

CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

MARCH 21, 2011

Western Hills Middle School

400 Phenix Avenue

EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:00 P.M.

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED BY PUBLIC MEETING

MINUTES

This meeting of the Cranston School Committee was held on the evening of the above date at Western Hills Middle School with the following members present: Acting Chairperson (AC)Lombardi, (Ms. Iannazzi absent with cause), Mr. Bloom, Mrs. Culhane, Mrs. McFarland, Mrs. Ruggieri and Mr. Traficante.

This meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. It was moved by Mr. Bloom and seconded by Mrs. Ruggieri and unanimously carried that the members adjourn to Executive Session Pursuant to RI State Laws PL 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel; PL 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation (School Banner), (Contract Negotiations' Update- Bus Drivers/Tradespeople/Mechanics, Custodians);(Teacher Negotiations; Teacher Assistants/Technical Assistants/Bus Aides Arbitration Award), (Volunteer Policy).

1. Call to Order – Public Session – Public Session was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted and the roll was called. A quorum was present.

2. Executive Session Minutes Sealed – March 21, 2011

Moved by Mr. Traficante, seconded by Mrs. Culhane and unanimously carried that the March 21, 2011 Executive Session minutes remain confidential. AC Lombardi reported that there were no votes taken in Executive Session.

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings Approved – February 9, 14, 23, and 28, 2011.

Moved by Mr. Traficante and seconded by Mrs. McFarland and unanimously carried to approve these minutes.

4. Public Acknowledgements/Communications

AC Lombardi stated to the audience members that were wearing their “keep the original banner” signs on – for some reason, perhaps there was a communication sent out that there was going to be something on the agenda tonight with respect to the banner at Cranston High School West. I would say to you you can certainly remain and be with us for this meeting but the School Committee has already approved the banner as it stands. The only issue on the agenda for tonight relates to the memorialization of placards and banners of the like of students’ works at all of the school in Cranston, including but not

limited to the banner at Cranston High School West. In no way is this a meeting to reconsider or to address the wording with respect to the banner.

5. Chairperson's Communications

None.

6. Superintendent's Communications

Mr. Nero stated - I would like to recognize members of Boy Scout Troup A who are here this evening along with some of their leaders. One of the requirements on your way to becoming an Eagle Scout is to pass citizenship in the community and they are here tonight to see me because I am on the committee of Troop A. A week ago Sunday Principal Knowlton, Assistant Superintendent Lundsten and I went to the Eagle Scout induction of four students who will be graduating from Cranston West this year – Dan Genco, Jerry Blau, Andrew Marrapese, and Luca Rebussini. In two troops there will be 11 Eagle Scouts walking across the stage at graduation this year.

Mr. Nero then reported out on Orchard Farms and Oak Lawn School.

7. School Committee Member(s) Communications

Mrs. Culhane stated - the BASICS Music is Instrumental Program is going into its 6th week and I volunteer on Tuesday and Wednesdays for strings and band and although it is loud it is coming together nicely and there will be an end of the year concert at Cranston West

on June 10th. More information will be forthcoming.

Mrs. McFarland stated – I just wanted to add that if anybody has any time to devote and wants to volunteer and become a mentor- I had the opportunity to become one here in Cranston and will be assigned to a student that I will be spending one hour a week with.

AC Lombardi stated - before I forget I would be remiss in saying that our Chairperson is not here tonight, she is at a conference in Chicago.

Also, in talking about Orchard Farms – on Friday night I had the great opportunity to go to Orchard Farms/Hope Highlands basketball game and might I say when Pam Schiff asked me for a quote I said to her we're often talking about our budget woes, our banner woes, and all the other woes that we have in this district and that night it showed to me that Cranston schools are alive and well. There were probably more people there than the Cranston West/Smithfield varsity game. I would be amiss if I did not publically acknowledge Wendy Barricelli and Dawn Sasa for doing a phenomenal job at that event on Friday.

8. Public Hearings

a. Students (Agenda/Non-agenda matters)

b. Members of the Public (Agenda matters only)

Kathleen Torregrossa, 1st grade teacher – spoke on behalf of not changing the school calendar. (Speech on file).

Denise Achin, Rhode Island Technical Assistance Project (RITAP at Rhode Island College) – spoke regarding Resolution 11-3-19, proposals for Medicaid Billing Services and her working relationship with Kathie Mageira. (Speech on file).

Kathleen Mageira, Medicaid Program for Cranston Public Schools, spoke in favor of keeping the Medicaid program as is. (Speech on file).

Chris Young, Narragansett, Rhode Island – spoke in regard to Resolution 11-3-21 and the position of the city to take a position on the banner at Cranston West and not arguing this this is a religious or non-religious display and the clarification that the absence of religion, in his opinion, is atheism. Mr. Young also stated Attorney Faith LaSalle was interested in this case (resume on file).

9. Consent Agenda/Consent Calendar

The following resolutions were suggested for the consent agenda: Resolution 11-3-3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 18. A motion was made by Mr. Traficante, seconded by Mrs. Ruggieri, the roll was called, all were in favor.

RESOLUTIONS

ADMINISTRATION

NO. 11-3-1- Decision on appeal of transportation issue for Student Doe.

AC Lombardi asked Mr. Traficante to assume the chair for purposes of opening the motion.

A motion was made by Mr. Lombardi, seconded by Mrs. Ruggieri.

Discussion – none.

The roll was called:

Mr. Lombardi No Mrs. Ruggieri No

This resolution passed to uphold the Superintendent's decision.

Mr. Lombardi resumed the position of Chair.

NO. 11-3-2- Decision on appeal of non-reimbursement for conference attended by former Administrator A.

