

CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2012

WESTERN HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

400 PHENIX AVENUE

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 6:00 P.M.

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED BY PUBLIC SESSION

MINUTES

The regular 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: Chairperson Iannazzi, Mr. Lombardi, Mrs. Ruggieri, Mr. Traficante, Mr. Bloom and Mrs. Culhane. (Mrs. McFarland was absent with cause)

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. It was moved by Mr. Lombardi and seconded by Mr. Bloom and unanimously carried that the members convene to Executive Session pursuant to RI State Laws PL 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel (Administrator Contracts); PL 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation; (Ahlquist vs. Cranston School Committee), (Contract Negotiations' Update – Custodians, Secretaries), (Maintenance of Effort), (Consideration of Legal Options regarding status of aid to education appropriation and legal advice relating to same).

Call to Order – Public Session was called to order at 6:36 p.m. The

Pledge of Allegiance was conducted and the roll was called. A quorum was present. No votes were taken in Executive Session.

Executive Session Minutes Sealed – April 23, 2012. A motion to seal these minutes was made by Mr. Lombardi and seconded by Mr. Traficante. The roll was called; all were in favor.

Minutes of Previous Meetings Approved – March 14 and March 19, 2012. Moved by Mr. Lombardi and seconded by Mr. Traficante. The roll was called; all were in favor.

Public Acknowledgements / Communications – There were none.

Chairperson's Communications – There were none.

Superintendent's Communications – There were none.

School Committee Member Communications – There were none.

Public Hearing

- a. Students (Agenda/Non-agenda Matters) – There were none.**
- b. Members of the Public (Agenda Matters Only) – There were none.**

Consent Agenda / Consent Calendar

The proposed Consent Agenda/Calendar are as follows: No's: 12-4-04, 12-4-05, 12-4-06, 12-4-07, 12-4-08, 12-4-09, 12-4-10, 12-4-11,

12-4-12, 12-4-13, 12-4-14, 12-4-15, 12-4-16, 12-4-17 (with addendum), 12-4-18, 12-4-19 (with addendum), 12-4-21, 12-4-22, 12-4-23, and 12-4-24. Moved by Mr. Lombardi and seconded by Mr. Traficante. The roll was called; all were in favor.

SPONSORED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

NO. 12-4-4 – Be it RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, pursuant to R.I. General Laws 16-2-3, the Cranston School Committee petitions the R.I. Board of Regents for Elementary & Secondary Education and the RI Commissioner of Education to allow the School Committee to reduce the number of days for the students at Edward S. Rhodes Elementary School from 180 to 179 as a result of the school closure on January 20, 2012.

Said request for reduction in school days is brought as a result of the school closure due to the rupture of the water main directly in front of the school which resulted in no water to the school and no operable toilets. This resulted in a health threat to the students.

ADMINISTRATION – PERSONNEL

NO. 12-4-05- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, said certified administrator be renewed as follows:

**David Aulenbach, Assistant Principal for Special & Related Services
Cranston High School East**

Contract Effective Date: July 1, 2012

See Attached Financial Impact Analysis

NO. 12-4-06- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, said certified administrator be renewed as follows:

Marlene Gamba, Principal

Edgewood Highland

Contract Effective Date: July 1, 2012

See Attached Financial Impact Analysis

NO. 12-4-07- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, said certified administrator be renewed as follows:

Timothy Vesey, Assistant Principal

Western Hills Middle School

Contract Effective Date: July 1, 2012

See Attached Financial Impact Analysis

NO. 12-4-08- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, said certified administrator be appointed as follows:

Kristin Ward, ELL District Administrator

Horton Building

Contract Effective Date: July 1, 2012

See Attached Financial Impact Analysis

NO. 12-4-09- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed for the 2011-2012 school year:

Cristina Bello...Step 1 + MAT

Education...URI, BA, URI, MAT

Experience...Cranston Substitute Teacher

Certification...Elementary

Assignment...Gladstone 1.0 FTE

Effective Date...January 2, 2012

Authorization...Replacement

Fiscal Note...50919121 51110

NO. 12-4-10- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

Katherine O’Kane, Library Media Specialist K-12

Jose Dajer, Secondary Math

NO. 12-4-11- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement of the following certified personnel be accepted:

William Morris, Teacher

Bain

Effective Date...June 30, 2012

Dwight Barrett, Teacher

Cranston West

Effective Date...June 30, 2012

Patricia Sammartino, Social Worker

Itinerant

Effective Date...June 30, 2012

Paula Asadoorian, Teacher

Eden Park

Effective Date...June 30, 2012

Patricia Almy, Teacher

Edgewood

Effective Date...June 30, 2012

NO. 12-4-12- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation(s) of the following certified personnel be accepted:

