

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Mrs. Perrotti, at 6:30 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cynthia Perrotti, Chair; Marilyn King, Clerk; David Croston; Thomas Vadney; Angela Volpicelli; Sylvia Wedge; and Jonathan Harris, Vice Chair (7:07 PM)

Also Present: Dr. Krizic, Superintendent; Mark Dunham, Director of Finance and Administration; Patti Cofield, Administrative Assistant; Joseph Quinn, Little Compton School Committee Liaison

A motion was made by Mr. Harris to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to R.I. Law 42-46-5, Exceptions (a)(1) Job Performance/Personnel Matters, and (a)(2) Collective Bargaining and/or Litigation. Seconded by Mrs. King. So voted 6-0.

The Public Session recessed at 6:30 PM and resumed at 7:40 PM.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

3. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Mrs. Perrotti reported that an Executive Session was held prior to the meeting and two votes were taken with regard to pending litigation. A motion was duly made and seconded to seal the minutes of the Executive Session. So voted. Mrs. Perrotti highlighted the key accomplishments of the School Committee during the past year, which included contract renewal with Little Compton, finalization of the collective bargaining agreements with NEA Portsmouth and PSAA, working with the Town Council on having an approved budget for FY12, changes to Staff Policy 4111 which ensures our students have the most highly effective teacher assigned to their classroom, integration of the payroll system with the Town, and working to address the pension issue funding.

4. **SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMUNICATION**

A. **Update on Town Pension Plan.** School Committee Vice-Chair Jon Harris provided an update on the work of the Town Council's subcommittee charged with evaluating the retirement plan for employees of the Town of Portsmouth, which also includes employees of the Portsmouth School Department. The evaluation of the current pension system has been conducted by Nyhart.

B. **Newport County Regional Special Education Program (Presentation).** Trish Martins, Newport County Regional Special Education Program Executive Director, provided an overview of the role/responsibilities of the Regional program, reviewed changes made and/or being made to Federal/State Regulations and Initiatives, reviewed budgetary changes from FY11 to FY12, and highlighted area of focus for the FY12 school year.

- C. **Enrollment Planning for FY13.** Dr. Krizic reviewed with the School Committee the plans for developing the tentative enrollment plan for FY13. Enrollment information and student course selection data will be used to generate a tentative enrollment plan. Changes to the dates of new kindergarten/first grade registration and the course selection process for 8th through 11th grade students will enable a tentative enrollment plan to be developed in accordance with budgetary timelines and all other staffing notifications required under RI law. The tentative enrollment plan will be presented for discussion at the February 14th School Committee meeting.
- D. **Kindergarten Registration 2012-13.** The dates of this year's kindergarten and new first grade students enrolling for the 2012-13 school year are January 17th through February 10th. Information has been sent out to the schools, to the local newspaper, and has been posted to the district website.

Mr. Croston stated that at the last meeting, he proposed having a workshop on high school programming but withdrew his motion on the condition that the issue would be addressed at the first January meeting. Dr. Krizic explained that the data will not be available until later in February. Mr. Croston made a motion to have a workshop on a separate night once the data is available. Seconded by Mr. Vadney. Mrs. Perrotti amended the motion to have the discussion at a regular business meeting. Seconded by Mrs. King. The amendment passed 4-3. Mr. Croston, Mr. Vadney, and Ms. Wedge were opposed.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. **Appt. – Payroll Technician (Part-time).** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the Committee affirms the Superintendent’s appointment, Recommendation #1-1/10/12, to the part-time position of Payroll Technician Assessment, effective immediately.”
- B. **Approval of Requests for Permission to Home School.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the Committee approves the requests to provide home schooling for the 2011-12 school year for students HS #24-1/12, as listed in the confidential memo dated January 4, 2012, in accordance with the provisions of R.I. Law 16-19-2.”

A motion was made by Mr. Harris and was seconded by Mrs. King to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. So voted 7-0. Dr. Krizic announced the appointment of Marcie Williams to the part-time position of payroll technician.

6. BUSINESS AGENDA

Mrs. Perrotti withdrew Item C from the agenda.

- A. **Appt. – Interim Director of Instruction and Assessment.** A motion was made by Mr. Harris and was seconded by Mrs. King to affirm the Superintendent's appointment, Recommendation #2-1/10/12, to the position of Interim Director of Instruction and Assessment, effective February 1, 2012. So voted 7-0. Dr. Krizic announced the appointment of Jeffrey Schoonover to the position.
- B. **Agenda Item Request – Legal Issues and School Committee Member's Authority. Requested by Mrs. Kathy Melvin.** Mrs. Melvin presented information from the Rhode Island State Statutes regarding the basic management principals and ethical school standards for School Committees and Superintendents (16-2-9.1), and the Rhode Island Association of School Committees (RIASC) guidelines for School Committee Members.
- C. **Agenda Item Request – Discussion of Dr. Villanova's recommendations to School Committee.** Requested by Cynthia Perrotti. This item was withdrawn from the agenda.
- D. **Agenda Item Request – Appointment of Personnel Subcommittee and Discussion of Subcommittee Goals.** Requested by Cynthia Perrotti. Mrs. Perrotti appointed Ms. Volpicelli as the Chair of the Personnel Subcommittee. Mr. Vadney and Mrs. King were also appointed as members. Mrs. Perrotti stated that in Dr. Krizic's contract, it specifies that the format for evaluation and procedure for its review would be determined no later than 90 days, and that date has passed. She charged this subcommittee with developing a performance evaluation instrument with Dr. Krizic.
- E. **Agenda Item Request – Appointment of Technology Subcommittee.** Requested by Cynthia Perrotti. Mrs. Perrotti appointed Mr. Vadney as the Chair of the Technology Subcommittee. Mr. Harris and Ms. Volpicelli were also appointed as members.
- F. **Agenda Item Request – Fold Alternative Revenue Subcommittee into Finance Subcommittee.** Requested by Cynthia Perrotti. Mrs. Perrotti disbanded the Alternative Revenue Subcommittee and folded those efforts into the Finance Subcommittee. Members of the Finance Subcommittee are Mrs. Perrotti, Mr. Harris, and Mrs. King.

7. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATION

- A. **Alternative Revenue.** No report.
- B. **Facilities.** No report.
- C. **Finance.** Mrs. Perrotti stated that the first Finance Subcommittee meeting was held last night. The long-term fiscal health is projected to be better than in the past, and we will be ready to present the budget to the Town Council by March 25th.

D. **Health and Wellness.** Ms. Volpicelli reported that the next meeting will be held on January 31st.

E. **Healthcare Commission.** No report.

F. **Negotiations.** Mr. Harris stated that the subcommittee met with Council 94 on December 21st, and the next negotiation session is scheduled for January 23rd at 4:00 PM.

G. **Policy.** Mrs. King reported that she has been meeting with Dr. Krizic, and additional policies will be forthcoming.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Harris and was seconded by Mrs. King to adjourn the meeting. So voted 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Patti Cofield
Recording Secretary for:

Marilyn King, Clerk