

# **CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

## **ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

**JANUARY 5, 2015**

**William A. Briggs Building (Reed Conference Room)**

**845 Park Avenue, Cranston, RI 02910**

**PUBLIC SESSION 5:30 P.M.**

## **MINUTES**

**The Cranston School Committee was inaugurated and held its organizational meeting on the evening of January 5, 2015 in the Reed Conference Room in the William A. Briggs Building. Peter Nero, former Superintendent of Cranston Public Schools, administered the oath of office to the Cranston School Committee for 2015-2017.**

**The newly inaugurated members are as follows:**

**Trent Colford**

**Stephanie A. G. Culhane**

**Domenic F. Fusco. Jr.**

**Jeffrey Gale**

**Janice Ruggieri**

**Michael A. Traficante**

**Daniel Wall**

**Attorney Cascione stated – pursuant to the city of Cranston charter I hereby call this meeting of the Cranston School Committee to order for the purpose of electing a chairperson of the Cranston School Committee. The roll was called; all were present. Attorney Cascione stated – at this time nominations are in order for the position of**

**chairperson; do I have a nomination? Mrs. Culhane stated – I would like to nominate Janice Ruggieri for chair of the Cranston School Committee. This was seconded by Mr. Traficante**

**.**

**There being no other nominations the roll was called:**

**Mr. Colford - Yes**

**Mrs. Culhane - Yes**

**Mr. Gale - Yes**

**Mrs. Ruggieri - Yes**

**Mr. Traficante - Yes**

**Mr. Fusco Yes**

**Mr. Wall - Yes**

**Mrs. Ruggieri was unanimously appointed to the position of Chairperson of the Cranston School Committee.**

**Chairperson Ruggieri asked - At this time are there any nominations for the position of Vice Chair? Mr. Traficante stated, I would like to nominate Stephanie A.G. Culhane for the position of Vice Chairperson.**

**This was seconded by Mr. Gale. There being no other nominations the roll was called:**

**Mr. Colford - No**

**Mrs. Culhane - Yes**

**Mr. Gale - Yes**

**Mrs. Ruggieri - Yes**

**Mr. Traficante - Yes**

**Mr. Fusco - Yes**

**Mr. Wall - Yes**

**Stephanie A. Culhane was appointed as Vice Chair of the Cranston School Committee.**

**Chairperson Ruggieri asked – are there any nominations for the Parks and Recreation committee? Mrs. Ruggieri stated – I would like to nominate Stephanie A. G. Culhane to be appointed to that committee. This was seconded by Mr. Gale. There being no other nominations the role was called:**

**Mr. Colford - Yes**

**Mrs. Culhane - Yes**

**Mr. Gale - Yes**

**Mrs. Ruggieri - Yes**

**Mr. Traficante - Yes**

**Mr. Fusco - Yes**

**Mr. Wall - Yes**

**Stephanie A. G. Culhane was unanimously reappointed as a member of the Parks and Recreation committee.**

**Chairperson Ruggieri asked – are there any nominations for the two seats on the School Buildings Committee? Mrs. Ruggieri stated – I would like to recommend that Mr. Traficante and Mr. Colford continue on this Committee with all the work they have been doing with the bonds. It was moved by Mr. Traficante; seconded by Mrs. Culhane.**

**There being no other nominations the role was called:**

**Mr. Colford - Yes**

**Mrs. Culhane - Yes**

**Mr. Gale - Yes**

**Mrs. Ruggieri - Yes**

**Mr. Traficante - Yes**

**Mr. Fusco - Yes**

**Mr. Wall - Yes**

**Michael A. Traficante and Trent Colford were unanimously appointed to the School Buildings Committee.**

**Mrs. Ruggieri stated that there are a few sub-committee appointments that need to be made. At this time I will send out an email as to what they are. There are a few that need to be covered as Mrs. McFarland, Ms. Iannazzi and myself were on them.**

**Also, we need to pick a night in January for a work session where we can discuss programming and policies. I am ready to present on music and I believe that middle school sports is ready as well. The Committee agreed on January 15, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. for a work session at the Briggs Building.**

**There being no further business to discuss a motion was made by Mr. Wall to adjourn the meeting at 6:03 p.m. This was seconded by Mrs. Culhane. All were in favor.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Stephanie A. G. Culhane**

**Vice Chairperson**

**&#8195;**

**CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE PUBLIC WORK SESSION**

**DECEMBER 3, 2014**

**WILLIAM A. BRIGGS BUILDING (REED CONFERENCE ROOM)**

**845 PARK AVENUE, CRANSTON, RI**

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

**PUBLIC SESSION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**PUBLIC WORK SESSION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING PUBLIC  
SESSION**

**MINUTES**

The School Committee meeting was held on the evening of the above date at the William A. Briggs Building with the following members present: Chairperson Iannazzi, Mr. Gale, Mrs. Ruggieri Mr. Colford and Mr. Traficante. Mrs. Culhane and Mrs. McFarland were absent during Executive Session. Attorney Cascione was present during Executive Session.

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. It was moved by Mr. Gale and seconded by Mr. Traficante to convene to Executive Session pursuant to RI State Laws. The roll was called; all were in favor: Mr. Colford – Yes; Mrs. Culhane – Absent; Mr. Gale – Yes; Mrs. McFarland – Absent; Mrs. Ruggieri – Yes; Mr. Traficante – Yes; Ms. Iannazzi Yes:

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

**PL 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining/Litigation:**

**A. Contract Negotiations' Update(s)=**

**B. Secretaries**

**C. Bus Drivers, Mechanics**

**D. Tradespeople**

**PL 42-46-5(3)**

**A. District Safety Plan**

**Call to Order at 6:12 p.m. - Public Session**

**The Roll was called; a Quorum was present.**

**Executive Session Minutes were sealed – Ms. Iannazzi stated that no votes were taken in Executive Session. A motion was made to seal the minutes of the executive session. Moved by Mr. Traficante; seconded by Mr. Mr. Gale. The roll was called; all were in favor.**

**Adjourn to Public Work Session at 6:15 p.m.**

**Versatrans Routing System – Joseph Balducci**

**Michael Anderson & Michael Grandy from Tyler Technologies presented on their company's transportation management system.**

**They highlighted the following:**

- **Bus routing systems and its capabilities**

- **Exact location of the busses**
- **Computer formulated bus routes**
- **GPS Systems in busses**
- **Maximizing bus runs and route efficiency**
- **Ability to track students locations on bus**

### **Mentoring Program**

**Arlene McNulty spoke on the Mentoring Program for the students in our schools that are matched up with adults from the community.**

**She highlighted some of the following:**

- **It is a process of developing a trusting relationship between the mentor and mentee**
- **The program builds self esteem and helps with academic achievement**
- **It is a rewarding, volunteer opportunity**
- **The mentors are matched up with students that are on the borderline of dropping out.**
- **The mentors are checked out (BCI, reference checks, etc)**
- **Parental consent is a requirement**

### **AED Upgrade – Joseph Balducci**

**Mr. Balducci spoke about the Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) that we presently have in our schools. He stated that most of them have reached their capacity and lifespan and should be replaced. He discussed the areas that do not have them and should, the cost of obtaining new ones and the maintenance of them once we have them.**

### **Audit – Joseph Balducci**

**Mr. Balducci stated that we ended the year with a budgetary surplus**

of just under 1.5 million dollars. This was after the Administration and the School Committee decided to put away \$500,000 in a Capital Reserve Fund. Now from a balance standpoint, we actually have a positive balance in our General Fund. When the audit report is printed and given out to everyone, it shows 1.5 million dollars. I caution you because it is not actually 1.5 million dollars because for presentation purposes, about a half a million dollars has to be shown as part of our Operating Fund. Internally, we will continue to spend separately from that fund, but when the auditors come in they have to roll it up to the General Fund. Out of the 1.5 million, back out a half a million and now you are down to 1 million and of that 1 million, \$300,000 is for reserve money. This means we had set aside dollars against last year's budget, but we did not spend those dollars until this year. The bottom line is our "rainy day fund" has about \$700,000 in it. All the funds had positive results. The Food Service Fund had a \$200,000 surplus last year, which now brings that fund to a positive of just under \$100,000. The Internal Service Health Funds, which we created a couple of years back because of being self insured, that too has a surplus of approximately \$900,000, which brings that fund's balance to approximately 1.4 million.

