

CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, JUNE 18, 2007

HOPE HIGHLANDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

300 HOPE ROAD

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 5:30 P.M.

PUBLIC SESSION: 7:30 P.M.

MINUTES

The regular monthly meeting of the Cranston School Committee was held on the evening of the above date at Hope Highlands Elementary School with the following members present: Mr. Archetto, Mrs. Greifer, Ms. Iannazzi, Mr. Lombardi, Mr. Stycos, Mr. Traficante, and Mrs. Tocco-Greenaway. Also present were Mr. Scherza, Mr. Nero, Mr. Votto, Mr. Balducci, Mrs. Lundsten, and Mr. Laliberte.

The meeting was called to order at 5:42 p.m. It was moved by Mrs. Greifer, seconded by Mr. Lombardi and unanimously carried that the members adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to RI State Laws 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel and PL 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation (possible litigation).

Chairman Traficante reconvened the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

The roll was called and the Pledge of Allegiance conducted.

I. Executive Session Minutes Sealed – June 18, 2007

Moved by Mr. Lombardi, seconded by Mr. Archetto and unanimously carried that the June 18, 2007 Executive Session minutes remain confidential.

II. Minutes of Previous Meetings Approved – May 11, 2007; May 16, 2007; May 21, 2007; May 29, 2007; and May 31, 2007

Moved by Mr. Lombardi, seconded by Mrs. Greifer and unanimously carried that the minutes of the May 11, 2007, May 16, 2007, May 21, 2007, May 29, 2007, and May 31, 2007 be approved.

Mr. Traficante requested a moment of silence for Claire Gilchrest, a

long-time bus driver for the school children of the City of Cranston, who passed away recently.

III. Public Acknowledgements / Communications

There were no communications.

IV. Chairperson Communications

There were no Chairperson communications.

V. Superintendent Communications

There were no communications from the Superintendent.

VI. School Committee Member Communications

Mr. Stycos stated that he wished to distribute information regarding the budget and the Charter School that would be discussed at the June 19th meeting. He didn't plan to discuss it at this meeting. He noted that the last page were financial estimates he had made. He asked administration to review them so they could make comments and corrections.

Mrs. Greifer referred to Resolution No. 07-6-28 and noted that this Resolution is for grant applications in the amount of \$51,800.

VII. Public Hearing

a. Students (Agenda/Non-agenda Items

b. Members of the Public (Agenda Matters Only)

There were no students who wished to speak on agenda or non-agenda items.

Leigh Riesenfeld, Library Media Specialist at Barrows and Rhodes Schools – She read the following statement: In March 2007 Bill Gates spoke to a committee of United States Senators on the subjects of immigration and education. She quoted from Mr. Gates, “According to a 2005 United States Department of Education Study, only 13% of American adults are proficient in the knowledge and skills needed to search, comprehend, and use information or to perform computational tasks. This yawning gap between America’s economic needs and the skills of its work force indicates that as a nation we are not doing nearly enough to equip and continuously improve the capabilities of American workers.” Librarians are information specialists and are uniquely trained to use technology to find, sort, and present information. Last Friday at Rhodes my 4th graders were ready to present their project on fifty states. Every 4th grader had used a drawing program to design maps of two states. When the first parent came into the library to see the project, she said to me as I

was busy setting up the projector, I came to see this because I know this is the kind of thing my son needs to be doing for the future. This project was a year-long project and work on it extended far beyond the weekly half-hour library or even the additional half-hour library research. While I demonstrate many technology projects during the regular library period, because I have a cluster of only four operational computers in the library, work often needs to be completed at a later time in the library or in the classroom. I have several favorite projects. I start out the year by asking the children to share their favorite book that they have read over the summer, and they enter it into a database that we set up in the library. I have used spread sheets so that the students can make graphic organizers to sort information on Native American tribes or to list important facts for their biographies. With small groups, we have used Tom Snyder's graphing program to graph the results of experiments or even to measure the class-by-class results of the Thanksgiving Food Drive. My children have participated in five or six on-line projects where their work was posted on the internet. They enjoyed collaborating with other children from across the United States and Canada. My thoughts wander to the start-up of school. We often have to manually enter information for every student because of ongoing changes such as ID numbers. Our database of students has to be prepared, and new books have to be handled. I will receive more than \$7,000 worth of books at my libraries in the fall. They all have to be checked in and shelved, and I will receive about \$1,000 worth of books from the

Scholastic Book Fair. These must be manually cataloged, entered into the database, covered, and shelved. I believe that my students are using technology in the ways in which Mr. Gates has in mind, however, I know we need to do much more if they are to succeed for the future. Without my library secretary, I will be meeting with my classes, but beyond that I will be spending my time managing the library database, checking books in and out, and shelving books. Library secretaries will make a big difference in the library program. I hope that you will see that you can in some way find the money needed to support them.

Ginger Bazin, 125 Belmont Road, Elementary Media Library Specialist in the City of Cranston – She stated that she was speaking tonight to urge the committee to reinstate the positions of the elementary library secretary. She read the following statement: These positions provide critical support for the elementary library program. I would like to share with you what would happen if these jobs are eliminated. First of all, librarians will still be required by contract to teach weekly classes to all elementary students in the district. This translates to a total of 9,000 plus classes on an annual basis. The librarians will simultaneously have to do all the technical and clerical work formerly done by the secretaries. Because of time constraints, the number of books that students will be allowed to borrow will be significantly reduced. In addition, librarians will have to modify or even eliminate professional activities in which they are currently engaged. Depending upon the needs in their respective schools, librarians

have assumed a variety of responsibilities. They collaborate with teachers to integrate technology into various curriculums. They trouble-shoot computers; facilitate accelerated reader program; teach PDI's; sit on school improvement teams and other committees; maintain school palm pilots; write grants; teach enrichment groups; produce multi-media presentations for school functions; and create web

Page 4 June 18, 2007

pages. We elementary librarians are committed to maintaining our current quality library services. To do so, we need the support of our six technically experienced library secretaries. These secretaries are part-time employees, each working only three hours per day. They receive no health or pension benefits. All six positions could be restored for an investment of approximately \$69,000, a small sum given the magnitude of the school department budget. This investment would benefit all elementary students in the district throughout the entire school year. Please consider my request.

Bill and Ann Stamp, 219 Comstock Parkway – Mr. Stamp stated that he and his wife wished to talk about Resolution No. 07-6-13, home schooling policy sub-committee that is being formed. He is in the community of Cranston, and he and his wife home school their children; they have eight children. They participate in many activities within the school system with the music program and athletics. A

few weeks ago, they received notice that the children might be excluded from those programs. They got involved to make it apparent that they were concerned about this because their children have been participating. They have been going back and forth with some of the administrators on home school policies in Cranston. It seems that there are some areas that are unclear and need to be ironed out. They pay taxes in the City of Cranston; they don't participate in many activities, but their children certainly enjoy it. The children are an asset to the teams they work with and the music groups they participate in. They would like the School Committee to pay attention to this, and they offered themselves to participate in any way they can to help form policy.

Mrs. Stamp stated that they have been home schooling in Cranston since 1999. They have had an extremely positive relationship with the administration and with the Cranston school system; it has been phenomenal, and she couldn't ask for it to be any better. She looks forward to continuing that relationship because it has been unparalleled.

Mr. Traficante stated to them that there is a resolution on the agenda this evening addressing this issue. Mrs. Stamp offered to be involved on the committee.

Charles Gauvin, 84 Waite Avenue – He stated that he wished to speak on the home schooling sub-committee policy. He indicated that the

committee may wish to consider having a home schooling parent on the sub-committee if it was possible. Unless one home schools, one cannot understand the ins and outs of it along with the difficulties of it, and supporting a family and home schooling at the same time. The Stamps said everything that he wanted to say.

Dawn Cousineau, Home Schooling Mother of Five – She stated that she concurred with the Stamps and Mr. Gauvin. She has been home schooling for sometime now, and to be able to continue the way things have gone in the past, it has been very smooth. She felt that everyone could work together.

Page 5 June 18, 2007

Matt Algozino, 137 Woodview Drive – He wished to speak on Resolution No. 07-6-14 regarding closing the Automotive Technology Center. He stated that he has a real problem with this. He has a son who graduated from this program. The program is a worthwhile program. What the Providence Journal did was a great disservice to this School Committee and to the program. The paper said that the educator had received little or no administrative support, and the students had to work with little or no equipment. He would like to know if two lifts at the cost of \$7,400 consists of support from this committee, and how about \$9,722 worth of tools received from

Snap-on back in March 2005 and another \$4,000 worth of tools from Snap-on in May 2006. He felt that there was a problem not with the program but with what is going on at the program. He had a son who was not well equipped to go on and do anything from the Automotive Program. He went to an automotive technology school in Pennsylvania. He went there with two other students who graduated from this program. All three of them were at a major disadvantage. All three of them graduated. His son graduated National Honor Society with a 396 average; he put his heart and soul into it. He got no support from the educator. There was nothing going on in the program. He asked if anyone had ever had an oil change done there or a break job done. No cars have ever been allowed in there. It is time to look at not the program but what is going on at the program.

VIII. Consent Calendar / Consent Agenda

Chairman Traficante stated that the Consent Agenda consisted of Resolution No.'s 07-6-19, 07-6-20 with addendum, 07-6-21, 07-6-23, 07-6-24, 07-6-25, 07-6-26, 07-6-30, 07-6-31 with addendum, 07-6-32, and 07-6-33.

