

**CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 25, 2016
WESTERN HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL
400 PHENIX AVENUE, CRANSTON, RI 02920
EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:00 P.M.
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED BY PUBLIC MEETING**

MINUTES

The School Committee meeting was held on the evening of the above date at Western Hills Middle School with the following members present: Chairperson Ruggieri, Mrs. Culhane; Mr. Colford; Mr. Fusco, Mr. Gale and Mr. Traficante. Attorney Cascione was present during Executive Session.

It is noted that Mr. Wall was absent with cause.

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. **It was moved by Mr. Gale; 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. Fusco – Yes; Mr. Gale – Yes; Mrs. Ruggieri – Yes; Mr. Traficante – Yes; Mr. Wall – Absent.**

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

- a. Certified Recalls
- b. Non-Certified Administrative Layoffs
- c. Discussion of Non-Certified Administrator “A”

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

PL 42-46-5(3)

- a. District Safety Plan

Call to Order - Public Session at 7:02 p.m.

The roll was called; a Quorum was present

Executive Session Minutes were sealed – Mrs. Ruggieri stated that no votes were taken in Executive Session and that all personnel listed above were notified. **A motion was made to seal the minutes of the executive session by Mr. Traficante; seconded by Mrs. Culhane. The roll was called; Mr. Colford - Yes; Mrs. Culhane – Yes; Mr. Fusco – Yes; Mr. Gale – Yes; Mrs. Ruggieri – Yes; Mr. Traficante – Yes; Mr. Wall – Absent. All were in favor.**

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of Previous Meetings - March 9, 2016 (Work Session); March 14, 2016 (Student Hearing) and March 14, 2016 (Regular Meeting) by Mrs. Culhane; seconded by Mr. Traficante. The roll was called; all were in favor.

Public Acknowledgements/Communications - None

Chairperson's Communications - None

Superintendent's Communications

Superintendent Nota-Masse stated – Good evening. I have two announcements tonight. One pertaining to some of our administrators who are hear this evening. Over the past few months the administrative teams at Briggs, in addition to the many of the administrators and the School Committee, have been discussing administrative assignments. With the opening of a new middle school and some of the shifting in the student body, it has been made clear that we needed to move some folks around. There was a posting for the middle school Principal at Bain Middle School. We found a great candidate in Mr. Jeff Taylor. He will be taking on the reins starting in July and his appointment was last month. In addition, part of the administrative contracts state that the administration, meaning myself and the Executive team can move people around within the district. While realizing we have many talented individuals and we are very fortunate in that, we made some internal decisions and moved some folks around in the schools around the district. We still have jobs that are posted out to the public. Internally, we have made some decisions on folks moving and assuming new duties. Tonight I would like to publicly announce those changes. This morning I met with all the administrators and we discussed who was going where, so they were aware. The folks that were moving within the district sent out communications to their parents and staff so that those folks are aware. Tonight, I would like to announce some changes in administrative staffing. Please hold your applause so that we can get through this. First up, we have Mr. Brian Lally who was previously the Assistant Principal at Bain Middle School. He will be going to Cranston High School West to work with Mr. Barbieri and his fine administrative team of Falcon's. On the eastern side of the City, Ms. Sandy Matoian-Heard will be working with Mr. Kelly and his administrative team at Cranston East as the Assistant Principal. At Hope Highlands Middle School, accompanying Mr. Alex Kanelos, who was also appointed last month, will be Mrs. Katrina Pilay, who is currently the Principal at Barrows Elementary School. She and Mr. Kanelos will lead the new Middle School at Hope Highlands. I already spoke about Mr. Jeff Taylor, who is coming to us from Warwick and will be the Principal of Bain Middle School. Leading Bain Middle School with Mr. Taylor will be Mr. Brian Flynn, who is currently at Cranston High School East. At Orchard Farms, Mrs. Beth Basil will be the new Principal. Mrs. Kim Magnelli, who is currently at Orchard Farms, she will be taking on the reins at Dutemple Elementary School. Those are the changes and that leaves openings at Barrows Elementary School and the Assistant Principal's role at Orchard Farms. Those two jobs will be posted publicly on School Spring, if any of you are interested in applying. Congratulations and thank you to all of the administrators. It was a very thoughtful, long and sometimes grueling process because we really wanted to put the right folks in the right places with the right skill set, personality and experience with the schools that suit them. I am 100% confident in all of the administrators that they will be doing exemplary work as they always have and will continue to do so at their new assignments. Congratulations and thank you.

I would also like to mention one retirement for Mrs. Maria Elena DiMaio. She is on the agenda this evening. She is retiring after 19 years, most recently at Edgewood Highlands. Good luck to Mrs. DiMaio in her retirement.

School Committee Member Communications

Mr. Fusco stated – A few weeks ago at Rhode Island College, the Rhode Island Science Olympiad was held. Cranston was represented by four schools; Bain Middle School, Western Hills, as well as both high schools. I am proud to say that one medal was earned by each school and Cranston East came in 6th place within the state. I know we will be doing something later on, but I wanted to acknowledge them. It was a great showing and we are all really proud of them.

Superintendent Nota-Masse stated – East was 6th and West was 8th in the state.

Mr. Traficante stated – A Mr. David DiMaio, who is presently the President of the Cranston West Alumni Association has taken on a massive project in trying to replace all the seating at the Cranston West auditorium. He is in the process right now of having a major fundraiser to try and replace the seating. I wanted to announce tonight that the New England Laborers Union is contributing \$5,000 toward that project.

Public Hearing

- Students (Agenda/Non-Agenda Matters) - None
- Members of the Public (Agenda Matters Only)

Chairperson Ruggieri stated - At this time no members of the public signed up to speak and this time slot will be used for the auditors from Marcum, LLP to present their findings.

Mr. Balducci stated – Each year the School District has its main operating fund, its auxiliary funds, audited. This evening there are 3 resolutions for your consideration and there are representatives from the accounting firm, Marcum, LLP that does this on an annual basis. Standing before you is Mr. James Prescott, a partner with the firm. Sitting in the front row is Erica Olobri, who is the Audit Manager. She was the onsite person that the School Department and the City dealt with during the audit. Mr. Prescott then reviews all of her work before the report is issued.

Mr. James Prescott stated - Good evening. As Mr. Balducci stated, you have copies of the financial statements (**See Handout a on file with the Superintendent's Office for additional information**). I will briefly go over the introduction part, which is what you hired us to do and provide an opinion on the overall financial statements. Erica will get into a little bit of detail and enough for you to get a flavor of what the audit was like. We spent approximately 500 man hours out here doing just the school side of the audit. It takes a considerable effort to get where we are and issue an audit opinion. Ours is what we call a "clean opinion". It goes on for 3 pages, but it primarily says that a financial statements are fairly stated under generally excepted accounting principles. That is the best opinion you could have received from us.