#### **Coaches Salaries – Raymond Votto**

Mr. Votto stated - As you recall, when we settled the contract with the teachers, the coaches' salaries were no longer listed in there. We really do not have a pay structure to go by. I had a discussion with Vin Varrecchione, who went out and did some research. We brought in Joe (Balducci) to do the numbers, which I am passing out now (See

**Handout “A” on file in the Superintendent’s Office).**

**Vin Varrecchione stated – Basically what Ray (Votto) said is that with us no longer being part of the teachers’ contract opened the door for us to make some changes. I went out and looked at neighboring communities and communities of similar size. We are at the middle of the road as far as coaching pay, maybe a little under in some areas. I know our coaches have not received raises for a few years now, as many people have not. It is becoming more and more difficult to find coaches. Every time we put an ad on School Spring, it is amazing how few applicants we get. It is not just Cranston, it is everywhere. It creates competition. If I am a certified coach and I can go to Warwick, Cranston or Providence and make 10% of my base salary in Providence, then guess where I am going. We are not trying to be competitive with Providence, but I wanted it to be a little more competitive with some of the other districts. Some of the other tweaking I did was with the individual sports. We had situation were Cross Country has four meets and the coaches are paid a \$4,300 stipend. We have soccer that has fifteen games away, at night, their practices are 6 days a week and they receive a \$4,200-\$4,300 stipend as well. There is an imbalance. I find that a lot of the other districts make adjustments in those cases. I know North Kingstown, West Warwick and Warwick did. I actually lowered the stipend in some areas. I tried to keep the dollar as close to equal as possible to what we have allocated now and within that I tried to be fair amongst the coaches that have the longer seasons, more games and most participants. Participation is also a big factor. In soccer, 30 girls**

tried out at Cranston West and we had 12 on the cross country team and 5 of them didn't show up regularly. It is hard to justify that coach making the same as the other. None of this was done on a whim; it is just some of the things that I have seen over the last several years. Cranston East Golf is almost an oxymoron. I hate to say that as I am a former Cranston East Golf coach years back, but the urban population and the kids that we are getting, we are struggling over there. There are times when we are not playing the maximum numbers for a match, so why do we have golf league when we only have 3-4 kids? We are paying a \$4,300 stipend for a coach and 12 dozen golf balls. We have to look at things like that. I looked at adding some positions, subtracting some positions, increasing and decreasing some stipends. This is just some frame work that I am giving you. It can be tweaked a little bit, but I think it is much better than what exists. As far as addition to positions, definitely a freshman football coach at East and at West. Every year, for 3 years, I have had 35-40 kids come out for freshman football. We have over 120 kids in the football program between both schools and we are covering that with four coaches. We have 2 coaches trying to coach the varsity, 2 that are trying to coach the junior varsity and shuffling volunteers over to the freshman programs. It is not an ideal situation. Those are two areas where we need an increase in staff. Again, I try to balance it. We have Boys' Tennis at Cranston West. We struggled to fill the junior varsity team last year. We didn't need a coach. None of this is personal. They are all great people, but we didn't need them. Maybe that is an area that we can take away from. This is the long and short

of what has gone into this. If you have any questions I would be happy to answer them.

Mr. Balducci stated – This will be introduced in next year’s budget. Currently this year’s budget and as per Vin’s (Mr. Varrecchione ) recommendation, this is what the budget will look like next year (“See Handout “A”).

Mr. Varrechione stated - I am willing to tweak the numbers a little bit more. I will have some coaches that will be upset when their pay goes down \$500.00 from the previous year.

Mrs. Ruggieri stated – Do you think will make us more competitive?

Mr. Varrechione stated – Yes.

Mr. Gale stated - Do you think we will end up losing coaches because you are reducing their pay?

Mr. Varrechione stated - That is the risk we take. This morning I went out to an appreciation breakfast that the Rhode Island Interscholastic League sponsored. As my guests, I took my two faculty managers. They are priceless, they really are.

One other position that I added was the Cranston East Cheerleading coach. Cranston East Cheerleading has been in the RI Interscholastic league the last several years. I am not sure what line item they are, but it is a varsity sport which is why I tried to move it into the Athletic item.

Mr. Traficante asked if Cranston West is competitive

Mrs. Ruggieri stated – No, West is not. East is competitive and they win.

Permit Policy - Jeannine Nota-Masse

**Mrs. Nota-Masse stated – We have three policies to discuss. Permit Policy (See Handout “B” on file in the Superintendent’s Office) Students Rights and Responsibilities in Interrogations and Searches (See Handout “C” on file in the Superintendent’s Office). Both of these are amendments to the current policies. The only changes are in bold in your documents. There are just date issues so we can again try and solidify these in classrooms before school begins and cut back on requests once the school year has begun and kids are settled in classes. The first year of implementation we allow people to apply, but it needs to have the dates tightened. Once kids are settled in class and people request movement, it puts us in a difficult spot because as you know, in the center and eastern side of the city, they are packed. We just want to expedite the process and make sure everyone is settled before it begins.**

**Mr. Colford asked how many requests do we have for this year (2014)?**

**Mrs. Ruggieri stated – It has been rolling. We have found out there are more coming into October and we don’t want that. They should know where they are going at that point and be at the school the day school starts. We are trying to tighten that up so people understand there is a deadline. The date is hard and there is no real wiggle room.**

**Mr. Colford asked if we had this in place this year, how many people would have missed the July 1st deadline?**

**Mrs. Nota-Masse stated – I do not have hard numbers, but I can get that data for you. Just to clarify, you want any new applications and**

**by category of siblings, cluster, etc?**

**Mr. Colford stated – Yes.**

**Dr. Lundsten stated – Do you want them sent out in the update on Friday?**

**Mr. Colford state – Yes.**

**Mr. Gale stated - Yes that would be great.**

**Mr. Traficante stated - I am trying to compare the current policy that we passed in 2013. The kids that were permitted at the beginning of school, I believe started in grade 2?**

**Ms. Iannazzi stated – You are talking about the people that were grandfathered in.**

**Mrs. Nota-Masse stated – Nothing substantial really has changed, just the dates.**

**Mr. Gale stated – My only concern is that deadline of August 15, 2014. Families go on vacation, out of town, they might not get the letters and may not have time to respond. Is there any way we can lengthen that out to September 15th?**

**Mrs. Ruggieri stated - We want all the permit appeal hearings heard prior to the start of the year, not in October and November. We can't have a kid already in a school for two months and then have an appeal hearing. If the appeal is approved or denied, then that child moves in November. We do not want that.**

**Mr. Gale stated – My only concern is that I don't think it is enough time for a parent to respond. I understand the thinking behind it, but if we could go any later, I would appreciate that.**

**Mrs. Nota-Masse stated – That is up to you folks. You tell me.**

**Mr. Colford stated – What happens in a case where it goes to the State and they are involved in determining that.**

**Mrs. Nota-Masse stated – It has been our experience that if we have a very clear, well communicated policy, they have upheld our decisions.**

**Mrs. Ruggieri stated – They have come back and stated where the child should go here during the appeal process. They (the State) determine their placement during the appeal process. This is just appeals to the School Committee; this is not an appeal to the State. We can't mandate that, only on our own appeals. That is another reason why we want to make sure they are done a little bit earlier so that we have a deadline for it and if it does need to go further, we are not in November doing a permit appeal. This way, it moves that process along as well.**

**Ms. Iannazzi stated – Going to Jeff's (Gale) point, and correct me if I am wrong, when a parent applies for a permit, they get the entire policy with the application. That is notice to them that they will have to change their school.**

**Mr. Gale stated – So they are informed a month ahead of time.**

**Mr. Traficante stated – Jeannine (Nota-Masse) why would you want to move the date back from May 1st to July 1st? I would think you would want it as early as possible.**

**Ms. Nota-Masse stated – Yes, May is rather early so we figured by July folks should have an idea if they are requesting a permit or the reason why.**

**Mr. Traficante stated – I would think it would be easier for you to get**

them in hand much earlier.

