community at large. Recent events at Brockton High School have prompted us to seek immediate assistance to prevent a potential tragedy.

Over the past few months, our high school has experienced a disturbing increase in incidents related to violence, security concerns, and substance abuse. The situation has reached a critical point, more recently we had an alarming 35 teachers absent, underscoring the severity of the challenges we are facing.

Instances of students wandering the halls, engaging in altercations, and causing disruptions in classrooms have become alarmingly frequent. These incidents are not only undermining the learning environment but are also jeopardizing the integrity of the state wide testing process. As concerned members of the school committee, we are reaching out to you with the hope that the City and State can provide assistance and support in addressing this urgent matter.

Over the past several weeks, there has been a noticeable increase in the number of students leaving the school premises without proper authorization. This unauthorized departure is a result of a lack of adequate staffing to monitor exits and entrances effectively. Additionally, the school has been experiencing incidents of trespassing, with individuals gaining access to the school property without proper authorization.



Brockton Public Schools - Instructional excellence for every student, every day.

There are many instances where trespassers are found on school grounds, raising serious questions about the security and safety measures in place. These situations not only put the students and staff at risk but also undermines the overall safety of our community.

Recognizing the gravity of the situation, we are formally requesting that you reach out to Governor Healey and request the deployment of the National Guard to assist in restoring order, ensuring the safety of all individuals on the school premises, and implementing measures to address the root causes of the issues we are facing.

We understand the gravity of this request and the importance of collaboration between local and state authorities. The National Guard's expertise in crisis management and community support can offer a vital temporary intervention, allowing for a comprehensive, long-term solution to be developed in consultation with all relevant stakeholders.

Given the urgency of the matter, we respectfully request an expedited meeting to discuss the deployment of the National Guard to Brockton High School. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

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Joyce Asack- Ward 6 School Committee

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|  | dotloop verified 02/15/24 9:57 PM EST 04YB-S6QB-EMZS-BQ1A |
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Tony Rodrigues – Ward 4 School Committee

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|  | dotloop verified 02/15/24 10:43 PM EST WDSY-SZEL-XEIL-IEVW |
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Ana Oliver- Ward 3 School Committee

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|  | dotloop verified 02/15/24 9:50 PM EST HW5R-HMHL-7GVR-C7L5 |
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Claudio Gomes - Ward 2 School Committee

CC: Senator Michael Brady
Representative Gerry Cassidy
Representative Michelle Dubois
Representative Rita Mendes
Brockton City Council Members
Kathleen Ehlers, Ward 1 School Committee
Judy Sullivan, Ward 5 School Committee
Timothy Sullivan, Ward 7 School Committee
Dr. James Cobbs, Acting Superintendent

