

# **CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**NOVEMBER 21, 2011**

**WESTERN HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:00 P.M.**

**PUBLIC SESSION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION**

## **MINUTES**

The regular School Committee meeting was held on the above date in the auditorium of Western Hills Middle School with the following members present: Chairperson Iannazzi, Mr. Lombardi, Mrs. Ruggieri, Mrs. Culhane, Mr. Traficante and Mr. Bloom. Mrs. McFarland was absent with cause.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. It was moved by Mr. Lombardi and seconded by Mrs. Ruggieri and unanimously carried that the members convene to Executive Session pursuant to RI State Laws PL 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel, (Termination Employee A)(Superintendent's Contract)(Assistant Superintendent's Contract); PL 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation; (Contract Negotiations' Update – Custodians), (Consideration of legal options regarding status of aid to education appropriation and legal advice relating to same).

### **Call to Order – Public Session**

The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted along with a moment of silence in remembrance of Joseph Coccia, a former principal at Cranston West. The roll was called; a quorum was present.

Chairperson Iannazzi stated no votes were taken in Executive

**Session.**

**Executive Session Minutes Sealed – November 21, 2011**

**Moved by Mr. Lombardi, seconded by Mrs. Culhane and unanimously carried to seal the minutes of Executive Session.**

**Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings – October 6, 12, 17 and 25, 2011.**

**Moved by Mr. Lombardi, seconded by Mr. Traficante and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of October 6, 12, 17, and 25, 2011.**

**Public Acknowledgements/Communications – none.**

**Chairperson's Communications**

**Ms. Iannazzi stated – I would just like to point out to members of the public that the proposed hearings on the Achievement First Mayoral Academy will take place on December 7 and 8, 2011. RIDE has not released the location or time for these hearings. That is all the information we have as of this date.**

**Sub-Committee Reports –**

**Mrs. Culhane stated – I would just like to point out the slide that is to my left (attached to these minutes). I know that I have in my capacity as a school committee member and I think all of the other school committee members have received emails and letters from many of the custodians and family members of custodians and they seem to be very serious in indicating that all of our administrators have received raises or bonuses while members of the custodian group**

have not. I felt very strongly that the accurate information needed to be put out there for everybody. I think it is fair to say that everybody has shared in the burden of having to have increased co-shares; some groups have gone without raises but as you can see here – our certified administrators as well as non-certified administrators have not seen raises, some of them for five years. So I just think it is important to get the correct information out there. While some of the letters we are receiving are saying raises are happening, you can clearly see here these raises are not happening for this group. There are no hidden bonus, no secret perks, this is it folks.

Ms. Iannazzi stated – additionally Mrs. Culhane there are no steps for those people as well.

#### **Public Hearing:**

a. Students (Agenda/Non-agenda items) – there were none.

b. Members of the Public (Agenda matters only)

**Annette Bourne, 51 Community Drive**

Ms. Bourne stated she was offering her gratitude on behalf of resolution 11-11-2 regarding the inclusion of CEAB and SEPAB parents on sub-committees to come.

Ms. Bourne also spoke on a non-agenda item and stated – this is going to begin our third session of what she is calling the performance audit budget. What she would like to ask the committee and district leadership is that let's not think about this only in performance audit years but with every year that we do something

now , let's think about year six after the audit going to be. She also spoke about being a strong supporter of the music program and spoke on behalf of all the other programs that were cut.

Fred Lataille, 4 Doric Avenue, employee of CPS for over 27 years.

Mr. Lataille stated – this is my second time up here speaking on behalf of the custodians. I am not against the superintendent or assistant superintendent getting a contract, they work just as hard as custodians do but the custodians are being asked to make serious concessions and take a serious pay cut and stuff and yet I do not see anything on the agenda whatsoever that is asking the assistant superintendent or the superintendent to take any serious cuts on their behalves. I believe the cuts should have to come from the top before you can go to the bottom. We've been making serious concession and we have been making serious cuts over the years. We've been the first bargaining unit to step to the plate and help out the school district in every way and every way possible we can. We've always done it; we've always been there. We work hard at our jobs, day and night on these jobs. This is their livelihood, this is their second home. If you ask my opinion I think it's their first home. I think some of these guys actually live in these schools. They work hard for the students and the taxpayers. There isn't nothing they can't do or wouldn't do. I've listened to these private companies come here and they pitch these million dollar packages out here at you people and they are telling you that your schools are clean. Why would you want to privatize them if they are clean? I don't understand that. They also tell you they don't know how Joel Zisseron does it. Well I can tell