A motion was made by Mr. Traficante, seconded by Mrs. Culhane.

Discussion –

Mrs. Culhane asked – the decision is the Superintendent's decision for non-reimbursement correct? Response was correct.

Mr. Lombardi stated – a vote of yes would be to uphold the decision of the Superintendent.

The roll was called:

Mrs. Culhane No Mr. Bloom Yes

Mrs. McFarland Yes Mrs. Ruggieri No

Mr. Traficante Yes Mr. Lombardi Yes

This resolution passed, 4 to 2.

PERSONNEL

NO. 11-3-3- Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed as substitutes for the remainder of the 2010-2011 school year:

Adam Aquilante, Social Studies/ESL 7-12

Sandra Matook, Secondary Business

Alexandra Pagliaro, Special Education Elem/Middle

Kristin Giorgio, Secondary History

Glenn Scott, Physical Education K-12

Amanda Lupien, Special Ed, Severe and Profound K-12

NO. 11-3-4- Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified staff member be granted a leave of absence without compensation as provided in Article XIX, Section F of the Master Agreement between the Cranston School Committee and the Cranston Teachers' Alliance:

Fred Maccaron, Jr., Teacher

Cranston High School East

Effective Date – August 2011 to August 2012

NO. 11-3-5- Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual(s) be appointed as an athletic coach:

John Sousa, Assistant Coach Boys' Outdoor Track

Cranston High School East

Step 5

Class D

Playing Competition High School

Experience – High School (4 years)

Certification – RI Coaches Certification; CPR/AED/First Aid

Nicholas Ruggieri, Assistant Coach Baseball

Cranston High School East

Step 5

Class C

Playing Competition – High School

Experience – Cranston West Freshmen Baseball Coach – 3 years

Certification – RI Coaches Certification; CPR/AED/First Aid

Clement Soscia, Assistant Coach Girls' Outdoor Track

Cranston High School West

Step 7

Class D

Playing Competition – High School

Experience – Cranston West Cross Country

Certification – RI Coaches Certification; CPR/AED/First Aid

NO. 11-3-6- Resolved, that at the recommendation or the Superintendent, the following individual(s) be reappointed as an

athletic coach:

Cranston High School West

Ralph Sacco Assistant Coach Boys' Volleyball

Roger Tow Head Coach Boys' Volleyball

Chris Sullivan Head Coach Coed Golf

Michael Soscia Head Coach Girls' Lacrosse

Joseph Salimeno Assistant Coach Coed Golf

Charles Pearson Assistant Coach Girls' Lacrosse

Corey Capirchio Assistant Coach Baseball

Shelia Lagasse Head Coach Girls' Outdoor Track

David Barr Head Coach Boys' Outdoor Track

Ryan Kavanagh Assistant Coach Boys' Outdoor Track

Cranston High School East

Michael Rachiele Head Coach Girls' Fastpitch

Michael Walsh Head Coach Baseball

John Palumbo Head Coach Coed Golf

Scott Maynard Assistant Coach Girls' Lacrosse

Brian Flinn Assistant Coach Fastpitch Softball

Richard Perrotta Head Coach Boys' Tennis

Robert Bouchard Head Coach Boys' Outdoor Track

Robert LaBanca Head Coach Girls' Outdoor Track

Dina Cesana Assistant Coach Girls' Outdoor Track

Thomas Ferri Head Coach Boys' Volleyball

Ron Lee Assistant Coach Boys' Volleyball

NO. 11-3-7- Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individuals be appointed as volunteer coaches:

Cranston High School East

Matthew Lovejoy Baseball

NO. 11-3-8- Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual(s) be reappointed as a volunteer athletic coach:

Cranston High School West

Brian LaBanca Freshman Baseball

Ron LaRocca Baseball

Michael Spirito Baseball

Michael Schiappa Baseball

Jason Hogan Coed Golf

Cranston High School East

William Coughlin Fastpitch Softball

NO. 11-3-9- Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified employee(s) be appointed:

Jessica Sarachick, Bus Monitor

Transportation

Effective Date: March 3, 2011

Authorization: Replacement

Fiscal Note: 12445090/13645090 51110

June Medeiros, CNA Instructor

AEP

Effective Date: March 9, 2011

Authorization: Replacement

Fiscal Note: 40235127 51110

Jennifer Mastrangelo, CNA Instructor

AEP

Effective Date: March 7, 2011

Authorization: Replacement

Fiscal Note: 40235127 51110

NO. 11-3-10- Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

Donna Beausoleil, Teacher Assistant

Tina Dumas, Teacher Assistant

Matthew Polce, Custodian

Dominique Buccafurri, Teacher Assistant

Richard Stockley, Teacher Assistant

NO. 11-3-11- Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement(s) of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:

Jean Smith, Bus Driver

Transportation

Effective Date: June 27, 2011

Sandra Benoit, Bus Driver

Transportation

Effective Date: May 31, 2011

NO. 11-3-12- Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation(s) of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:

Lucille Macera, Bus Monitor

Transportation

Effective Date: March 7, 2011

NO. 11-3-13- Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified staff member be granted a leave of absence without compensation as provided in Article X

Section C of the Agreement between the Cranston School Committee and the Cranston Teachers' Alliance Teacher Assistant/Bus Aide Unit:

Rosemary Walsh, Teacher Assistant

March 21, 2011 to March 2012

POLICY AND PROGRAMS

NO. 11-3-14- Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2011-2012 School Calendar be adopted.

NO. 11-3-15- Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following Conferences/Field Trips of Long Duration be authorized:

1. Lynda Wagner, Assistant Principal at Cranston High School East to travel to Harvard University, Cambridge, MA from May 3, 2011-May 5, 2011 to attend the Women in Education Leadership Conference. At no cost to the School Department. All costs are covered by the participant. Please see the attached conference request form.

