



RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

One Corliss Park

Providence, RI 02908

MEETING MINUTES – Hearing

Date: April 29, 2015

Time: Minutes recorded by: Helen Edwards

Minutes approved on: July 7, 2015

Interpreters: Carol Fay, Christine West

CART: Shelly Deming

Call to Order:

a. Board Chairperson Amanda Montgomery called the meeting of the RI School for the Deaf Board of Trustees to order at 7:39 pm in the Cafeteria of the School for the Deaf.

• **Roll Call of Board of Trustees**

b. In Attendance: Amanda Montgomery, Joseph Fischgrund, Jane Newkirk, Danielle Loughlin, Heather Niedbala, Nora Meah, Lindsey Medeiros

c. **Excused: Jonathan Henner**

Public Comment: None

Reports:

- Report of the Chair on the Board of Trustees
- Brief report on meeting with Maureen Cotter
 - Chairperson Montgomery and Director Maguire Heath met with Maureen Cotter, the selected trainer for the Board of Trustees.
- Report of the Director
 - Director Maguire Heath will give a full Director's report at the May 5, 2015 meeting.
 - Close-Up students will be having a Pancake Breakfast on Friday, May 1, 2015 at 7:30 am in the school cafeteria. Invitation extended to the Board to attend.
 - Director Maguire Heath has put out the word for ESY (Extended School Year) staff to be hired. We are looking for teachers and personnel for the month of July 7-31, 2015.
 - Director Maguire Heath spoke about the bill proposed in Rhode Island, House Bill 5697 which is hoping to require annual language assessments of children 0 to 3 years of age and school aged children. Director Maguire Heath will keep the Board informed if the bill becomes law.

- Action Items:
 - Vote on the current School Calendar Changes, made necessary due to Snow Days this year. Chairperson Montgomery moved to approve the calendar submitted. Jane Newkirk seconded the motion. The calendar was approved by consensus. School will now end on June 30th.
 - The Board went into Executive Session at 8:15 pm to discuss litigation with the Teachers' Union
 - The Board returned to Open Session at 8:45 pm and continued on to discuss the 1st reading of the proposed ASL Policy. Sara Rapport and the Director submitted the first draft of the policy. The Board reviewed the American Sign Language Policy draft and proposed changes which will be made for a second reading at the May 5, 2015 Board meeting.

- **Adjournment: 9:03 pm**