you how he does it; he does it on these guys. These guys work hard. There isn't nothing they wouldn't do for him. I have heard Joel say that a number of times to people. They do it and they will continue to do it. Please don't privatize these guys. Give them a job, keep them working. They got mortgages to pay, they got homes and stuff. They're going to live on the street if they lose these jobs. I think what you are asking in so far as cuts go with these guys you're going to put them at poverty level just like these companies are. It's not right, it's wrong. We don't make a hundred thousand dollars a year. We're thirty to forty thousand a year salaries and we will make concessions and we will make cuts as is needed but please this is not right, it is wrong. It can't always fall on the backs of the small bargaining unit. You can't keep cutting the bottom, there has to be something at the top. There has to be. Thank you.

**Paul Saccoccia**

Mr. Saccoccia stated – I can't say it better than Mr. Lataille who spoke on behalf of the custodians. As you know we are presently still in active negotiations with the school department so I am not going to get into details with that. I am trying to come to a resolution that is satisfactory to both sides. However, timing is everything and looking at two contracts that are up tonight for consideration, the superintendent and the assistant superintendent, I don't obviously have anything against them either but I've always been told lead by example and when...according to the sheet that I have, no raises for the next three years proposed in their packages, they are also from what I see, there is no request for cuts in their salaries which

collectively equal almost \$400,000 dollars for two people. So I would ask that if when we have almost 90 to 100 custodians, families that have houses and obligations and are being requested to cut their salaries and cut their benefits and so forth so they can keep their jobs I think it is very disingenuous when you have a proposal on the table for two people that are making a substantial amount of money, not saying they don't earn it but again if everybody is supposed to sacrifice in these times we're asking our members either take something or be privatized and you don't have any reduction for the higher level administrators. It's a tough bullet to take. I would just ask as a fiduciary responsibility for the school committee that they maybe puts these contracts in abeyance and don't approve them without no reduction in salary so that we can continue to negotiate in good faith with the operative that we are going to try to take pay cuts and higher costs. It is very difficult to do when contracts at this level are being approved with none of that in place. So I ask at this time that you take that under advisement.

Ms. Iannazzi stated – I know that Superintendent Nero has a lot to say in response to the two speakers that just spoke. But Mr. Saccoccia – you just used the word disingenuous and because you used that word I am now going to use that word. I think it is disingenuous to say that the two salaried individuals make approximately \$400,000. You are taking their entire package. Their salaries are not almost \$200,000 apiece. Their salaries total \$260,000 not \$400,000.

Mr. Saccoccia responded – that is correct. I consider the package total as when I negotiate I've always told the total package you have

**to approve so salary and benefits come out to that.**

### **Consent Agenda/Consent Calendar**

**The proposed Consent Agenda is: 11-11-1, 11-11-3, 11-11-5, 11-11-6 w/addendum, 11-11-7, 11-11-8 w/addendum, 11-11-9 through 16, 11-11-17 was withdrawn, 11-11-18, 11-11-19, 11-11-21 through 11-11-24. Moved by Mr. Lombardi, seconded by Mr. Traficante. The roll was called; all were in favor.**

**&#8195;**

### **RESOLUTIONS**

**Sponsored by the School Committee**

**NO. 11-11- 1- WHEREAS: Rhode Island currently has a regional delivery system for career and technical preparation programs of studies; and**

**WHEREAS: Regional programs of study allow for economics of scale in supporting high quality career preparation programs and eliminate duplication of programs within a region; and**

**WHEREAS: Over the past forty-eight (48) years, over 100 million dollars have been spent to establish an infrastructure for regional career and technical education; and**

**WHEREAS: Under the present regional structure, all career and technical education students are entitled to access to any career and technical offering in any of the regional career and technical centers in the State of Rhode Island; and**

**WHEREAS: The Rhode Island Board of Regents for Elementary & Secondary Education (the “Regents”) has issued for public hearing and comment a set of draft Regulations Governing Career and Technical Education dated September 30, 2011; and**

**WHEREAS: Said draft Regulations, both expressly and as applied, substantially change the delivery system for career and technical programs in the following ways:**

- In lieu of providing students their program choice within a specific set of competencies, local education agencies may now offer alternative, materially similar RIDE approved career preparation if the alternative falls within the same career cluster or provides the student the opportunity to earn an industry credential in the same career cluster or occupational area even if the competencies of the program are different;**
  - As a result, individual school districts are likely to deny student access to the regional career and technical centers in favor of offering less comprehensive courses or less variety of course offerings for career and technical education;**
  - Students will be denied access to programs outside of their region due to the lack of available transportation from the sending district and due to the regulations that take away the right that students had to automatically participate in unique programs in in other regions;**
- and**

**WHEREAS:** The maintenance of a proven, viable and successful career and technical education program is vital to the economy of the State of Rhode Island.