POLICIES

NO. 11-3-16- Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Medication Policy #5141.2 (a,aa,b), as amended, be approved for second and final reading. (See policy attached).

A motion was made by Mrs. Ruggieri, seconded by Mr. Traficante.

Discussion.

Mrs. Ruggieri asked - if prior to completion of this policy it might...because we don't have full time school nurses at all of our schools...if there might be a need for adjustment of language to authorize another party because my concern would be in reading this is that if there is a time or at some point where the school nurse is not available and this medication needs to be distributed that we're going to have an issue. I don't know if that has been addressed already or if it had been discussed.

Mrs. Coogan stated – a nurse will come from another building to cover a building where there is a nurse out or right now nurses cover more than one building as well and worst case scenario is the building principal.

Mr. Nero stated – if I can clarify that – the building principal cannot dispense the medication, they leave the child to where their medication is and it is clearly marked on the box(that is assigned to that student) students' medication and the student then self-medicates.

Mrs. Coogan stated – correct and the regulations changed that the student can self-medicate.

Mrs. Ruggieri asked – is there any kind of age requirement.

Mrs. Coogan stated – no that is why we tightened up our policy to reflect the fact that as a district we have the ability to sit there and say the policy for the state says one thing that we expect that students will be supervised by a nurse. Our policy is reacting to a self-medicating regulation. We don't really want students to do that

so if you read this (policy) that's why we want it to be the nurse will be providing that medication. The worst case scenario – you can also call a parent and they can administer if need be.

Mrs. Culhane stated – but under article I it says medication will not be administered until the school nurse verifies that requirements are met so I am wondering if a school principal would want to take that responsibility in sort of overriding this.

Mr. Nero stated – the medication comes in with the nurse present. The nurse reviews it when it comes in. For example, a child is on antibiotics and needs to take it at a certain time; the nurse sits with the child and the parent and they go over everything. Once it is in the box the principal can only unlock the box and the child goes into their box and the child makes sure he takes the appropriate dosage. The principal, by law, is not allowed to dispense the medication other than to oversee the child medicate.

Mrs. Coogan stated – what (I) is saying is that everything from A to H has to be done in order for I to occur. So the documentation has to be on file, the authorization to self-carry or self-medicate, procedures for the dosage etc. that it is reviewed annually etc. etc.

Mrs. Ruggieri stated – I'm just wondering, if we look at J – should we have another safe guard in place or should there be something else in this policy that if the student is not authorized to self-medicate and here we say that it must be administered by the school nurse or guardian and if for any reason neither one of those is available what is the next step in the process.

Mrs. Coogan stated – a nurse from another building or the program

supervisor for nursing herself would go over to the building.

Mr. Nero stated – we met with our attorneys to clean this up and we've been doing this for a number of years. We also use nursing agencies to make sure buildings are covered.

Mrs. McFarland stated – this has more to do with following the document – if you look at the first policy 5141.2a and you go to c and the asterisk takes you to the following page that states see offsite school sponsored activity policy and you go to that policy the lettering is out of order.

It was noted the lettering will be corrected through this friendly amendment.

The roll was called:

Mr. Bloom Yes Mrs. Culhane Yes

Mrs. McFarland Yes Mrs. Ruggieri Yes

Mr. Traficante Yes Mr. Lombardi Yes

This motion passed unanimously.

NO. 11-3-17- Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the policy statement for Fund Raising/Commercialism, Commercial Goods, Services and Materials; Policy #5135.1 be amended for first reading. (See policy attached).

A motion was made by Mr. Traficante, seconded by Mrs. Ruggieri. Discussion.

Mr. Nero stated – last week we had a work session regarding the Fund Raising policy, commercialism and so forth and given the fact that we have two scoreboards at Cranston East that do not work and are beyond repair. We have the ability to replace them with brand new ones but we would have to ease up on our fundraising policy. What Ray (Votto) and I did was to go through the policy, we removed some language and we have also added some things (see suggested policy changes at the end of these minutes).

Mrs. Ruggieri stated – as far as approval of any organization or company?

Mr. Nero stated – that automatically goes through the Assistant Superintendent's office. We consult with that to make sure we're not being intrusive.

The roll was called:

Mr. Bloom Yes Mrs. Culhane Yes

Mrs. McFarland Yes Mrs. Ruggieri Yes

Mr. Traficante Yes Mr. Lombardi Yes

This resolution passed unanimously.

PURCHASES AND PURCHASED SERVICES

NO. 11-3-18- Resolved, that the following purchases be approved:

Student Planners (funded by middle school annual order allocation)

in the amount of \$6,536.00 (Purchase pending the availability of funding 2011-2012 budget)

Number of bids issued 7

Number of bids received 3

Sponsored by Andrea Iannazzi and Janice Ruggieri

NO. 11-3-19- Resolved, that the School Committee authorizes Cranston Public Schools to seek proposals for Medicaid Billing Services utilizing the competitive bid process. Once the bid has been issued and returned, the results will be given to the School Committee for recommendation.

Moved by Mrs. Ruggieri, seconded by Mr. Traficante. Discussion.

Mrs. Culhane stated – just to clarify – this is just to go out for the bid and this will be reviewed before the whole committee to weigh what benefits would be by not accepting it and vice versa so while we are looking at the bid now it's not a final say over anything that we will do here.

Mrs. Ruggieri stated – I just wanted to make it clear that at this stage of the game we are looking to find any kind of savings and things like that we can and as the Superintendent has mentioned many times we're not in the business of doing all of these other things. We are in the education business so if there are ways that we can find that we think may save us money and may save time and things like that for our employees we are going to explore them and that is what this is

at this point is an exploration.