Ms. Erica Olobri stated – Just to give you a little bit of background, you are looking at a governmental fund financial statements (**Handout A**). From your point of view, the general fund is a fund that you guys look at often. As of June 30, 2015, just a snapshot

in time, your assets are approximately \$7.7 million. Your liabilities to pay out are about \$2.6 million. Your fund balance as of June 30, 2015 is approximately \$5.1 million. Note that \$4.8 million of that is not spendable, which means that it is tied up in other cash or due to funds that are restricted for different purposes. On a gap basis, your statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance, you have revenues of approximately \$56.8 million for the year ending June 30, 2015. Most of that is state aide of \$47 million. Then you have expenditures of approximately \$146.2 million. The biggest part of those expenditures are your salaries and benefits. You also have a transfer in from the City of approximately \$93 million. Your net change in fund balance on a gap basis is approximately \$3.6 million, an increase. I know you always look at the budget to actual, so on a budgetary basis there are some differences between budgetary to gap. On your financials, it is page 45. Your increase on a budgetary basis is about \$2.8 million. Transfers from the city accounted for about \$1.6 million of that. There were a lot of additions to the report this year that you will see if you look through the notes. They are all the pension changes that happened this year with GASB 68, which is a new standard that was implemented. There was also a single audit that was done on a City wide basis. You will note when you look at the report that there are some findings and none of the findings related to the school programs that were tested. There is no Management Letter on the school side.

Mr. Traficante stated – When I received the audit on the City side many years ago, the first document we would look at would be the Management Letter. I am very pleased to say and congratulate Mr. Balducci because there are no findings and recommendations based on that Management Letter, correct?

Ms. Olobri stated – Yes, School side.

Mrs. Ruggieri stated – When I finished reading the audit report I did send an email to Mr. Balducci to make sure that I understood it correctly that when there are no findings on the School side and that he should be proud and we are proud of the job that his department has done. What he has been able to do to the District and especially something like this when the School side comes out clean. I just wanted to acknowledge his department for that.

Mr. Balducci stated - I know Ms. Olobri mentioned that we ended the year, depending on whether it was gap or budgetary, with \$3 million. Again just so the Committee understands, because I know this questions comes up every budget season before the City Council, as of June 30, 2015, what is the unrestricted, unassigned Rainy Day Fund of the school district. Just so we are all on the same page. I know the Committee is because I brought it to their attention, but when they have conversations with the city, I just want to make sure that they have the correct information.

Ms. Olobri stated – That would be on page 4 of your financials and you are looking at a negative, unassigned amount of \$355,000. Again, some of the funds that are on that balance sheet are tied up for other restrictions. Whether it be capital projects or health insurance fund.

Mr. Balducci stated – For clarification, when we were in front of the City Council one particular member mentioned that we had a fund equity of about \$5 million dollars, we attempted to correct that in indicating that we did not have a Rainy Day Fund, we were

almost at break even. Again, on confirmation from the auditors; Yes, we are not at a position yet where we have a Rainy Day fund. We are almost there. We are about \$300,000 away as of June 30, 2015.

Mr. Traficante stated – I want to congratulate the Finance Department and the School Department.

Action Calendar/Action Agenda

Consent Calendar/Consent Calendar

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted under the Consent Agenda:

16-04-05; 16-04-06; 16-04-07; 16-04-08; 16-04-09; 16-04-10; 16-04-11; 16-04-12; 16-04-13; 16-04-15; 16-04-16; 16-04-17; 16-04-18; 16-04-19; 16-04-20; 16-04-21; 16-04-22; 16-04-23; 16-04-24; 16-04-25; 16-04-25; 16-04-26; 16-04-27; 16-04-28; 16-04-29; 16-04-30; 16-04-31; 16-04-32; 16-04-33; 16-04-34; 16-04-36; 16-04-38; 16-04-39

A motion was made to approve by Mr. Gale; seconded by Mr. Traficante. The roll was called; all were in favor.

RESOLUTIONS

Sponsored by Domenic Fusco

Resolution No. 16-04-03 WHEREAS, the 2015-2016 Cranston East High School Girls Basketball team had a very successful season. They finished the year with an overall 21-6 record and an impressive 17-1 Conference record;

WHEREAS, the team finished in 1ST Place in the Rhode Island Interscholastic Division II South after going 14-4 last year;

WHEREAS, the Cranston East Girls Basketball team participated in the Rhode Island Interscholastic League State Tournament as a Fifth Seed and was the only Rhode Island public school to make it to the Final Four of the tournament.

Be it **RESOLVED**, that the following students and their coaches be recognized for all their hard work and dedication: **Kyla DePina, Brittany Rice, Maeve Cafarelli, Chantal Duran, Sarah Coutu, McKenzie Richards, Lizbeth Torres, Tatyana Correia, Shayna Cousineau, Madison Stetson, Maia Caito and Isabella Ferry. Head Coach - Lloyd Bochner; Assistant Coach - Michele Giardina and Volunteer Coach - Zac Sailer**

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

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

Sponsored by the Cranston School Committee

Resolution No. 16-04-04 WHEREAS: Current state law allows Concealed Carry Permit (“CCP”) holders to carry firearms onto school grounds; and

WHEREAS: The vast majority of states do not permit firearms on school grounds; and

WHEREAS: A study by the Violence Policy Center, a Washington D.C. gun safety organization, found, from May 2007 to February 2015, that in research involving 722 deaths in 544 concealed carry shootings in 36 states and the District of Columbia, the vast majority of those killings were deemed non-self-defense and only 16 cases were eventually ruled lawful self-defense; and

WHEREAS: A two year comprehensive Final Report of the Sandy Hook Advisory Commission, consisting of school administrators, teachers, law enforcement, psychiatrists, lawmakers and legal professionals, dated February 2015, made findings including “Safe School Climate” and “Safe School Design and Operations Strategies” that specifically did not include the use of firearms or the of arming teachers or non-law enforcement civilians in schools; and

WHEREAS: The National School Boards Association believes that students must have safe and supportive climates and learning environments that support their opportunities to learn and that are free of abuse, violence, bullying, weapons, and harmful substances including alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; and

WHEREAS: The Rhode Island Association of School Committees’ Executive Board have voted to support banning concealed weapons on school grounds, except for duly authorized members of law enforcement;

WHEREAS: The Rhode Island School Superintendents’ Association has adopted the School Superintendents Association “AASA Position Paper on School Safety: A response to the Tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary,” which specifically denounces “efforts to bring more guns into our schools by teachers and administrators,” and reminds us that “schools remain the safest place for children”; and

WHEREAS: The Rhode Island Association of School Principals Executive Board has voted to endorse and support the ban on concealed weapons on school grounds, except for authorized members of law enforcement, holding to its core belief that school environments should be devoid of all conditions that may compromise the safety of students and staff;

WHEREAS: Rhode Island education leadership has carefully considered and implemented regularly audited school and districtwide building safety plans and emergency protocols inclusive of first responders, local law enforcement, and the school community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Cranston School Committee respectfully requests the Rhode Island General Assembly to support 2016 – H 7243, 2016 S2761, and any and all legislative proposals that would disallow non-law enforcement to carry concealed firearms onto school grounds.