Mrs. Nota-Masse stated – Yes, a narrower window for us, but it allows parents extra time to make that decision.

Mrs. Ruggieri stated – They can put it in when they want, but we just want there to be a deadline. If you miss the deadline, you miss it.

Mrs. Nota-Masse stated – The effective date will be whenever the second reading is passed. We went through these policies and there was a delay in getting them on a work session. I will make sure that the date is whenever the second reading is.

**Student Rights and Responsibilities in Interrogations and Searches – Jeannine Nota-Masse**

The second policy - Student Rights and Responsibilities in Interrogations and Searches (See Handout “C” on file with the Superintendent’s Office). We have had several discussions over the last several years about dogs being used in our high schools and I guess potentially the middle schools if we felt it necessary. I have worked with Ron (Attorney Cascione) on making some policies around that because having this occur without a policy behind it is dangerous for us. Ron (Attorney Cascione) worked very closely with me on this to develop a policy that covers the use of trained dogs. We have not spoken at this point with the new Colonial regarding having this occur. We obviously wanted to talk to you folks about the policy and how it could impact things at our school.

Dr. Lundsten stated – I wanted to point out for clarification, they do use our building to train the dogs. They are not there to specifically look for any type of illegal substances from our kids. You may have

seen cars and dogs at the high schools after school hours, they notify us in advance.

Mr. Colford stated – Doesn't this open us up to some liability here with searching vehicles. Is it illegal search and seizure?

Mr. Traficante stated – The parking lot is City property, not school property.

Ms. Iannazzi stated – In loco parentis, if your child is on school grounds, the school has the care, custody and control and ability to access it.

Mrs. Nota-Masse stated – If a child is driving to school and parking their vehicle to go to school, their property is technically on school grounds. If a fight happens in the parking lot, we don't say "that's not our property." It is our responsibility.

Dr. Lundsten stated – The car is searched by one of our personnel, not by the police.

Mrs. Nota-Masse stated – The threshold for cars is a bit lower for administrators than it is for the police. Again, this stems from a couple of incidents that we have had with students bringing drugs and alcohol to school and leaving it in their car.

Mr. Traficante stated - I like the random search language.

Mrs. Ruggieri stated – When we started to look at this, we looked at other districts and what they were doing and there are several districts that have these policies in place, in their handbook and the expectation is there so nobody is surprised. When we looked at it, we looked at other districts to see what issues they may have had.

Mr. Traficante stated – It is kind of a deterrent. If they know you are

going to have a random search, they are going to think twice.

Mrs. Nota-Masse stated – The principals are very eager to have this resource at their disposal.

#### **Student Retention Policy – Jeannine Nota-Masse**

Mrs. Nota-Masse stated - The Retention Policy is the third one (See Handout “D” on file with the Superintendent’s Office). We talked about the dilemma often faced by schools regarding retaining students and if parents disagree then who will have the ultimate say. We ran into a problem where for several years, one particular school a child was recommended for retention, the parent disagreed with the recommendation and so finally it did go to RIDE. It became an issue as to why the child was not retained earlier, whereby mitigating some of the issues. The dilemma was in the Principals lap where we didn’t have a policy making it their ultimate decision. This is the person that will be held responsible for the child’s progress as the years go on. The second paragraph talks about notification. Again, you have some dates here so the parents are notified in a timely manner and in writing. We have a letter crafted so that the Principals can give the parents a warning that their child is in danger and there is a chance they may be retained. It is a warning, not an official notice given out in April. The final decision is made on or about May 5 because we have determined that date is about when progress reports are sent out.

When I say the Principal, I mean we have data teams, we have RTI in place, the Principal I doubt would make a singular decision. That is why we talk about data and the review and interventions in place. In

**the case that I am referring to, several things had been put in place and we were not successful. When the school had done its due diligence and the parent overrode and allowed the child to go on, the child still did not make any progress. Again by the time the child reaches middle school, it is a bigger problem.**

**Dr. Lundsten stated – We do have an arrangement with the Urban Collaborative in Providence where a child can attend middle school there and make that year up. They can still go with their original cohorts. So there are still opportunities that we offer the kids.**

**Mrs. Nota-Masse stated – At this time, we do not have a graduation requirement of a NECAP. When a standardized test comes back as a graduation requirement, we have the responsibility to make sure a child has all of the possible opportunities to be successful. If we are just moving kids along, we all know that they are not getting access to the curriculum for whatever issues they are having. Moving them on does them no good. It only exacerbates the problem and then they are in 11th grade and they potentially can't graduate because of something that happened and could have been fixed in 2nd grade.**

**Mr. Colford stated – What are the anticipated costs for No. 3 and No. 9 (See Handout "D").**

**Mrs. Nota-Masse stated – We have staff members who have translated for us. They translate documents for us for all our hearings. This is the law.**

**Dr. Lundsten stated – Even our Robocalls now, they designate on a card what their home language is.**

**Mrs. Nota-Masse stated – In rare circumstances, we may have to go**

outside of the school if it is a language we do not have access to. We usually use the International Institute. They do it once and we keep it.

Mr. Colford: I guess we have a lot of these at the elementary level.

Mrs. Nota-Masse stated – No we do not, not for retention.

Dr. Lundsten stated – I look at that at the elementary level. If I see that, I call the principals and say I want to see the files and why this happened. There should not be 6 retentions in the 1st grade.

Mrs. Nota-Masse stated – Again, we try to make these decisions and notice the parents in a timely fashion to plan for the following year so parents are not caught behind the eight ball and neither are we.

#### **Bamboo Project Proposed Resolution**

Suzanne Arena and Kenneth Filarski presented on the proposed resolution for the Bamboo Project. (See Handout “E” on file in the Superintendent’s Office)

Mrs. Ruggier stated – I have a couple of changes that I think need to be made to the resolution. I do not think the language is clear enough that the School Department will not be responsible for any of the funding for this project. The project cannot move until the full funding is in place, which is a standard that we have for any project that comes on board outside of our budget. So for each phase that you have and I know you have quite a few, but the full funding must be in place before that phase can move forward.

Mr. Filarski asked if the funding for the whole project or just each phase?

Mrs. Ruggieri stated – I do not think it would be realistic to ask you to

have millions of dollars in place now, but we do need to make it clear that for each phase of the program before it moves forward, the full funding must be in place.

Mr. Filarski stated – Do you have proposed language? I think that is reasonable. The project will not go forward until it is funded anyway. Once we have approval here (School Committee) then we go over there (City Council).

Mrs. Ruggier stated – That would be one piece. Then talking about the learning and earnings part, I think we need some clarity as to who will be responsible for the oversight of that business piece of this. The last piece .....the Cranston School Committee recommends that the City of Cranston..... we can't recommend anything to the City of Cranston so that needs to be removed.

Mr. Colford stated – Don't they need that to go forward?

Mrs. Ruggieri stated – They are asking that we recommend access to and use of land that we do not have any claim to, so we can't.

Mr. Colford stated – I think it should read that we are okay with the program.

Mrs. Ruggieri stated – If you want to add “in conjunction with the City of Cranston” would be fine but that last piece can't be used.

Mr. Traficante stated – With respect to the third paragraph, you should add in there “the City and the City Council”. They are part of the project and it is their property.

Dr. Lundsten stated – Do you want me to have Gail find the wording from the Lacrosse resolution?

Mrs. Ruggieri stated – Yes, that would be great.