Mr. Nero stated – this was sponsored by the School Committee but we are presently in a little bit of an audit in our educational side, Sal Augeri is the auditor. One of the questions was, where we are in terms of all these different things and the issue of the Medicaid, - you won't know until you see. In fairness to the committee that sponsored this resolution, I think, with all the litigation we have had in regards to what we should be doing as educators, this is an exploration of that.

Mrs. McFarland stated – through the chair, one of the things that I would ask in this particular proposal is that you look at a five-year outlook. If you're going to look at a RFP don't just look at three years because the cost factor may go up. I know I do EDS billing with the state with DHS which is similar, different program but still a federal billing that we have to do and what we have done is make the cost incurred to each agencies that we subcontract with and it's just part of their daily work. We have been able to save money without contracting out.

AC Lombardi stated – I would like to make one general comment. Joe (Balducci) the only thing I ask in conjunction with Paula's suggestion – these ladies obviously did a lot of work in their presentation. The questions that they raised – if we can have specific answers to the questions they raised in their presentation that would be great.

The roll was called:

Mr. Traficante Yes Mrs. McFarland Yes

Mrs. Culhane Yes Mr. Bloom Yes

Mrs. Ruggieri Yes Mr. Lombardi Yes

This resolution passed unanimously.

BUSINESS

NO. 11-3-20- Resolved, that the 2011-2012 Capital Budget, as recommended by the Superintendent, be approved:

Park View Middle School Bond 427/529

Replacement of exterior windows \$675,000.00

Paving Bond 04-25

Stone Hill School and Stadium School \$185,000.00

Moved by Mr. Traficante, seconded by Mrs. Ruggieri. Discussion.

Mrs. McFarland asked – is this capital budget coming from us to the city or this is something that the city gave to you as part of a list of items that you gave or are there additional items that we can add to this or....

Mr. Votto stated – this is our proposal that goes to the city.

Mrs. McFarland stated – one of the things that I want to suggest is the fact that we still have an empty and vacant building at Gladstone Street School and I know the mayor is talking about his additional academy that he wants to bring to the city of Cranston and when

we're looking at utilizing additional new buildings or creating something outside the box that we think is great and wonderful we should also take a look at what we have here in our own city. We really have an opportunity at Gladstone Street School. We have a pool that is no longer of use. We've looked at bonds in the past over the years while I was on the City Council side, looking at bonding to actually fill the pool in and to utilize it for all day kindergarten or it could be actually an academy of some sort when we were looking at doing the charter school with The Laborers'. I really think we should take a look at that. I know you want to send your capital budget over but I didn't even know we were going to have a capital budget until I read the agenda and really think we need to start looking at the fact that if it's not this year, next year, and doing something with Gladstone Street School. I know there have been bonds in the past. Maybe a question to Joe should be – is there any additional funding or is there any past bonding for Gladstone Street School that we haven't utilized?

Mr. Balducci stated – I'm not sure if there is any past bonding specifically for Gladstone. There is authorization that the voters of Cranston have approved several years ago which we have asked the city to being the process of going out and bonding that authorization but I am not sure specifically if anything is available for Gladstone right now.

Mrs. McFarland asked – could any of those funds that the voters had voted for in the past be utilized for Gladstone because we can move money around.

Mr. Balducci stated – we would have to look at the language on how that was placed in front of the voters to see how specific it was.

Mrs. McFarland asked – is there something that we can look at and bring it back next month because they're still in their process, their capital budget's not going to be approved so we can add to this. I don't want to hold up your items tonight.

Mr. Balducci stated – sure we can look at that.

Mr. Traficante asked – how much money is left in the Repair and Renovation Bond? Response was none. Mr. Traficante then asked Mr. Balducci to look into that and was of the opinion there is some money because of a previous meeting with Mr. Zisseron.

Mr. Nero stated – the bond that we have now is for the three middle schools. Discussion ensued regarding the housing of students and lack of funding.

Mr. Traficante stated – last year this School Committee passed a repair bond out of \$9.2 million dollars, repair and renovation of the three science classrooms at all three middle schools. Now is that going forward with this as well?

Mr. Balducci stated – no, as I mentioned earlier that is part of the authorization that has been approved by the voters so that is the pool of money that we're asking the city now to move forward so we can begin those projects.

Mr. Traficante stated – but why did we include those classrooms again in our bond requests? We approved it already...the mayor refused to do it; is that correct? The response was yes.

Mr. Balducci also stated – one of the capital items, the repaving of

two schools that is part of the Repair and Renovation bond. That is for about \$185,000. You mentioned \$135,000; I believe that's going to be it.

Mrs. Culhane stated – through the chair, I was at a meeting when we were talking to the mayor about the new school that he is proposing and the question that I asked directly to him was why it is that the voters approved bond money for those specific repairs that you talked about but yet the bonds have not been sold and the mayor's response is the economy isn't good, the bond rating isn't good, (which is not necessarily the case at this point in time), and that is why the bonds weren't sold. And, my question was, as we go for this capital budget and will continue to be and I would hope that your questions as taxpayers would be also, how is the mayor planning on funding a school and how can he fund a new school while he has not allowed and the Council has not allowed for the approval of bonds that were voted upon by the taxpayers for improvements that are desperately needed at the schools we currently have. That's a question that every single one of you in this room, every single one of us should be asking. I have asked it.

Mr. Traficante stated – I think it would behoove all of us to pay particular attention when the mayor announces the city budget what the capital budget is going to be for the city side and it should be somewhat fair and equitable to both sides so let's see if he is willing to take the authorities on the city side and not consider the authority we have had past several years ago on the school department side.