NO. 07-6-19 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

Sara Bogdon Elementary

Laurel Houle Secondary/Middle School Studies

Crystal Paolucci Art

Nina Vizzaccaro Secondary/Middle Mathematics

Lori Brum Special Education Elementary/Middle; Art, K-12

Karen Casperson Special Education Middle/Secondary

Page 6 June 18, 2007

Matthew Smith Art

Kimberly Viola Elementary

NO. 07-6-20 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement of the following certified personnel be accepted:

Paul Cardoza, Director

Administration

Effective Date: June 30, 2007

Annette Schultz, Teacher

Bain Middle School

Effective Date: June 30, 2007

Jeanne Riley, Teacher

Park View Middle School

Effective Date: June 30, 2007

Rosemary Huestis, Teacher

Stone Hill School

Effective Date: June 30, 2007

NO. 07-6-21 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignations of the following certified personnel be accepted:

Janet Tenczar, Teacher

Cranston High School East

Effective Date: June 21, 2007

Stefania Kohler, Teacher

Park View Middle School

Effective Date: June 21, 2007

NO. 07-6-23 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the

Superintendent, the resignation of the following coach be accepted:

Brian Flinn, Head Boys' Soccer

Bain Middle School

Effective Date: May 30, 2007

Page 7 June 18, 2007

NO. 07-6-24 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified employees be appointed:

Gerry Berenson, Three-Hour Food Service Worker

Food Service

Effective Date of Employment: May 21, 2007

Authorization: Replacement

Fiscal Note: 32347179 511000

Paola Mazzenga, Three-Hour Food Service Worker

Food Service

Effective Date of Employment: May 30, 2007

Authorization: Replacement

Fiscal Note: 33047179 511000

Gail P. Jones, Three-Hour Food Service Worker

Food Service

Effective Date of Employment: May 29, 2007

Authorization: Replacement

Fiscal Note: 32947179 511000

Julie Altieri, Three-Hour Food Service Worker

Food Service

Effective Date of Employment: June 4, 2007

Authorization: Replacement

Fiscal Note: 33047179 511000

NO. 07-6-25 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

TEACHER ASSISTANT

Sheri Newsham

Nora Hixon

BUS DRIVER

Ermano Ruggiero

NO. 07-6-26 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignations of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:

Marina Murray, Bus Monitor

Transportation

Effective Date: May 29, 2007

Page 8 June 18, 2007

John Ryan, JROTC Instructor

Cranston High School East

Effective Date: June 30, 2007

Gina Stanley, Three-Hour Food Service Worker

Food Service

Effective Date: June 20, 2007

NO. 07-6-30 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved:

Physical Therapy awarded to Lepre Physical Therapy for two additional years from the bid awarded April 27, 2006 and approved in Resolution No. 06-6-27 at the following rates:

RPT \$63.00 (07-08)

\$66.00 (08/09)

PTA \$42.00 (07/08)

\$44.00 (08/09)

Number of bids issued 5

Number of bids received 2

Gasoline/Diesel Fuel for daily use by school buses and trucks for the period from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2010 be awarded as follows: (Diesel)

Vendor Increment to be Added to Posted Price

Petro Oil \$.3253 per gallon (07/08)

\$.3753 per gallon (08/09)

\$.4253 per gallon (09/10)

No bids were received for Gasoline consumption.

Further RESOLVED that the Cranston Public Schools utilize the methods established by the City of Cranston Purchasing Department for usage of Gasoline through a designated Mobil station at approximately 5 cents reduced from the pump price.

Number of bids issued 4

Number of bids received 1

Page 9 June 18, 2007

Library Supplies in the amount of \$2,610.73. No purchases will be

made until funds become available.

Number of bids issued 7

Number of bids received 4

Math Manipulatives in the amount of \$3,2258.70. No purchases will be made until funds become available.

Number of bids issued 29

Number of bids received 12

Music Supplies in the amount of \$9,377.59. No purchases will be made until funds become available.

Number of bids issued 26

Number of bids received 10

Science Supplies in the amount of \$26,753.76. No purchases will be made until funds become available.

Number of bids issued 31

Number of bids received 17

Art Supplies in the amount of \$45,407.56. No purchases will be made until funds become available.

Number of bids issued 36

Number of bids received 20

Technology Education Supplies in the amount of \$20,912.37. No purchases will be made until funds become available.

Number of bids issued 63

Number of bids received 36

Photography Supplies in the amount of \$2,858.22. No purchases will be made until funds become available.

Number of bids issued 11

Number of bids received 4

Page 10 June 18, 2007

Backflow Preventer at Bain Middle School in the amount of \$16,278.

Number of bids issued 7

Number of bids received 1

Photocopiers price list to be used for the school year 2007-2008.

30 cpm \$2,291.00 Advanced Business Machines

35 cpm \$3,245.00 Advanced Business Machines

40 cpm \$3,635.00 Advanced Business Machines

45 cpm \$3,645.00 OCE

50 cpm \$5,069.87 Blackstone Valley

Digital Duplicator \$2,048.00 Automated Business Solutions

Number of bids issued 17

Number of bids received 8

NO. 07-6-31 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved:

(Fund 3)

Cafeteria Supplies in the amount of \$378,007.31 to be used during the period of

July 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007.

Number of bids issued 11

Number of bids received 4

Pizza and Pizza Strips in the amount of \$250,280 be awarded for the 2007-2008 school year to Ronzio Pizza.

Number of bids issued 4

Number of bids received 1

NO. 07-6-32 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the

Superintendent, the following Conferences and Field Trip of Long Duration be authorized:

Richard Lepore, music teacher at Cranston High School East, and approximately twenty-eight students to travel to Nashville, Tennessee to attend the Nashville Music Festival Competition from April 16, 2008 to April 19, 2008.

M. Richard Scherza, Superintendent of Schools and Peter Nero, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, to travel to Washington, DC to attend the Eastern Seaboard Apprenticeship Conference 2007 (ESAC-2007) from June 25, 2007 to June 28, 2007.

Page 11 June 18, 2007

Richard M. Cournoyer, MAJ, USA (Ret.), Senior Army Instructor for the JROTC Program at Cranston High School East, and twenty-one students to travel to the Rhode Island National Guard Camps Varnum and Fogarty from June 26, 2007 to June 29, 2007 to attend and participate in the annual Army JROTC Summer Camp.

NO. 07-6-33 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2007-2008 School Calendar that was adopted on March 19, 2007 be amended to change the last day of instruction for seniors from June 11, 2008 to May 29, 2008 and to change the

graduation date for Cranston High School West from Monday, June 16, 2008 to Saturday, June 7, 2008 and the graduation date for Cranston High School East be changed from Tuesday, June 17, 2008 to Saturday, June 7, 2008. Both high schools will graduate on the same day.

Moved by Mr. Lombardi, seconded by Mrs. Greifer and unanimously carried that these Resolutions be adopted.

SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE

NO. 07-6-11 – Whereas, Victor Lei did an outstanding job as a member of the Bain Middle School Outdoor Track Team during the 2007 spring sports' season, and

Whereas, running as an eight grader at Bain Middle School, Victor finished first at the Middle School State Track Meet in the hurdles' event with a time of 13:04, and

Whereas, through Victor's hard work, endless preparation, and dedication throughout the entire outdoor track season, he also qualified for the State Meet in the 800-meter run in addition to running a leg on Bain's very competitive 4 x 400 relay team, and

Whereas, because of his outstanding personal accomplishments throughout the outdoor track season, Victor has been recognized as a First Team All State selection in the middle school hurdles' event,

Be it RESOLVED that Victor Lei be congratulated for his hard work and dedication to the sport of Outdoor Track by the Cranston School Committee, and

Be it further RESOLVED that he be presented with a copy of this Resolution signed by the members of this committee.

Moved by Ms. Iannazzi and seconded by Mr. Archetto that this Resolution be adopted.

Mrs. Greifer read the Resolution and presented it to Victor. A photograph was taken.

This Resolution was adopted unanimously.

Page 12 June 18, 2007

SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE

NO. 07-6-12 - Whereas, Brian Fennessy is an 11th grade student at Cranston High School East, and

Whereas, Brian Fennessy is the recipient of one of two full-tuition scholarships to the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania which includes one-half of the

transportation costs, and

Whereas, Brian submitted a paper from his Advanced Placement United States History class which was a historiographical interpretation of reconstruction, and

Whereas, the Civil War Institute has been in existence at Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania for over three decades, and Brian will have an opportunity to study for one week with world renowned historians of the Civil War,

Be it RESOLVED that Brian be congratulated by the Cranston School Committee for bringing honor to himself and to Cranston High School East, and

Be it further RESOLVED that Brian receive a copy of this Resolution signed by the members of the Cranston School Committee.

Moved by Mr. Archetto, seconded by Mr. Lombardi and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.

Brian was not present at this meeting. Mr. Scherza pointed out that Brian was one of two scholarship recipients throughout the entire United States.

Mr. Traficante turned the Chair over to Ms. Iannazzi.

IX. Action Calendar / Action Agenda

SPONSORED BY MR. TRAFICANTE

NO. 07-6-13 - RESOLVED, that a Home Schooling Policy Study Sub-Committee be formed to revisit the Home Schooling Student Policy, and

Be it further RESOLVED that this sub-committee consist of the Superintendent or his representative and two members of the Cranston School Committee.

Moved by Mrs. Greifer and seconded by Mr. Archetto that this Resolution be adopted.