## **Adjourn Public Work Session**

**A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Gale; seconded by Mr. Colford. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Andrea M. Iannazzi,**

**Chairperson**

**&#8195;**

**CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**DECEMBER 8, 2014**

**WESTERN HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**400 PHENIX AVENUE, CRANSTON, RI 02920**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:00 P.M.**

**IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING - PUBLIC SESSION**

## **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. Ruggieri, Mrs. Culhane, Mrs. McFarland, Mr. Gale, Mr. Colford and Mr. Traficante. Attorney Kevin McAllister was present for executive Session.**

**This meeting was called to order- 6:04 p.m. It was moved by Mr. Gale and seconded by Mrs. Culhane to convene to Executive Session pursuant to RI State Laws. The roll was called; all were in favor: Mr. Colford – Yes; Mrs. Culhane –Yes; Mr. Gale – Yes; Mrs. McFarland – Yes; Mrs. Ruggieri – Yes; Mr. Traficante – Yes; Ms. Iannazzi - Yes:**

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

- A. Discussion of Non-Certified Administrator A**
- B. Discussion of Non-Certified Employee A**
- C. Discussion of Certified Administrator A**
- D. Discussion of Certified Administrator B**
- E. Discussion of Certified Administrator C**
- F. Discussion of Certified Administrator D**
- G. Discussion of Certified Administrator E**
- H. Discussion of Certified Administrator F**
- I. Discussion of Certified Administrator G**
- J. Discussion of Certified Administrator H**
- K. Discussion of Certified Administrator I**
- L. Discussion of Certified Administrator J**
- M. Discussion of Certified Administrator K**
- N. Discussion of Certified Administrator L**
- O. Discussion of Certified Administrator M**

**PL 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining/Litigation:**

- E. Contract Negotiations' Update =**

## **F. (Secretaries)**

**PL 42-46-5(3)**

### **B. District Safety Plan**

**Executive Session adjourned at 6:23 p.m.**

**Call to Order - Public Session a 6:33 p.m.**

**The roll was called; there was a quorum present.**

**Executive Session Minutes Sealed – Ms. Iannazzi stated that no votes were taken in executive session and all individuals listed under Personnel above have been noticed. A motion was made to seal the minutes of executive session; moved by Mr. Gale; seconded by Mr. Traficante. The roll was called; all were in favor.**

**Minutes of Previous Meetings Approved – November 12, 2014 (Work Session), November 17, 2014 (Regular Meeting) and November 25, 2014 (Special School Committee Meeting); Moved by Mrs. Culhane; seconded by Mr. Gale. The roll was called; all were in favor.**

### **Public Acknowledgements/Communications**

**Ms. Iannazzi stated that she wanted to acknowledge the School Committee members elect, Daniel Wall and Dominic Fusco and also**

**Superintendent Emeritus, Peter Nero.**

### **Chairperson's Communications**

**Ms. Iannazzi stated that she wanted to hold off on any Chairperson Communications for right now and come back to it later.**

### **Superintendent's Communications**

**Superintendent Lundsten stated - Good evening. I wanted to tell you that over the weekend, the Cranston High School Theater group put on a production of Pippin. I was fortunate enough to be able to attend on Friday evening. It was an outstanding performance by the students. I just wanted to thank them and congratulate them for a wonderful performance. I also wanted to recognize the administrators, the teachers and the parents that supported this program. It didn't happen on its own. It took countless hours. Mr. Dillon (James) was in the band playing. Alumni came back to support them. We are fortunate to have this Theater group and it was a wonderful evening.**

**I would also like to mention to you that on tonight's agenda, there is resolution to amend the calendar. It was simply a clerical error on the bottom of the calendar and makes it appear as if Monday, January 5th we do not have school, which indeed we have school on Monday, January 5th. We had to change it from the 5th to the 2nd. That is the**

**only change on the school calendar this year and I wanted to clarify that for the folks in the audience and for the public. Thank you.**

### **School Committee Member Communications**

**Mr. Gale stated - Today I had the pleasure to go to Edgewood Highland and take part in their Hour of Code ceremony. It is a nationwide and international movement to get students exposed to computer coding and software coding. I am pleased to say that Edgewood Highland won a grant for \$10,000 to be used for technology. It was one of 51 grants in the nation and Edgewood Highland was the only school in Rhode Island to receive this grant. I wanted to congratulate them.**

**Mrs. Culhane stated - I would like to take a moment on behalf of my colleagues to wish well to our esteemed Chairperson, Andrea Iannazzi. This will be her last meeting this evening. While she still has duties that she will be performing through the end of the year, Andrea has served the City of Cranston, its students and its tax payers for the last ten years in various capacities; as a member, as Vice Chair and also as the Chairperson for the last six years. She has done an amazing job, not only representing her constituents, but being a voice for change in policy and a voice for change in curriculum. She has represented the City of Cranston in the most astute way throughout the entire state and in other states as well. We are fortunate to have had her during our tenure. During my tenure, I**

**am thankful for both her leadership and more importantly, her friendship. I wish you the best of luck. It is not going to be the same without you. We are so sad to see you go, but very happy for your new endeavors and wish you the best of luck.**

**Mr. Traficante stated - Ladies and gentlemen, fellow colleagues on the School Committee. Many people are able to talk about things such as dedication, commitment, sacrifice, service and loyalty to their profession or to any organization. Very few people are willing to put their name on the dotted line to practice those qualities and those characteristics. Very few people are willing to not only talk the talk, but also walk the walk. I respect people a great deal who are willing to put their name on the dotted line, to serve their community, serve their state and service their government. Such as the case tonight with two of our members who are leaving. Mrs. Culhane did an excellent job describing their service to this community. I have known Paula McFarland for a good number of years. She was a community advocate many years ago. She was a councilwoman for ten years and served on the School Committee for the last six years. For that, she deserves being honored tonight and recognized. Therefore, on behalf of this Committee, I am proud to present this plaque, presented to Paula McFarland, Vice Chairperson of the Cranston School Committee, serving from 2009-2014. The plaque reads: In grateful appreciation for your dedication and commitment, leadership and service to the Cranston School Committee, Cranston School Department, New England Construction Career Academy as a**

**Board Member, and also the students of our great City.  
Congratulations Paula.**

**Last, but certainly not least, this young woman is going to do many great things in state government. She has served this Committee for the last ten years with a great deal of loyalty and certainly a great deal of insight and with a great deal of fortitude. We had to accomplish, capture and attack many problems that did not make you happy. She stood the test and proved to be a great leader on the School Committee. I am sorry to see her go, but I am expecting great things from her at the state level. Therefore, on behalf of the School Committee, it is my pleasure to present to you this plaque. The plaque reads: Presented to Andrea Iannazzi, Chairperson of the Cranston School Committee, 2004-2014 for your service. In sincere appreciation for your time, effort, leadership, dedication and endless hours of service and commitment to the Cranston School Committee, the Cranston School Department and the children of Cranston. Congratulations.**

**Chairperson Iannazzi stated - First and foremost, I wanted to thank the voters of the 6th Ward in Cranston for providing me with the opportunity to serve over the last ten years. It is a responsibility that I certainly have not taken lightly. There are many other people to thank so please bear with me. First, I know I sound like a broken record but I cannot express my gratitude and my appreciation enough for the dedicated employees of Cranston Public Schools. What the**

district may lack in salary and benefits, we make up for in heart. Several years ago at the height of our fiscal storm, we could have headed in one of two directions. One was bad for everyone and the other, which was bad for our employees, but better for our students. I am proud to say that each of our bargaining units stepped up and helped us get out of that storm. In the process, they have continued to serve our students to the best of their abilities each and every day. For that, I am forever thankful. I have had the pleasure of serving along four Superintendents. Two of them are here tonight. Judy (Dr. Lundsten) I have enjoyed working with you on implementing a Strategic Plan and as you say, "Getting in the weeds on policy issues." I thank you for your service. Then there is Peter, who I consider part of my family. Every day I spent serving alongside Peter was filled with laughs, challenges and yes, plenty of Godfather references. I do not think that there is a person alive who cares more about Cranston Public Schools than Peter Nero. While Peter may have at some times offered an unconventional approach, that is what those that are closest to Peter love about him. I know that I am a better leader today because of the time that I spent learning from and listening to Peter. Peter, thank you.