Jennifer Mooney, Teacher

Leave

Effective Date...June 30, 2012

NO. 12-4-13- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual(s) be appointed as an athletic coach:

Jason Ward, Assistant Boys' Coach Outdoor Track

CHSE

Step-4

Class-D

Playing Competition-High School

Experience-None

Certification-RI Coaches Certification; CPR\AED\First Aid

NO. 12-4-14- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual(s) be reappointed as an athletic coach:

Cranston High School East:

John Palumbo Head Coach Co-ed Golf

Cranston High School West:

Chris Sullivan Head Coach Co-ed Golf

Joseph Salimeno Assistant Coach Co-ed Golf

Michael Soscia Head Coach Girls' Lacrosse

Ralph Sacco Assistant Coach Boys' Volleyball

NO. 12-4-15- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individuals be appointed as volunteer coaches:

Cranston High School West

Derek DiMaio Baseball

NO. 12-4-16- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individuals be reappointed as volunteer coaches:

Cranston High School West

Charles Pearson Girls' Lacrosse

Michael Schiappa Baseball

Cranston High School East

Thomas Centore Baseball

NO. 12-4-17- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified employee(s) be appointed:

Dominique Buccarfuri, Teacher Assistant

Eden Park

Effective Date...February 27, 2012

Authorization...Replacement

Fiscal Note...11846020 51110

Mayra Erklauer, Bus Driver (probationary)

Transportation

Effective Date...February 27, 2012

Authorization...Replacement

Fiscal Note...10345192 51110

NO. 12-4-18- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

Matthew Deluca, Custodian

Lori Denton, Bus Driver

Roland Lataille, Custodian

NO. 12-4-19 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement(s) of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:

Michael Traficante, Director

Athletics

Effective Date...June 30, 2012

BUSINESS

Purchases and Purchased Services

NO. 12-4-21- Resolved, that the following purchases be approved:

Printed forms in the amount of \$4,273.08. Purchase contingent upon the availability of funds in the 2012-2013

Number of bids issued 3

Number of bids received 2

Photocopy supplies in the amount of \$31,105.41. Purchase contingent upon the availability of funds in the 2012-2013

Number of bids issued 5

Number of bids received 3

Family and Consumer Science supplies in the amount of \$1,762.29. Purchase contingent upon the availability of funds in the 2012-2013

Number of bids issued 5

Number of bids received 1

Athletic Supplies in the amount of \$35,687.74

Number of bids issued 14

Number of bids received 10

Audio Visual supplies in the amount of \$4,163.52. Purchase contingent upon the availability of funds in the 2012-2013

Number of bids issued 10

Number of bids received 7

Medical/Dental supplies in the amount of \$6,323.06. Purchase contingent upon the availability of funds in the 2012-2013

Number of bids issued 7

Number of bids received 6

Science supplies in the amount of \$8,330.48. Purchase contingent upon the availability of funds in the 2012-2013

Number of bids issued 21

Number of bids received 11

Food Authority Inspection in the amount of \$7,360 per year for the years 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15.

Number of bids issued 3

Number of bids received 1

Library supplies in the amount of \$2,047.68. Purchase contingent upon the availability of funds in the 2012-2013

Number of bids issued 5

Number of bids received 5

Pest Control be awarded at a monthly cost of \$680.00 plus alternative pricing for fumigation \$50.00; Bees \$22.00; Ants or Flying Insects \$22.00; Roaches \$22.00 and Termites per ft. \$7.00. Also quarterly service calls to the Food Service Program at \$75.00 for Fly Light Units. This bid is for 2012-2015 with no additional price increase

Number of bids issued 6

Number of bids received 1

POLICY AND PROGRAMS

NO. 12-4-22- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following Conferences/Field Trips of Long Duration be authorized:

1. Jill Cyr, Visual Arts Department Chair at Cranston High School East

and one (1) student to travel to New York, NY to attend the 2012 National Scholastics Awards Student and Teacher Ceremony, from May 31 – June 2, 2012. The student who won the Gold Medal and the

American Visions Medal in drawing, will be traveling with parents. Expenses will be paid through Fund One. Please see attached copy of Conference Request Form and back-up.

2. Michele Simpson, Director of Early Childhood and Arlene Garrison,

Special Ed. Administrator, to travel to San Antonio, TX from May 6th

–

May 9th, 2012 to attend the 33rd Annual LRP Institute, at no cost to the

School Department. All expenses to be funded by IDEA grant. Please

see attached copy of Conference Request Form and back-up.