Mr. Traficante stated that he has had a number of discussions with the Stamp family and other families that have home schooled children during his previous term of office. It came to light this year because the Stamp family brought it back to his attention because of their

Page 13 June 18, 2007

children participating in the athletic program in Cranston Public Schools. The committee's present policy mirrors that of State Law 16-19-1 and 16-19-2. There are very little provisions in the present policy which addresses such things as athletics, social events,

academic and activity events. Therefore, this resolution is basically forming a committee consisting of two School Committee members and a member of the administration selected by the Superintendent. He has already notified Mrs. Tocco-Greenaway and Mr. Lombardi, two attorneys, to work on revisiting this policy and updating it.

Mr. Traficante moved to amend this resolution to add a member of a family of home schooled children.

Mr. Lombardi seconded the motion.

This amendment was adopted unanimously.

This Resolution as amended was adopted unanimously.

This Resolution now reads:

SPONSORED BY MR. TRAFICANTE

NO. 07-6-13 - RESOLVED, that a Home Schooling Policy Study Sub-Committee be formed to revisit the Home Schooling Student Policy, and

Be it further RESOLVED that this sub-committee consist of the Superintendent or his representative, two members of the Cranston School Committee, and a member of a family of home schooled children.

SPONSORED BY MRS. TOCCO-GREENAWAY, MS. IANNAZZI, AND MR. STYCOS

NO. 07-6-14 – RESOLVED, that the Cranston School Committee directs the Superintendent to prepare a plan to reinvigorate the Automotive Program at the Cranston Area Career & Technical Center at Cranston High School West. The plan shall specifically address ways to increase enrollment and achieve certification. The plan should also consider ways to improve the Automotive Program at Cranston High School East. The plan shall be presented to the School Committee for consideration at its July meeting.

Moved by Mr. Stycos and seconded by Ms. Iannazzi that this Resolution be adopted.

Mrs. Tocco-Greenaway stated that she brought forward this Resolution tonight with Ms. Iannazzi and Mr. Stycos because she deeply believed that the district has a program worth saving at Cranston High School West through the Cranston Area Career & Technical Center. She felt that the Automotive Program takes into consideration a good path to great jobs and an excellent technical education for some of the students who did not choose a traditional path. This has been done very well historically through the Cranston Area Career

& Technical Center. It is time that the committee re-commits themselves to see how the program can be strengthened. It is worth saving, and the numbers are there. The jobs are there. She has received a number of communications about this issue. In Sunday's Providence Journal it stated that there are jobs for automotive techs. There is a future in it, and there is availability for a great pay and a good future. It is a technical area that is growing. The demand is there. It is a very good fit for some of the students who would be looked at as traditionally comp type kids who have great talent and great brains, and they don't want the straight college prep courses. She urged the committee to look very seriously at this Resolution. She believed that supporting this Resolution is a support for excellence in education and a good fit considering what is coming down from the Department of Education at the state level on how to meet the needs of the students. She believed it can be done and it should be done. She urged the committee members to look favorably upon this initiative.

Mr. Archetto commended his colleagues for submitting this Resolution. He found it odd that it seemed like the School Committee is working at odds with the administration. He referred to a memo dated June 15, 2007 where the Commission that oversees the Automotive Program cut \$14,148 in Perkins Grants from this program. He hoped that they could work together to try to save this program

because it is essential to the City of Cranston to create a premier program in the automotive technical field.

Mr. Lombardi stated that the Resolution as written is not whether to save the Automotive Program or not save the Automotive Program but for the administration, particularly the Superintendent, to come forward with a plan to reinvigorate the program. It also states specifically to address ways to increase enrollment and achieve certification. It should consider ways to improve the Automotive Program and a plan to come forward to the committee in July. As written, he has no particular objection to this Resolution in so far it is to bring forth a plan and information. He takes issue with his colleague, Mr. Archetto. It is not the School Committee at odds with the administration. This letter that he referred to is a memo dated June 15, 2007 which specifically memorializes that which the Area Coordinating Committee voted at its meeting on June 14, 2007. Present at that meeting were all sending districts which included, among other individuals, Superintendent Scherza, and Mrs. Greifer substituting for Mr. Archetto. Also, Dr. Stringfellow who is the Superintendent of Schools from Scituate and Catherine Crowley, Assistant Superintendent from Johnston, attended. He pointed out that it was Dr. Stringfellow who voted to disband the program, and that vote passed four to one. There was also a second motion by Mrs. Crowley to remove the \$14,000 in Perkins Grants for the Automotive Program, and that passed four to one. He quoted from this letter as follows: "Dr. Stringfellow and Mrs. Crowley both waned

it noted that they were voting for the closure of the Automotive Program “again” and that they would not be encouraging any students to attend the program if it should remain open.” Mr. Lombardi went on to say that with all due respect to Mr. Archetto he didn’t think it was at odds with this School Committee and the administration. The committee got into a procedural loophole last time about who has

Page 15 June 18, 2007

jurisdiction over this particular program and who doesn’t have jurisdiction. One of the issues was representation of this School Committee on that Area Coordinating Committee. This School Committee did, in fact, have representation there, and the vote fell four to one. He didn’t want this to be considered at odds with anyone. It is written to come forward with a plan to which he has no objection for any plan that can improve any program in the City of Cranston.

Mr. Archetto stated that he wished to refresh Mr. Lombardi’s memory.

He believed at the last School Committee meeting there was a Resolution on the agenda to terminate the Automotive Program recommended by administration. The School Committee is trying to work to reinvigorate that program to make it survive whereas the administration is trying to deep six it.

Mr. Lombardi stated that no one was playing games. He told Mr.

Archetto that what he just said was that this memo was somehow evidence of School Committee at odds with the Automotive Program. This letter is not the School Committee at odds with the Automotive Program. This letter is a vote by the so-called Area Coordinating Committee meeting of June 14, 2007 that voted four to one to eliminate the program. It has nothing to do with at odds with this School Committee, and he didn't want the public to be deluded by that.

Mr. Stycos noted that there was a motion at that meeting to disband the Automotive Program, and as Mr. Lombardi said, the vote was four to one. All but Mrs. Greifer voted to disband the program. Mr. Scherza was at the meeting, and he was one of the four votes to disband the program while Mrs. Greifer voted to keep the program. That seems to be at odds. Mrs. Greifer responded that Mr. Archetto was unable to attend that meeting as it was exam week for him. He was supposed to attend that committee meeting, and he asked her to stand in for him. She went to the meeting and listened. She voted against disbanding the program because she felt she was taking Mr. Archetto's place on that committee, and that she should vote as she knew he would want to vote himself if he had been there. There is no support in the feeder communities for this program as stated in this letter. They are strongly discouraging any students from coming to the program. They have had students from their communities go to the program and have gone on to further training. They have been as much as one year behind other students in the program. She agreed

with Mr. Lombardi that in as much as the Resolution calls for a study of the issue she has no problem with it. She can't see where they should in their difficult financial situation be thinking about pumping money into a program that has extremely low numbers when there is a program at Cranston East with 160 students strong and could easily absorb the handful of students that will be there. With no students coming from the feeder communities and very few Cranston West students who are usually eager to take the program, the committee should be trying to increase the support for the Cranston East program and have those few kids from Cranston West go there. As far as opposing the Resolution, she doesn't want the committee to waste time and money on a program that is no longer the program it once was in years past.

Page 16 June 18, 2007

Mr. Traficante stated that since the Area Coordinating Committee voted to disband the program, they also voted to remove \$14,148 of Perkins money in support of their program. He asked that if the program were to continue where would the money come from to support the program. He assumed that the \$14,000 does not cover the salary of the instructor. Mr. Balducci responded that this money does not cover the salary. Without looking at the application, he would assume that the \$14,000 was for supplies and materials. If it is still in existence next school year, there is a couple of ways of

handling it. Through the revision process of the grant, some monies could be shifted back into the program to support the program, or the district would have to find the money within its operating budget to maintain the supplies and materials that were originally identified as part of the grant.

Mrs. Greifer stated that since this vote was taken by the Area Coordinating Committee there probably will be a ruling from the Department of Education that this program at the Career and Technical Center is gone from that program. If Cranston wants to have an automotive mechanics program at Cranston West it will not be a part of the Career and Technical Center. She believed that there would have to be a legal opinion on this from the Department of Education.

Mr. Votto pointed out that the committee had on its agenda a resolution to recall certified teachers from layoff. If the committee approves that list as it stands, they will be recalling the automotive teacher from layoff, and the committee will have a teacher. If the program doesn't exist, it will create some logistical problems for the district.

Mrs. Tocco-Greenaway pointed out that this Resolution is asking for administration to come forward with a plan. As far as any other process or issues that are out there, clearly there may be some process that will have to be worked out. However, as she

remembered at the last meeting, there was public discussion about the rules and regulations under state law. This is the policy making body, and as yet, the committee has not taken a vote to eliminate this program; it is in their budget. Therefore, this plan is a plan to come forward to strengthen and improve. As far as supplies and other items that might have been covered by this Perkins money, there has been a very strong showing from the automotive community, and there has been a number of people who have come forward and said there is support and people who are willing to help. It is a positive thing and a wise thing to go forward with this plan. The process is something the committee will have to take one step at a time. At this point, this program is in the budget, and it has been a program that has a great deal of potential. There have been some stellar students come out of this program which she witnessed on Honors Night and the public address at graduation night. It is very important to remember what the facts are, and the facts support supporting this resolution.