A motion was made to approve by Mrs. Culhane; seconded by Mr. Gale. Discussion followed.

Mr. Colford stated – I know we have talked about this in the past and have voted on this previously, but we are talking about concealed carry permit holders not being allowed to carry firearms onto school grounds, which right now they are legally allowed to do. The concerns I have are numerous. First of all, I know as a School Committee member, one of the first things we did when we were sworn into office that we would uphold the Constitution. To my knowledge, the second amendment is still part of that Constitution. We can put up rules and laws and as many things as we want to try and take away these firearms from legal, law abiding citizens. My concern is that if we take away all the firearms from the good guys, and the only people left that have firearms are the bad guys, who is going to stop them? I know we have law officers and SRO's and they are certainly well trained, but I do not know that we have the ability to put them in all of our schools all the time to be able to prevent anything that happens. I guess what my concern is when I look at these individuals who have these permits, they have legally gone out and done it, they have done the work that they need to do in order to be trained properly to hold that permit. I think back and think about some of the tragic school events and we talk about Sandy Hook and Columbine and I think about what if there was someone there who was carrying a concealed permit and had a weapon with them, would they have been able to change the outcome of both of those situations? I am not a professional on this. I am not somebody who knows all the ins and outs of these different findings. I think the conversation is a lot deeper than that. It is probably not something simple that we can just solve. I am concerned that if we continue to take away the rights of law abiding citizens, where is that going to leave us? I would please ask my fellow colleagues here to take that into consideration, think about this as you go and vote on it this evening. I know this is something that is coming up in front of the State and that we are looking to support them, but I just want to have you guys think about some of this and think about where we could be if we have allowed individuals to be able to continue their second amendment rights and hold those permits, even if it is on school grounds.

Chairperson Ruggieri stated – As a quick response, the legislation that is being put forward is similar to that is currently in place for airports and courthouses. It just closes a gap that is not currently there for schools, to give you some clarity.

Mr. Colford stated – Yes. It just takes away another place that the bad guys can come in and not have to worry about anybody being armed, other than the police officers. I guess that I think about the shooting that happened out in Colorado. In that town there were 11 theaters. There was one theater that did not allow firearms, the other ten theaters in that city allowed firearms to be carried in. It was not an accident that the shooter came in and picked that theater. It was on purpose. He knew that there would be nobody in the audience that he would have to worry about. I think about those things. It just concerns me.

Mr. Traficante stated – What are you suggesting, Trent?

Mr. Colford stated – I would suggest that we not support this. That we continue to allow concealed carry permit holders to carry on school grounds, as we have been doing for decades. It is my concern that heaven forbid something happens then there will be an

individual here trained to hold that permit, has a firearm and would be able to stop something like that.

Chairperson Ruggieri stated – But they would not be required to stop something.

Mr. Colford stated – No, they would not be required to do something. They are just law abiding, American citizens.

Mrs. Culhane stated – I do not know how much of a known fact this is, there were actually armed guards at Columbine and there was a massacre there. The gun at Sandy Hook was a legally purchased gun and a legally held gun. I can go to the corner store and buy alcohol or buy cigarettes, but I can't use them in school. It is not taken away my right to have alcohol, it is just saying that school is not a proper place for it. I do not think any of us can presume that if anyone of us were in any of those situations and Monday morning quarterbacking and say "if I had that gun, I would have shot someone." You can't make that presumption. We can't make the presumption that having a gun is going to prevent somebody who has a nefarious intent from doing what they want to do, regardless of what the laws are. I shoot. I like guns. I am okay with the Second Amendment. I have no issue with it, but I just do not feel as a parent and as a legislator that there is any place in our school for guns. I feel at that point once we have crossed that line and allowing that, we are asking people in our schools to do and be responsible for. It is a very slippery slope. I fully support this resolution. I support it on a state level. I think it is smart and it will keep our children safe because we cannot presume what someone will do if they had that weapon on them. That is an awful big responsibility to put on someone's shoulders.

Mr. Colford stated – It is, but if you do not have it you have 100% guarantee that if something happens like that, like Sandy Hook, there will not be anyone there to stop it. Sandy Hook in my mind is a deeper conversation that needs to go to mental health. It is not about weapons, it is about the mental health situation in this country.

Mrs. Culhane stated – Which is why this resolution really is not going to prevent anybody from technically still carrying their guns and weapons. If somebody has a nefarious intent. If somebody has some type of issue, they do not care if there is a cop standing there. They do not care that there is a gun in someone's hand. They have an intent for whatever their reason is to commit the crime that they want to commit. Like I said before, at Columbine there were armed guards and that still happened.

Mr. Colford stated – The individual would have less of a chance and less of an opportunity and would probably think twice before they did that. That is all I am saying.

Mrs. Culhane stated – That is your opinion. That is a presumption and not fact.

The roll was called; Mr. Colford - No; Mrs. Culhane – Yes; Mr. Fusco – No; Mr. Gale – Yes; Mrs. Ruggieri – Yes; Mr. Traficante – Yes; Mr. Wall – Absent.

PERSONNEL

Resolution No. 16-04-05 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, said certified personnel be recalled from layoff, and

Be it further **RESOLVED**, that the Superintendent notify these individuals of the committees actions.

Resolution No. 16-04-06 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent the following certified personnel be appointed for the 2016-2017 school year:

Justin Hopkins, Step 1
Education...RIC, BS
Experience...Cranston Student Teacher
Certification....Technology Ed PK-12
Assignment... Bain 1.0 FTE
Effective date...August 31, 2016
Authorization...New
Fiscal Note...11511600 51110

Sarina Lake, Step 5
Education...RIC, BS
Experience...Bristol-Warren School District
Certification....Technology Ed PK-12
Assignment... Itinerant 1.0 FTE
Effective date...August 31, 2016
Authorization...New
Fiscal Note...11511600 51110

Joseph Giorno, Step 12
Education...RIC, BS
Experience...Warwick School District
Certification....Technology PK-12
Assignment... Hope Highlands 1.0 FTE
Effective date...August 31, 2016
Authorization...New
Fiscal Note...12911600 51110

Rosa Lancellotta, Step 2
Education...URI, BA
Experience...Warwick School District
Certification....Spanish\Italian Middle 5-8
Assignment... Bain 1.0 FTE
Effective date...August 31, 2016
Authorization...New
Fiscal Note...11512300 51110