3. Lori Velino and Robin D’Almeida, both in Guidance at the Cranston Area

Career & Technical Center, and approximately 18 students to travel to

Kansas City, MO from June 22 – June 28, 2012 to compete in

National

SkillsUSA Competitions and attend leadership/career development conference

sessions, at no cost to the School Department and no school missed. Please

see the attached Field Trip of Long Duration and the attached two Conference

Forms for the two chaperones for more detailed information.

4. Jeffrey Guiot, East Math Department, to travel to Boone County, KY from

May 29 – 31, 2012 to attend the Springboard/College Board Professional

Development Conference, at no cost to the school department. Cost of substitute will be provided by College Board. See attached Conference

Request Form.

NO. 12-4-23- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2011-2012 Cranston School Committee Meetings & Work Session Schedule (as amended) be approved. (See Attached)

POLICIES

NO. 12-4-24- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the policy for Special Education Advisory Committee

By-Laws; Policy Number 1223 as amended, be approved for first reading (see policy attached).

ADDENDUM TO THE AGENDA

ADD TO RESOLUTION NO. 12-4-17

Lisa Pennacchia, Bus Aide

Transportation

Effective Date...April 24, 2012

Authorization...Replacement

Fiscal Note...12345120 51110

ADD TO RESOLUTION NO. 12-4-19

Joseph Melone, Utility Crew

Plant

Effective Date...June 1, 2012

Superintendent Nero (On Retirees)

We have some people leaving and some people that are coming into the system. I would like to congratulate those of you retiring (Mr. Nero named the retirees and the years they have been here). I would like to wish them great success and good health in their retirement. I would also like to congratulate, who is here tonight, who is going into

a new position; ELL Coordinator Position as required in the BEP especially more so now with our rising population; sitting here tonight with her two lovely daughters; Ms. Kristin Ward.

Chairperson Iannazzi announced that the resolutions still left on the agenda involve some of our students; since they are not present at this time, Ms. Iannazzi requested that we call Resolution No. 12-4-20 out of order. A motion was made by Mr. Lombardi, seconded by Mr. Traficante and all were in favor.

BUSINESS

NO. 12-4-20 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the school district reimburse the City of Cranston seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) which represents fifty percent (50%) of the legal fees awarded in the Banner Case.

Moved by Mr. Lombardi, seconded by Mrs. Culhane for discussion:

Mrs. Ruggieri – Asked, publically, where this \$75,000 fee would be coming from. Superintendent Nero answered that no matter where the money was coming from, they had to pay this bill because they have been court ordered to do so. He noted that we have had a very good year in terms of weather and other things and he would like Mr. Balducci to explain this to the committee.

Mr. Balducci – The Superintendent is correct; actually we are doing

very well in our budget; mainly in utilities and snow removal. Those are the areas that we will be shifting dollars from. He also noted that even in the legal budget, at the end of April, we are running a significant on surpluses in that department as well. The combination of the legal budget by itself and also there should be some dollars elsewhere in the budget, especially in utilities and snow removal.

Mr. Lombardi – He stated that he had the opportunity to attend the meeting and he is in agreement of the 50/50 share.

There being no further discussion, the roll was taken:

Mr. Traficante Yes Mr. Bloom Yes

Mrs. Ruggieri Yes Mr. Lombardi Yes

Ms. Iannazzi Yes

Mrs. Culhane was not present for the vote.

Mrs. McFarland was absent from the meeting with cause.

At this time, the committee will take a 10 minute recess to give the students time to arrive.

RESOLUTIONS

SPONSORED BY THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

NO. 12-4-01 – WHEREAS, Lori Velino, a guidance counselor at the Cranston Area Career & Technical Center, has won the 2012

SkillsUSA Rhode Island Advisor of the Year Award, and

WHEREAS, Lori has demonstrated by earning the 2012 SkillsUSA Rhode Island Advisor of the Year for her extraordinary contributions to career and technical education (CTE) while leading her school's SkillsUSA programs, and

WHEREAS, joined by SkillsUSA RI Executive Director, Josh Klemp, Congressman Jim Langevin (D-RI) presented Lori with the award on March 30, 2012 in front of students and instructors at Cranston High School West's auditorium as part of his Rhode Island Skilled Economy ("RISE") Tour, and

WHEREAS, Congressman Langevin stated "Lori Velino is a shining example of the passion and enthusiasm necessary to better prepare students for successful careers and is proud to have this chance to thank her and honor her commitment and leadership, which have provided tremendous opportunities for our next generation", and

WHEREAS, Lori had previously been recognized by SkillsUSA for her commitment to community service and received the Presidential Volunteer Service Award at last year's National SkillsUSA Conference, and

WHEREAS, in selecting Lori Velino as the Advisor of the Year, SkillsUSA Rhode Island, she is noted for her passion for community

service and for leading her students in projects and activities that help the community.