This Resolution was adopted with Mr. Archetto, Ms. Iannazzi, Mr. Stycos, and Mrs. Tocco-Greenaway in favor; Mrs. Greifer, Mr. Lombardi, and Mr. Traficante were opposed.

Page 17 June 18, 2007

PERSONNEL

NO. 07-6-15– RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of Technology Education Instructional Supervisor be approved.

Moved by Mrs. Greifer and seconded by Ms. Iannazzi that this Resolution be adopted.

Mr. Scherza recommended the appointment of Mr. Michael Boyajian to the position of Technology Education Instructional Supervisor for the Cranston Public Schools. Mr. Boyajian has been a teacher for fourteen years. He has degrees from Rhode Island College and Providence College in Industrial Technology, Technology Education as well as a Masters in Education. Presently he serves as an industrial technology arts teacher at Cranston High School East. He is also certified in special education. It gave Mr. Scherza great pleasure to present Mr. Boyajian.

This Resolution was adopted unanimously.

NO. 07-6-16 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of Assistant Principal, Cranston High School West, be approved.

Moved by Ms. Iannazzi and seconded by Mrs. Greifer that this Resolution be adopted.

Mr. Scherza recommended the appointment of Ms. Erika Allen to the position of Assistant Principal at Cranston High School West. Ms. Allen is a native Rhode Islander who has been out of state for a while.

She graduated from the University of Rhode Island with a degree in Communications and Psychology, a second Bachelor in Secondary Education in English, and a Masters in Education in Administration from Providence College. She has variable experience and most recently in this state has been at Pilgrim High School. It have Mr. Scherza great pleasure to present Ms. Allen.

This Resolution was adopted unanimously.

NO. 07-6-17 - RESOLVED, that the Cranston School Committee approve salary increases for the non-certified management and confidential employees for the period of July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007.

The twenty-five employees will also be responsible for a ten (10%) percent cost sharing for their health and dental insurance. The financial impact for FY 07 budget is \$-49,998.64.

Moved by Mrs. Greifer, seconded by Mr. Lombardi and carried with Mr. Stycos and Mrs. Tocco-Greenaway opposed to adopt this Resolution.

NO. 07-6-18 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, said certified personnel be recalled from termination, and

Be it further RESOLVED, that the Superintendent notify those teachers of the Committee's actions.

Moved by Ms. Iannazzi and seconded by Mr. Lombardi that this Resolution be adopted.

Ms. Iannazzi moved to pull the automotive instructor from this list.

Mrs. Greifer seconded the motion.

Ms. Iannazzi stated that her logic in doing so was due to the fact that a directive was just given to the Superintendent. It is fair to wait one month to see what the Superintendent comes back with before the committee eliminates its options.

This Amendment was adopted with Mr. Stycos, Mr. Archetto, and Mrs. Tocco-Greenaway opposed.

This Resolution as amended was adopted with Mrs. Tocco-Greenaway opposed.

NO. 07-6-22 - RESOLVED, that the following certified staff member be

granted a Sabbatical Leave of Absence with compensation as provided in Article XIX, Section C of the Master Agreement between the Cranston School Committee and the Cranston Teachers' Alliance:

Linda Bello

Math Coach

Effective Dates: August 2007 to September 2008

There was no motion or second to adopt this Resolution. This Resolution dies.

NO. 07-6-27 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, named non-certified staff members be laid off from their respective positions due to budgetary reasons.

Moved by Mr. Lombardi, seconded by Mrs. Greifer and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.

GRANTS

NO. 07-6-28 - RESOLVED, that the Cranston Public Schools submit the following grants:

Rhode Island State Legislature

LCD Projector – George J. Peters School \$ 1,000

ELMO Projector – Woodridge School \$ 1,500

Supplies and Materials to Improve Communications \$ 1,000

with the Arlington School Family Community

Champlin Foundation

SST 1200 Three-Dimensional Printer -Cranston Area \$48,300

Career & Technical Center

Moved by Mrs. Greifer and seconded by Mr. Lombardi that this Resolution be adopted.

Ms. Iannazzi commented that Senator Lanzi contacted her when she initially received grant money for Cranston Public Schools. It was her intention originally to give Cranston Public Schools \$6,000 in \$1,000 denominations to the six elementary schools that she represents. Those schools are Peters, Stone Hill, Orchard Farms, Hope Highlands, Arlington, and Gladstone. She didn't think that Senator Lanzi followed through in verbalizing her intent to the school department for that money to be used for security. However, she did verbalize that intent to Ms. Iannazzi.

Ms. Iannazzi moved to withdraw the approval of the LCD projector at Peters and the supplies at Arlington until she can confirm with Senator Lanzi whether or not she would be amenable to that expenditure.

Mr. Lombardi seconded the motion.

This Amendment was adopted unanimously.

This Resolution as amended was adopted unanimously.

NO. 07-6-29 - RESOLVED, that Budget Revision 3 for the 2006-2007 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent, be approved as submitted.

Moved by Mrs. Greifer and seconded by Mr. Lombardi that this Resolution be adopted.

Mr. Stycos stated that this Budget Revision 3 includes \$195,000 of new revenue that the School Committee had no say in how it was spent. The money comes in at the end of the year, and the committee never has a discussion as to how the money is spent because it is always taken up in these massive revisions that the committee can't unscramble. He will be offering an amendment tomorrow to the budget that the committee does a budget revision once a year like the city does and the state does in an attempt to get a handle on this. While he doesn't think there is anything bad that this money is being spent on, this body should be deciding how the money is being spent. Unless one goes through this document with a fine tooth comb, the committee doesn't know what this represents in policy changes. He urged the committee members to consider this

tomorrow night. The committee can do this if groups with larger budgets like the state and city do it.

This Resolution was adopted unanimously.

Page 20 June 18, 2007

NO. 07-6-34- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the current Exploratory World Language Program be replaced by having all sixth grade students take the course, Making Connections – The Influence of Other Cultures on the English Language,” followed by the formal study of a world language in seventh and eight grade.

Be it further RESOLVED that during the 07-08 school year seventh and eighth grade will meet twice weekly to begin the formal study of a world language of their choice, and during the 08-09 school year, students will study a world language four times weekly resulting in the completion of Level 1 by eighth grade and the ability to begin Level 2 in grade nine giving students the option to study five years of a world language.

Moved by Ms. Iannazzi and seconded by Mrs. Greifer that this Resolution be adopted.

Mr. Stycos asked administration to walk the committee through what is being planned for the world language program. He understood what will happen with a 6th grader. They will take this new program this year and then next year they pick a language and take it in 6th and 8th grades. He could understand what happens with current 8th graders which is basically nothing because they will be going to high school. He asked about someone who is in 6th grade this year and next year will go into 7th grade and what will happen to them in 8th grade. Mr. Scherza responded that they will be taking a language in 7th grade for this upcoming year. Starting in the 7th grade, students will begin taking a language. They will select the language, and then they will take a language for a whole year whether it is the same language or whether they change their choice for the 8th grade from the 7th grade. Then hopefully they will have the equivalent of what would be the first year of a high school language and be able to go on to a second or third year of a high school language. The idea is that students could take their language studies to a higher level to a fourth or possibly fifth year or to acquire a third language. Mr. Stycos stated that a current 6th grader would take a language next year two days a week under this plan, and then the following year four days a week. Mr. Laliberte stated that this was correct. Mr. Scherza added that following in the 08-09 year the student would begin a full year and not two days a week but four times a week.

Mr. Laliberte explained that the 7th graders next year will begin the formal study of a language and then they will get four days a week of

languages in 8th grade; and they will be able to begin the second year of a language when they are in 9th grade. Mr. Stycos asked if there would be any surveying done next year, and Mr. Scherza responded that with regard to the former Explorer Program he felt strongly along with others that the students didn't learn much of anything with that program. According to Mr. Morrell, even the foreign language teachers themselves felt that it would be more advantageous to take it as a full core subject as opposed to taking something two days a week, having very little practice, and only doing it for one-half year and then changing to something else.

Page 21 June 18, 2007

Mr. Stycos complimented Superintendent Scherza for coming forth with this change. He would like to have had it happen a little more quickly, but the point is that the Superintendent deserves the credit for making this change. It is a major improvement in the language program. This is basically going back to what they use to have before 1994. For the last thirteen years, it has been a terrible program, and he is glad that the new Superintendent was able to recognize that.

Mr. Stycos moved to amend this Resolution as follows: to add in the first paragraph after the word "Superintendent" add "during the 07-08

school year". He further commented that this "Making Connections" Program would be in effect in the coming school year but whether it would be in effect for 6th grade in the future would be an open question. Since the committee and administration are discussing redesigning the middle schools, they are better off making this clear with regard to the "Making Connections" Program that it lasts for one year, and the committee can decide what they want to do from there.

Superintendent Scherza indicated to the committee that he would endorse that suggestion to put the district on the right track.

Ms. Iannazzi seconded the motion.

Mrs. Greifer asked how many days a week the 6th grade program will be. Mr. Laliberte responded that the 6th grade program will meet twice weekly for the entire year.

This Amendment was adopted unanimously.