Marlaina Corpolongo, Step 7
Education...URI, BA
Experience...Warwick School District
Certification....All Grades PK-12 Spanish\Italian
Assignment... Park View 1.0 FTE
Effective date...August 31, 2016
Authorization...New
Fiscal Note...12312200 51110

Resolution No. 16-04-07 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

Kelsey Gammell, Middle English 5-8
Emily Fabrizio, Elementary

Resolution No. 16-04-08 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:

Robert Watts, Teacher
Cranston East
Effective Date...August, 2016 to September, 2017

Resolution No. 16-04-09 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.4 of the Master Agreement between the Cranston School Committee and the Cranston Teachers' Alliance:

Dena Chamberlain, Teacher
Leave
Effective Date...August, 2016 to September, 2017

Resolution No. 16-04-10 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement of the following certified personnel be accepted:

Marie-Elaina DiMaio, Teacher
Edgewood
Effective Date...May 6, 2016

Resolution No. 16-04-11 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation(s) of the following certified personnel be accepted:

Wendy Miller, Teacher
Leave
Effective...March 30, 2016

Resolution No. 16-04-12 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individuals be appointed as coaches:

Bianca Madonna, Assistant Coach Girls' Lacrosse
Cranston West
Class-D
Step-1
Playing Competition-High School & College
Experience- None
Certification-RI Coaches Certification; CPR\AED\First Aid

Ariana DeSimone, Assistant Coach Girls' Lacrosse
Cranston West
Class-D
Step-1
Playing Competition-High School
Experience-None
Certification-RI Coaches Certification; CPR\AED\First Aid

Resolution No. 16-04-13 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individuals be appointed as volunteer coaches:

Cranston High School West

Kenneth Mahoney Football

Western Hills

James Demers Baseball

Park View Middle School

Christopher Sparks Softball

Resolution No. 16-04-14 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified employee(s) be appointed:

Robert Imbriglio, Part Time Custodian
Plant
Effective Date...March 21, 2016
Replacement
Fiscal Note...12047050 51110

Anthony Venticinque, Part Time Custodian
Plant
Effective Date...April 11, 2016
Replacement
Fiscal Note... 16247050 51110

Kim Oliveira, Phlebotomy Instructor
Adult Education
Effective Date....April 25, 2016
Replacement
Fiscal Note.... 51362130 51110

Donna Pavia-Galloway, Medical Assistant\Phlebotomy Instructor
Adult Education
Effective Date...April 25, 2016
Replacement
Fiscal Note... 51362130 51110

Deborah DiRaimo, Medical Assistant Instructor
Adult Education

Effective Date....April 25, 2016
Replacement
Fiscal Note.... 51362130 51110

Joan Ricci, Medical Assistant Instructor
Adult Education
Effective Date...September 2, 2015
Replacement
Fiscal Note... 51362130 51110

A motion was made to approve Resolution No. 16-04-14 by Mrs. Culhane; seconded by Mr. Traficante. Discussion followed.

Mrs. Culhane stated – I would like to make a friendly amendment to this. The name as it is listed Deborah DiRaimo, should be DiRamio.

The roll was called; all were in favor.

Resolution No. 16-04-15 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation(s) of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:

Lisa Francis, Bus Aide
Transportation
Effective Date...November 30, 2015

Mario Silva II, Custodian
Plant
Effective Date...April 8, 2015

Resolution No. 16-04-16 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

Barbara Valletta, Teacher Assistant
Indira Martinez, Teacher Assistant
Joshua Gibbons, Custodian
Jeffrey McGuire, Custodian
Linda DiMaio, Secretary
Justin Giocastro, Custodian
Terrell Paci, Culinary Aide
Zachary Taylor, Custodian

Resolution No. 16-04-17 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified staff member be granted a leave of absence without compensation as provided in Article XII, Section G of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Cranston School Committee and the Rhode Island Laborers' Local 1322 Bus Drivers/Mechanic unit.

Nicole Santagata, Bus Driver
Transportation

Effective Date...April 11, 2016 to August 31, 2016

John Theroux, Bus Driver
Transportation

Effective Date...April 11, 2016 to October 11, 2016

Resolution No. 16-04-18 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that non-certified employees be laid off from their position due to realignment and/or reorganization of staff.

BUSINESS

Resolution No. 16-04-19 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Cranston School Committee accepts the school district's 2014-2015 Financial Audit as presented in the Auditor's report for the year ended June 30, 2015. **(For additional information, see 2014-2015 Financial Audit on file in the Superintendent's Office)**

Resolution No. 16-04-20 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Cranston School Committee accepts the school district's 2014-2015 Federal Single Audit for the year ended June 30, 2015. **(For additional information, see 2014-2015 Federal Single Audit on file in the Superintendent's Office)**

Resolution No. 16-04-21 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Cranston School Committee accepts the school district's Letter of Observation and Recommendations (Management Letter) for the year ended June 30, 2015. **(For additional information, see Management Letter on file in the Superintendent's Office)**

Resolution No. 16-04-22 RESOLVED, that the following purchase be approved:

Physical Therapy Services in the yearly amount of \$151,500 through the West Bay Collaborative for the 2016-2017 academic school year.

Resolution No. 16-04-23 RESOLVED, that the following purchase be approved:

Alternative Learning Program in the yearly amount of \$577,180 through the West Bay Collaborative for the 2016-2017 academic school year.

Resolution No. 16-04-24 RESOLVED, that the following purchase be approved:

Medical / Dental Supplies in the amount of \$8,852.01 (Purchase pending the availability of funding 2016-2017 budget)

Number of bids issued	7
Number of bids received	7

Resolution No. 16-04-25 RESOLVED, that the following purchase be approved:

Math Manipulatives in the amount of \$19,036.38 (Purchase pending the availability of funding 2016-2017 budget)

Number of bids issued 6
Number of bids received 5

Resolution No. 16-04-26 RESOLVED, that the following purchase be approved:

Lockers for Hope Highlands in the amount of \$42,372.00

Number of bids issued 6
Number of bids received 5

Resolution No. 16-04-27 RESOLVED, that the following purchase be approved:

Subscriptions in the amount of \$3,784.00 (Purchase pending the availability of funding 2016-2017 budget)

Number of bids issued 5
Number of bids received 3

Resolution No. 16-04-28 RESOLVED, that the following purchase be approved:

Technology Education supplies in the amount of \$3,846.20 (Purchase pending the availability of funding 2016-2017 budget)

Number of bids issued 8
Number of bids received 6

Resolution No. 16-04-29 RESOLVED, that the following purchase be approved:

Library supplies in the amount of \$3,120.20 (Purchase pending the availability of funding 2016-2017 budget)

Number of bids issued 4
Number of bids received 4

Resolution No. 16-04-30 RESOLVED, that the following purchase be approved:

Computer supplies in the amount of \$6,135.70 (Purchase pending the availability of funding 2016-2017 budget)