This Executive team is the best in the business. If I were ever to be given the keys to a business, the first person I would hire is Ray Votto. Ray is professional, dedicated and he is a straight shooter who not only knows how to spot an issue, but also how to solve the problem. Joe Balducci may seem quiet, but he packs a punch and he

is always spot on. It has been a pleasure watching Joe Rotz and Michele Simpson grow into their new roles and become much more vocal members of the team. Jeannine, I fought when you tried to leave and I fought even harder to get you back. I am very glad to have you here. You are this generations Peter Nero. You are an administrator who has the perfect blend of people skills, intellect and knows how to get a job done. I know that you have a bright future ahead of you just like the talented administrators that you recruited to this district, specifically Roxanne, Jim and Toni-Ann. Liz, although she is not here, I did want to thank her. We have had our fair share of disagreements over the years, but that is a natural result of each of us advocating for our constituencies. She not only serves her members well, but what the general public does not understand is that she also serves Cranston Public School well. She puts out fires before they reach the Administration and that is something that most rank and file people do not realize. I may not miss her late night texts or early morning phone calls, but I will miss her. Last but certainly not least, I wanted to recognize my colleagues. The roll of a School Committee member is often underappreciated, but I can tell you that there have been weeks where we have spent more time with one another than our families. I have learned from each and every one of you and truly consider you all to be a friend. We have achieved so much together from negotiating over \$10 million dollars in savings to spending countless hours together approving new curricula and implementing a new teacher evaluation tool. On a personal level, I just want to thank Mr. Traficante for always serving as the elder

**statesman of the group and never being shy to supply advice. I can't think of no better hands to turn over our rolls to than Janice (Ruggieri) and Stephanie (Culhane). Janice is a very diligent worker who is always prepared. Stephanie, your ability to say whatever it is that you are thinking quite frequently lands you in trouble but it also shows how genuinely you care and how passionate you are about the issues facing this district. Thank you all. I look forward to remaining in touch and I wish you all the best of luck as we go forward.**

## **Public Hearing**

### **Students (Agenda/Non-Agenda Matters) -**

- 1. Julia Alves, Student - Spoke on keeping the Food and Consumer Science program**
- 2. Chantelle Sebastian, Student - Spoke on keeping the Food and Consumer Science program**
- 3. Jordan Scarduzio, Student - Spoke on keeping the Food and Consumer Science program**
- 4. Joseph Delsignore, Student - Spoke on keeping the Food and Consumer Science program**
- 5. Lauren Russo, Student - Spoke on keeping the Food and Consumer Science program**

### **Members of the Public (Agenda Matters Only)**

# **1. Superintendent Emeritus, Peter Nero - Spoke on behalf of the School Committee**

## **Consent Calendar/Consent Agenda**

**The following resolutions were adopted unanimously under the Consent Agenda:**

**14-12-01, 14-12-02, 12-12-03, 14-12-04 (w/addendum), 14-12-05, 14-12-06, 14-12-07, 14-12-08, 14-12-09 (w/addendum), 14-12-10, 14-12-11, 14-12-12, 14-12-14, 14-12-15, 14-12-16, 14-12-18, 14-12-19 and 14-12-20**

**A motion was made to approve; moved by Mr. Traficante; seconded by Mrs. Culhane. The roll was called; all were in favor.**

## **Action Calendar/Action Agenda**

### **RESOLUTIONS**

### **ADMINISTRATION**

**Dr. Lundsten stated - Tonight we have one certified Administrator and two, non-certified employees who are retiring. I would like to recognize Mary Tonks. She is a reading teacher who has worked for us for 17 years. I would like to offer her our congratulations and best wishes in her future endeavors. Carol Pacheco has been a teacher**

**assistant for 27 years in the Cranston Public Schools. Most recently she was at Orchard Farms and we would like to offer her our best wishes and hope that she has a wonderful time in her retirement. Lastly, we have Manual Furtado. He has been in Transportation for the last 12 years. He has been a very trustworthy bus driver and we would like to offer him the best too. Thank you.**

**No. 14-12-01 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:**

**Jared Hopkins, Physical Education K-12**

**Jennifer Lander, Special Education K-12**

**Jacquelyn Pereira, Elementary**

**No. 14-12-02 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement of the following certified personnel be accepted:**

**Mary Tonks, Teacher**

**Arlington**

**Effective Date...January 30, 2015**

**No. 14-12-03 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation(s) of the following certified personnel be accepted:**

**Lisa Reed, Teacher**

**Leave**

**Effective...November 21, 2014**

**No. 14-12-04 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual(s) be appointed as an athletic coach:**

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

**CHSW**

**Step-7**

**Class-B**

**Playing Competition-High School**

**Experience-Coach East Girls' Track**

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

**Arianna Colella, Assistant Coach Girls' Indoor Track**

**CHSW**

**Step-4**

**Class-D**

**Playing Competition-High School\College**

**Experience-Head Coach Scituate Girls' Cross Country**

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

**Carl Bishop, Head Coach Boys' Indoor Track**

**CHSE**

**Step-7**

**Class-B**

**Playing Competition-High School/College**

**Experience-Head Coach Cranston East Boys Indoor\Outdoor**

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

**Add to Resolution No. 14-12-04**

**Robert Basha, Assistant Coach Wrestling**

**CHSE**

**Step-7**

**Class-D**

**Playing Competition-High School\College**

**Experience-Coach Coventry High School**

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

**No. 14-12-05 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual(s) be reappointed as an athletic coach:**

**Cranston High School East**

**John Smith- Head Boys' Basketball Coach**

**Corey Bouchard- Assistant Boys' Basketball Coach**

**Lloyd Bochner-Head Girls' Basketball Coach**

**Glen Castiglia-Head Wrestling Coach**

**Robert Bouchard- Head Co-ed Swim Coach**

**Robert LaBanca- Head Girls' Indoor Track Coach**

**Jennifer Koscho-Head Competition Cheerleading Coach**

**Cranston High School West**

**Tim Almonte- Head Wrestling Coach**

**Jaime Ferretti – Head Co-ed Swim Coach**

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

**Thomas Aronne-Assistant Boys' Indoor Track Football Coach**

**David Fontes, Girls' Assistant Basketball Coach**

**Cranston East\Cranston West**

**Michael Boyajian-Head Boys' Hockey Coach**

**Matthew Brannon-Assistant Boys' Hockey Coach**

**No. 14-12-06 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual(s) be appointed as volunteer athletic coach:**

**Cranston High School West**

**Steven Rush-Boys' Basketball**

**No. 14-12-07 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual(s) be reappointed as a**

**volunteer athletic coach:**

**Cranston High School East  
Amanda Ervin-Cheerleading**

**Cranston High School West  
David D'Amato- Wrestling**

**No. 14-12-08 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of the following coach(es) be accepted:**

**Daniel Casey, Assistant Wrestling Coach  
Cranston East  
Effective date...November 17, 2014**

**No. 14-12-09 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified employee(s) be appointed:**

**Lisa Scorpio-Vecchio, 3hr Teacher Assistant  
Gladstone  
Effective...December 1, 2014  
New  
Fiscal Note...5091919510 51110**

**Chantel Walls, Assistant Site Coordinator  
Bain + 2**

**Effective....December 1, 2014**

**Replacement**

**Fiscal Note....82815151 51308**

**Juan Gonzalez, 5hr Custodian**

**Plant**

**Effective...December 9, 2014**

**Replacement**

**Fiscal Note...122477050 51110**

**James Saccoccio, 6hr Custodian**

**Plant**

**Effective...December 9, 2014**

**Replacement**

**Fiscal Note...16247050 51110**

**Laura Barlow, Behavior Tech**

**Bain**

**Effective...January 5, 2015**

**New**

**Fiscal Note...11546110 51110**

**Correction to Resolution No. 14-12-09**

**Chantel Walls, Assistant Site Coordinator**

**Bain + 2**

**Effective....December 1, 2014**

**Replacement**

**Fiscal Note....82815151 51308**

**Corrected to Read:**

**Fiscal Note 53115151-51308**

**No. 14-12-10 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:**

**Barbara Harley, Bus Driver**

**No. 14-12-11 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement(s) of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:**

**Carol Pacheco, Teacher Assistant**

**Orchard Farms**

**Effective Date...January 23, 2015**

**Manuel Furtado, Bus Driver**

**Transportation**

**Effective Date...January 2, 2015**

**No. 14-12-12 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the**

**Superintendent, the resignation(s) of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:**

**Isaiah McDaniel, Assistant Site Coordinator**

**Bain + 2**

**Effective Date...December 1, 2014**

**No. 14-12-13 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the School Committee approve salary adjustments for certified and non-certified administrators retroactive to July 1, 2014. (See Fiscal Impact Analysis Attached)**