Mr. Bloom stated – How were these selected? Amongst what projects

were out there that we could be spending money on. There really no context on this. It would be very helpful I think for the constituents to know what is the list of projects that we have moved forward with or not moved forward with for this year, next year, the following year to ask to bless a request for \$900,000 without any context of what's coming up next year, what hasn't been funded this year. I personally can't make a decision on this tonight with....

Mr. Nero stated – Joel submitted a five-year plan for our capital improvements. I can tell you this, Stone Hill, Stadium School, their asphalt came up three years ago and it needed it then and then Steve Stycos represented the ward you presently have said why don't we put that off and do something else. If we put all the priorities up there and threw a dart... we really need to do all of these. We need to do something with the windows at Park View. Stadium and Stone Hill are priorities right now for the safety of the students.

Mr. Bloom asked – can we get the whole list? I would like to see the list of everything that is out there. You are asking us as the School Committee to bless and ask questions about what is appropriate and what is not and we're supposed to be responsive to the constituents so if we don't know what the context is...

Mr. Nero stated – We will discuss this at the April meeting and we will have Joel present and we will go over all the different things.

Mrs. McFarland stated – I think your question is a very interesting question because one of the things you need to go back and look at is not only the school side but on the city side; what the bonding authority was actually asked of the voters. We constantly go to the

voters every two years and ask for a number of capital items and you will see that there is particular streets, particular schools, particular items that are listed in those capital items but what happens we go through each year and decisions get made at different levels and somehow we lose sight of the things we have listed over the years both in that bonding authorization and then what actually gets brought to the table for capital improvement. So what I would request, in addition to your statement Mr. Bloom, that we also add what the bonding authority was, what the actual language was of the year that the voter actually put it in place and that will tell us if we're dealing with items here that are emergency in nature and we are disregarding what was actually put into the original bond and we're having to deal with emergency items to date and how far back and how long those authorizations by the voters go back and that we haven't been able to implement today. Some of these things go back twenty years, fifteen years and they have never been implemented and then we continue to wait without having the ability to bond because we're always saying we're in a predicament that we are financially unable to do that and we have to look at particular items only that we can actually bond today because they become an emergency. I would ask if we could do a little bit more research on that particular question and really look at the authorization as well.

Mr. Traficante stated – I'm not being critical, I'm being constructive. What I would have done, having sat in that seat several years back it resubmit the capital budget that we need and those science classrooms should have been resubmitted to the mayor. Let the

mayor reject it in his proposed budget. Now once we go to the City Council with the school budget adoption we can say, look we included in our capital budget the science classrooms, the mayor has rejected it. We want you to reconsider it and then let the Council make the decision whether that should be included or not. If it is not included in the original budget to resubmit then the Council can say well you didn't submit it anyway so why should we consider it. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Nero stated – in 1996 the voters approved a \$2.6 million dollar addition to Western Hills Middle School – this was never done. Now it would be three times that amount of money.

Mr. Bloom stated – part of the goal of what we tried to do with the new operating budget that was just submitted was greater accountability and transparency so unless we continue to bring forward things that we have submitted but have not been funded, we're neglecting our responsibility and so we really need a better document that an approval of two lines items. We need, this is what the capital requirements are for the next five years, whether they get approved or not...if they are not approved and they don't go forward then they need to show up there. That's the only way that we can communicate to the constituents and the parents in the schools that the things that we're supposed to be doing are being acted on.

AC Lombardi asked Mr. Balducci – Joe we have a timing problem correct with respect to this? Tonight is a critical date in order to approve these capital budget items.

Mr. Balducci stated – yes because we don't have another meeting

planned between now and April 1st.

AC Lombardi stated – for purposes of submitting a more conclusive list of capital items, tonight is a critical date correct?

Mrs. McFarland stated – well, we could plan another meeting.

Mr. Balducci stated – the mayor has to incorporate our request as part of his budget.

Mrs. McFarland stated – it has to go to Planning first so what is the date...you need to find out that date and I am more than willing to come back.

Mr. Votto stated – let's be very open and above board. There is a five year capital budget plan in place that this committee has received in the past. Every year we update the five year plan so you'll have been privy to that and in receipt of that number 1. Number 2, we met, obviously we haven't had any capital funding in the last couple of years because of the economic condition and obviously the situation the city is in in terms of their debt reduction and their debt exposure. We met with the Director of Finance on the city side, the mayor was unavailable, it was myself, Joe, Peter was there and Mr. Traficante as well, and you know that they looked at us and they were barely going to give us anything. They basically said it wasn't in the plans to give any capital money. What they did turn around and say to the Director of Plant and the Superintendent was give us your highest priority. Right now our highest priority is the windows in Park View. Just from the mere standpoint of the heat. We are converting that building over to natural gas. It would not make any sense not to do something with the windows and the exposure we have with energy if we are going to

go to natural gas and try to have cheaper energy and at the same time have it blow out the windows. We've kind of done our due diligence and gone hat in hand to the city, that's what we're told. You can go ahead and request all the science and all that. We didn't want it to get muddied up or get covered up with this big large figure and they ignore us quite honestly. So, the point is we've done what we had to do. If you want to amend it you have that right and you should go ahead and do it but the process was in place and there is a five year plan and that plan is updated every year.

Mr. Bloom stated – with all due respect, even though we submitted it, they ignored us on the middle school. So unless we submit to the city a comprehensive plan, not line items, but a comprehensive plan it doesn't matter. The only way that we are going to persuade them that they have been putting us off and putting us off is to continue to go back to them and tell them these things. So that five year plan, I think I saw it a couple of years ago, needs to be included as part of the submittal. We can highlight what the priorities are, if they are going to pick and choose we should be telling them this is what we need but it's got to be the whole document, not two line items.