Be it RESOLVED, that Lori Velino be recognized by the Cranston School Committee for her outstanding accomplishments in winning the 2012 SkillsUSA Rhode Island Advisor of the Year Award.

Be it further RESOLVED, that Lori be presented with a copy of this Resolution signed by the members of the Cranston School Committee.

Moved by Mr. Lombardi and seconded by Mr. Traficante. The roll was called; all were in favor.

SPONSORED BY MR. LOMBARDI

NO. 12-4-02 - Whereas, students from the Cranston Area Career & Technical Center have distinguished themselves through competing in the Rhode Island SkillsUSA State Competitions.

Whereas, the following 35 students have distinguished themselves on the state level by medaling in their respective competitions:

Gold Medal Winners (15 students)

Michael Igoe Health Knowledge Bowl

Kelly McDonough Health Knowledge Bowl

Alva Poulos Health Knowledge Bowl
Alexandra Tidswell Health Knowledge Bowl
Brendan Cody Web Design
Taylor Pilderian Web Design
Ellis Tammelleo Robotics
Emilio Verdone Robotics
Alexandra Kerfoot Preschool Teaching
Emily Gulley Job Skill Demo "O"
Rachel Almonte Job Skill Demo "A"
Alicia Accetta Photography
Mark Lang Technical Math
Jarred London Culinary Arts
Alyssa Males Medical Terminology

Silver Medal Winners (12 students)

Benjamin Marcotte Robotics
Seamus Winters Robotics
Brandon Landry Medical Math
Amber Mangione Preschool Teaching
Frank Marzano Computer Maintenance
Alexander Sasso Internetworking
Eric Roy Job Skill Demo "A"
Joseph Zanfagna Extemporaneous Speaking
Jordan Russell Customer Service
Daniel Genco Technical Math
Victoria Johnston Job Interview

Kaitlin Boissonneau Culinary Arts

Bronze Medal Winners (7 students)

Steven O'Brien Robotics

Mkrtich Arslanyan Robotics

Dionisia Grammas Preschool Teaching

Joseph Richard Job Skill Dem "O"

Brian Males Technical Drafting

Haley Patton Technical Math

Juliana Tennett T-Shirt Design

Pin Design

Kayla Levasseur State Trading Pin

Be it Resolved, that the Cranston School Committee extend its congratulations to all of these students and Suzanne Coutu, Principal/Director, James DiPrete, Interim Director, Gerry Auth, Administrative Intern, faculty and staff of the Cranston Area Career & Technical Center and SkillsUSA Advisor Lori Velino, and teachers Aimee Duarte, Edd Spidell, Lou Giglietti Leonard Baker, Steven Versacci, Martha Sylvestre, Meaghan McGonagle, Charlene Barbieri, Brenda Coutu, Steve DeRosa, and Bill Carcieri, Richard Lonardo, Beth Correia, Teresa Coppa.

Be it further Resolved, that a copy of this resolution signed by the members of the Cranston School Committee, be presented to each

successful student, teacher and advisor.

Moved by Mr. Lombardi and seconded by Mrs. Culhane. The roll was called; all were in favor.

SPONSORED BY MR. LOMBARDI

NO.12-4-03 - Whereas, students from the Cranston Area Career & Technical Center have distinguished themselves by being awarded the President's Volunteer Service Award.

Whereas, the following 7 students and 1 teacher have distinguished themselves at the national level through volunteer service and civic participation.

Kayla Levasseur Gold Medal

Frank Marzano Gold Medal

Benjamin Marcotte Bronze Medal

Brendan Cody Bronze Medal

Hannah Schram Bronze Medal

Victoria Johnston Bronze Medal

Sonia Sanchez Bronze Medal

Lori Velino Bronze Medal

Be it Resolved, that the Cranston School Committee extend its congratulations to all of these students and Suzanne Coutu, Principal/Director, James DiPrete, Interim Director, Gerry Auth, Administrative Intern, faculty and staff of the Cranston Area Career & Technical Center and SkillsUSA Advisor Lori Velino.

Be it further Resolved, that a copy of this resolution signed by the members of the Cranston School Committee, be presented to each successful student and advisor.

Moved by Mr. Traficante and seconded by Mrs. Culhane. The roll was called; all were in favor.

Action Calendar / Action Agenda

New Business – None

Public Hearing on Non-agenda items

Mr. Dennis DeJesus came forward to speak on the retirement of Michael Traficante, Athletic Director. This is an Agenda Item.