**RESOLVED:** That the Cranston School Committee respectfully requests that the Regents vote to reject the draft Regulations in favor of the present delivery system; alternatively, the Cranston School Committee requests that the Regents hold final approval of these regulations to further study the impact that these regulations will have on the current regional centers;

**RESOLVED;** That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to every Regent, the Rhode Island Commissioner of Elementary & Secondary Education, each of the Regional Career and Technical Centers in the State of Rhode Island and Rhode Island Governor Lincoln Chafee.

**&#8195;**

**Sponsored by Stephanie A.G. Culhane and Janice Ruggieri:**

**NO. 11-11- 2- Whereas the Cranston School Committee, frequently forms sub committees to explore and report on a variety of subjects and**

**Whereas members of the public are asked to sit on said sub committees and**

**Whereas the Cranston Educational Advisory Board (CEAB) was formed in 1979 by the Cranston School Committee to serve in an**

**advisory capacity to the superintendent and the school committee on many school related subjects and**

**Whereas the Special Education Parents Advisory Board (SEPAB) is a state mandated advisory board composed of individuals involved in or concerned with the education of children with disabilities**

**Be it hereby resolved that when forming sub committees, the Cranston School Committee will request one parent representative from CEAB's voting body and one parent representative from SEPAB's voting body. This shall take effect upon passage of resolution.**

**Moved by Mrs. Culhane; seconded by Mrs. Ruggieri. Discussion.**

**Mrs. Culhane stated – Mrs. Ruggieri and I both represent this resolution this evening. I am the school committee representative for Cranston Education Advisory Board (CEAB) which for those don't know it's a group that was formed by the school committee in 1979 and there is one parent representative and hopefully an alternate from each school in the district and the intent of that group is to come up with advisory opinions or discuss issues that pertain to the students and parents within the schools. Mrs. Ruggieri can speak on her role in SEPAB which is the Special Education Advisory Board but I feel it is important that when we form committees we are typically, for most of the committees, and we will offer an amendment tonight on this but for most of the committees that we have we are always asking for parent representatives and I can't see any better way to have a parent representative then one from CEAB and one from SEPAB but I think that the amendment that I would offer this evening and a friendly**

amendment if we can, is that these committees will not include any negotiating committees because those are things that are obviously can't include parents from the public or members of the public. Those are strictly between the bargaining groups and the school committee representatives. So I would just ask to add an amendment to this that would exclude any negotiating subcommittee.

Mrs. Ruggieri stated – as Mrs. Culhane said I am actually the representative on the Special Education Advisory Parents Advisory Board. This board is a state mandated board and we meet monthly and the ultimate goal of this board is to have a dialog between the school committee and this group that acknowledges any changes that occur that effect special education students as well as our regular ed students. As well as creating policies and making sure all of the things that are attributed to a special education are addressed so we did feel that when there was parent representation required for a sub-committee that this representation would encompass the entire school community.

Mr. Lombardi stated – just a simple question. The intent is not to...that there will also be a parent representative that is not a member of CEAB and SEPAB. In addition was the response from Mrs. Ruggieri.

Ms. Iannazzi asked Mr. Lombardi to assume the chair.

Ms. Iannazzi stated – I would also...the sponsors, their intent is to add CEAB and SEPAB representatives to the committees that we serve on as liaisons? I think the wording is a little bit broad in the amendment so I think...I don't know if you would entertain an amendment that

said whenever possible or whenever appropriate. As an example we have liaisons to the Parks and Rec committee that is technically a sub-committee of the school committee. School Buildings committee is technically a sub-committee of the school committee. There are others. So if your intent is whenever there is a sub-committee is formed, where it is appropriate and it doesn't involve personnel or negotiations or legal action (which we also saw with the prayer lawsuit) then I would be completely supportive but I just want to make sure we're not setting ourselves up for any litigation by including members of the public where there is not a charter mandated seat like on School Buildings.