Mrs. McFarland stated – we asked questions this year in our budget about the capital and we had zero in there so with all due respect there was nothing attached this year. I don't want people to think that we just disregarded it because there was no capital. This is the first time we're even talking about a capital item and two years ago I was still on the Council so I wasn't part of your five year plan in making it then and I have not seen the five year plan since then and I spent

several years on the Planning Commission as well and would advocate at that level, there are many people there that would advocate because there are no elected leaders anymore. I was the last elected leader who served on the Planning Commission so there are many public members who are taxpayers who would be advocating because they get a list of all the bonding authority and they get a list of all the capital items being requested so I clearly think we should put together another five year plan. If nothing has gone forward in two years, nothing has gone forward but those are made up the public and they should know a comprehensive list of items we are looking for. Not just two items because we think...or someone thinks those are the priority and not us thinking they are priority.

Mr. Traficante stated – Ray at that particular meeting, if you recall, we did refresh Mr. Strom’s memory about the fact that we did submit it two to three years back and it was approved therefore we would like to see it included again. Yes he did ask us for our number one, two and three items of importance. But I still say we should resubmit it because I’m kind of curious, I’m looking forward to knowing what the Police Department, what the Fire Department, what the Public Works Department submitted as their capital budget. I just want to see if the city is being fair to the School Department in terms of the authorities that are being considered.

Mr. Votto stated – if I may address Mr. Chairman, you are right Mr. Traficante, you should submit it then you should amend it but let’s clarify one thing. The city gets our five year plan every time the School Committee gets our five year plan. So the city has in their

possession, at Planning, in the Mayor's office, and in the City Council our five year plan. They know what we need and the priorities are listed Mr. Bloom. If you look at our five year plan it has for 2011-2012, and so forth and the priorities are listed in our plan. In due respect you can amend it to include the science labs, that's your prerogative, but that's the process we came to to make this particular decision.

Mrs. Culhane stated – I feel it is imperative that...if I may be so bold as to make a suggestion that we open up our books and schedule another meeting within the next week or so because I think we have a duty to the taxpayers and to the city as a whole and also to our own individual constituents to be able to say we met with administration and this is why these are a priority. Not that I disagree, I take Joel's word at it but I need to be able to explain and say I saw an entire list of everything and I know we get that list; we get a lot of lists; if we were supposed to get that list I would have liked it emailed to me so I could be looking at everything because Mrs. McFarland asked at our last budget hearing what our capital budget was and we were all told zero and now we're seeing this on the agenda so I don't feel I can support this tonight without really being informed about everything once again even if it is redundant and being able to see what the priorities are.

Mr. Bloom stated – We also have a responsibility to, even though this document is on file with the city, it needs to come out as part of the communication with the community every year. If it's stuck in a file cabinet it doesn't help. We need to remind everybody that these are the items that require attention, these are the priorities that have been

made and the only way we can do that is to resubmit the whole document with an explanation of why we are doing certain things every year.

A motion was made by Mr. Bloom to table this resolution; seconded by Mrs. Culhane. The roll was called:

Mr. Bloom Yes Mrs. Culhane Yes

Mrs. McFarland Yes Mrs. Ruggieri Yes

Mr. Traficante Yes Mr. Lombardi Yes

This resolution was tabled.

Sponsored by Ms. Iannazzi, Mr. Lombardi and Mr. Traficante

Resolution No. 11-3-21- Be it RESOLVED, that a permanent explanatory plaque, historical marker, or other similar item be prominently placed in the Cranston High School West auditorium to accompany the student works of art extending around the auditorium walls, indicating that the works of art are maintained out of respect for the student artists and for their historical significance and not because of any political, religious, or ethnic content that may be perceived in one or more of its elements.

Further, that the existing sub-committee prepare proposed language for the plaque, marker, or similar item.

A motion was made by Mrs. Ruggieri, seconded by Mr. Traficante.

Discussion.

Mrs. Ruggieri stated – when I first read the proposal for this resolution I did have a concern regarding the language towards the end of the first paragraph and Mrs. Culhane and myself had kind of discussed a friendly amendment to that and Mrs. Culhane will read that now.

Mr. Lombardi stated – having seen it I'm not so sure it's a friendly amendment...it's got to be under thirty words to be a friendly amendment so...

Mrs. Ruggieri stated the tone is friendly.

As amended by Mrs. Culhane:

Resolution No. 11-3-21- Be it RESOLVED, that a permanent explanatory plaque, historical marker, or other similar item be prominently be placed in the any Cranston High Public School West auditorium specifically but not limited to the banner at Cranston West to accompany the student works of art deemed to be of historical, cultural or artistic value to the school and/or community as determined by Cranston Public School Administration and/or the Cranston School Committee. extending around the auditorium walls, indicating that the works of art are maintained out of respect for the student artists and for their historical significance and not because of any political, religious, or ethnic content that may be perceived in one or more of its elements. The plaque, marker or other item shall be

placed and maintained out of respect for the student artist, to help guarantee that student works of excellence be protected and conserved for current and future generations, and for historical and cultural reasons without promoting any ethnic, political or religious content, element or elements contained or perceived to be contained therein.

Further, be it resolved that the existing a sub-committee prepare proposed language for the plaque, marker, or similar item.

AC Lombardi stated – okay that’s in the form of an amendment does anyone second that amendment? Seconded by Mrs. McFarland. Any discussion on the amendment? There being none the roll was called:

Mr. Traficante Yes Mrs. Ruggieri Yes

Mrs. McFarland Yes Mrs. Culhane Yes

Mr. Bloom Yes Mr. Lombardi Yes

The amendment passed unanimously.