Number of bids issued 2
Number of bids received 2

Resolution No. 16-04-31 RESOLVED, that the following purchase be approved:

Physical Education Uniforms for the Middle Schools in the amount of \$3.50 for shirts and \$5.03 for shorts. Uniforms are paid for by the students

Number of bids issued 4
Number of bids received 2

Resolution No. 16-04-32 RESOLVED, that the following purchase be approved:

Physical Education supplies in the amount of \$10,336.73 (Purchase pending the availability of funding 2016-2017 budget)

Number of bids issued 8
Number of bids received 5

Resolution No. 16-04-33 RESOLVED, that the following purchase be approved:

Music supplies in the amount of \$9,794.95 (Purchase pending the availability of funding 2016-2017 budget)

Number of bids issued 7
Number of bids received 6

POLICY AND PROGRAM

Resolution No. 16-04-34 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, amendments and/or changes to the Program of Studies for 2016-2017 be approved. **(See attached Memo) *Program of Students for 2016-2017 can be found on www.cpsed.net***

Resolution NO. 16-04-35 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the School Committee, the following policy be revised and/or amended. **(First Reading) (See attached policy)**

Policy No. 5117(b) Permit to Attend Non-Home School Policy Amend

A motion to approve Resolution No. 16-04-35 was made by Mrs. Culhane; seconded by Mr. Traficante. Discussion followed.

Mr. Traficante stated – I have absolutely no problem with the policy as it presently reads. To me it is clear, precise and it is easy to navigate by any parents that read it. However, what I am suggesting is that we make room for requests for permits based on medical, IEP's, 504's, legal reasons, etc. There is no room in this policy right now that addresses an extenuating situation that falls outside of these categories. All I am suggesting is that we add a No. 9 to this policy that includes that extenuating situation. I am not going to identify a situation because if I make a good case, they might utilize it when they come before us. This is all I am asking for this resolution.

Chairperson Ruggieri stated – In response to that, the reason that we first came up with this policy is because we had a problem with 100's of students not being at their home schools for a variety of reasons. Some of them were medical; IEP, cluster and some of them were because they did not like the parking lot or because their child did not get an award. They bordered on the really not necessary and inappropriate request, which is why we came up with this policy. Currently, even though something may not meet

these criteria, the Assistant Superintendent looks at every single permit requests and takes into consideration those extenuating circumstances and determines that they do fall under a need category and may approve it. If not, then there is an opportunity for families to appeal to the School Committee. My fear would be if we opened up something to say “extenuating circumstances” without having guidelines behind it or parameters set, that we would wind up back in the same situation which we have gotten down. Our students are at the schools they are supposed to be at, unless there is a reason that falls under this criteria. She has been very vigilant about it. I think adding something that is general to this policy may cause some issues.

Mr. Traficante stated - I do not want to put parameters around an extenuating circumstance because it could be so many different things. I think it gives us the opportunity to address that extenuating situation and determine whether it is valid or not valid. That is all I am asking.

Mrs. Culhane stated - I sat through many permit hearings since we adopted the original policy and I have heard every issue and some of them were issues that as a parent I could see potentially creating a problem for a parent. However, I also know what a parents responsibly is in getting their child to school and what our responsibilities are in providing that education, I think to reiterate what Mrs. Ruggieri said if we have a broad, general statement we are opening ourselves up to 100’s more permit hearings. I just can’t imagine after all of the hearings that I have sat through over the last several years, what we would possibly add to this that would be something that the Assistant Superintendent would not already look at and say that is something we do need to consider. I think that gives her this discretion without putting any thing in there. She has the discretion to do that and then again, a parent has the right to come before the School Committee and then that School Committee has the discretion, which has happened. I just would not be in support of adding anything that was not specific or general.

Mr. Traficante stated – This policy is certainly black and white. I guess what I am looking for is the grey area, a little small crack in the arm so to speak to give us that opportunity to give the Assistant Superintendent that opportunity. I realize they can come before us and we can consider the extenuating circumstance, but it is not the part of the policy.

Chairperson Ruggieri stated – The Assistant Superintendent and the Superintendent both have administrative rights so they can take those grey areas and make that decision.

Mr. Traficante stated – That is my opinion and I will vote accordingly.

Mr. Colford stated – I am trying to see where that grey area is for the Assistant Superintendent and the Superintendent, because it seems to me like they are locked into these items.

Assistant Superintendent Cole stated – Although that statement “extenuating circumstance” is not in there, I do look at different situations. I think the concern with it just being extenuating circumstances without it being a little bit more defined, would be a parent wanting their child to go to school with their friends or something like that. If

the statement could be a little bit more defined regarding extenuating circumstances because I do have to look at each individual circumstance and there are situations where I do make a decision that does not follow this policy for a student to be able to receive a permit. I would just be careful of just the phrase.

Chairperson Ruggieri stated – It does state that on the bottom of the application, administrative placement. On page 2, there is a box that says “District Administrator approval or denial”, the administrative use section is filled out by the Assistant Superintendent and she will put the reason. We could write a No. 9 on the policy that states “the Assistant Superintendent or Superintendent has the right to determine placement at his/her discretion”.

Mr. Traficante stated – I will make that into a motion.

Mrs. Culhane state – My only trepidation with that is then we have a parent who can say “well it says you could make a decision....”. I do not want administrators to be pressured into having to make a decision because of something we have written. If that is something the administration is comfortable adding, but I am concerned that with that caveat it leaves it open. If it is something that the administration wants, I would support it.

Mr. Traficante stated – Our administrators are paid to deal with pressure. We are not paid, but we have to deal with the pressure too. All I am talking about is a very unusual situation where you may tend to agree with that situation. I can recall one, where we did go against the recommendation of the Superintendent. I was called a bleeding heart, but I thought it was an unusual situation. Therefore, I did not go with the recommendation of the Superintendent.

Chairperson Ruggieri stated – Just for this issue, because the only changes that were being made for this policy for tonight were going to be the date changes because we are trying to move the dates for appeals back so we can have things ready. What I would like to suggest is that for tonight we just follow the date change that is on this and then bring this policy back with recommended language from our legal counsel as to what would be okay.

Mr. Colford stated - I would like to make a motion to table this.

Chairperson Ruggieri stated – I would appreciate not tabling the date change because by the time we have another meeting, this limits our ability. We are changing the date to June 1st. We want to give people notice that we are changing the date from July 1st to June 1st. That is why we put it on for tonight just for the date change. I would be willing to bring this back to deal with that issue. We are just trying to get the date change so we have enough notice for families.

Mr. Traficante stated - I would like to make a recommendation to approve your recommendation about the date changes. Once that is approved, we can revisit this. Make your amendments, we will approve the date changes and then we can table it and bring it back to the Superintendent.