Mrs. Culhane stated – our intention in writing this was any newly formed sub-committee, not standing sub-committees such as the ones you are referencing. So if you want to add in the language of the friendly amendment, with the exception of negotiating subcommittees, standing committees and any committees regarding personnel or potential litigation...

Mrs. Ruggieri stated – there is language that says, Be it resolved that when forming sub-committees so if you wanted to put it in there...

Mr. Bloom stated – I think what we are discussing here makes a lot of sense. I just would like to be able to think about this and vote on it at a subsequent meeting after we have had a chance to draft the amendment and make sure we have covered all of our basis in terms of what should be excluded, what shouldn't be excluded and so on.

Mrs. Culhane asked – do you think this is something Chair that we would need to put before our attorneys to make sure...

**Mr. Lombardi stated – I don't think it is a legal issue at all. It is a question of whether one member of the school committee is asked for consideration and that it be held in abeyance until the actual amendment is put on or you can call it to a vote, either way.**

**Ms. Iannazzi asked – so Mr. Bloom was that a request or a motion to table?**

**Mr. Bloom stated – we received this as part of the package. In a sense we are making a decision here and it's not one off the top of my head that I have an objection to. To include a representative into everything that we do, because we can do this right now. This is not something that we need a resolution in order to do so I think the intent here, and please correct me if I am wrong, it to impose this on the school committee so we do have the parental involvement in whatever these decisions are and so not having had a chance to think this through whether there might be a contrary position where we might not want to I would like to have thirty days for us to think about this and so at the next meeting it has been a thought out decision that this is what it is going to encompass.**

**Mr. Lombardi stated – respectfully I don't see the need to do that. I think that we have sufficiently covered our basis in the fact that any standing committees currently now, we are not going to retroactively place members of these two parent groups on those committees. We are going to form in contemplation on committees that may form that have specific identifiable purposes that are not within the excluded purposes such as legal, such as personnel and negotiations, and things of that kind. I think we are sufficiently within our rights to do**

**that now. I see where there would be anything objectionable to it.**

**Ms. Iannazzi asked Mr. Votto – I don't know if this is the line you are going down by my question is – in order for this to be binding on future school committees should it be in policy rather than a resolution.**

**Mr. Votto answered from the floor and was unable to be heard by this recorder.**

**Mr. Lombardi stated – but respectfully that is a function of administration. That is not a school committee sub-committee. This is pertaining to subcommittees that we create so it's not your hiring team that interviews such as a special ed director or something of that nature.**

**Mrs. Culhane stated – to my colleague, Mr. Bloom, I have in the past recommended that a member of CEAB or SEPAB be included on a committee and it's either been voted down or said that it wasn't necessary and that is why I felt that this amendment was integral to what we do to codify exactly what Mrs. Bourne said. The fact that it is important to have representatives from both of those groups that are chartered; one is by the state and the school committee and one is chartered by the school committee to include them. I don't have any problem voting on this tonight. If you have some serious concerns and you feel you want to table it that's your motion to make but I don't really feel...considering the fact that we've put this friendly amendment in that there is really any more thought that would need to go into being sure that we include our two most important parent groups on all of our sub-committees notwithstanding the ones that**

**we mentioned.**

**Ms. Iannazzi stated – Mrs. Culhane, just to be clear I have no problem approving the resolution but I would recommend that you and Mrs. Ruggieri come back with policy if you want it to be binding on future school committees.**

**Mr. Bloom asked – is that the intent to have it binding on future policy of the school committee.**

**Mrs. Culhane responded – I would hope it would be.**

**Mr. Bloom stated – if that is the case then it would need to come back.**

**Ms. Iannazzi explained – a policy has to be voted on in two consecutive months. This resolution will serve as an interim until a policy is enacted.**

**RESOLUTION AS AMENDED:**

**NO. 11-11- 2- Whereas the Cranston School Committee, frequently forms sub committees to explore and report on a variety of subjects and**

**Whereas members of the public are asked to sit on said sub committees and**

**Whereas the Cranston Educational Advisory Board (CEAB) was formed in 1979 by the Cranston School Committee to serve in an advisory capacity to the superintendent and the school committee on many school related subjects and**