Dennis DeJesus, 238 Glen Hills Drive, Cranston

Thank you for the opportunity to come before you to speak tonight. I'm here regarding Resolution No. 12-4-9 for the retirement or the

resignation of Mike Traficante (Athletic Director for the City of Cranston). I come before you tonight as a very strong supporter of Mike. I've supported him since 11 years ago when I wrote a letter of recommendation on his behalf recommending him for this position. I come before you because I'm not sure the reasons for him leaving are the right reasons. I'm not sure the reasons for him leaving are because he has a better opportunity or because he has something that he really wants to do. When I called him last week to congratulate him, he said to me, "I have to do this; I don't want to do this; not that this is a better opportunity for me; I have to do this for job security". We're not talking about a good administrator; we're talking about an excellent athletic director in the City of Cranston. As someone who had a child go through the Cranston School system; an athlete in the Cranston School system, I don't want to see him go. Unfortunately he has already committed to go somewhere else but we have until June 1st and I'm hoping this body and this administration will bring him in and try to do everything possible to persuade him to stay on as our Athletic Director.

I'm not sure that you know all of his responsibilities. He oversees 75 coaches in our system; 1200 athletes at Cranston East and Cranston West who participate in our interscholastic sports. The paperwork alone that has to be each and every day; liability issues that are so important; he stays on top of everything. He serves on the Executive Board of the RI Athletic Directors Association. He's been the President for the last two years. He sits on the Principals' Committee

for Athletics over the last few years. He is the voice on those committees representing all of the athletes in Cranston. I'm afraid we're going to lose that voice if we move Mike Traficante as an Athletic Director. He represents RI in Section I regional in the New England States. He is extremely well regarded as Athletic Director. It's not only here in Cranston but throughout the entire State. And, we're losing him; not because he has a better opportunity but because he fears job security.

I think it's a terrible statement where we are right now when we're losing a great administrator not because of a better opportunity but because of job security. We are losing a great administrator. I called him today and said, "What was your day like?" He answered, "I had to cancel nine (9) games today because of rain". He had to make 55 phone calls to cancel those nine games. If this committee is even thinking of a part time athletic director, think again; because the people work alone and the amount of work that goes into liability issues is a big concern. I'm not going to begin to address the things Mike does on a day-to-day basis. Again, when you look at the different schools today, Barrington High School – Full time Athletic Director; Chariho – 1 high school and a full time athletic director, East Greenwich, East Providence, Johnston; all the same. For being the third largest City in the State of Rhode Island, we need a full-time administrator and I'm hoping its Mike Traficante. I'm urging this committee to sit with Mike and try to work out the job security issues while he continues to do the great work that he started eleven years

ago and hope to continue down the road.

I thank you for the opportunity to let me speak before you tonight and again, I ask you to give new consideration to my request. And, I hope we will do everything in our power as a City, a School Committee and as a Legislative Body to make sure Mike Traficante stays where he belongs here in the City of Cranston.

Ms. Iannazzi

Mr. DeJesus, I am absolutely floored by your comment and I think that Superintendent Nero is showing the same sense of frustration right now. This is the first we're hearing about any word of this affecting any kind of job security. I would ask that Mr. Traficante be brought into our next Executive Session to discuss this.

Mr. Nero

I have to say that I'm floored; I never had a discussion with Mike about his position ever being part-time. I found that Mike had interviewed and it's not the first time, for a position. I wished him luck to be honest with you. There has never been any discussion about making that position part-time. I don't know where this is coming from. Mike has had no discussion with me regarding that at all.

Mr. Lombardi

I probably had the most contact with Mike other than perhaps his

uncle on the School Committee since my position as an official. I have to be honest with you; I never heard anything from Mike concerning this subject. To me this is like any other retirement; we accepted the retirement. I'm floored too because this is the first I'm hearing of any issues regarding Mike Traficante.

Mr. DeJesus

I'm not going to speak for him; all I'm saying is that I think there are greater concerns here than someone who should be retiring and going on to better opportunities. Thank you.

Announcement of Future Meetings – May 16 and May 21, 2012

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank S. Lombardi

School Committee Clerk

**CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND WORK SESSIONS
SCHEDULE**

2011-2012

DATE TIME LOCATION

Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2011 5:00 pm (special time) Briggs Building

Monday, Sept. 19, 2011 7:00 pm* Western Hills

Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2011 6:00 pm Briggs Building

Monday, Oct. 17, 2011 7:00 pm* Western Hills

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2011 6:00 pm Briggs Building

Monday, Nov. 21, 2011 7:00 pm* Western Hills

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2011 Dec. 7, 2011 6:00 pm Briggs Building

Monday, Dec. 19, 2011 Dec. 12, 2011 7:00 pm* Western Hills

2012

Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2012 7:00 pm Western Hills

(Public Budget Work Session)

Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2012 Mon. Jan. 23, 2012 7:00 pm Western Hills

(Public Budget Work Session)

Monday, Jan. 30, 2012 (if necessary) 7:00 pm Western Hills

(Public Budget Work Session)