Mrs. Tocco-Greenaway commended the Superintendent as to this change in making the language program a truly viable and strong one. It is excellent news for the students and also for the future of foreign language study in Cranston. She stated that she had asked Mr. Morrell at the last meeting about the future of French because there had been some people who came forward to her in Ward 4 and

asked her if there had been any discussion about the future of French because at least one child was told that French probably wouldn't be at Western Hills next year. She was concerned about that, and Mr. Morrell had expressed concern and said that he would get back to her. Mr. Scherza responded that since the School Committee is going to a study committee on middle school, he thought that rather than change everything unilaterally it will be available to students, and then they will study it. They have found that there has been very little demand for French on the eastern side of the city at Cranston High School East, but conversely there has been considerable demand continuously at Cranston High School West. For the next year, it will remain at all of the schools going forward. He thanked Mr. Stycos and Mrs. Tocco-Greenaway for acknowledging him, but he knows that Mr. Morrell, Mr. Laliberte, and Mrs. Lundsten worked very hard as well as the world language teachers on this. All of the accolades should be shared.

Page 22 June 18, 2007

Mr. Nero stated that at the last School Committee meeting it was decided that French would be at Western Hills only for next year.

This Resolution as amended was adopted unanimously.

This Resolution now reads:

NO. 07-6-34- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, during the 07-08 school year, the current Exploratory World Language Program be replaced by having all sixth grade students take the course, Making Connections – The Influence of Other Cultures on the English Language,” followed by the formal study of a world language in seventh and eight grade.

Be it further RESOLVED that during the 07-08 school year seventh and eighth grade will meet twice weekly to begin the formal study of a world language of their choice, and during the 08-09 school year, students will study a world language four times weekly resulting in the completion of Level 1 by eighth grade and the ability to begin Level 2 in grade nine giving students the option to study five years of a world language.

NO. 07-6-35 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, Policy No. 5113, Student Attendance, with accompanying regulations, as amended, be approved for first reading and that Policy No. 5113.1, Student Dismissal, and accompanying regulations be repealed.

Moved by Mr. Lombardi and seconded by Ms. Iannazzi that this Resolution be adopted.

Ms. Iannazzi stated that she had given the proposal to a Truancy

Court official, and asked if the changes that official had suggested were incorporated in the new policy. Mr. Nero responded that the committee was given the recommendations by the Magistrate, and they acted in accordance on them. A lot of it was language for the most part, and they accepted a lot of it.

Mr. Archetto commended the Superintendent for this policy. The district needs something like to this so that the students will attend their classes. He referred to the first paragraph second sentence which states, "Students with excessive (more than five (5) unexcused class absences) will have their term grade reduced by 10 points of their quarterly grade." He asked if this was prevalent and if other communities would reduce the final grade by 10 points or if it was something new. Mr. Nero responded that it is in a couple of communities. The Magistrate suggested less, but the committee decided to go with more. Mr. Archetto asked that in those other communities where this is in place did it create more students from not being promoted into the next level and did it have a tendency to hold students back who are capable to do the work. Mr. Nero responded that when the work shop was held to discuss this policy he had commented to the School Committee that they had political

Page 23 June 18, 2007

consequences to this document. As Mr. Knowlton said that evening, the School Committee would take a hit on these things as they are

brought out. He could not comment on Mr. Archetto's question because he is not in any of those districts. He believed it to be fair and equitable, but only time will tell when they see how the community reacts to it.

Mr. Scherza indicated that he didn't have any study in front of him, but he has heard from people in a few other districts who have it. The policy is designed to get students to think twice about using unexcused absences. They are not talking about excused absences or legitimate absences where a student breaks his leg or someone has their appendix out or

home with the flu. It is the unexcused absences. Right now at the high schools there is almost no penalty, so students miss unlimited time. This is an incentive for most students to get there. In the High School Reform which are regulations that have been promulgated by the Board of Regents one of the things administration sees every year in Info Works is average daily attendance. The other place where the districts get backlash is when it becomes a conflict such as when a football team or a peewee hockey team is going to a tournament. Parents want to take their children out of school for a week to play hockey or to go on a week's vacation before the school recess because they can get cheaper rates. There is a reason why there is state statute that has penalties for parents who keep their children out of school. This policy is designed to hopefully get those students to be in school because they know there will be sanctions.

Ms. Iannazzi commented that in speaking with the Magistrate she had a suggestion. She believed it was not to reduce the amount of points; it was to change the word “will” have their term grade reduced” to “may” have their term grade reduced” which would allow the administrator or the teacher some discretion in reducing their grade. Mr. Kelly, Principal of Cranston High School East, stated that he and Mr. Knowlton sat down the week after the Magistrate had given them his suggestions. It was their feeling the word “may” would leave the door to too many types of “I am going away for this or that” whereas the word “will” basically lets the administrators and the parents know that if the students are pulled out of school and are going to be out more than five days it is very clear cut for everyone that if they take that time out of school they will have their grade reduced.

Mr. Nero remarked that his discussions both that night of the work session as well as the follow-up after with both principals Knowlton and Kelly was that the principals use a great deal of discretion especially at the beginning. There would be situations where the parent is going to appeal to the principal.

Mrs. Tocco-Greenaway referred to 5113(a) regarding excused absences determined by the regulations of the Truancy Court. She noted one item, “Illness confirmed by a doctor’s note within 2 days of return to school”. She asked for clarification on this item. Mrs. Tocco-Greenaway cited the example of a child who has a chronic illness such as asthma. Sometimes asthma flares up, and there is a

protocol to get it under control. A parent may consult with the doctor, but if a student ran to the doctor every time a chronic illness flared

Page 24 June 18, 2007

up, they would be at the doctor a lot. She asked if there was any discretion for illness where the doctor doesn't get visited. A child can be pretty sick, but if the parent talks to the doctor and knows what to do, they don't have to go to the doctor but are sick enough that they have to be home. Mr. Nero said that those students with a chronic illness would be covered under a 504 and in some cases an IEP. Mrs. Tocco-Greenaway commented that her daughter has asthma so she is not covered. Mr. Nero responded that there are a number of children with chronic illnesses, but even at the Magistrate level for students who are real truant who have difficulty in school, she would demand a doctor's note from the child or they come in to see the nurse which is also a viable option. If a child is in a situation where he or

she is out and returns to school, the nurse has the record. There is documented evidence of asthma. The nurse works very well with them, and these children never get to that level. Mrs. Tocco-Greenaway asked that if a child is out for a flare-up of asthma for a day and then comes back and doesn't have a doctor's note, would they be wacked with an unexcused absence. Those can pile up if a student has some bad days in a semester. She asked if those

are considered unexcused even though a child is legitimately sick. Mr. Nero indicated that the nurse is generally in the loop on these things. As a former principal, he had a number of students who would exceed the number of days; that is why the parents work with the guidance counselor, nurse, and the principal to make sure they document the cases.

Mr. Scherza commented that the school staff gets to know who the chronic abusers are and who the legitimate students are. This is not intended to penalize someone who has legitimate maladies, but for those chronic abusers who use those things as a crutch. This has to be applied with an amount of common sense. Mrs. Tocco-Greenaway responded that not all families have the luxury of health insurance. She applauded this policy that the district has a firm policy; it has been a long time coming. It needs to be clear what the consequences are for abusers of absences. She is concerned about the idea that not everyone has health insurance. If it is question for some families as to whether or not they go to the doctors yet or pay the bills they need to pay, she wants to make sure that the guidelines are clear. Mr. Nero stated that the dialogue begins with the nurse. The nurse has a record of all those students who have chronic problems, whether it is asthma or a variety of issues. A good student who legitimately has an illness will be dealt with accordingly.

Ms. Iannazzi moved to amend 5113(a); the word “will” appears twice in the first paragraph and once in the last sentence of the page. She

moved to change the word “will” to “may”.

Mr. Archetto seconded the motion.

Mrs. Greifer stated that she was against this change. She believed that it would lead to charges of favoritism to the administrators who have to implement this policy. To have the kids count on this happening rather than thinking they can talk themselves out of it, she was opposed to changing this from “will” to “may”.

Page 25 June 18, 2007

Ms. Iannazzi stated that this would give some leeway. The last time the committee discussed this, they also came up with a few exceptions that may not be included in this policy. For example, there may be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to travel to Europe. The committee has faith in the administrators to use their judgment. She was willing to give them discretion. Mr. Lombardi commented that this discretion still lies with the administrators in that they will determine if it is an excused or an unexcused absence. In that case, the committee will only have to hear issues of their discretion of whether or not it is excused or unexcused. In Mrs. Tocco-Greenaway’s situation, the student with asthma who is suddenly deemed to be unexcused for those three days because of not having a doctor’s note as opposed to leaving the discretionary issue of “may”. This committee has had to hear issues

regarding whether or not it is viable for someone to go to represent their team at a junior college national tournament. If he can do that, why can't he go to Disney World to watch his child dance? The "will" versus "may" may take the committee down that very slippery slope.

Mrs. Tocco-Greenaway agreed with Mr. Lombardi. If the committee is going to have a firm policy knowing that there will still be a level of discretion with the administrators, the committee should stand behind it for what it is; otherwise, there will be people who will socially engineer the teachers and the administrators because that is the way human nature is. The expectation is that it will be enforced or not. To change it will invite uneven application because that is just the way it works when it comes to these things.

Mr. Archetto stated that his argument is the reduction of a student's grade by 10 points and asked if this was a fair punishment. He agreed with the policy and felt that the district needed a policy like this. He asked if the district was punishing those students in the right avenue. He asked if there was another method that could be used rather than a reduction of 10 points in their average.

Mr. Lombardi stated that the parentheses was misplaced. It should be "(more than five (5)) unexcused class absences... Mr. Traficante responded that this would be treated as a grammatical change.