**Motion was made to amend and remove one of the names listed in Resolution No. 14-12-13 (Timothy Vesey, Assistant Principal) by Mrs. Culhane; seconded by Mrs. Ruggieri. The roll was called; all were in favor.**

**Chairperson Iannazzi stated - She wanted to state for clarification purposes, Mr. Vesey's contract is up at the end of the year, so he will be receiving an extension of his contract from the Superintendent and she will be proposing a new contract, which is why there is no action being taken this evening.**

**Chairperson Iannazzi stated - She had a general comment in that she is in favor of all the Administrators receiving a raise except for one. Because of that one, and I am not going to single the person out, but**

**because of that one administrator that I do not think deserves a raise, I am going to vote No on this.**

**Motion was made to approve Resolution No. 14-12-13 by Mr. Traficante; seconded by Mrs. Ruggieri. The roll was called; Mr. Colford - Yes; Mrs. Culhane - Yes; Mr. Gale - Yes; Mrs. McFarland - Yes; Mrs. Ruggieri - Yes; Mr. Traficante - Yes; Ms. Iannazzi - No.**

## **BUSINESS**

### **PURCHASED AND PURCHASED SERVICES**

**No. 14-12-14 RESOLVED, that the following purchase be approved:**

**Transportation Management Software & Related Equipment in the amount of \$103,664.**

**Number of bids issued 2**

**Number of bids received 2**

**No. 14-12-15 RESOLVED, the following purchases be approved:**

**Fitness Equipment for Bain Middle School in the amount of \$7,600. Funding provided for by the Feinstein Foundation.**

**Number of bids issued 5**

**Number of bids received 4**

**POLICY AND PROGRAM**

**No. 14-12-16 RESOLVED, that the 2014-2015 School Calendar (see attached) be amended as follows:**

**Dec. 24 to Jan. 5 2, 2015 Holiday Recess (includes Christmas Day/Dec. 25 & New Year's Day/Jan 1.**

**No. 14-12-17 RESOLVED, that the following policy be amended for first reading (see attached policy)**

**Policy No. 5117(b) Permit to Attend Non-Home School Amend  
Replaces Policy #5117(a)**

**It was moved by Mrs. Culhane; seconded by Mrs. Ruggieri for discussion and amendment.**

**Mrs. Culhane stated that she would like to make an Amendment to Resolution No. 14-12-17 to change the language that says effective January 1st to effective February 1st, as we have to vote twice on policy changes. This will not be effective until after our January meeting.**

**A motion was made to approve Resolution No. 14-12-17 as amended by Mrs. Culhane; seconded by Mrs. Ruggieri. The roll was called; all**

were in favor.

**No. 14-12-18 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the School Committee, the following policy be approved for first reading (see attached policy):**

**Policy No. 5145 - Student Rights and Responsibilities Interrogations and Searches Policy**

**No. 14-12-19 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the School Committee, the following policy be approved for first reading (see attached policy):**

**Policy No. 5149 - Student Retention Policy**

**No. 14-12-20 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent the following field trip(s) of long duration/conference(s) be authorized:**

**1. Students from Cranston High School West CACTC program will be will be traveling to Orlando, Florida to participate in the DECA International Career Development Conference departing April 24, 2015 and returning April 30, 2015. The purpose of the trip is for students to compete in National competition and attend leadership/career development sessions. There are twenty-four students attending, accompanied by three chaperones. Group will be**

staying at the Buena Vista Palace Hotel, 1900 E. Buena Vista Drive, Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830. Each student attending will be responsible for financing his/her airfare, accommodations and food. Chaperones will be funded through the Perkins Grant.

### **Public Hearing on Non-Agenda Items**

- 1. Sandra Marinucci-Santagata, 192 Garden City Drive - Spoke on keeping the Food and Consumer Science program**
- 2. Ed Angilly – 168 Lauren Street – Spoke on FERPA violations**
- 3. Audrey Gutton – 16 High Gate Road - Spoke on keeping the Food and Consumer Science program**
- 4. John Santangelo – No Address given – Spoke on behalf of Liz Larkin and the Cranston Teachers' Alliance(who could not attend) to wish the members leaving well.**

**Chairperson Iannazzi addressed Mr. Angilly. She stated that our legal counsel is out of town and he will be responding back to hm.**

**Announcement of Future Meeting(s) – January 5, 2015, January 20, 2015, January 26, 2015 and January 29, 2015**

### **Adjournment**

**A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Gale; seconded by Mrs. McFarland. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Paula B.M. McFarland

Clerk&#8195;

CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS Resolution No. 14-3-23 March 17,  
2014

CALENDAR FOR 2014-2015

Passed:

June 16, 2014 Amended Dec. 8, 2014

At the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools, and with School Committee approval, this calendar may be altered during the scheduled recess periods or at the end of the school year, due to emergencies affecting the health and safety of our students and/or operation of our schools.

MONTH M T W T F DAYS MONTH M T W T F DAYS

Aug. 21\* 22\* Feb.

25\*\* 26 27 28 29 (4) 2 3 4 5 6

9 10 11 12 13

Sept. X 2 3 4 5 X X X X X 8 X 10 11 12 23 24 25 26 27 (15)

15 16 17 18 19

22 23 24 25 26 (20) Mar.

29 30 2 3 4 5 6

Oct. 1 2 3 9 10 11 12 13

6 7 8 9 10 16 17 18 19 20

X 14 15 16 17 23 24 25 26 27 (22)

20 21 22 23 24 30 31

27 28 29 30 31 (22) Apr. 1 2 3

6 7 8 9 10

Nov. 13 14 15 16 17

3 X 5 6 7 X X X X X

10 X 12 13 14 27 28 29 30 (17)

17 18 19 20 21

24 25 26 X X (16) May 1

4 5 6 7 8

Dec. 1 2 3 4 5 11 12 13 14 15

8 9 10 11 12 18 19 20 21 22

15 16 17 18 19 X 26 27 28 29 (20)

22 23 X X X

X X X (17) June 1 2 3 4 5

Jan. X X 8 9 10 (11 12

5 6 7 8 9 15 16 17) 18 19

12 13 14 15 16 22 23 24 25 26 (8)

X 20 21 22 23 82

26 27 28 29 30 (19)

98

**\*New Teacher Orientation – August 21 & 22, 2014**

**\*\*All**

**Professional Staff Orientation – Aug. 25, 2014**

**First Day of School for Students – Tuesday, August 26, 2014 – ALL**

**GRADES REPORT**

## **SCHOOLS WILL BE CLOSED (X=no school)**

**Sept. 1, 2014 Labor Day**

**Sept. 9, 2014 State Primary Elections**

**Oct. 13, 2014 Columbus Day Observed**

**Nov. 4, 2014 General Elections**

**Nov. 11, 2014 Veterans' Day Observed**

**Nov. 27 and 28, 2014 Thanksgiving Recess**

**Dec. 24 to Jan. 2, 2015 Holiday Recess (includes Christmas Day/Dec. 25 & New Year's Day/Jan 1)**

**Jan. 19, 2015 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

**Feb. 16 to Feb. 20, 2015 Mid-Winter Recess (includes Presidents' Day / Feb. 16)**

**April 20 to April 24, 2015 Spring Recess**

**May 25, 2015 Memorial Day Observed**

**Schools close June 10, 2015 or the 180th day (June 11th to June 17th = make-up days for inclement weather)**

**First term – Aug. 26 to Oct. 30, 2014 = Inclusive 45 days      Second term – Oct. 31 to Jan. 20, 2015 = Inclusive 45 days**

**Third term – Jan. 21 to March 31, 2015 = Inclusive 45 days      Fourth term – April 1 to June 10, 2015 = Inclusive 45 days**

## **GRADUATION DATES**

**Cranston High School West 11:00 a.m. and Cranston High School East 4:00 p.m. – Saturday, June 6, 2015. NEL/CPS Construction Career Academy – Friday, 6:00 p.m. June 5, 2015.**