Monday, Feb. 13, 2012 7:00 pm Western Hills

(Budget Adoption)

Thursday, Feb. 16, 2012 7:00 pm Western Hills

(Budget Adoption II)

Wednesday, March 14, 2012 6:00 pm Briggs Building

Monday, March 19, 2012 7:00 pm* Western Hills

Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:00 pm Briggs Building

Monday, April 23, 2012 7:00 pm* Western Hills

Wednesday, May 16, 2012 6:00 pm Briggs Building

Monday, May 21, 2012 7:00 pm* Western Hills

Wednesday, June 13, 2012 Tues. June 12, 2012 6:00 pm Briggs Building

Monday, June 18, 2012 7:00 pm* Hope Highlands

Monday, June 25, 2012 7:00 pm* Hope Highlands

Thursday, June 28, 2012 7:00 pm* Hope Highlands

Wednesday, July 11, 2012 6:00 pm Briggs Building

Monday, July 16, 2012 7:00 pm* Hope Highlands

Wednesday, August 15, 2012 6:00 pm Briggs Building

Monday, August 20, 2012 7:00 pm* Hope Highlands

Wednesday meeting dates denote School Committee Work Sessions and Monday meeting dates denote regular School Committee meetings. The schedule has also been adjusted, where it could be, to not conflict with City Council meetings.

*** = or immediately following Executive Session.**

gm

July 18, 2011 Resolution No. 11-7-12 //November 21, 2011 Amended Resolution 11-11-18//

April 23, 2012 Amended Resolution 12-4-23

POLICY #1223

**BY-LAWS OF THE CRANSTON, RHODE ISLAND
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this committee shall be the Cranston Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC). SEAC is a recognized member of SEAN (Special Education Advisory Network)

ARTICLE II: FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Local Advisory Committee shall:

- 1. Advise the Cranston School District on matters concerning the unmet needs of students with disabilities**
- 2. Comment on improvement plans including school support plans resulting from Part B compliance reports, local compliance with state and federal laws pertaining to the education of students with disabilities**
- 3. Comment on applications for federal and state funds**
- 4. Serve as advocates in partnership with parents for students with disabilities to ensure that they receive the entitlements provided to them under state and federal laws.**

ARTICLE III: OPERATING PROCEDURES

- The committee will run as a pro-active collaborative partnership between Cranston parents, students, educators and administrators.**
- The committee will promote mutual respect and trust and assist parents in looking at the “big” picture.**
- The advisory committee shall meet a minimum of 4 (four) times annually. Additional meetings shall be scheduled when necessary.**
- Official minutes shall be kept of all committee meetings and be available for public review, once approved at Cranston Public School website- Special Education Link.**
- All committee meetings and agendas shall be publicly announced prior to any meeting via the SEAC e-mail contact list, and as so distributed by those contacts.**

- **All meetings shall be open to the public.**
- **Availability of child care will be announced with presentation of agenda.**
- **The committee shall hold its regular meetings at a central location convenient to all members and accessible to persons with disabilities.**
- **The length of full committee meetings shall not exceed 2 ½ hours unless approved by a two-thirds vote of membership present.**
- **Members must be notified of all regular and special meetings. Any change in the established date, time, or location must be given special notice.**
- **Interpreters and other necessary services may be provided at meetings for members or participants when requested in advance.**
- **The advisory committee shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses for attending meetings and performing duties.**
- **All participants of the Cranston Special Education Advisory Committee shall be provided with a copy of the by-laws, and the by-laws will be available at each meeting.**

- **A formal member of the advisory committee is defined as a member who (a) meets the membership criteria and (b) participates in committee meetings or activities. In the event that a formal member does not participate in some manner, it will be the responsibility of the officers to contact the formal member to determine his/her interest in serving on SEAC.**

- **An attendee is an individual who attends meetings but has not become a formal member either by choice or because they do not meet the membership criteria.**
- **Provided a quorum is in attendance, formal members will make all advisory committee decisions upon a vote. *see voting rights**
- **The rules of parliamentary practice as described in Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of this committee, provided that they do not conflict with the intent of the by-laws or any state, federal laws/regulations, and/or any school department policy and/or procedures.**
- **The committee shall submit such reports as are required by the School Committee, Commissioner of Education, Board of Regents, or United States Dept. of Education. Minority reports may be submitted by one person or a group of people.**
- **In order to comment publicly on rules, regulations, and special education issues, members shall either volunteer or be appointed by the Chairperson and the Assistant Chairperson to state, local, and other subcommittees.**
- **The Chairperson and Assistant Chairperson may establish such subcommittees as they deem necessary or desirable to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the committee and shall appoint a chairperson to each subcommittee. The majority of subcommittee members shall be parents.**
- **Correspondence sent to SEAC electronically will be deleted after a period of 90 days.**
- **Correspondence sent in physically will be recorded electronically,**

then the physical item will be disposed.

A. OFFICERS:

The officers of the Cranston Special Education Advisory Committee shall be:

- Chairperson**
- Assistant Chairperson**
- Past-Chairperson(s)**
- Secretary**
- The Assistant Chairperson shall assume the Chairperson's role in the absence of the Chairperson.**

B. ELECTION AND TERM OF OFFICE:

- Length of term is two years, beginning in September**
- Limit is 2 consecutive terms in same role unless a petition to extend the term is approved by the committee.**
- The Chairperson shall not be a member of the administration of the Cranston School Department or member appointed by the Superintendent, Cranston Teacher's Alliance, or the School Committee.**
- Elections shall be held in May.**

C. REMOVAL:

- Any officer of the committee may be removed by a two-thirds vote of all members sitting on the committee, whenever in the judgment of the committee; the best interests of the committee would be served**

by this decision.

D. VACANCY:

• A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification, or otherwise shall be filled by the committee from a volunteer among existing membership for the unexpired portion of the term.

E. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

• Chairperson

o Preside at all committee meetings

o Will sign all letters, reports, and other communications of the committee

o Respond and forward e-mails sent into committee

o Maintain the Contact list upon the e-mail account

o Send agenda/minutes out prior to meetings

o Generally responsible for directing and coordinating affairs of the committee.

• Assistant Chairperson

o Take over chairperson roles in the event chairperson, not in position, or absent

o Assist Chairperson as needed to maintain goals of SEAC.

• Secretary

- o Take the minutes and attendance of all meetings
- o Post approved minutes on website per current defined process.
- o Prepare other necessary communications as directed by the Chairperson.
- Past Chairperson
 - o Chairperson of the nominating committee
 - o Nominating committee is responsible to present the names of persons nominated to the committee in April.

ARTICLE IV: APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS

- The School Committee shall appoint an Advisory Committee on Special Education.

MEMBERSHIP

The Advisory Committee must be composed of individuals involved in or concerned with the education of children with disabilities.

1. Parents of students with disabilities shall compose a majority of the committee membership, and at least fifty percent (50%) of this majority shall be selected by the parents of students with disabilities;
2. An individual with a disability;
3. A special education teacher;
4. A general education teacher;
5. A public school administrator; and
6. Other members of the community at the discretion of the Cranston Special Education Advisory Committee and the Cranston School

Committee.

7. Membership shall be composed of twenty-nine (29) individuals involved in or concerned with the education of children with disabilities.

8. The Cranston Special Education Advisory Committee may expand the committee to include additional persons in the preceding groups and representatives of other groups.

A. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS:

- **The Superintendent shall select the administrators.**
- **Cranston Teacher's Alliance shall select the teachers.**
- **School Committee shall select its representative.**
- **Parents will be selected by parents of children with disabilities and voting members of SEAC.**

B. TERM OF MEMBERS:

- **All new members shall be appointed for one, three year term.**
- **At the conclusion of a member's term, he/she may petition for another term per Article IV, Section A.**

C. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- **Formal (voting) membership requires individuals to complete a membership enrollment form indicating their commitment to participate in committee activities and attend meetings on a regular basis.**
- **In order to comment publicly on rules, regulations, and special**

education issues, members shall either volunteer or be appointed by the Chairperson and the Assistant Chairperson to state, local, and other subcommittees.

D. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP:

- **Causes for removal shall be for failure to carry out those responsibilities assumed by acceptance on the committee.**
- **SEAC, by a two-thirds vote, may request the resignation of, or remove a member upon committee recommendation, if there is just cause.**

E. ATTENDANCE:

- **Failure of a member to attend three meetings of the committee without prior notice to the Chairperson will result in removal from the committee.**

F. RESIGNATION:

- **Any member may resign by filing a written resignation with the Cranston Special Education Advisory Committee.**

G. VACANCY:

- **Any vacancy on the Cranston Special Education Advisory Committee shall be filled as in the process stated in Article IV, Section A.**

H. ALTERNATE PARENT MEMBERSHIP:

- **Parents/guardians may apply for special circumstance delegate/alternate membership and will also be selected by parents of children with disabilities.**
- **Each delegate, or in their absence, their alternate, shall be entitled to one vote and shall cast that vote on each matter submitted to a vote of SEAC.**
- **Each delegate/alternate team is considered to be one member of SEAC.**

ARTICLE V: VOTING RIGHTS

- **Each member shall be entitled to one vote and may cast that vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the committee.**
- **Proxy voting and absentee ballots shall not be permitted.**
- **Attendees will not have voting rights.**

VOTING PROCEDURES

- **Voting will be done by ballot for election of officers.**
- **Votes required for resolving issues arising at committee meetings will be done by majority hand count.**

QUORUM

- **All decisions of the committee shall be valid unless a majority of the members of the committee appointed and holding office concur therein by their votes.**

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL AGENCY

- The local agency shall provide support to the committee by contracting for technical assistance services with the Rhode Island designated Parent Training and Technical Assistance Agency or other community-based non-profit parent organization**
- Such technical assistance shall include the role of advisory committees in advocating for children, state and federal regulations, community resources, strategic planning and development of an annual report to the school committee.**
- The local education agency shall also provide school and district improvement plans to the committee for comment and make available appropriate records and data as permitted by law.**
- The public agency shall also support the committee in disseminating information to parents of students regarding the role of the advisory committee, information pertaining to special education and inform the committee of professional development opportunities that are available within the LEA.**
- The Executive Director of Pupil Personnel Services shall be the local educational agency (LEA) contact person or their assigned designee (unless otherwise specified by the school committee). This individual shall work proactively and collaboratively in partnership with the SEAC members**
- The LEA contact shall be the contact between SEAC and Cranston School Department Administration and shall be the link for any**

individual concerns of parents.

PARENT NOTIFICATION OF LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- **When a child is referred to special education, each school district special education program shall provide the parents with notification of the existence of local advisory committee for Special Education established in compliance with these regulations.**
- **The notification shall specify that a majority of the local advisory committee is parents of children with disabilities, and shall inform the parents of how the local advisory committee may be contacted.**

ARTICLE VI: REVIEW OF BY-LAWS

- **By-laws will be reviewed when necessary by the Officers of SEAC to ensure that the by-laws align with the State of Rhode Island Regulations for Elementary and Secondary Education.**

AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

- **In the event that amendments are needed to the by-laws, then a sub-committee will be formed.**
- **The by-law subcommittee will be responsible for the review and revision of the by-laws as well as presenting the revised by-laws to SEAC for review.**
- **The SEAC bylaws/amendments shall be provided to the Director of**

Pupil Personnel Services who shall then review and recommend revisions if necessary.

- The Executive Director of Pupil Personnel Services shall present the by-laws to the School Committee for approval.**

ARTICLE VII: APPROVAL OF BY-LAWS

These by-laws and any subsequent amendment thereto shall become effective upon approval by the School Committee.

- The school committee by majority vote shall approve the by-laws of the advisory committee.**

APPROVED:

_____ **DATE_**

CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

APPROVED:

_____ **DATE_**

CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIRMAN

POLICY AMENDED: CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
RESOLUTION NO. 12- CRANSTON, RI

Administrator's Compensation Schedule

Fiscal Year 2012-2013

NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL	ANN	SALARY
HEALTH	DENTAL	LIFE	PENSION	SURV
BEN	OASDI	MEDICARE	TOTAL	Fringe Sal & Fringe

Aulenbach, David Asst Prin East	82,785.00	16810	1105	33	11,656
96 0 1200	30,901	113,686			
Gamba, Marlene El. Prin Edgewood	94,639.00	16810	1105	33	
13,325 96 0 1372	32,741	127,380			
Vesey, Timothy Asst. Prin. Whills	87,411.00	0 0	33		12,307
96 0 1267	13,704	101,115			
Ward, Kristin ELL Admin. Horton	95,696.00	16810	1105	33	13,474
96 0 1388	32,906	128,602			

Administrator's Compensation Schedule

Fiscal Year 2013-2014

NAME POSITION SCHOOL	ANN	SALARY
HEALTH DENTAL LIFE PENSION SURV		
BEN OASDI MEDICARE TOTAL Fringe Sal & Fringe		

Aulenbach, David Asst Prin East	82,785.00	18491	1182	33	12,360
96 0 1200	33,362	116,147			
Gamba, Marlene El. Prin Edgewood	94,639.00	18491	1182	33	
14,130 96 0 1372	35,304	129,943			
Vesey, Timothy Asst. Prin. Whills	87,411.00	0 0	33		13,050
96 0 1267	14,447	101,858			
Ward, Kristin ELL Admin. Horton	95,696.00	18491	1182	33	14,287
96 0 1388	35,477	131,173			

Administrator's Compensation Schedule

Fiscal Year 2014-2015

NAME POSITION SCHOOL ANN

SALARY HEALTH DENTAL LIFE PENSION SURV

BEN OASDI MEDICARE TOTAL Fringe Sal & Fringe

Vesey, Timothy	Asst. Prin.	Whills	87,411.00	0	0	33	13,793
96 0 1267	15,189.92	102,601					
Ward, Kristin	ELL Admin.	Horton	95,696.00	20340	1300	33	15,101
96 0 1388	38,257.42	133,953					