This Amendment failed with Mr. Archetto, Ms. Iannazzi, and Mr.

Traficante in favor; Mrs. Greifer, Mr. Lombardi, Mr. Stycos, and Mrs. Tocco-Greenaway were opposed.

Mr. Stycos commented that at the high schools because of a required number of credits to graduate is somewhat of a low number, students roll into their senior year sometimes and all they have to pass is senior English. If senior English gets too tough for them, they drop out and go to the Alternative Education Program where they do some kind of a packet. He didn't believe that they had to comply with the digital portfolio and have to pass an exam. They then do the packet, pass English, and get their diploma. He asked if when the principals were discussing this if there was any discussion of this type of policy pushing more people into that option which doesn't sound like a very good way of getting a high

Page 26 June 18, 2007

school diploma. Mr. Nero responded that they did recognize that problem, and both principals have been vigilant and selective with those students who would go to AEP. Next year, regardless of the fact if they were to end up at AEP, they still have to comply with the Digital Portfolio and come under a committee of review if they went through that program. Those appeals come to him when the parents don't get what they want, and he generally rules in the principal's favor. Mr. Kelly added that in addition to senior English and physical education, the seniors have to pass three out of five major subjects in

order to be eligible to graduate or the equivalents. Mr. Scherza added that the students are also subject to the Digital Portfolio. A demonstration by proficiency has been approved by the Department of Education so the district is required to make sure every student does that.

This Resolution was adopted unanimously for first reading.

TABLED RESOLUTIONS

NO. 07-3-17 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the termination of non-certified Employee B be accepted.

NO. 07-5-30 - RESOLVED, that Policy No. 6162.2, Access to Networked Information Resource Acceptable Use Policy (AUP), as amended, be approved for second and final reading.

NO. 07-5-31 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, Policy No. 5113, Student Attendance, with accompanying regulations, as amended, be approved for first reading and that Policy No. 5113.1, Student Dismissal, and accompanying regulations be repealed.

X. New Business

There was no new business.

XI. Public Hearing on Non-agenda Items

Linda Bello, 188 Legion Way – She stated that she was on the agenda earlier and didn't realize that when the Chairman was asking people to speak it was only for people who had a problem. She thought that she was supposed to be speaking when the committee got to her name on the agenda. Mrs. Bello distributed a packet of information for each School Committee member.

She read the following statement: This is a very emotional request that I have come here to ask of you tonight. First I need to give you a little background of who I am and why I am asking you for this sabbatical. I grew up in Cranston, attended Dutemple and Stadium Schools, and Bain Junior High. I have been a teacher in the Cranston School Department

Page 27 June 18, 2007

for almost 18 years. I still reside in Cranston and am currently a Math Coach for the district. I love my job and my city and that is why this has been a very difficult decision for me to make.

I began my teaching career in February, over 17 years ago. I administered the statewide test in mathematics and reading almost

two weeks later, and received those results in another few months. When the results arrived, the principal called me into his office and proceeded to tell me how awful the students had done in mathematics. I was shocked.

They seemed to know everything during class. I had only been teaching this class less than two weeks before the testing and didn't feel it was fair to blame me for their results; however, I did question why the results were so poor. I began to take any course or workshop available to see what I could do to help children understand mathematics and be able to communicate their understanding.

That summer I took an AIMS workshop, the following summer Marilyn Burns I, and the summer after that Marilyn Burns II. Following those were Delta math workshops, several Rachel McAnallen workshops, and the Leadership Program in Discrete Mathematics. Most recently I have taken Thinking Math I and Discovering Mathematical Ideas, as well as attending workshops in Investigations and Fastt Math. I was chosen as a participant in the first group of Teachers Teaching with Technology (a computer course for teachers in Rhode Island), as an instructor for Texas Instruments teaching teachers how to use TI technology to teach math concepts, and as a lead teacher for Rutgers Leadership Program in Discrete Mathematics. I started to use what I had learned at these workshops with my students and I shared my successes with other teachers, while learning from them at the same

time. Students began to love math class, their test scores were rising, and teachers were amazed at what they were learning about math and their students' understanding of mathematics. I was learning the "why" of mathematics, not just the "how." I came to realize that students, and teachers, needed to understand the concepts of mathematics, not just the procedures to follow in order to be successful in their learning of mathematics. Students enjoyed the constructivist approach to learning. They were doing mathematics, not parroting what a teacher had told them. They developed understanding of the concepts, were becoming better problem solvers, and were learning the basic skills of arithmetic, all at once.

I began to be recognized for my teaching, mathematics, in particular. I won the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics, the Milken Educational Award, and the Distinguished Alumni Award for Education at the University of Rhode Island. My students have nominated me for Who's Who in Teachers and I continued to take any courses I thought would help my teaching students, or teachers, to better understand mathematics. I was asked to be on teams writing curriculum, state tests, prototype tests, Grade Level Expectations, and correlating assessments with Grade Level Expectations and Standards.

00Last year I was asked to teach Mathematics Methods in Elementary and Middle School to preservice teachers at the University of Rhode Island and I have done that again this spring. Additionally, this past year I have taken a position as a Math Coach for Cranston. Not only, as I previously stated, do I love my job, I love the people I work with, and all the children I have the opportunity to meet and help. I look forward to coming back to Cranston and working with my friends and helping this city's children raise their mathematical abilities and accordingly their test scores.

For a long time, I have had a desire to write about what I know and see about mathematics teaching and learning in elementary and middle schools. I want to share with others what I believe will help children in their mathematical journey. I believe I can accomplish this at the University of Miami's doctoral program.

I want very much to pursue a PH.D. in Teaching and Learning with a concentration in mathematics education at the University of Miami. Moreover, I have been asked to join a team of researchers to work on a middle school intervention program in mathematics in the Miami/Dade area. I hope to bring the knowledge gained from this research back to the middle schools in Cranston. Knowing Cranston's goal of improving students' mathematical scores, I hope you will grant me this sabbatical, not only to help me in my educational goal, but also to help the students of Cranston who will benefit from my expertise when I return. I want to bring back to the

children of Cranston my knowledge and understanding of how to best support their mathematics learning. I hope that you can see that you have a win-win situation. It is the utmost Professional Development that I could be granted. It is my hope that you will invest in me as I have invested in the children of Cranston and will continue to do so when I return.

XII. Announcement of Future Meetings

Chairman Traficante announced that the next School Committee meeting will be held tomorrow evening, June 19th, at 7:00 p.m. at Hope Highlands School.

XIII. Adjournment

Moved by Ms. Iannazzi, seconded by Mrs. Greifer and unanimously carried that the meeting be adjourned.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea M. Iannazzi

Clerk

INSTRUCTION 6161.2(a)

**Access to Networked Information Resources
Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)**

TECHNOLGY ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

This policy's intent is to ensure appropriate educational and business operational access to computers, the CPS Network of computers, and the Internet for students and staff while accessing their school account from within any Cranston Public School or non-school location.

Students/staff found in violation of the Technology Acceptable Use Policy will be referred to the building principal or appropriate administrator. In the case of a student, the parent or guardian will be notified. The building administrators will have the right and responsibility to exercise judgment for all users regarding technology use violations, including those that may not have been specifically outlined in the acceptable use policy. Consequences for students may include suspension of computer privileges, notification of police, and suspension from school and/or recommendation for exclusion from school for up to one calendar year. Consequences for staff may include suspension of computer privileges, notifications of police, as well as the initiation of the discipline process delineated by Cranston

Public School policy.

Educational Purpose

1. The Cranston Public Schools Network (CPSnet) has been established for an educational purpose to support and enhance the curriculum. For the purpose of this policy, the term CPSnet shall include Cranston Public Schools' computers, local area networks (LANs), wide area networks (WANs), and access to the Internet through CPSnet or other Internet Service Providers.

The CPSnet has not been established as a public access service or a public forum. Cranston Public Schools has the right to place restrictions on the material accessed or posted through the system. Users, including faculty, staff, students, and others granted access shall agree to follow the rules set forth in the Cranston Public Schools Disciplinary Procedure Handbook.

Students/Staff Internet Access

1. Students/staff will have access to the CPSnet information resources through their classrooms, library, or school computer labs/wireless laptop computer and/or any other type of electronic device.

2. Student users and their parent(s)/guardian(s) must sign the

“Technology Acceptable Use Policy Agreement” portion of this handbook. Signatures are required in order for students to be granted access to the Internet. The parent(s)/guardian(s) can withdraw approval at any time.

INSTRUCTION 6161.2(b)

Access to Networked Information Resources

Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)

3. Staff members are expected to follow the same “Technology Acceptable Use Policy Agreement” as students as terms of their employment and must sign the “Technology Acceptable Use Policy Agreement”.

Prohibited Uses

1. Breach of Personal Safety

a. Student users will not post personal contact information about themselves,

their parent(s)/guardian(s) or other people. Personal contact information includes (but is not restricted to) home address, telephone, school address, work address or parent information, etc.

b. Student users will not meet in person with anyone contacted online.

c. Student users will promptly disclose to a teacher or other school employee

any message received that is inappropriate or makes them feel uncomfortable.

d. Users will not attempt to gain unauthorized access to the CPS network or to

any other computer system through the CPSnet or go beyond authorized access levels. This includes attempting to log in through another person's account or access another person's files, even if only for the purposes of "browsing."

e. Users will not make deliberate attempts to disrupt the CPSnet or any other

computer system or destroy data by spreading computer viruses or by any other means.

f. Users will not use the CPSnet to engage in any other illegal act, such as

arranging for a drug sale or the purchase of alcohol, engaging in criminal activity, threatening the safety of a person and/or invading the privacy of individuals.

g. The CPSnet shall not be used for private commercial purposes.