Chairperson Ruggieri stated – That will not make the date change valid. If we can approve the policy with just the date change for tonight and bring the policy back for this change that would be helpful.

Mrs. Culhane stated – Do we feel that putting this policy in place now for June 1st is given families enough time and enough notification?

Chairperson Ruggieri stated – It is just for a permit so you should know if you are applying for a permit for next year.

Mrs. Culhane stated – I do not disagree, but is a one month's difference.

Chairperson Ruggieri stated – For the administration, it is very helpful. Especially, this year with the 6th grade moving and all-day kindergarten coming in. That is why we put this in.

Mr. Fusco stated – I think it is a good idea to move the dates, but I am wondering how we are going to communicate this out.

Chairperson Ruggieri stated – It will go out via the website, principals, list serves and normal way of communicating that there has been a change in procedure.

Mr. Fusco stated – My fear would be someone coming back and saying they were not aware of the date change.

Chairperson Ruggieri stated – The Assistant Superintendent has the authority to accept late applications.

Assistant Superintendent Cole stated – It would be helpful because in the application it says May 1st, but under the policy it says July. It is not clear to parents anyway, so this will make it clearer for them.

Chairperson Ruggieri stated – So the policy as it stands for tonight, the only thing that is on there are the date changes for the applications.

The roll was called; all were in favor.

Resolution No. 16-04-36 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the School Committee, the following policy be approved. **(Second Reading) (See attached policy)**

Policy No. 5125(c) – Videography, Photography and Audio Recording Policy

Resolution No. 16-04-37 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the School Committee, the following policies from the 7000 series be amended and/or deleted. **(First Reading) (See attached policies)**

Policy No 7350	Dedication of the Project	Delete
Policy No. 7341	Naming the Building	Delete
Policy No. 7350	Dedication of a Project	Amend

A motion was made to approve Resolution No. 16-04-37 by Mrs. Culhane; seconded by Mr. Gale. Discussion followed.

Mrs. Culhane stated – I would like to make a few friendly amendments. Policy No. 7350 should be Policy 7340. That is the correct policy no. Policy No. 7350 should be Policy No. 7550 and the title is being amended to read “Naming or Dedication of a Project”.

Mr. Traficante stated – I am going to ask that this Policy 7550 be tabled. It says “Committees for dedicating schools or parts of schools, etc”. First of all, we cannot make any type of dedication to any school buildings whatsoever. We are not talking about rooms or the library, schools itself. The school buildings do not belong to the Cranston School Committee or the School District. They belong to the City of Cranston. The City Council and the Mayor have policies in place for the dedication of such public buildings. I am asking for it to be tabled and perhaps we should get the policy of the City and combine them together.

Mrs. Culhane stated – Do you mean to tell me that the City can change the name of any one of our schools at its own discretion?

Chairperson Ruggieri stated – They can.

Mrs. Culhane stated – So they can change Eden Park to the “Stephanie Culhane Memorial School”?

Mr. Traficante stated – If they wanted to, yes. The reason I am so familiar with it is because when I was in that position we dedicated several buildings and playgrounds, etc. and it had to be approved by the City Council. I would like to make a motion to table just Policy 7550.

Mrs. Culhane stated - It is part of a whole resolution.

Chairperson Ruggieri stated – We will have to table the whole resolution.

A motion was made to Table Resolution No. 16-04-37 by Mr. Traficante; seconded by Mrs. Culhane. The roll was called; all were in favor.

Resolution No. 16-04-38 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the School Committee, the following policy be revised and or amended. **(Second Reading) (See attached policy)**

Policy No. 8360 – School Committee Records

Resolution No. 16-04-39 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following Conference(s)/Field Trip(s) of Long Duration be authorized:

1. Joseph Balducci, Chief Financial Officer to travel to San Antonio, Texas from May 4 – May 6, 2016 to attend *The 2016 NLC-RISC Trustees Conference*. Travel and accommodation expenses to be funded by “The Trust”. Please see attached conference information.

Public Hearing on Non-Agenda Items – None

Announcement of Future Meeting(s) – May 11, 2016 and May 16, 2016

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Culhane; seconded by Mr. Traficante. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie A. G. Culhane
Vice Chairperson

MEMORANDUM

To: School Committee

From: Joseph S. Rotz
Executive Director of Educational Programs and Services

Subject: Updated Program Studies 2016-2017

Date: February 17, 2016

The following is a brief overview of amendments made to our High School Program of Studies for next school year. This document can be found on our district webpage under the Curriculum drop-down and provides students and their families the opportunity to review a list of all courses offered at the high school level.

New Course Proposals

- ❖ Course Number: 118 Length of Course: Full Year Grade Level: 10-12
Content Area: Social Studies Submitted By: John Thompson
Course Title: Topics in United States History until 1877 (in collaboration with RIC)

The development of the United States, from its colonial origins to the end of Reconstruction is surveyed. 4 cr. “The Rhode Island College Early Enrollment Program (EEP) is a concurrent enrollment program that offers college credit from Rhode Island College to high school students for certain courses which they take at their respective high schools. Students pay a significantly reduced fee for each course in which they enroll. As of fall 2015, Governor Raimondo’s Prepare RI Dual Enrollment Fund will provide funding for every qualifying student (those attending a RI public high school) to take college courses as part of their high school requirements at no cost to the student. EEP courses will be free, but students must still formally register for their EEP courses.”

- ❖ Course Number: 167 Length of Course: Full Year Grade Level: 12
Content Area: Social Studies Submitted By: John Thompson
Course Title: Advanced Placement Psychology

AP Psychology Course Overview: The AP Psychology course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatment of abnormal behavior, and social psychology. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, analyze bias, evaluate claims and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas. This course will academically prepare the students to pursue college level studies – with the opportunity to earn college credit – while still in high school.

Students are prepared for and strongly encouraged to take the Advanced Placement Examination from the College Board for college placement or credit.

- ❖ Course Number: 786M Length of Course: Full Year 3x per cycle Grade Level: 9-12
Content Area: Music Submitted By: Mark Colozzi
Course Title: Foundations of Wind Instruments

This is a minor class, meets 3 times per cycle, is 0.5 credit, and satisfies the Visual/Performing Art graduation requirement. In this course, students will study the fundamental elements of music through band wind instrument performance. Instruments include flute, clarinet, saxophone, french horn, trumpet, trombone, and tuba. Topics of instruction will include instrument and equipment care, music literacy (reading and writing music), and performance skills. This course will address different learning styles by utilizing hands-on performance. Students will be able to play instruments, arrange and compose, listen to and evaluate their performance. Students should have their own instrument or be prepared to rent one. Some instruments are available on an "as-needed" basis. This opportunity is open to all students. Students in grades 9 & 10 preferred.