**Cranston East, Cranston West, and NEL/CPS Construction Career Academy Seniors' Last Day of Instruction – May 28, 2015.**

**Gm**

**Permit to Attend Non-Home School Policy**

**#5117(b)**

**Revised policy amendment proposed by School Committee Member: Janice Ruggieri, and Assistant Superintendent Nota-Masse**

**Effective January 1, 2015 and will replace Policy #5117(a)**

**General Policy Statement**

**Over the past several years, requests for permits for children to attend schools not assigned to them by geography, also known as the “home school,” has increased greatly, and is especially prevalent at elementary schools. The Cranston School Department granted yearly permits to students so they may attend a school other than their home school. This practice which started as an exception based on courtesy has grown exponentially and has diverged from the original permit criteria.**

**Permit Criteria**

**Permits for a child to attend a school outside of their home school will be granted only under the following conditions:**

**1. Permit applications must be submitted to the Assistant Superintendent by JULY 1 for the following school year. There is no guarantee of approval. Parents will be notified of permit decision by AUGUST 1 of that same year. Once approved, students do not have to reapply for a permit each year; however, their permit status is subject to this policy. For just cause shown, late applications may be accepted at the sole discretion of the Assistant Superintendent.**

**However, in no event will an application be accepted after August 1.**

**2. Documentation must accompany any request for a permit based on a medical condition and may be reviewed by the nursing supervisor for Cranston Public Schools, district physician for Cranston Public Schools and/or appropriate IEP or 504 team for consideration. Any child granted a permit based on medical need, must submit current medical documentation related to the permit request every year to the Assistant Superintendent.**

**3. The placement is required pursuant to an IEP or 504 Plan.**

**4. The student is interested in programming not offered in their home school (i.e. JROTC).**

**5. There are documented legal reasons why a child must attend a school outside of their home district (i.e. restraining orders, safety plans or custody agreements).**

**6. The student's sibling(s) attend(s) a school outside of his/her home school in the district for special service placements (i.e. ELL or special education) or due to clustering.**

**7. Permits not approved by the Assistant Superintendent (or his/her designee) may be appealed to the Cranston School Committee for approval. This appeal must be made in writing to the Chairperson of the Cranston School Committee by AUGUST 15 of that same year, or any appeal rights will be deemed waived.**

**8. Beginning in the 2014-2015 school year, if allowing a permit student into a classroom would result in a classroom overage (additional stipend for the classroom teacher and financial cost to the district), the permit will be denied and the student must return to**

**his/her home school. If returning the student to his/her home school will cause a further educational/population disruption, placement will then be at the discretion of the Assistant Superintendent.**

### **#5117(b)**

#### **Policy Implementation Schedule**

**Any elementary student who is placed at a school outside of their home school due to lack of space/classroom over population, also known as “clustered” students, will be given the option to return to their home school –if space is available- or they may opt to stay in their current school.**

**Beginning in the 2013-2014 school year, students entering kindergarten and first grade must meet criteria set forth in Cranston School Committee Policy #5117. Students in grades 2-12 may be granted a permit to complete the 2013-2014 school year in their permitted school provided they do not have poor attendance, excessive tardiness, disciplinary problems, or for any other reason that may affect the educational process.**

**Beginning in the 2014-2015 school year, students entering**

**kindergarten through grade 2 must meet criteria set forth in Cranston School Committee Policy #5117. Students in grades 3-12 may be granted a permit to complete the 2014-2015 school year in their permitted school provided they do not have poor attendance, excessive tardiness, disciplinary problems, or for any other reason that may affect the educational process.**

**Beginning in the 2015-2016 school year, students entering kindergarten through grade 3 must meet criteria set forth in Cranston School Committee Policy #5117(b). Students in grades 4-12 may be granted a permit to complete the 2015-2016 school year in their permitted school provided they do not have poor attendance, excessive tardiness, disciplinary problems, or for any other reason that may affect the educational process.**

**Beginning in the 2016-2017 school year, students entering kindergarten through grade 4 must meet criteria set forth in Cranston School Committee Policy #5117(b). Students in grades 5-12 may be granted a permit to complete the 2016-2017 school year in their permitted school provided they do not have poor attendance, excessive tardiness, disciplinary problems, or for any other reason that may affect the educational process.**

**Beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, students entering kindergarten through grade 5 must meet criteria set forth in Cranston School Committee Policy #5117(b). Students in grades 6-12 may be**

**granted a permit to complete the 2017-2018 school year in their permitted school provided they do not have poor attendance, excessive tardiness, disciplinary problems, or for any other reason that may affect the educational process.**

**Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, every permit application for grades K-12 must meet the criteria in Policy #5117(b).**

**First Reading: December 8, 2014 CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Resolution No. 14-12-17 CRANSTON, RHODE ISLAND**

**&#8195;**

**Application for non-home school PERMIT**

**This application must be submitted to the Assistant Superintendent of Cranston Public Schools by JULY 1 for consideration for following school year. The submission of this application does not guarantee approval of the permit.**

**CHECK ONE: This is a NEW permit application\_\_\_\_\_ This is a renewal of a previous permit\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student Information**

**Last Name**

**First**

**Name M.I. DOB**

**/ /**

**Street Address Apartment/Unit #**

**City State ZIP**

**Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Name(s)**

**Parent /Guardian Phone Home ( ) Cell ( )**

**Parent/Guardian Email Address(es)**

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**SCHOOL INFORMATION**

**Student's Home School**

**Current Grade**

**Student's School for Permit Request**

## **Grade for Permit Request**

**Does the student have an IEP? YES 0**

**NO 0**

**DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE. FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY**

**Does the student have a 504 Plan?**

**YES 0**

**NO 0**

**Please indicate below the reason for your permit request-Provide documentation IF indicated below**

**0 Student is participating in programming not available in their home school (i.e. JROTC). This does not apply to special education programming.**

**0 Student has legal reasons for permit (i.e. custody agreement, restraining order). Please attach a copy of the legal documentation.**

**0Medical need-Student has documented medical needs/condition that necessitate permit. Please attach medical documentation from child's physician.**

**0 Student has current IEP or 504 Plan which designates a need for permit. Please describe reason**

**0The student's sibling(s) attend(s) a school outside of his/her home school in the district for special service placements (i.e. ELL or special education).**

**0The student's sibling(s) attend(s) a school outside of his/her home school in the district due to clustering.**

**0 The student's sibling(s) attend(s) a school outside of his/her home school in the district due to an administrative placement.**

**Parent/Guardian Acknowledgement**

**I acknowledge that all information provided above is true to the best of my knowledge. I am aware that according to Cranston School Committee Policy #5117(b), the permit may be revoked for reasons outlined therein.**

**Parent/Guardian**

**Signature**

---

**DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR APPROVAL/DENIAL**

**PLEASE DO NOT WRITE IN THE AREA BELOW. FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY**

**YES 0NO 0 REASON:**

**Administrator Signature**

**Date**

**Date received Email Hard copy**

**Date approval/denial letter sent Emailed Hard copy**

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**#5145**

## **STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES INTERROGATIONS AND SEARCHES**

### **INTERROGATIONS BY SCHOOL OFFICIALS**

**Administrators, teachers and other professional personnel may question a student regarding the student's own conduct or the conduct of other students.**

### **LOCKERS AND VEHICLES**

**Students have full responsibility for the security of their lockers, and for vehicles parked on school property. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that lockers and vehicles are locked and that the keys and combinations are not given to others. Students shall not place, keep or maintain any article or material that is forbidden by Cranston Public School policy in lockers or in vehicles parked on school property.**

**School officials may search lockers, or vehicles parked on school property, if there is reasonable cause to believe that they contain articles or materials prohibited by Cranston Public Schools policy. Students shall be responsible for any prohibited items found in their lockers or in vehicles parked on school property.**

**If a vehicle subject to search is locked, the student shall be asked to unlock the vehicle. If the student refuses, Cranston Public Schools shall contact the student's parents. If the parents also refuse to permit a search of the vehicle, Cranston Public Schools may turn the matter over to local law enforcement officials.**