**Whereas the Special Education Parents Advisory Board (SEPAB) is a state mandated advisory board composed of individuals involved in**

**or concerned with the education of children with disabilities**

**Be it hereby resolved that when forming sub committees (with the exception of negotiating subcommittees, standing committees and any committees regarding personnel or potential litigation), the Cranston School Committee will request one parent representative from CEAB's voting body and one parent representative from SEPAB's voting body. This shall take effect upon passage of resolution.**

**The roll was called; all were in favor.**

**Superintendent's Communications**

**Mr. Nero stated – as you know Cranston High School West won the Freshmen State Championship this weekend and I think they deserve a well round of applause. As you know, two years ago we eliminated freshmen sports, those are not funded. The funding that is used for the coach is generated by the team through the sale of cards and other fundraisers during the course of the year and that's how we fund freshmen sports.**

**I would also like to congratulate Mr. Traficante. He is on the Board of Directors for the NEL/CPS Construction Career Academy Charter School. We got word today that they are receiving a \$78,000 grant from the Champlin Foundation for technology and I ask Mr. Traficante to take back to the director and all the staff there – our congratulations on a \$78,000 grant.**

**I apologize that I was not here for the beginning portion of the meeting. I was not ducking the open session here but every year Senator Reed hosts College Night for college planning night over at**

**Cranston West and it is always this night; the night of our school committee meeting. I went over to bring greetings to the crowd. There were 330 parents there. I also told them that 96% of the students last year from West are presently in college and 80% of the students from Cranston East are presently in college.**

**I understand that my contract as well as that of my assistant superintendent came up so I would like to set the record straight. First of all as many of you know I took over as superintendent, as Frank Lombardi said it was like 911 and nothing certainly compares that particular time in our lives but we had some very difficult times. I came to central administration in the year of 2006. I've always taken the high road in every position in everything that I have done in this district except for once last year as I responded to the mayor's editorial, his op-ed piece. I felt it appropriate to respond accordingly. It is my understanding tonight there has been some significant discussion as there have been letters floating around and I think these slides speak for themselves in terms of...I don't want to pick on any one particular group so again I will set the record straight.**

**A year and a half ago our secretaries went through arbitration. At that time it was the right of the school committee, since they had gone through arbitration except in areas of language, they could have made unilateral decisions such as East Providence and places like that where they could have cannibalized the contract, the money, gone in and gone deeper in terms in what the arbitrator awarded and as many of you know, when the question was asked of the superintendent on that I said they've already made significant cuts**

already I would suggest we not make any unilateral cuts. It is my understanding it has been asked to table my contract tonight and all I am asking for is an extension as well as Dr. Lundsten. In the six years that I have been in central administration I have never received a raise. I received more money when I became superintendent because of the job responsibilities that go along with it. But I am not alone. Mr. Votto, Mr. Balducci, have all gone since 2006-2007 without a raise. There have been questions on bonuses. One year, the school committee, instead of giving us a raise, on the floor gave a little bit more money but it wasn't towards our salary increase. I would also like to set the record straight that this particular bargaining unit we had pulled in and again, if we are going to start getting into negotiating contracts in public, and people who know me know that I have been a fair negotiator wherever the contract is. Whether it is teachers, bus aides, teacher assistants, bus drivers, you name it I have been a fair negotiator. But for the record we did bring in this bargaining unit a year ago last summer and for the record I asked...because I had a heart to heart conversation with John Carbone and I asked would you be interested in reopening the contract to take a freeze and extend it out for three years and John always being a gentleman and saying, I would rather save jobs then lose jobs. He brought the board of which was Fred Lataille and Steve Dail and sat down and shook his head and couldn't believe Mr. Lataille and why we were there. I knew the economy was not going to get better; it was going to get worse. The custodians are not competing with me; they are competing with other entities including

**their own contract. Again, for the record, John Carbone was willing to go forward, we would have had a contract now with still a year and a half left on it but we don't. I think it is unfair that this had to happen unfortunately but I have to respond accordingly.**

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

**NO. 11-11- 3- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the re-appointment of the Assistant Superintendent (3 year contract) effective July 1, 2012 be approved. Fiscal Analysis attached.**

**NO. 11-11- 4- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the School Committee, the reappointment of the Superintendent (3 year contract) effective July 1, 2012 be approved. Fiscal Analysis attached.**