- ❖ Course Number: 787M Length of Course: Full Year 3x per cycle Grade Level: 9-12
Content Area: Music Submitted By: Mark Colozzi
Course Title: Foundations of Guitar

This is a minor class, meets 3 times per cycle, is 0.5 credit, and satisfies the Visual/Performing Art graduation requirement. In this course, students will study the fundamental elements of music through guitar performance. Topics of instruction will include instrument and equipment care, music literacy (reading and writing music), and guitar performance skills. This course will address different learning styles by utilizing hands-on performance. Students will be able to play instruments, arrange and compose, listen to and evaluate their performance. Having your own acoustic guitar is encouraged but some are available on an "as-needed" basis. This class is open to any student, grades 9-12.

- ❖ Course Number: 721M Length of Course: Full Year 3x per cycle Grade Level: 11-12
Content Area: Visual Arts Submitted By: Jill Cyr
Course Title: Advances 2: Graphics, Layout & Design HONORS
Prerequisite: 720M: Graphics, Layout & Design

This course is intended for the academically and creatively motivated student. The students will analyze the elements of art and the principles of design to work independently and confidently to create increasingly sophisticated design, layout, graphics, photography, composition, writing/editing, software and business skills. Work is completed in the computer lab and art studio, combining digital work with traditional materials. Class assignments explore the elements and principles of art while enabling

students to learn visual art applications and other software to transform drawings, photographs and other traditional media through digital manipulation, importation, scanning, and printing. Students will be exposed to 21st century, art, and technology skills as well as Common Core ELA standards through this course. Art department head recommendation required.

- ❖ Course Number: 714M Length of Course: Full Year 3x per cycle Grade Level: 10-12
Content Area: Visual Arts Submitted By: Jill Cyr
Course Title: *Advanced Sculpture & Ceramics*

Sculpture & Ceramics (three-dimensional design), is a sophomore, junior or senior class, offering students an opportunity to develop a portfolio of proficient three-dimensional work that reflects sequential growth in skill and technique development, independent decision-making, and aesthetic appreciation.

Course Modifications

- ❖ Grade Level: 11-12 Content Area: Business Submitted By: Gerry Auth
Course Title: *Business Management Honors Instruction to Business Management EE*

Course Description

Business concepts are introduced and the practices of management in both the business sector and nonprofit organizations. Topics focus on all of the management disciplines. Students will study various fields of management including basic concepts about managers, organizations of all types, and the nature and function of management. These concepts are applied to case studies, short presentations, in-class activities, and other exercises (Common Tasks & End of Course Assessments). The course will draw upon both current management practices and relevant research.

Rationale

The business department is expanding the EE offerings in the district by adding a management component. Students will have the opportunity to earn three credits in an introductory management course through Rhode Island College. National Standards for Business, Common Core Standards and Cranston's Academic Expectations are all addressed in this proposal. Student will benefit from the opportunity to earn college credits before they graduate.

- ❖ Course Number: 720M Content Area: Visual Arts Submitted By:
Jill Cyr
Course Title: *Graphics, Layouts & Design* Grade Level: 10-12

Students will learn computer skills and applications for design, layout, graphics, photography, composition, writing/editing, software and business skills. Work is completed in the computer lab and art studio, combining digital work with traditional materials. Class assignments explore the elements and principles of art while enabling

students to learn visual art applications and other software to transform drawings, photographs and other traditional media through digital manipulation, importation, scanning, and printing. Students will be exposed to 21st century, Common Core ELA standards, art and technology skills. Art department head recommendation required.

Rationale

Course Number: From 730M to 720M Length of Course: Full Year 3x per cycle

Grade Level: 10-12

Content Area: Visual Arts

Submitted By: Jill Cyr

Course Title: From *Computer Visual Arts* to *Graphic, Layout & Design*

- ❖ Course Number: 733M Length of Course: Full Year Grade Level: 10-12
Content Area: Visual Arts Course Title: *Visual Arts in Society*

This course explores the role of the Visual Arts in various cultures and historical time periods. The function and interrelationships among the art forms are studied within the context of cultures and societies. The role of the visual arts and the influence it has had in different cultures and times are explored through a variety of media, from videos to web sites, using presentations, discussions, writing and studio work. This course is designed for Art and Non-Art Majors and adheres to the National and Rhode Island Visual Art Standards. Completion of this course fulfills the requirement for graduation proficiency in the Fine Arts as required by the Rhode Island Board of Regents.

Rationale

Course Number: From 730 to 730M Length of Course: Full Year 3x per cycle

Grade Level: 10-12

Content Area: Visual Arts

Submitted By: Jill Cyr

Course Title: From *Visual Arts in Society EE* to *Visual Arts in Society*

Amendments

- ❖ Course Number: 121 Content Area: *Social Studies*
Submitted By: John Thompson
Course Title: *121 – Modern United States History H*

Rationale

We have deleted course 121 and replaced it with 120 AP/EE United States History for the 2016- 2017 school year. This will provide the students with the opportunity to earn both AP credit accepted at many colleges and multiple Early Enrollment College Credits at RIC.

Permit to Attend Non-Home School Policy

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

Effective February 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 4~~ **JUNE 1** for the following school year. There is no guarantee of approval. Parents will be notified of permit decision by ~~AUGUST 4~~ **JULY 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~~ July 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~~ **JULY 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.

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
Resolution No. 14-12-17**

**CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CRANSTON, RHODE ISLAND**

**Second Reading: January 20, 2015
Resolution No. 15-01-17**

Videography, Photography & Auto Recording Policy

Cranston Public Schools uses photographs, videos and audio recordings of students and adults for educational purposes. Video is also used for reasons related to school security and safety and to prevent vandalism and other criminal acts or prohibited conduct.

Photographs, videos and recordings of students and adults for all other purposes are prohibited, unless prior written permission is granted by the superintendent (or designee). Guidelines offered in this policy shall govern the use of photography, videography and audio recordings on school grounds and at school sponsored activities. Events that are open to the public, such as plays, school committee meetings, and athletic events, shall not be governed by this policy.

Opt-Out Provision

The district shall provide annual notice to parents/guardians of the right to exclude their child(ren) from activities involving photography, videography and audio recordings and the publication of the same through the FERPA directory.

Conduct of Videography, Photography & Audio Recordings

Pictures, videos and audio soundtracks which must be recorded on School Department devices may only be displayed or published by School Department employees and students in or on School Department sponsored publications or sites. For educational reasons related to implementation of the Cranston curriculum and with the permission/responsibility of the building principal or director, photographs, video and audio recordings may also be displayed on those digital sites upon review by the Director of Technology who will display them. The Disciplinary Policy and Procedures for Cranston Public Schools shall apply when student's video, photograph or audio record for other than approved educational reasons.

Media Requests

This policy is not intended to discourage the media from fulfilling its obligations to provide a fair and accurate account of events to the community. The media is, however, subject to reasonable restrictions in its videography, photography and auto recording on the basis of time, place and manner. The media is prohibited from disrupting the operation of schools and/or school activity. All media requests for school entry and related photography, videography and audio recording of students and adults shall be approved in advance by the superintendent (or designee).

Videography, Photography & Auto Recording Policy (cont.)

Security & Safety

Security cameras are in place at schools. The purpose of these cameras is to:

1. Improve conditions related to safety and security
2. Monitor areas prone to vandalism.

Cameras may not be located in areas where a person has a reasonable expectation of privacy, such as in locker rooms and lavatories, and will not be used to audio record.

Video equipment may capture a disciplinary incident or crime. The School Resource Officer (SRO) may view and monitor “live” video images with cause to further enhance the safety and security of the schools. Previously recorded video will be retrieved and viewed by district staff and the SRO, with the permission of the superintendent (or designee), only when there is a reasonable suspicion that a violation of school policy or crime has occurred.

A video may not be viewed by parents/guardians unless their child is the only individual captured in the video. Exceptions include; the parents/guardians of all children captured in the video, agree to an individual viewing, parents/guardians agree to view the video at the same time, or editing technology exists to obscure personal identifying features of other students. Video will not be provided to any individual. Video will not be edited (except to obscure features, as noted above); it will be destroyed after a period of one month from recording, except when the video constitutes evidence of a criminal or civil violation, in which case the video shall be retained until the respective matter has been adjudicated.

Policy Adopted:

**CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CRANSTON, RHODE ISLAND**



CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

845 Park Avenue
Cranston, Rhode Island 02910-2790

Release of Student Photos, Videos, Audio & Media Interview Opt Out - 5125(c).1

During the school year, the Cranston Public School District often has the opportunity to photograph or record students in a variety of school-related activities. Student recognition programs, academic, and fine arts programs are a few examples of these activities.

These photographs or videos may be used in communication tools such as district newsletters, district website, or in communication with the media such as allowing interviews or photographs of the students. The district reserves the right to deny media requests for student interviews at any time.

Highlighting achievements in our schools is an integral part of reporting responsibly to our community and is a way to share the success of our schools and students. Our primary goal is to respect your privacy, therefore, if you **do not** elect to have your student's image or works used in district or media publications, please fill out the following form and return it to the school office.

Cranston Public Schools Photo/Video/Audio Denial of Release Form

Please return this signed form only if you **DO NOT** grant permission to publicize your student's image or recording.

Student Name _____ Grade _____ School _____

*I **DO NOT** give permission for the above named student to appear in any video or audio recordings, and photographs taken by Cranston Public Schools for district use as described above.*

Parent/Guardian Name _____
Please print clearly

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Address/City/State/Zip _____

Cell Phone _____ Email _____

Equal Opportunity Employer

Cranston Public Schools is committed to maintaining a work and learning environment free from discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, pregnancy, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital/civil union status, ancestry, place of birth, age, citizenship status, veteran status, political affiliation, genetic information or disability, as defined and required by state and federal laws. Additionally, we prohibit retaliation against individuals who oppose such discrimination and harassment or who participate in an equal opportunity investigation.

Title II & Title IX Coordinator of Employment	504 Coordinator
Raymond L. Votto, Jr.	Joseph Rotz
Chief Operating Officer	Executive Director of Educational Programs & Services

Dedication of the Project

~~Appropriate dedication ceremonies will be planned by a joint committee consisting of school committee members, administrative staff members, parents and students of the school to be dedicated, administrative and teaching staffs of the school, and other interested persons. The superintendent shall designate the membership other than that of the school committee members who shall be appointed by the chairperson of the school committee.~~

Policy Adopted: 3/20/72

**CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CRANSTON, RHODE ISLAND**

Naming the Building

~~Responsibility or making nominations of names to the school committee will reside in a joint committee of the school committee, the instructional staff and representatives from the community.~~

~~School committee representatives will be appointed by the chairperson of the school committee. Staff representatives will be designated by the superintendent. Community members will be appointed by the superintendent in consultation with the school administrative staff.~~

~~The joint committee will develop and recommend to the school committee a consistent plan for the naming and dedication of schools.~~

Policy Adopted: 3/20/72

**CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CRANSTON, RHODE ISLAND**

Dedication of a Project

Committees for dedicating schools or parts of schools such as libraries, learning centers, athletic fields, tot parks, and such other areas that may be suitably dedicated to some worthy person shall be established by the school committee just as the committees for naming schools are established. The committee must include at least two members who live in the district which sends children to the school.

If practicable, the committee submitting suggested names for a school should also provide suggestions for dedication. Schools and/or parts of schools may be dedicated to:

1. Worthy public or private citizens.
2. Persons who have made notable contributions to the field.

The person being honored by the dedication may be living or dead. Administrative regulations may be developed by the superintendent when in the naming or dedicating of a school it is determined that special direction is necessary for the implementation of this policy. The school committee will make the final decision on whether to dedicate a school or parts of schools.

Policy Adopted: 8/24/70
Policy Amended: 12/17/07 (Res. No. 07-12-18)
Policy Amended: 9/15/14 (Res. No. 09-15-14)

CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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School Committee Records

The ~~superintendent's office~~ school committee/secretary shall have the responsibility for:

1. Taking and recording minutes at all regularly scheduled meetings of the school committee. ~~These minutes, after review by the clerk, shall be mailed to school committee members no later than two (2) weeks after the meeting.~~

~~New-~~The school committee/secretary will make available as public record a listing of how each member voted on each issue within 2 weeks of the date of the vote. This information will be maintained in the superintendent's office. The official and unofficial minutes with the exception of properly sealed meeting minutes will be available within 35 days of the meeting or by the next regularly scheduled meeting, whichever is earlier.

2. Taking and recording minutes of special meetings and executive sessions if requested to do so by the chairperson. ~~These minutes, after review by the clerk, shall be mailed to the school committee not later than two (2) weeks after the meeting.~~

3. ~~Duplicating and mailing any notices, agendas, minutes, or other business matters pertaining to the school committee.~~ ~~New-~~Preparing schedules, notices, agendas, minutes, or other matters pertaining to the school committee business.

4. Maintaining an up-to-date file of all school committee business which shall be available for investigation or research to all school committee members. ~~New-~~Any outstanding notes/minutes/documents will be made available as requested by the Chairperson.

5. ~~Making available any records or data on all school business including personnel, supplies, maintenance, etc. to all school committee members.~~ ~~New-~~Carrying out any additional functions as may be prescribed from time to time by the school committee.

6. ~~Carrying out any additional functions as may be prescribed from time to time by the school committee.~~ ~~New-~~Ensuring that school committee agendas and approved minutes are posted electronically on the Secretary of State website, <http://sos.ri.gov/openmeetings>.

Policy Adopted: 11/4/69
Policy Amended:

CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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