This means

offering, providing or purchasing products or services for non-school related usage, including the electronic distribution from non-CPSnet accounts such as home or personal business account to a CPS account.

h. Political lobbying is not allowed through the CPSnet.

INSTRUCTION 6161.2(c)

Access to Networked Information Resources

Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)

2. System Security

a. Under no conditions should a password be provided to another person.

Users are responsible for their individual accounts and should take all reasonable precautions to prevent others from being able to use their accounts to protect their own liability.

b. Users will immediately notify a teacher or a system administrator if a possible security problem has been identified.

c. Users will avoid the spread of computer viruses by following the district virus protection procedures.

3. Inappropriate Language

a. Users will not send, display or receive any public and/or private messages through the CPSnet that contain inappropriate language. This restriction also applies to material posted on the school web page.

b. Users will not send, display or receive messages through the CPSnet that use obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, threatening, or disrespectful language.

c. Users will not send, display or receive information through the CPSnet that could cause damage or disruption.

d. Users will not send, display or otherwise engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks through the CPSnet.

e. Users will not send, display or receive messages through the CPSnet that harass another person. Harassment includes but is not limited to persistently acting in a manner that distresses or annoys another

person.

f. Users will not send, display or receive false or defamatory information about a person or organization through the CPSnet.

g. Users will not send, display or receive anonymous messages using pseudonym signatures through the CPSnet

INSTRUCTION 6161.2(d)

Access to Networked Information Resources

Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)

4. Respect for Privacy

a. Users will respect the privacy of confidential messages and will not repost those messages without the permission of the person who sent the message.

b. Users will not post private information about another person or organization.

5. Respect for Resource Limits

a. Users will utilize the system only for educational activities and limited, high quality self-discovery activities. Faculty will provide developmentally appropriate guidance to students as they make use of telecommunications and electronic information resources to conduct research and other studies related to the Cranston Public Schools curriculum. All students will be informed by faculty of their rights and responsibilities as users of the CPSnetwork prior to gaining access to that network, either as an individual user or as a member of a class or group.

b. Student users will not download any file without the expressed permission of the instructor.

c. Users will not post chain letters or engage in “spamming.” Spamming is sending an annoying or unnecessary message to a large number of people.

d. All users will check their e-mail frequently and delete unwanted messages promptly.

6. Plagiarism and Copyright Infringement

a. Users will provide proper citation for information gathered from CD-ROMs, through the CPSnet or on the Internet. Plagiarism is taking the ideas or writings of others and presenting them as if they were yours.

b. Users will respect the rights of copyright owners. Copyright infringement occurs when a user inappropriately reproduces a work that is protected by a copyright. A work includes: text, graphics, photos, sounds, music, animation, video and software programs. If a work contains language that specifies appropriate use of that work, users should follow the expressed requirements. If unsure whether or not a work may be used, permission from the copyright owner must be requested.

INSTRUCTION 6161.2(e)

Access to Networked Information Resources

Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)

7. Inappropriate Access to Material

a. Receiving or inputting pornographic materials, promoting violence, engaging in racial, gender or other defamatory slurs or for personal attacks on others through the CPSnet is strictly prohibited.

b. Receiving or transmitting information through the CPSnet

pertaining to dangerous instruments such as bombs, automatic weapons, or other illicit firearms, weaponry, or explosive devices is prohibited.

c. The CPSnet does not permit the use of chat rooms.

Individual Rights

1. Search and Seizure

a. Network administrators may review files and communications to maintain

system integrity and to ensure that users are utilizing the CPSnet responsibly.

Users should not expect that files stored on district servers or computers

will be private.

b. An individual search will be conducted if there is reasonable suspicion that a

user has violated this policy.

2. Due Process

a. The Cranston Public Schools will cooperate fully with local, state, or federal

officials in any investigation related to any illegal activities conducted through the CPSnet.

b. In the event there is a claim that a user has violated this policy, the user will be notified of the suspected violation. An opportunity to present an explanation will be provided.

Limitation of Liability

1. The Cranston Public Schools makes no guarantee that the functions or the services provided by or through CPSnet will be error-free or without defect.

2. The Cranston Public Schools will not be responsible for any damage suffered, including but not limited to, loss of data or interruptions of service.

INSTRUCTION 6161.2(f)

Access to Networked Information Resources

Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)

3. The Cranston Public Schools is not responsible for the accuracy or

quality of the

information obtained through or stored on the CPSnet.

4. The Cranston Public Schools will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of the CPSnet system.

It is a privilege, not a right, to use the CPSnet and the information resources found on the network and on the Internet.

Policy Adopted: June 16, 1997 CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Policy Amended: Cranston, Rhode Island

Resolution No.:

CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

For Access to

Networked Information Resources

(AUP)

All users (students, staff, and administration) will be required to sign the Acceptable Use Policy. Parent/Guardian of student users must also sign the form.

CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS' USER

As a user of the Cranston Public Schools' CPSnetwork, I agree to follow rules of the Acceptable Use Policy.

Signature

Date

PARENT/GUARDIAN

As the parent/guardian of this student, I have read the Acceptable Use Policy and agree to promote this policy with my son/daughter. Having read the policy, I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes.

Parent/Guardian Signature (Date)

TABLED POLICY – RESOLUTION NO. 07-5-31

STUDENTS 5113

ATTENDANCE

STUDENT ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance is mandated by Rhode Island General Laws 16-19-1. Regular attendance is absolutely necessary for academic success, as it develops a sense of responsibility, which is indispensable for survival in the workplace.

Policy Adopted: March 20, 1972 CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Policy Amended: Cranston, Rhode Island

Resolution No.:

STUDENTS 5113 (a)

MINIMUM ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

Students in grades 9-12 must be in regular attendance for a minimum of 90% of their course work per quarter. Students with excessive (more than five (5)) unexcused class absences will have their term grade reduced by 10 points of their quarterly grade. Students enrolled in minor classes (3 meetings per cycle) will receive a 10 point deduction for more than three(3) unexcused class absences.

The following shall not be considered absences and shall not count against students:

- Absence from class due to in-school or out-of-school suspension**
- Absence from class due to attendance at school-sponsored events**
- Absence from class due to attendance at scheduled meetings with school personnel**
- Absences from class due to religious observance**

The following excused absences determined by the regulations of the

Truancy Court:

- **Illness confirmed by a doctor's note within 2 days of return to school**
- **Dental appointments confirmed by a dentist's note within 2 days of return to school**
- **Family bereavement confirmed with a newspaper obituary or death notice**
- **Legal/court obligations confirmed by a note from the courts**
- **Verifiable college and military appoints, prior permission from the Guidance Department and appointment verification forms are required**

All notes must be submitted within two days of the student's return to school.

Students that have absences exempted from counting against the 90% minimum requirement are still required to complete and turn in all make-up work missed due to their absence.

ABSENCE, TARDINESS AND DISMISSALS

- 1. Parents should call the school (270-8049) to report a student's absence.**
- 2. Students who are absent or suspended will not be allowed to report**

to school or to attend any school activity during the period of absence or suspension.

3. If a student is absent (unexcused) from a class or classes in excess of five (5) times per quarter, the teacher will lower the student's quarterly grade by ten points.

STUDENTS 5113 (b)

ABSENCE, TARDINESS AND DISMISSALS (CONTINUED)

4. Family vacations during school time will not be excused by the School Committee Policy.

5. Parents wishing to appeal an attendance-related grade reduction should submit a written appeal to the Administration in the following order: Assistant Principal, Principal, Superintendent, School Committee.

6. Excessive tardiness to school is unacceptable. Students who accumulate more than three (3) unexcused tardies per semester will receive detention for each subsequent tardy according to school department policy. Should excessive tardiness become a serious or chronic problem, a student may be assigned A.D.P., could be suspended out of school, Saturday Detention, or receive social

probation. All other days tardy will result in disciplinary consequences unless excused with verifiable documentation (i.e., doctor's note, dental note, legal obligation, etc). All notes must be submitted on the day the student is tardy or at least by the next school day.

A student who arrives late to class more than half way through the class, regardless of the class, will be considered absent from that class.

7. Students tardy after 11:00 am are considered absent and are ineligible to participate in athletics or extracurricular activities on that day. Should the tardiness occur on the last day before a weekend, the student will be likewise, ineligible to participate. Students may be allowed to participate in these situations with administration approval.

8. Personal family appointments, which can be scheduled during non-school hours, will be included in absence and tardy totals.

9. The classroom teacher will assign students who are tardy to class without an acceptable or verifiable reason appropriate disciplinary action. Students who are habitually tardy will be referred to the administration.

10. Students who miss a class period or a whole day of school without permission will be considered truant. All students who are determined to be truant will be subject to disciplinary action and will receive no credit (zero) for all work missed or due during the truancy.

11. Students may be dismissed from school with a parental note, with an acceptable reason. All other dismissals will be excused only with

verifiable documentation by a doctor, dentist, legal obligation, etc. These notes from verifiable sources or appointment verification forms must be turned in to the Main Office by the next school day.