**A motion was made by Mrs. Culhane; seconded by Mrs. Ruggieri. Ms. Iannazzi stated – I believe Cranston is beyond fortunate to have the leadership of Superintendent Peter Nero and Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Judy Lundsten. They are an invaluable asset to our district. Any district would be lucky to have them and I know that other districts, in fact, want them. So anything we can do to extend our contract with them is really a blessing for the city of Cranston.**

**Mrs. Ruggieri stated – I did also want to add I think it would be interesting to people if you looked at other districts to see what their superintendents and assistant superintendents are making to realize we are getting more than our monies worth from these people and I just wanted to make that clear.**

**The roll was called; all were in favor with Mr. Lombardi recusing.**

#### **PERSONNEL**

**NO. 11-11-5- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year:**

**Jennifer Plympton, Step 12, Plus Masters**

**Education: Ithaca College, BS, MS**

**Experience: St. Joseph's Hospital**

**Certification: Speech & Language Pathologist**

**Assignment: Itinerant .3 FTE**

**Authorization: New**

**Effective Date: November 21, 2011**

**Fiscal Note: 12117010 51110**

**NO. 11-11-6- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:**

**Nancy, Radcliffe, Secondary Spanish/French**

**Jake Smith, Art, K-12**

**Carol Felino, Library Media, K-12**

**Nancy Derby, Early Childhood, PK-2**

**Mark Singleton, Secondary History**

**Jamie Beaudry, Art, K-12**

**Addendum - Added to Resolution No. 11-11-6 –**

**Anthony Del Signore, Secondary Math**

**NO. 11-11-7- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation(s) of the following certified personnel be accepted:**