### **USE OF TRAINED DOGS**

**Cranston Public Schools shall use specially trained non aggressive dogs to sniff out and alert officials to the current presence of concealed prohibited items, illicit substances and alcohol.**

**Such visits to schools shall be unannounced. The dogs may be used to sniff vacant classrooms, vacant common areas, the areas around student lockers, and the areas around vehicles parked on school property. The dogs shall not be used with students. If a dog alerts to a locker, a vehicle or an item in a classroom, it may be searched by school officials. Searching of vehicles shall be conducted as described above.**

### **NOTICE**

**At the beginning of the school year, Cranston Public Schools shall inform students of the district's policy on searches, as outlined above, and shall specifically notify students that:**

- 1. Lockers may be sniffed by trained dogs at any time.**

- 2. Vehicles parked on school property may be sniffed by trained dogs at any time.**
- 3. Classrooms and other common areas may be sniffed by trained dogs at any time when students are not present.**
- 4. If contraband of any kind is found, the possessing student shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and may be referred to the local law enforcement agency.**

### **PARENT NOTIFICATION**

**The student's parent or guardian shall be notified if any prohibited articles or materials are found in a student's locker, in a student's vehicle parked on school property, or on the student's person, as a result of a search conducted in accordance with this policy.**

### **DEFINITIONS**

- 1. For purposes of this regulation, the following definitions will be applicable:**

**#5145**

**A. Contraband will mean all substances or materials, the presence of which is prohibited by district policy, state and/or local law, including but not limited to controlled substances, drugs, alcohol or alcoholic beverages, glue, volatile chemicals, aerosol paint, guns, knives, weapons and incendiary devices.**

**B. Random searches will refer to searches that are conducted without reference to specific dates, locations or times.**

**C. School property refers to all property owned, leased or operated by the Cranston Public School District.**

**2. Random searches will be directed toward locating items prohibited by law or the Student Code of Conduct in public or common areas on school property. The boundaries of such searched will include but are not limited to the following areas:**

**A. All school property will be subject to random searches at any time. There is no expectation of privacy regarding items placed in school lockers or desks.**

**B. All automobiles parked on school property will be subject to random searches.**

**C. All personal effects will be subject to random searches.**

**3. Random search procedures will be as follows:**

**A. The Cranston Police Department will be authorized to utilize trained canines to aid in the search for contraband in or on school-owned property and automobiles parked on school property.**

**B. An authorized trainer will be responsible for training and documenting the dog's actions and must accompany the canine used in any random search.**

**C. An indication (trained alert) by the dog to the handler that contraband is present on school property or in or on an automobile being searched will be considered probable cause to extend the focus of the search as needed.**

**D. While a random search is being performed, all students and**

personnel must remain in their classrooms, work locations, or other areas of school property designated by the school administration in coordination with the Police Department.

E. The Superintendent or designee, school principal, or designee may request a search of the school as needed. Searches requiring a canine will be scheduled in advance with the Cranston Police Department.

F. Unannounced searches may be conducted by the Cranston Police Department or upon request by the Superintendent or designee, as deemed necessary.

First Reading: December 8, 2014 CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Resolution No. 14-12-18 CRANSTON, RHODE ISLAND  
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**POLICY #5149**

**STUDENT RETENTION POLICY**

**STUDENT RETENTION POLICY**

Any student who does not successfully complete the requirements of

**their current grade may be retained. The decision for retention will be made by the school administration, in collaboration with the child's teacher(s). All appropriate data, including, but not limited to, assessments, attendance records, etc. will be reviewed before making this decision. While parents will be informed of this process, the ultimate decision for retention will be made by the school principal.**

**Warning:**

**Parents/Guardians will be notified in writing by the end of the third quarter (on or about April 1st) if there is a chance that their child may be retained in their current grade for the next school year. Students who enroll after the second quarter, retention will be made on a case by case basis.**

**A final decision will be made on or about May 5th. Parents will be notified of the final decision by email and certified letter.**

**If a parent disagrees with the decision to retain or not to retain a student, the parent may appeal the decision in accordance with the following:**

**Retention Decision Appeal Process**

**1. The parents or guardians shall be informed in writing of the principal's decision for retention.**

- 2. If the parents or guardians want to appeal the principal's decision they must do so in writing, within 10 school days of receiving the principal's letter, to the superintendent or designee.**
- 3. The parents or guardians shall be informed by written notice, in their dominant language, of a due process hearing with the superintendent or designee.**
- 4. All parties involved may be represented by legal counsel.**
- 5. The parties will be given an opportunity to present their reasons why they recommend or do not recommend retention of the student.**
- 6. The hearing will be conducted by the superintendent or designee who shall make a determination based on evidence presented at the hearing.**
- 7. A record shall be kept of the hearing.**
- 8. The superintendent or designee will provide within 10 school days, a written decision to all parties, as to whether the student shall be retained.**
- 9. The decision of the superintendent or designee will be translated to the dominant language of the parents or guardian and sent to the parents or guardians.**
- 10. Parents may appeal the decision of the superintendent or designee to the Chairperson of the School Committee.**

**First Reading: December 8, 2014    CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Resolution No: 14-12-19    CRANSTON, RHODE ISLAND**

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**CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
2014-2015 SALARIES ADJUSTMENTS**

<b>CERTIFIED/CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATORS</b>	<b>AMENDED</b>		
	<b>2014-2015</b>	<b>2014-2015</b>	<b>2014-2015</b>
<b>LAST FIRST POSITION SALARY</b>	<b>SAL. ADJ.</b>	<b>SALARY</b>	
<b>ANDERSON CHERYL ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL</b>	<b>94,639</b>	<b>1,893</b>	<b>96,532</b>
<b>CORRENTE ANTHONY PRINCIPAL-</b>			<b>MIDDLE</b>
<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>98,751</b>	<b>1,975</b>	<b>100,726</b>
<b>CROFT KEITH ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL</b>	<b>87,411</b>	<b>1,748</b>	<b>89,159</b>
<b>CRUDALE MICHAEL PRINCIPAL-</b>			<b>MIDDLE</b>
<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>98,751</b>	<b>1,975</b>	<b>100,726</b>
<b>DEPALMA PAUL PRINCIPAL-</b>			<b>ELEMENTARY</b>
<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>91,463</b>	<b>1,829</b>	<b>93,292</b>
<b>SACCO CHERI PRINCIPAL-</b>			<b>ELEMENTARY</b>
<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>91,047</b>	<b>1,821</b>	<b>92,868</b>
<b>KELLY SEAN PRINCIPAL- HIGH SCHOOL</b>	<b>105,894</b>	<b>2,118</b>	<b>108,012</b>
<b>MAGNELLI KIM PRINCIPAL</b>	<b>94,063</b>	<b>1,881</b>	<b>95,944</b>
<b>POTEMRI JOSEPH ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL</b>	<b>94,063</b>	<b>1,881</b>	<b>95,944</b>
<b>REAGAN KERRYLIN ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL</b>	<b>89,411</b>	<b>1,788</b>	<b>91,199</b>
<b>SEVIGNY COURTNEY PRINCIPAL-</b>			<b>ELEMENTARY</b>
<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>87,099</b>	<b>1,742</b>	<b>88,841</b>
<b>VESEY TIMOTHY ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL</b>	<b>87,411</b>	<b>1,748</b>	<b>89,159</b>
<b>DILLON JAMES EXECUTIVE</b>		<b>DIRECTOR</b>	<b>OF</b>

**SIS 102,454 2,049 104,503**  
**1,222,457 24,449 1,246,906**

**Salary 24,449**  
**Pension (Cert.) 3,914**  
**Medicare 355**  
**28,717**

**NON CERTIFIED PERSONNEL**

**AMENDED**

**2014-2015 2014-2015 2014-2015**

**LAST FIRST POSITION SALARY SAL. ADJ. SALARY**

**GERMANI LAUREN COMPUTER TECHNICIAN 43,186 864 44,050**  
**43,186 864 44,050**

**Salary 864**  
**Pension 97**  
**FICA 54**  
**Medicare 13**  
**1,027**

**SUMMARY 29,744**