12. Students dismissed from school are ineligible to participate in athletics or extra- curricular activities on that day or the ensuing weekend should it occur on the day before a weekend. Students may be allowed to participate in these situations with administrative approval.

STUDENTS 5113 (c)

ABSENCE, TARDINESS AND DISMISSALS (CONTINUED)

13. For eligibility purposes with respect to extra curricular activities and athletics, students dismissed for medical, dental, legal appointments, etc., must have such dismissal pre-approved by an administrator or designee. Upon the student's return to school from the appointment, verification documentation must be turned in to the office or to the coach or activity advisor, if school has ended, to be eligible to participate (parental notes will not suffice.) Any student clinically dismissed by the nurse due to illness may not return to school and is ineligible to participate in athletics or school activities.

MAKE UP POLICY

A student absent from school from one (1) to three (3) days will have one (1) class meeting per absence to make up missed work beginning on the initial day they return to school.

For students absent or suspended from school for a period of more than three (3) days, school work may be requested by the parent/guardian. A twenty-four (24) hour notice for such requests is required and will be made available by teachers through the main office. Students suspended from school will be allowed to make up all work as dictated by this policy.

In the event that a student is absent on the day a long-term project/assignment is due, the grade for that assignment will be reduced at the discretion of the teacher. Should the student submit verifiable documentation for the absence (medical, dental note, etc.), the grade reduction may be waived.

Serious long-term illness make-up will be made up at the discretion of the teacher(s) and guidance counselor.

Any student that makes arrangements with a teacher to make-up work at an arranged time and fails to do so will be assigned a zero (0) for the work in question.

FINAL EXAMS

A. Final exams are required in every course in grades 9 through 12. The final exam grade for each course will be weighted 15% of the final grade.

B. An exam schedule is published in June. Senior high school students are expected to report for their scheduled final exams and must remain in the exam room for the entire period. Depending on the schedule, students may be dismissed following their exams.

STUDENTS 5113 (d)

ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR EXAMS

1. Final exams will be administered in all courses. Seniors with a grade point average of 90 or above may be exempt from their final exam in the courses with that average.

2. Should a student be tardy to an exam without prior administrative approval, he/she will be admitted to the exam and allowed to take the exam during the remaining time in the exam period only.

3. If a student is going to be absent from an exam and wishes to be granted the opportunity to take a make-up exam, a parent must contact the administration in writing or by phone (Main Office) prior to the start of the exam.

4. If a student is absent from an exam and the administration has not been contacted in advance, the student will not be given a make-up

exam and will receive a grade of zero.

5. Make-up exams will be given at a time to be determined by the teacher.

6. All students must remain in the testing site until the conclusion of the exam period.

Regulations Revised: August 20, 1990 Cranston, Rhode Island

Regulations Revised:

Resolution No.:

NEW PROPOSED POLICY

5113

STUDENTS

ATTENDANCE

STUDENT ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance is mandated by Rhode Island General Laws 16-19-1. Regular attendance is absolutely necessary for academic success, as it develops a sense of responsibility, which is indispensable for survival in the workplace.

Policy Adopted: March 20, 1972 CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Policy Amended: CRANSTON, RI.

Resolution No.:

STUDENTS 5113(a)

MINIMUM ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

Students in grades 9-12 must be in regular attendance for a minimum of 90% of their course work per quarter. Students with excessive (more than five(5) unexcused class absences) will have their term grade reduced by 10 points of their quarterly grade. Students enrolled in minor classes (3 meetings per cycle) will receive a 10 point deduction for more than three(3) unexcused class absences.

The following shall not be considered absences and shall not count against students:

- Absence from class due to in-school or out-of-school suspension**
- Absence from class due to attendance at school-sponsored events**
- Absence from class due to attendance at scheduled meetings with school personnel**
- Absences from class due to religious observance**

The following excused absences determined by the regulations of the Truancy Court:

- **Illness confirmed by a Doctor's note within 2 days of return to school**
- **Dental appointments confirmed by a Dentist's note within 2 days of return to school**
- **Family bereavement confirmed with a newspaper obituary or death notice**
- **Legal/court obligations confirmed by a note from the courts**
- **Verifiable college and military appoints, prior permission from the Guidance Department and appointment verifications forms are required**

All notes must be submitted within two days of the student's return to school.

Students that have absences exempted from counting against the 90% minimum requirement are still required to complete and turn in all make-up work missed due to their absence.

ABSENCE, TARDINESS AND DISMISSALS

8. Parents should call the school at 270-8049 for Cranston West or 270-8126 for Cranston East to report a student's absence.

9. Students who are absent or suspended will not be allowed to report to school or to attend any school activity during the period of absence or suspension.

10. If a student is absent (unexcused) from a class or classes in

excess of five (5) times per quarter, the teacher will lower the student's quarterly grade by ten points.

STUDENTS 5113(b)

ABSENCE, TARDINESS AND DISMISSALS (CONTINUED)

11. Absences or dismissals by the school nurse are considered excused.

12. Family vacations during school time will not be excused by the School Committee Policy unless previously approved by the school department.

13. Parents wishing to appeal an attendance-related grade reduction should submit a written appeal to the Administration in the following order: Assistant Principal, Principal, Superintendent, School Committee.

14. Excessive tardiness to school is unacceptable. Students who accumulate more than three (3) unexcused tardies per semester will receive detention for each subsequent tardy according to school department policy. Should excessive tardiness become a serious or chronic problem, a student may be assigned Alternative Discipline Program, could be suspended out of school, Saturday Detention, or receive social probation. All days tardy beyond the 3 per semester will result in disciplinary consequences unless excused with verifiable documentation (i.e., doctor's note, dental note, legal obligation, etc). All notes must be submitted on the day the student is tardy or least by the next school day.

A student who arrives late to class more than half way through the class, regardless of the class, will be considered absent from that class.

15. Students with unexcused tardies after 11:00 am are considered absent and are ineligible to participate in athletics or extra curricular activities on that day. Should the tardiness occur on the last day before a weekend, the student will be likewise, ineligible to participate in school related activities or athletics.

16. Personal family appointments, which can be scheduled during non-school hours, will be included in absence and tardy totals.

17. The classroom teacher will assign students who are tardy to class without an acceptable or verifiable reason appropriate disciplinary action. Students who are habitually tardy will be referred to the administration.

18. Students who miss a class period or a whole day of school without permission will be considered truant. All students who are determined to be truant will be subject to disciplinary action and will receive no credit (zero) for all work missed or due during the truancy.

19. Students may be dismissed from school with a parental note, with an acceptable reason. All dismissals will be excused only with verifiable documentation by a doctor, dentist, legal obligation, death, religious observance, etc. These notes from verifiable sources or appointment verification forms must be turned in to the Main Office by the next school day that the student is present.

20. Students dismissed from school are ineligible to participate in athletics or extra curricular activities on that day or the ensuing

weekend should it occur on the day before a weekend. Students may be allowed to participate in these situations with administrative approval.

STUDENTS 5113(c)

ABSENCE, TARDINESS AND DISMISSALS (CONTINUED)

21. For eligibility purposes with respect to extra curricular activities and athletics, students dismissed for medical, dental, legal appointments, etc., must have such dismissal pre-approved by an administrator or designee. Upon the student's return to school from the appointment, verification documentation must be turned in to the office or to the coach or activity advisor, if school has ended, to be eligible to participate (parental notes will not suffice.) Any student clinically dismissed by the nurse due to illness may not return to school and is ineligible to participate in athletics or school activities.

MAKE UP POLICY

A student absent from school from one (1) to three (3) days will have one (1) class meeting per absence to make up missed work beginning on the initial day they return to school.

For students absent or suspended from school for a period of more than three (3) days, school work may be requested by the

parent/guardian. A twenty-four (24) hour notice for such requests is required and will be made available by teachers through the main office. Students suspended from school will be allowed to make up all work as dictated by this policy.

In the event that a student is absent on the day a long-term project/assignment is due, the grade for that assignment will be reduced at the discretion of the teacher. Should the student submit verifiable documentation for the absence (medical, dental note, etc.), the grade reduction may be waived.

Serious long-term illness make-up will be made up at the discretion of the teacher(s) and guidance counselor.

Any student that makes arrangements with a teacher to make-up work at an arranged time and fails to do so will be assigned a zero (0) for the work in question.

FINAL EXAMS

A. Final exams are required in every course in grades 9 through 12. The final exam grade for each course will be weighted 15% of the final grade.

B. An exam schedule is published in June. Senior high school students are expected to report for their scheduled final exams and must remain in the exam room for the entire period. Depending on the schedule, students may be dismissed following their exams.

STUDENTS 5113 (d)

ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR EXAMS

2. Final exams will be administered in all courses. Seniors with a grade point average of 90 or above may be exempt from their final exam in the courses with that average.

3. Should a student be tardy to an exam without an excuse or prior administrative approval, he/she will be admitted to the exam and allowed to take the exam during the remaining time in the exam period only.

4. If a student is going to be absent from an exam and wishes to be granted the opportunity to take a make-up exam, a parent must contact the administration in writing or by phone (Main Office) prior to the start of the exam.

5. If a student is absent from an exam and the administration has not been contacted in advance, the student will not be given a make-up exam and will receive a grade of zero.

6. Make-up exams will be given at a time to be determined by the teacher.

7. All students must remain in the testing site until the conclusion of the exam period.

Regulations Adopted: March 20, 1972 CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Regulations Revised: August 20, 1990 Cranston, Rhode Island

Regulations Revised:

Resolution No.: