

CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

APRIL 14, 2014

WESTERN HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

400 PHENIX AVENUE, CRANSTON, RI 02920

EXECUTIVE SESSION – 5:00 P.M.

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED BY PUBLIC MEETING

MINUTES

The School Committee meeting was held on the evening of the above date in the auditorium of Western Hills Middle School with the following members present: Chairperson Iannazzi, Mrs. McFarland, Mr. Traficante and Mr. Gale. Attorney Cascione was present for executive Session. Mrs. Ruggieri, Mrs. Culhane and Mr. Colford were absent during executive session.

4. Call to order- 5:05 p.m. Convene to Executive Session pursuant to RI State Laws -

5. PL 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel:

6. PL 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining:

H. Contract Negotiations' Update(s)=

I. (Secretaries)

J. (Teachers)

K. (Teacher Assistants)

L. (Bus Drivers, Mechanics)

M. (Tradespeople)

N. (Custodians)

7. PL 42-46-5(3)

B. District Safety Plan

Call to Order at 5:15 p.m.– Public Session

The roll was called; there was a Quorum present.

Executive Session Minutes Sealed – Ms. Iannazzi stated – no votes were taken in Executive Session. Moved by Mr. Traficante; seconded by Mr. Gale. The roll was all called; all were in favor.

Minutes of Previous Meetings Approved – March 12, 2014 and March 17, 2014. Moved by Mr. Traficante; seconded by Mr. Gale. The roll was called; all were in favor.

Public Acknowledgements/Communications – None.

Chairperson's Communications - None

Superintendent's Communications – None

School Committee Member Communications – None.

Public Hearing

- a. Students (Agenda/Non-Agenda Matters) - None**
- b. Members of the Public (Agenda Matters Only) - None**

Consent Calendar/Consent Agenda

Ms. Iannazzi spoke on the Consent Agenda for Resolutions 14-4-7, 14-4-8, 14-4-9, 14-4-10, 14-4-11, 14-4-12, 14-4-13, 14-4-14, 14-4-15, 14-4-16, 14-4-17, 14-4-18, 14-4-19, 14-4-20, 14-4-21, 14-4-22, 14-4-23, 14-4-24, 14-4-25, 14-4-26, 14-4-27, 14-4-28, 14-4-29 and 14-4-30. Moved by Mrs. McFarland; Seconded by Mr. Traficante. The roll was called; all were in favor.

Ms. Iannazzi stated – we will be in recess until 6:00 p.m. Public Session reconvened at 5:55 p.m.

Action Calendar/Action Agenda

RESOLUTIONS

Sponsored by the Cranston School Committee

NO. 14-4-1 Whereas, the CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' SWIM TEAM under the direction of head coach Robert Bouchard and volunteer assistant coach Joseph Granata, had an outstanding

season in the Winter of 2013-14 season, and

Whereas, they had an undefeated regular season and a 4th consecutive Division 2 state championship

Be it RESOLVED, that the following team members be formally congratulated by the Cranston School Committee for an outstanding season, and for their hard work and dedication to the sport of swimming:

Capt. John D'Alfonso, Capt. Mike Vaninni, Austin Harris, Kevin Li, Jacob Rojek, Josh Miller, Ethan Almeida, Matthew Pion, Justin Costa, Keith McAteer, Hunter Hellested, Sebastian Trabucco, Ethan Gomez, Theodore Khvang, Josh Hernandez, Evan Park, Elias Hill, Alex Norberg, Adam Almeida, Justice Brown-Duso, Carter Haid, Darol Groeneveldt, and Ricky D'Alfonso.

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

A motion was made to approve. Moved by Mr. Traficante; seconded by Mrs. Culhane. Ms. Iannazzi asked if there were any discussions. There being none, the roll was called; all were in favor.

Sponsored by the Cranston School Committee

NO. 14-4-2 Whereas, the CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL CO-OP BOYS' HOCKEY TEAM under the direction of head coach Michael Boyajian and assistant coaches Matthew Brannon, Kenneth Fogarty and Jack Hagopian had an outstanding season in the Winter of 2013-14 season, and

Whereas, through their hard work and dedication during the season resulted in a tie for the regular season division 1A title.

Whereas, they defeated the Burrillville Broncos in a best of 3 series to win the Division 1 state playoff title.

Be it RESOLVED, that the following team members be formally congratulated by the Cranston School Committee for an outstanding season, and for distinguishing themselves as division 1A State champions.

Matthew Botelho, Rudolph Branca, Anthony Simeone, Adam Turenne, John Zito, Ryan Beliveau, Travis Collins, Anthony Lancellotti, Brian Limoges, Ryan Perry, William Santosuosso, Austin Alzate, Samuel G. Dulieu, Nicholas Kopsick, Andrew Phillips, Mitchell Smith, Zachary Torres, Jacob Pagnozzi, Kyle Poland.

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

Motion was made to approve. Moved by Mr. Traficante; Seconded by Mr. Colford. Ms. Iannazzi asked if there were any further discussion. There being none, the roll was called; all were in favor.

Sponsored by the Cranston School Committee

NO. 14-4-3 Whereas, the CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS INDOOR TRACK TEAM under the direction of head coach Sheila Lagasse and assistant coach Clement Soscia, had an outstanding season in the Winter of 2013-14 season, and

Whereas, they had a dual meet record of 9-1 and went on to win the Division 2 championship meet.

Be it RESOLVED, that the following team members be formally congratulated by the Cranston School Committee for an outstanding season, and

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

Morgan Abbenante, Emma Butler, Sofia Cadden, Kate Capuano, Marina Carro, Vanessa Dilorio, Eleni Grammas, Nicole Grammas, Annabelle Hauck, Jennifer Iozzi, Kim Kluglein, Sarah Lemay, Kaitlyn

Neves, Stephanie, Nyzio, Cailyn O'Neil, Jill O'Neil, Olivia Pisaturo, Grace Santilli, Nadia White, Oceana Williams.

Motion was made to approve. Moved by Mrs. McFarland; Seconded by Mr. Colford. Ms. Iannazzi asked if there were any further discussions. There being none, the roll was called; all were in favor.

Sponsored by the Cranston School Committee

NO. 14-4-4 Whereas, the following individuals under the direction of their respective athletic coaches and in representation of their city and respective schools have been recognized for outstanding individual achievement in interscholastic athletics

ABBEY TORRES - CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL WEST GIRLS' HOCKEY; Honors include:1st Team All Division Goalie, Gil Mayer Award - most outstanding Goaltender; Nangle Leadership Award; and Hobey Baker Character Award

NICOLE GRAMMAS, ELENI GRAMMAS, OCEANA WILLIAMS, and ANNABELLE HAUCK - CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL WEST GIRLS' INDOOR TRACK; 4 X 200 Relay team - second team All-State

MAX O'CONNELL - CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL WEST WRESTLING; 1st place - 138-pound weight class at State meet; 5th place - 138-pound weight class at New England meet

THEODORE RUGGIERI - CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL WEST WRESTLING; 2nd place - 126-pound weight class at Freshman State meet

RUDOLPH BRANCA - CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' CO-OP HOCKEY; 2nd Team all Division Honors; and Chuck Scherza Award (presented by the RI Reds Heritage Society)

ANTHONY SIMEONE - CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' CO-OP HOCKEY; 1st Team all Division Honors and Hobey Baker Character Award Recipient

COURTNEY LAMBRESE - CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL WEST GIRLS' BASKETBALL; 1st Team all Division; 2nd Team all Class and All State - Honorable Mention

Be it RESOLVED, that the following student athletes be formally congratulated by the Cranston School Committee for their outstanding accomplishments this season, and for their exemplary leadership in their schools and community

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

Motion was made to approve. Moved by Mrs. Ruggieri; Seconded by Mrs. Culhane. Ms. Iannazzi asked if there were any further discussions. There being none, the roll was called; all were in favor.

Sponsored by the Cranston School Committee

NO. 14-4-5 Whereas, the CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL CO-ED CHEERLEADING TEAM under the direction of head coach Jennifer Koscho and assistant coach Samantha Kohn had an outstanding season in the Winter of 2013-14 season, and

Whereas, through their hard work and dedication during the season resulted in finishing the regular season Co-Ed division as the number 1 seed for the State Championship. Whereas, they won the Co-Ed Division State Championship.

Be it RESOLVED, that the following team members be formally congratulated by the Cranston School Committee for an outstanding season, Deja Britto, Arian Bodden, Rose De La Cruz, Katherine Dove, Kristen Dove, Alexis Howard, Samantha Levy, Jada Kun, Timothy Mot, Nina Ong, Emely Perez, Bianca Rodrigues, and Michael Rodriguez

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

Motion was made to approve. Moved by Mrs. Culhane; Seconded by Mr. Traficante. Ms. Iannazzi asked if there were any further discussions. There being none, the roll was called; all were in favor.

Sponsored by the Cranston School Committee

NO. 14-4-6 Whereas, students from The Cranston Area Career & Technical Center at Cranston High School West have distinguished themselves through competing in the 2014 Rhode Island State DECA Competitions.

Whereas, the following 50 students have distinguished themselves on the state level by medaling in their respective competitions:

Be it RESOLVED that the Cranston School Committee extends its congratulations to all of these students for their exceptional accomplishments, and to Thomas Barbieri, Principal of Cranston High School West, Gerry Auth, Director, Cranston Area Career & Technical Center, and teacher Richard Abruzzini, and that they receive a copy of this Resolution signed by the members of the Cranston School Committee.

GOLD - Katerina DeNardo, Entrepreneurship Written Event, Aria Procaccini, Entrepreneurship Written Event, Caleb McDevitt, Entrepreneurship Written Event, Alexis Tella,

**Entrepreneurship-Growing Your Business, Gianna Gargaro,
Entrepreneurship-Growing Your Business, Giuliana Hathaway,
Entrepreneurship-Growing Your Business, Alexa Kite,
Entrepreneurship-Innovation Plan, Natalia Perretta,
Entrepreneurship-Innovation Plan, Matthew McDonough,
Entrepreneurship-Participating: Franchise, Jonathan Alsfeld
Entrepreneurship Promotion Plan, Ryan Beliveau, Entrepreneurship
Promotion Plan, Sydney Conley, International Business Plan, Nick
Manzi, International Business Plan, Alec Kolenda, Creative Marketing
Project, James Sweeney, Creative Marketing Project, Alexia Marchetti,
Buying & Merchandising Operations Research, Gianna Ferrante,
Buying & Merchandising Operations Research, Andrew Blanchette,
Buying & Merchandising Operations Research, William Saccoccio,
Business Services Operations Research, Jason Sepe, Business
Services Operations Research, Christopher Minicucci, Business
Services Operations Research, Joshua Macera, Learn and Earn
Project, Liana Colarusso, Public Relations Project, Alyssa McLeod,
Public Relations Project SILVER - Jeff Ragosta, International
Business Plan, Michael Daou, International Business Plan, Dylan
Reinsant, Entrepreneurship Written Event, David Swanson,
Entrepreneurship Written Event, John Petrocelli, Entrepreneurship
Written Event, Ronald Antonucci, Entrepreneurship-Participating:
Franchise, Brianna Caputo, Community Service Project, Courtenay
Briggs, Community Service Project, Jessica Nelson, Community
Service Project, Robert Fredrick, Hospitality and Tourism Operations
Research, Anthony Espinal, Hospitality and Tourism Operations**

Research, Ben Harpel, Advertising Campaign, Dennis Zhitkovich, Advertising Campaign, Anthony Simeone, Sports and Entertainment Promotion Plan, Michael Lonardo Sports and Entertainment Promotion Plan, Michael Foley, Sports and Entertainment Promotion Plan BRONZE - Joseph Mee, Entrepreneurship Written Event, Adrian Cilento, Entrepreneurship Written Event, Jonathan Petrarca, Entrepreneurship Written Event, Marina DeAngelis, Entrepreneurship-Innovation Plan, Ari DiBoni, Entrepreneurship-Innovation Plan, Sophia Trapassi, Entrepreneurship-Innovation Plan, Evan Deluty, Entrepreneurship-Participating: Franchise, Nicholas Porreca, Entrepreneurship-Participating: Franchise, Joulie Martinelli, Hospitality and Tourism Operations Research, Matthew Lonardo, Sports & Entertainment Operations Research, Ryan Marsella, Sports & Entertainment Operations Research

Motion was made to approve. Moved by Mr. Traficante; Seconded by Mrs. Culhane. Ms. Iannazzi asked if there were any further discussions. There being none, the roll was called; all were in favor.

ADMINISTRATION

NO. 14-4-7 Whereas, the Administration has identified health and safety projects that need to be addressed.

Therefore be it resolved, at the recommendation of the

Superintendent, the revised Repair and Renovation Bond proposal in the amount of fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) be approved by the School Committee and a copy forwarded to the Rhode Island Department of Education for their approval.

PERSONNEL

NO. 14-4-8 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

Tania DiMartino, Elementary

Jennifer Ellis, Elementary

Irene Primeau, Elementary\Middle School English\Soc Studies

Nadia Cricco, Elementary

NO. 14-4-9 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 B.3 of the Master Agreement between the Cranston School Committee and the Cranston Teachers' Alliance:

Melissa Giampietro, Teacher

Itinerant

Effective Date...August 2014 to August 2015

NO. 14-4-10 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:

Michael DelRosso, Social Worker

Itinerant

Effective Date...August 2014 to August 2015

NO. 14-4-11 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement of the following certified personnel be accepted:

Bernard Boemker, Teacher

Cranston East

Effective Date...June 30, 2014

NO. 14-4-12 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation(s) of the following Program Supervisor be accepted:

Barbara Ferraro, School Psychologist

Pupil Personnel

Effective Date...June 30, 2014

NO. 14-4-13 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual(s) be appointed as an athletic coach:

Thomas Paquette, Assistant Coach Boys' Volleyball

CHSE

Step-4

Class-D

Playing Competition-High School & College

Experience- Cranston West Assistant Coach Girls' Volleyball

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

NO. 14-4-14 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of the following coach(es) be accepted:

Nicholas Ruggieri, Assistant Coach Girls' Soccer

Cranston West

Effective date...March 26, 2014

NO. 14-4-15 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified employee(s) be appointed:

Sandra Poisson, Bus Driver (Probationary)

Transportation

Effective Date...March 31, 2014

Authorization...Replacement

Fiscal Note...12845190 51110

NO. 14-4-16 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

James Moran, Custodian

Robert D'Ercole, Custodian

Kimberly Aldana, Bus Driver

NO. 14-4-17 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement(s) of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:

Mechthild Pettigrew, Secretary

Garden City

Effective Date...June 30, 2014

NO. 14-4-18 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation(s) of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:

Richard Phillips, Part Time Custodian

Plant

Effective Date...April 7, 2014

BUSINESS

NO 14-4-19 RESOLVED, that the Five-Year Capital Budget plan which begins in the 2014-2015 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent, be approved:

2014

- **Bain MS Asbestos abatement (Middle school bond)**
- **Park View MS Asbestos abatement (Middle school bond)**
- **Arlington Elementary sprinklers (\$1.3m bond)**
- **Cranston West HS E building sprinklers (\$1.3m bond)**

2015

- **Edgewood Highlands Elementary Sprinklers (\$1.3m bond)**
- **Oak Lawn Elementary Sprinklers (\$1.3m bond)**
- **Oak Lawn Elementary fire stair and other work (new bond)**
- **Park View MS windows (middle school bond)**
- **Park View MS science rooms (middle school bond)**
- **Arlington Elementary all other work (new bond)**
- **Cranston West E building all other work (new bond)**
- **Glen Hills Elementary Sprinklers and other work (new bond)**

2016

- **Chester Barrows Elementary (new bond)**
- **Glen Hills Elementary Asbestos Abatement (new bond)**
- **Park View MS sprinklers and all other work (new bond)**
- **Oak Lawn Elementary windows (new bond)**
- **Rhodes Elementary all work (new bond)**
- **Stone Hill Elementary sprinklers and other work (new bond)**
- **Cranston West HS – all work (new bond)**
- **Edgewood Highlands Elementary other work (new bond)**
- **Woodridge Elementary sprinklers and other work (new bond)**
- **Bain MS science rooms (middle school bond)**
- **Bain MS all other work (new bond)**
- **Briggs Building fire code and other work (new bond)**

2017

- **William Dutemple Elementary – all work (new bond)**
- **George J Peters Elementary – all work (new bond)**
- **Stadium Elementary – all work (new bond)**
- **Waterman Elementary – all work (new bond)**
- **Cranston HS East Asbestos Abatement and other work (new bond)**
- **Western Hill MS science rooms (middle school bond)**
- **Briggs Building abatement (new bond)**

2018

- **Western Hills Middle school all work (new bond)**
- **Eden Park Elementary all work (new bond)**

- **Garden City Elementary – all work (new bond)**
- **Gladstone Elementary - all work (new bond)**
- **Norwood School (new bond)**
- **Briggs Building Asbestos abatement and other work (new bond)**

NO. 14-4-20 Whereas, CPI Qualified Plan Consultants, Inc. (“CPI”) assigned and otherwise transferred to the Omni Financial Group, Inc. the common remitter and/or compliance oversight services agreement(s) between CPI and the Cranston Public Schools and the 403(b) plan vendor agreement(s) and/or information sharing agreement(s).

RESOLVED, the Cranston Public Schools consent to the Assignment of Contracts and Assumption of Liabilities affirming that no modification of the contracts is made or intended, except Omni is substituted for CPI as of the effective date.

PURCHASED AND PURCHASED SERVICES

**NO. 14-4-21 Resolved, that the following purchase be approved:
Student Planners (funded by Middle School annual order allocation)
in the amount of \$6,337.50 (Purchase pending the availability of
funding 2014-2015 budget)**

Number of bids issued 4

Number of bids received 2

**NO. 14-4-22 Resolved, that the following purchase be approved:
Subscriptions in the amount of \$4,813.44 (Purchase pending the
availability of funding 2014-2015 budget)**

Number of bids issued 5

Number of bids received 5

**NO. 14-4-23 Resolved, that the following purchase be approved:
Photocopy supplies in the amount of \$33,652.55 (Purchase pending
the availability of funding 2014-2015 budget)**

Number of bids issued 2

Number of bids received 2

**NO. 14-4-24 Resolved, that the following purchase be approved:
Athletic Supplies in the amount of \$14,173.96.**

Number of bids issued 13

Number of bids received 8

**NO. 14-4-25 Resolved, that the following purchase be approved:
Printed Forms in the amount of \$2,946.25. (Purchase pending the
availability of funding 2014-2015 budget)**

Number of bids issued 2

Number of bids received 2

**NO. 14-4-26 Resolved, Physical Therapy Services in the yearly
amount of \$150,000 through the West Bay Collaborative for the**

2014-2015 academic school year.

NO. 14-4-27 Resolved, approved use of the agreement between the West Bay Collaborative and Enernoc - an Energy Procurement Consultant - contract to be extended for two years. (2014-2016).

NO. 14-4-28 Resolved, The Alternative Learning Program at Horton Elementary to be provided by West Bay Collaborative at a cost of \$430,000 for the 2014-2015 academic school year.

POLICY AND PROGRAM

NO. 14-4-29 Resolved, that at the recommendation of the School Committee, the following Student Policies be deleted:

5112.1 Students Exemptions

5112.2 Alternate Instructional Settings

5115 Attendance Records/Registers

5116 School Census

5118.1 Non-Resident Students

5118.2 Residence-Tuition

5118.4 Reciprocal Agreements

5118.5 International Exchange Arrangements

5118.6 Division of Residence

5119 Non-Resident Attendance – Tuition

5122.1 Placement of Handicapped Students and Special Education Programs

5123 Proficiency Based Diploma

5125.6(c) Missing Children

5125.6 (d) Missing Children

5127 Graduation/Separation

5127.1 Graduation Separation: Credits

5127.2 Graduation Separation: Diploma

5131.5 Vandalism

5138 Married/Pregnant Students

5139 Part-Time Employment

5140 Welfare

5210 Post Secondary

NO. 14-4-30 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent the following field trip(s) of long duration/conference(s) be authorized:

1. John Murray and Gerald Thifault, teachers at Cranston High School East and approximately 10 students to travel to Fort Devens, MA from June 23 through June 27, 2014 for a JROTC Cadet Leadership Challenge at an estimated cost of \$204.00 for round trip transportation.

2. The Cranston West Drama Club will be participating in the Vermont New England Drama Festival from April 15, 2014 through April 17, 2014. The festival is being held on the Johnsbury Academy campus located in Johnsbury, Vermont. Nancy Vitulli, the club advisor and

four other chaperones will accompany the fifty-one students where they will perform and attend plays as well as workshops. Each individual attending will be responsible for a two hundred dollar fee with additional funds coming from current theatre account and possible fundraiser.

Public Hearing on Non-Agenda Items

Mr. Duane Albro asked to speak on a non-agenda item. Mr. Albro stated that he lives at 2100 Cranston Street and that he was accompanied by his wife Paula. He stated that it is a little difficult to come forward after the student resolutions because of the nature of what he wants to talk to the Committee about. He wanted to congratulate these folks as well. He stated - this is what the high school experience should be for students and especially for student athletes to get recognized and to enjoy their experience in high school.

He further stated that he is coming before the Committee and it should only take a couple of minutes. Mr. Albro stated - I appreciate the opportunity and I apologize for missing the meeting, but I thought it was at 6 o'clock. I have a piece of paper that I am going to submit for record (See handout "A" on file with the Superintendent's office). This is going to be a brief presentation that I am requesting be put on record. My wife and I have three (3) children, who have been at Peters, Western Hills and Cranston West since we moved back here

in 2008, after 20 years away from the City. My oldest son, Stephen Albro graduated from Cranston West in 2012 where he was Solorian and winner of the Ideal Cranstonian Award. Some of you may have met him at the graduation ceremony where he spoke. He is currently at Harvard University. My younger son, Andrew is currently a sophomore at Cranston West and my oldest is at a private school in Massachusetts. Our record with Cranston West faculty and guidance will confirm that we endeavor diligently to instill values in our children. When we sent them to Cranston public schools, we want these values reinforced and modeled, not undermined. We encourage our children to value high school as a time of preparation and experience. We want our children to make the most of both these commodities. I myself, if you would indulge me for a few minutes, am a community volunteer who gives 100's of hours each year to the youth of this community. Mr. Dillon who is President of CLCF can vouch for that. The custodians at this school can corroborate that, as I am here three (3) hours every Thursday night over the winter. I am a coach and director of CLCF travel basketball, overseeing a vibrant competitive basketball experience of 100's of Cranston families over the last 6 years. As part of this, I personally stand in the gap for Cranston Public Schools by preparing middle school boys for high school basketball in the absence of a middle school sports program. Players in this program are given the opportunity to get good, qualified coaching and the opportunity to play at the highest competitive level across the state, again as a viable alternative to the middle school sports program they cannot enjoy. For example, last

year's 8th grade team consisted of 11 middle school boys from all over Cranston. Ten of them made high school teams this year. They have become best friends through their experience on this team, as have the families. Last year we played 53 games across 3 states, winning both the state championship and a regional year-end championship at Cape Cod. I spend many hours each year raising money for these opportunities, working with Mr. Zisseron and the school department, and paying him handsomely to do so, to lead the most successful youth basketball tournament in this State. I also am President of the Rhode Island Youth basketball Association – overseeing a competitive basketball program that includes 25 statewide youth basketball organizing including CLCF and approximately 2500 boys and girls through grade 9. We are the largest feeder organization in the State for high school basketball players. I attended Cranston East, where I played 3 years of varsity basketball and baseball in the early 1980's. My coaches were Jim Hopkins and the late Herb Nicholas. I went on to play Division 1 baseball in Virginia. In fact, I shook hands with you, Mr. Traficante approximately 30 years ago at an event similar to this. I have coached basketball successfully for the last 12 years, in youth travel and AAU, ages 10 through high school, and I am considered a top coach across the state. I say that as humbly as I can. I understand athletics at the highest amateur levels. I understand basketball. I understand coaching and I understand what a good coach looks like. I am here today to let you know I have already begun the process of a formal complaint and petition for removal against coach James

Moretti at Cranston West. I am working out an on the record meeting with Mr. Votto, Mr. Varrechionne and Mr. Barbieri in attendance. Mr. Votto has graciously accommodated me in these requests so far and in providing this opportunity. Based on a record of a previous complaint, I don't want this action to take place in the dark. I am here today to bring this to your attention, because when I do come to share the problems with you, I want you to remember me. I want you to remember my experience and what I have done in this community. I want to make sure that this administration is taking care of my son and others as it should. I want to make sure your eyes are on the process that I am about to begin. I intend on providing date to Tom Messanotte of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League. I want to make sure their eyes are on this process for other reasons. There has been a community of unhappy players and parents in western Cranston for a long time. I feel the athletic department has been negligent with accountability to this program and this coach. This will be spelled out in my complaint. I am unhappy with the administration's initial handling of both myself and others who have come forward this year, and previously to bring legitimate problems to light. This also will be spelled out in my complaint. This is what I want to submit for the record. I thank you for your time.

Ms. Iannazzi asked if there were any other members of the public that wish to speak on non-agenda items. There being none.

Announcement of Future Meeting(s) – May 14 and May 19, 2014

A Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Traficante; seconded by Mrs. Ruggieri. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula B.M. McFarland

Clerk