AC Lombardi stated – on the resolution as amended; moved by Mrs. McFarland and seconded by Mrs. Ruggieri. There being no discussion the roll was called:

Mr. Bloom Yes Mrs. Culhane Yes

Mrs. McFarland Yes Mrs. Ruggieri Yes

Mr. Traficante Yes Mr. Lombardi Yes

This resolution as amended passed unanimously.

10. New Business

None.

11. Public Hearing on Non-agenda Items

Dick Tomlins, Cranston, RI

Mr. Tomlins spoke about the budget with the city and the need for us to be coordinated. Mr. Tomlins also spoke about the lack of publicity for meetings.

Christopher Young, Narragansett, RI

Mr. Young spoke about his dissatisfaction with the changing of resolution 11-3-21.

Mr. Young was declared out of order because he was speaking on an agenda item in the non-agenda portion of the meeting.

AC Lombardi stated to Mrs. Macera – just for clarification – Resolutions 11-3-1 passed, Resolution 11-3-2 – passed. Both resolutions were to uphold the decision of the Superintendent. Mrs. Macera responded yes.

Mr. Nero stated – in all the topics discussed this evening he wanted

to congratulate two bus drivers on their retirement – Sandy Benoit 24 years with Cranston Public School and Jean Smith, 36 years with Cranston Public Schools.

12. Announcement of Future Meetings – April 13 and April 25, 2011.

13. Adjournment

There being no new business to come before the School Committee a motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. McFarland and seconded by Mrs. Culhane. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Lombardi

Clerk

Cranston Public Schools

845 Park Avenue

MEDICATION POLICY #5141.2 (a)

The following operating procedures serve as a guide for those extreme cases where it is necessary that medication be administered at school. Medication may be taken by students at school under the following circumstances:

A. A document is on file in the school from a physician indicating permission for the student to receive the drug. The document must identify the drug, indicate the proper dosage, route, and when it is to be given.

B. A document is on file in the school office from the parent/guardian indicating that the student may receive the medication.

C. A student may be authorized to self-carry and/or self-medicate in school (excludes controlled substances).*

**D. Over the counter medication will not be administered under any circumstances unless the
above procedure is followed.**

E. The document on file in the school office from the physician and parent/guardian must be

renewed each school year.

F. Medication must be in a properly labeled container from the pharmacy.

G. Medication must be brought to and from school by the parent/guardian.

H. All medication stored within the school building must be locked inside a cabinet or safe.

I. Medication will not be administered until the school nurse verifies that the requirements are met.

J. Unless student is authorized to self-carry and/or self-medicate, medication must be administered by the school nurse or parent/guardian.

K. The School Nurse is authorized to consult the prescribing physician on any matters relating to the medication order.

Approved by School Physicians:

Albert J. Puerini, Jr., M.D. Date

Richard K. Ohnmacht, M.D. Date

***See Off-Site School Sponsored Activity policy**

H-10a

Rev. 12-10

Cranston Public Schools

845 Park Avenue

Cranston, Rhode Island 02910-2790

MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION

AT OFF-SITE SCHOOL SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

POLICY #5141.2 (aa)

The following operating procedures serve as a guide for those extreme cases where it is necessary that medication be self-administered at an off-site school sponsored activity. A student may self-carry and self-administer medication, including controlled substances, at an off-site school sponsored activity under the following circumstances:

D. A document is on file in the school from a physician indicating permission for the student to receive the drug. The document must identify the drug, indicate the proper dosage, route, and when it is to be given.

E. A document is on file in the school office from the parent/guardian indicating that the student may receive the medication.

F. The student must be authorized by the parent and the physician to self-carry and self-medicate at the off-site school sponsored activity.

D. Over the counter medication will not be administered under any circumstances unless the above procedure is followed.

L. The document on file in the school office from the physician and parent/guardian must be renewed each school year.

M. Medication will be stored and transported in its original prescription-labeled container (for prescription medications) or its manufacturer-labeled container (for non-prescription medication).

N. A day's supply of medication will be provided by the parent/guardian. In cases of extended off-site activities, the parent/guardian will provide a day's supply for each day of the activity.

O. The student is prohibited from sharing, transferring, or in any other way diverting his/her medication to any other person.

P. The School Nurse is authorized to consult the prescribing physician on any matters relating to the medication order.

Q. Per RI Rules and Regulations for School Health Programs, January 2009, Section 20.16, no school personnel shall be liable for civil damages...when a student self-carries and/or self-administers his/her own medication.

Approved by School Physicians:

Albert J. Puerini, Jr., M.D. Date

Richard K. Ohnmacht, M.D. Date

H-10aa

Rev. 12-10

MEDICATION AUTHORIZATION - #5141.2 (b)

School _____ Grade _____

_____ Room _____

Student

Name _____

(Last)

(First)

(Date of Birth)

Address _____ Home

Phone _____

I understand that special permission is required for the use of medication by students during school hours and that the School Nurse is authorized to consult with the prescribing physician on matters relating to this order. I request that my child be given the medication described below or be permitted to self-carry/self-medicate as authorized by me and my physician.

(Parent/Guardian Signature) (Date)

This Section To Be Completed by Physician

Medication _____ Daily _____

_____ PRN _____

Dose _____ Route _____ Time _____ Fr

equency _____

Describe

Indications _____

Side

Effects _____

Related

Diagnosis _____ **Allergies** _____

Other

Information _____

This child is authorized to self-carry and/or self-medicate in school, on a field trip, or activity away from school. Yes _____ No _____

(Physician Signature) (Date)

H-10b

12-10

March 21, 2011

5135.1

Policy Statement for Fund Raising /Commercialism for Cranston Public Schools

Commercial Goods, Services and Materials

The Cranston School Committee recognizes the importance of creating partnerships between Cranston's public schools and the business community to benefit our students. However, we also recognize that public schools must remain free from over commercialism; with that, the following policy has been established.