**David Barr, Teacher**

**Cranston West**

**Effective Date: November 8, 2011**

**NO. 11-11-8- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual(s) be appointed as an athletic coach:**

**Keith Croft, Head Coach Boys' Indoor Track**

**Cranston High School West**

**Step 4; Class B**

**Playing Competition: High School**

**Experience: Bishop Hendricken Football Coach**

**Certification: RI Coaches Certification; CPR/AED/First Aid**

**Gerard Marzilli, Assistant Coach Boys' Basketball**

**Cranston High School West**

**Step 7; Class B**

**Playing Competition: High School**

**Experience: Cranston West Freshman Coach Boys' Basketball**

**Certification: RI Coaches Certification; CPR/AED/First Aid**

**Addendum -Added to Resolution No. 11-11-8 –**

**David Sampson, Assistant Coach Hockey**

**Cranston High School East**

**Step 3**

**Class D**

**Playing Competition- High School**

**Experience – Cranston East Volunteer Hockey Coach**

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

**NO. 11-11-9- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual(s) be reappointed as an athletic coach:**

**Cranston High School East**

**William Coughlin Head Coach Boys' Basketball**

**Isaiah McDaniel Assistant Coach Boys' Basketball**

**Lloyd Bochner Assistant Coach Girls' Basketball**

**Paul Bessette Head Coach Boys' Hockey**

**Robert Bouchard Head Coach Boys' & Girls' Swimming**

**Robert LaBanca Head Coach Boys' Indoor Track**

**Dina Cesana Head Coach Girls' Indoor Track**

**Michael Penza Head Coach Wrestling**

**Richard Collum Assistant Coach Wrestling**

**Cranston High School West:**

**James Moretti Head Coach Boys' Basketball**

**Marty Crowley Head Coach Girls' Basketball**

**David Fontes Assistant Coach Girls' Basketball**

**Michael Boyajian Head Coach Boys' Hockey**

**Jamie Ferretti Head Coach Boys' & Girls' Swimming**

**Sheila Lagasse Head Coach Girls' Indoor Track**

**Jesus Berrio Assistant Coach Girls' Indoor Track**

**Matthew Claeson Head Coach Wrestling**

**James Royal Assistant Coach Wrestling**

**Cranston Co-op:**

**Ashley Pagliarini Head Coach: Girls' Hockey**

**Richard Torres Assistant Coach: Girls' Hockey**

**NO. 11-11-10- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual(s) be appointed as volunteer coach(es):**

**Cranston High School West**

**Rachel Knowlton, Girls' Basketball**

**NO. 11-11-11- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual(s) be reappointed as volunteer coach(es):**

**Cranston High School East**

**Carl Chiulli, Boys' Basketball**

**Ray Huelbig, Girls' Basketball**

**NO. 11-11-12- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of the following coach(es) be accepted:**

**Wayne Lindberg, Assistant Coach, Boys' Hockey**

**CHSW**

**Effective Date: November 9, 2011**

**NO. 11-11-13- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified employee(s) be**

**appointed:**

**Lynn Cull, Teacher Assistant**

**Gladstone Street School**

**Effective Date: October 24, 2011**

**Authorization: New**

**Fiscal Note: 21946050 51110**

**Kenneth Lotz, Part-time Custodian**

**Glen Hills Elementary School**

**Effective Date: November 22, 2011**

**Authorization: Replacement**

**Fiscal Note: 12847050 51110**

**Kevin Webster, Part-time Custodian**

**Woodridge Elementary School**

**Effective Date: November 22, 2011**

**Authorization: Replacement**

**Fiscal Note: 12147050 51110**

**Lisa Milson, Parent Outreach Worker**

**Cranston Family Center**

**Effective Date: November 22, 2011**

**Authorization: Replacement**

**Fiscal Note: 50919150 51110**

**Erin Pasquazzi, Site Coordinator**

**Cranston Community Learning Center/Kidsventure**

**Effective Date: November 14, 2011**

**Authorization: Replacement**

**Fiscal Note: 81519150 51110**

**NO. 11-11-14- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:**

**Michelle Fleming, Secretary**

**Kathleen Loiselle, Secretary**

**John Theroux, Custodian**

**Sheri Lynn Domenico, Bus Driver**

**NO. 11-11-15- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement(s) of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:**

**Janice Baker, Technical Assistant**

**Inactive**

**Effective Date: September 29, 2011**

**Louis LaStarza, Electrician**

**Plant**

**Effective Date: December 30, 2011**

**Carol Morenzi, Bus Aide**

**Transportation**

**Effective Date: December 1, 2011**

**NO. 11-11- 16- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation(s) of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:**

**Lisa Milson, Teacher Assistant**

**Garden City School**

**Effective Date: November 21, 2011**

**NO. 11-11- 17- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent the termination of non-certified employee A be accepted.**

#### **POLICY AND PROGRAM**

**NO. 11-11- 18- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2011-2012 School Committee Meeting and Work Session Schedule be amended (schedule attached).**

**NO. 11-11-19 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following Conferences/Field Trips of Long Duration be authorized:**

**1. Richard Abruzzini and Janis McGuirl, both from Cranston High School East, and approximately 14 DECA students to travel to Orlando, Florida to attend and participate in the DECA Sports and Entertainment Marketing Management Conference from February 1, 2012 to February 5, 2012, at no cost to the School Department. Please see attached Conference Form and back-up.**

**2. Christine Harrington, Music Teacher at Western Hills Middle School and Cranston High School West, to travel to Atlanta, GA, to attend the ASTA (American String Teachers Association) National Conference from March 21, 2012 – March 24, 2012, at no cost to the school department and no substitute needed (Coverage will be provided at each school). Ms. Harrington to pay all expenses. Please see the attached Conference Form and back-up.**

**3. Michael Traficante, Director of Athletics, to travel to Indianapolis, Indiana, to attend the National Athletic Directors' Conference on Professional Development from December 10, 2011 to December 14, 2011, at no cost to the School Department and no substitute needed. Please see the attached Conference Form.**

**4. Peter Nero, Superintendent, Thomas Barbieri, Principal of Hugh B. Bain Middle School, Joseph Rotz, Principal of Park View Middle School and David Regine, to travel to Orlando, Florida from January 24, 2012 – January 27, 2012 to attend the Florida Educational Technology Conference (FETC) at the Orange County Convention Center, at no cost to the School Department and no substitutes needed. All costs covered by Title I and Title II. Please see the attached Conference Forms.**

**5. Kelly Whaley, Program Manager of Bain +2 and Kid Venture, to travel to Washington, DC from December 13, 2011 – December 16, 2011 to attend the "4 H NMP" National Conference and to accept the**

**“Tech Wizards Grant”, at no cost to the school department. All expenses covered through the “4 H NMP Grant”. Please see attached Conference Form.**

**&#8195;**

## **PURCHASES AND PURCHASED SERVICES**

### **BUSINESS**

**No. 11-11-20- RESOLVED, approval of the understanding between the Cranston Public Schools and Sodexo effective in the 2011-2012 contract year; Sodexo shall take full responsibility of staffing and operating the breakfast program. In consideration of the foregoing the additional costs to Sodexo for providing such services shall reduce the guarantee to the District to Three Hundred Forty, Eight Hundred Ninety Eight Dollars (\$340, 898).**