Materials produced by or for the school system may include recognition of the businesses that have provided funds, services

and/or products in support of the school program producing the material. However, the school logo must be the most prominently displayed feature on the material.

Advertising of commercial goods and services shall not may be permanently attached to school structures. nor be prominently displayed on the school property. However Also, a plaque of recognition or recognition at a public event of the donor or donated funds or services may be attached to the structure, providing the plaque does not include anything more than the name of the contributor, the nature of the contribution and the date it was contributed. (As an example a plaque in front of Cranston East in appreciation for all the donated landscaping work)

Only commercial goods that are being used to raise funds for student activities or charitable causes can be sold in schools or on school grounds and must comply with the existing Food Services contract. Any existing program utilizing commercial products, prior to the acceptance of this policy, is left to the discretion of central administration.

Delivery of Information

The Cranston School Committee recognizes that constant communication between our schools and families are an important tool for the well being of all students, faculty and the Cranston Public Schools. This is most effective by sending notices, materials, etc. home with students via backpacks, folders, etc. However, any public “notices” being sent home through Cranston public school students should be pre-approved by the Superintendent or his/her designee

and must adhere to the guidelines listed below:

For the purpose of this policy, “Notices” include, but are not limited to, flyers, brochures, newsletters, etc. including those from the City of Cranston Municipal Government, community service groups and non-profit community organizations.

Prohibited are “notices” for advertising of for-profit/corporate businesses (excluding materials produced by the school department, which recognize business participation), personal gain and/or political ventures (excluding notification of public meetings).

However, It should be noted that no “notice or communications” produced by the Cranston Public Schools or an affiliated fund raising organization, shall endorse or encourage the use of any specific for profit entity, product or service. shall contain content for personal gain and/or the promotion of political ventures (except for meetings).

Also prohibited are notices, not produced by Cranston Public Schools, which prominently display the name of any elected office-holder or elected office (except those in conjunction with notification of public meetings.) However, the same policy applies to elected officials as previously stated for for-profit entities, with respect to being recognized for the donation of any funds, services or products.

Policy Adopted: May 21, 2001 CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Resolution No. 01-5-35 CRANSTON, RI

Policy Amended: July 16, 2001

Resolution No.

5135.1 (a)

Procedures Related to Commercialism and Fund Raising

At the school level, the building principal shall approve notices of school/student/volunteer group activities. If the principal is unsure about a notice prepared for distribution, he/she may request authorization from the Superintendent/designee at any time. All notices, policies and materials passed between school and home or any ventures, materials, etc. sent home should reflect the community standards acceptable by the Cranston School Committee.

Financial Responsibility

Fiscal responsibility is paramount when funds are raised to support any school program. Because of this, the Cranston Public Schools recognize the necessity to have in place specific procedures as they pertain to the recording and reporting of financial information at both the administrative and organizational level.

The current student activity accounting procedures from the business office regarding the management of student funds will be followed for fund raising activities in the schools. The management of funds raised by the Parent - Teacher organizations will be excluded from the student activity accounting procedure. However, individual school Parent - Teacher organizations are required to maintain accurate fiscal records through their treasurers, per their by-laws, for the accounting of their funds. Also, fiscal accountability procedures must be included in their by-laws.

Door to Door Sales for Fundraising Purposes

Cranston Public Schools strongly discourages door-to-door sales for fund raising for a number of reasons. However, the School Committee understands that there may be times when the only logical way to attain funds for a student activity is to solicit door to door. Therefore, with this in mind, the following procedure is in place.

Door to door sales for the purpose of school activity fundraising is prohibited for all elementary and middle school students. High school students may participate in door-to-door sales for school related fundraising programs, but only at the discretion of the student's parent/legal guardian. The student's parent/legal guardian must sign a permission form (Exhibit A) that allows participation in such fundraisers. This permission form may be completed at the beginning of each school year and will be collected by the activity advisor/homeroom teachers. Cranston Public Schools strongly recommends adult supervision for all door-to-door sales.

Previously Acceptable Materials and Programs

Except where specifically noted, the policies and procedures expressed in this document shall not exclude previously acceptable materials and programs.

5135.1 (b)

Cranston Public Schools Fundraising Permission Slip High School Students Only

Policy Number 5135.1

Cranston Public Schools strongly discourages door-to-door sales.

However, we recognize that high school students may need to participate in door-to-door sales for school related fundraising programs but only at the discretion of a parent/legal guardian. The student's parent/legal guardian must sign a permission form that allows participation in such fundraisers. This permission slip may be completed at the beginning of each school year and will be collected by the activity advisor/homeroom teachers. Cranston Public Schools strongly recommends adult supervision for door-to-door sales.

Check One:

I give permission for my child to participate in door-to-door fundraising.

I give permission for my child to participate in fundraising without going door to door.

I do not give permission for my child to participate in fundraising activities.

Student _____ **Name**

Parent/Guardian _____ **Name** **(Print)**

Parent/Guardian _____ **Signature**

Date _____ **Signed**

Activity/Fundraiser _____ **Activity** **Advisor**

Exhibit A

Regulations adopted: May 21, 2001 CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Resolution No. 01-5-35 CRANSTON, RHODE ISLAND

Policy Amended: July 16, 2001

Resolution No. 01-7-