**Moved by Mr. Lombardi; seconded by Mrs. Culhane. Mrs. Culhane stated – I just wanted a basic understanding of what this exactly means and how it will potentially impact savings moving forward.**

**Mr. Votto stated – as you may know, prior to Sodexo taking over the breakfast program, our breakfast program was overseen by a group of teacher assistants. Every year we would put it up at a special breakfast jamboree the different schools and people most of the time would select a job for one hour per day obviously every day of the school year that we offer breakfast. Over the years it has been kind of cumbersome to handle because what happens is when that teacher assistant for some reason should be absent or should be on a long term leave and last year we had three or four of those, the burden**

falls on our principals. So at the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year we decided to have internal conversations to say how can we better run this particular program to take the burden off the administration and at that point in time we decided (and Peter obviously led this effort) to reach out to Sodexo to see what we could do. They were more than willing to run our breakfast program. They have trained food service personnel who are running it and as you know the guarantee was more than what is currently on the agenda. So what we did was ask them to price it out, tell us how it would financially impact us and then Joe ran some numbers for us as a group before we made this decision and we looked at what it would cost us to pay our teacher assistants which also made them eligible for the retirement system which obviously increased our costs. (See handout #3 attached for the record).

Mr. Nero stated – just to make you aware, early on, I believe it was during the summertime, I did send a memo, and it was in your update regarding this. This just puts it into resolution form. This is something we discussed as we prepared to open up the school year.

Mr. Votto continued – as you can see in front of you the costs which we would have incurred as a district is \$116,393. At one particular time, Joe probably has better information than I do, that the state would kick in more money to offset our expenses and as you can see now it's down to \$13,690. At one time they paid for the whole program and then they gradually as they have in the past for many things, have started to reduce that. So our costs if we had run it internally was \$102,703, the difference in the guarantee as you can see was

**\$85,191 so it was a net savings for us to go in this direction because we will no longer have the personnel costs or capital costs so that savings will be \$17,512.**

**Mr. Bloom asked – what happens to the people? Are the teacher assistants still being paid?**

**Mr. Votto stated – the teacher assistants, for the most part Mr. Bloom, are three hour teaching assistants and they will be able to bid on this particular position and pick up an additional hour so unless they have retired or resigned, all the teaching assistants that were in the breakfast program are still in the district as three hour teaching assistants. There was one or two who were six hours but the majority are three hour teaching assistants and they are still employed.**

**The roll was called; all were in favor.**

**No. 11-11-21- RESOLVED, that the Administration be authorized to establish the following tuition rates for the 2011-2012 school year:**

**Half Day Kindergarten      \$ 6,039**

**Grades 1 – 12      \$12,078**

**Special Education      \$55,609**

**Career & Technical Center – Regular      \$14,516**

**Career & Technical Center – Resource (1-2 classes)      \$35,063**

**Career & Technical Center – Self-Contained (3-5 classes)      \$55,609**

**Sanders Academy      \$44,743**

**Transition Program      \$23,857**

**NO. 11-11-22- RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved:**

**Reconditioning of Football Equipment be awarded as follows:**

**Helmet \$21.50 Riddell**

**Shoulder Pad \$ 8.40 Stadium**

**Rib Pad \$ 1.99 Riddell**

**Game Jersey \$ 1.15 Stadium**

**Game Pant \$ 1.70 Stadium**

**Number of bids issued 3**

**Number of bids received 3**

**NO. 11-11-23- Purchase, delivery and installation of a Basketball Scoreboard for Cranston High School East in the amount of \$5,995.**

**Number of bids issued 4**

**Number of bids received 1**

**NO. 11-11-24- Diplomas for the years 2011-12; 2012-13; and 2013-14 at the price of \$3.92 per diploma and \$2.36 for covers only**

**Number of bids issued 4**

**Number of bids received 2**

**New Business – no new business.**

**Public Hearing on Non-agenda Items – no speakers.**

**Announcement of Future Meetings – December 7 and December 12, 2011.**

**Adjournment**

**There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Lombardi, seconded by Mrs. Ruggieri. All were in favor.**

**The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Frank S. Lombardi**

**Clerk**