

# **NEW SHOREHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Block Island School**

**May 19, 2008**

**7:00 p.m.**

**The New Shoreham School Committee met in open session on Monday, May 19, 2008, in the media center of the Block Island School.**

**Chair William Padien called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Shea Butcher, Sean McGarry, William Padien, Richard Tretheway, and Annie Hall. Leslie Ryan and Davida Irving were also present.**

## **Approval of Minutes**

**A motion (Padien, Butcher) to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 8, 2008, as amended (Sean McGarry wanted the comment he made during the last month's Building Committee report included: "After spending such an enormous amount of my time attending all building related meetings since my election, I was very displeased to hear that the Town Council came to an agreement without any input from the three principles in the H.V. Collins dispute, myself, Bill Padien, and Nancy Dodge. All three of us were in agreement that we could not request the tax payers to fund a settlement without an arbitrator's decision. Collins' request for any funds beyond the contracted amount is ludicrous. The job remains unfinished and will not be finished with the settlement except for the**

**CMU leak in the gym and another attempt at the roof leaks. The tax payers and students of Block Island have been dealt a grave injustice and I would never have voted in favor of a settlement prior to arbitration.”) carried with a vote of 4-0 with Annie Hall not in attendance.**

## **Reports**

**Nancy Cole submitted fiscal reports for March and April 2008. She is concerned that the electricity line item will be over budget by \$18,000 this year. In addition, the fuel oil/propane line item is already over budget by more than \$10,000. A motion (Padien, Tretheway) to accept the fiscal reports through March 31 and April 30, 2008, as presented carried with a vote of 5-0.**

**Sean McGarry reported that he attended the RIASC meeting May 3 at Salve Regina University. Items on the agenda included the 30/50 property tax and school funding formula, how the State of Maryland deals with the required testing for NCLB, and a uniform chart of accounts presentation by Carolyn Dias from RIDE.**

**Matthew Moran submitted a written athletic report and mentioned that John Tarbox was instrumental in setting up the game at Dodd Stadium in Norwich against Grove School. He also submitted the letter of thanks he received from the Principal at Masters Regional Academy for the courteous and respectful manner in which our varsity baseball team conducted themselves at the academy’s first**

**baseball competition.**

**Dr. Irving reported on the following:**

- **The two most recently named Students of the Week were Jack Connell (kindergarten) and Thea Monje (grade 5).**
- **On May 3 the SATs were held at the school. Most of the students knew what to expect and were much more at ease thanks to the review course.**
- **On May 5 a meeting was held with the junior class and their parents to explain the Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements, especially the senior project component, and the need to take the NECAP science test seriously.**
- **On May 5 students in the National Honor Society slept outside in sleeping bags and cardboard boxes to raise awareness of the homeless. They raised money for the Welcome House and the Mary D Fund.**
- **On May 5-9 the Block Island School Friends had a successful plant sale. Dr. Irving gave kudos to this group for all their hard work and programs during the school year. The annual spring fair will be held on Sunday, May 25 at the school.**
- **On May 8 and 9 Grade 6 participated in the Roots and Wings program.**
- **On May 15 and 16 Dr. Jeri Thompson visited the school to help with writing and aligning our curricula. Every secondary teacher had an opportunity to meet and work with her.**
- **Earlier today Nancy Greenaway's senior class held a poetry**

**recitation entitled Poetry by Heart.**

- K-5 teachers will be attending the Harcourt literacy training tomorrow from 1:30-3:30.**
- The annual Chili Fest will be held tomorrow at 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria.**

**Mrs. Ryan reported that she had attended a superintendents' meeting at Johnson & Wales last Friday. It was an exciting day and a lot was accomplished.**

**Mrs. Ryan stated that an issue arose around the athletic banquet. All student athletes in grades 5-12 will be invited this year. Future banquets will be for the varsity players.**

**Mrs. Ryan reported that Block Island School will not receive any Title 1 funds next year. It was explained that funding for next year is based on 2005 tax returns and only nine Block Island students qualified; a minimum of ten is required.**

**Mrs. Ryan stated that she is participating this week in the evaluation of the North Kingstown special education program. Block Island will be monitored in the fall and she felt this was a great way to learn what to expect.**

## **New Business**

**Monty Stover addressed the School Committee regarding the dental**

program offered by the Medical Center. Costs have gone down and he expects them to stay down for awhile. Currently, there is one dentist and he sees fewer students because students with mainland dentists do not need to be screened on Block Island. He explained that the submitted program analysis was for calendar years 2004-2006. A program analysis for 2007 will be available when their audit is completed and Mr. Stover will discuss next year's dental contract between the School Committee and the Medical Center at that time. The current dental contract, which is \$3000 less than last year's, ends on August 31, 2008. A motion (McGarry, Butcher) to authorize the chair to sign the dental contract with the Block Island Medical Center carried with a vote of 5-0.

An Addendum to the copier lease agreement between the School Department and General Electric Capital Corporation, the leasing company for the new copier, was submitted for review and required the signature of the School Committee chair. A motion (Hall, Butcher) to authorize the chairperson to sign the addendum to the copier lease agreement carried with a vote of 5-0.

Correspondence was received from Morgan Rose requesting a waiver of the facility use fees for the programs the library is sponsoring this summer, which will take place in the school's cafeteria. A motion (Hall, Padien) to waive the facility use fees for the four programs sponsored by the Island Free Library to be held this summer carried with a vote of 4-1 with Sean McGarry voting in the negative.

**A motion (Padien, Hall) to approve the reappointments and salaries for the personnel listed as 1-16 (see below) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year was amended (Padien, Hall) to delete Patricia Balles and approve the reappointments and salaries for the personnel listed as 2-16 carried with a vote of 5-0. It was noted that Ms Balles has not completed her six-month probationary period and is not eligible for a wage increase until then.**

- 1. Patricia Balles (Administrative Assistant) – \$18.54 per hour**
- 2. Pamela Buol (Teacher Assistant) – \$18.23 per hour**
- 3. Nancy Cole (Fiscal Clerk) – \$22.05 per hour**
- 4. Scott Comings (Educational Consultant) – \$34.42 per hour**
- 5. Amy Couet (Custodian/Food Service Helper) – \$13.27 per hour**
- 6. Matthew Coviello (Custodian) – \$16.18 per hour**
- 7. Lynne Cunningham (Office Manager) – \$18.67 per hour**
- 8. Amy Dugan (Teacher Assistant) – \$14.82 per hour**
- 9. Marsha Gutierrez (Administrative Assistant) – \$58,644.34 + \$2,800.80**
- 10. Greta Heinz (Teacher Assistant) – \$15.37 per hour**
- 11. Davida Irving (Principal) – \$97,850.00**
- 12. Bernice Johnson (Custodian) – \$14.54 per hour**
- 13. Toni Lemoine (Teacher Assistant) – \$18.19 per hour**
- 14. Kathleen Mello (Teacher Assistant) – \$15.91 per hour**
- 15. Kelly Robertson (Food Service Director) – \$18.23 per hour**
- 16. Leslie Ryan (Superintendent/Special Education Director) – \$92,511.00**

## **Calendar of Events**

**A calendar of events for the months of May and June was submitted for School Committee information. The annual School Committee/Senior Class dinner has been scheduled for Tuesday, June 10 at Eli's Restaurant.**

## **Correspondence**

**Various pieces of correspondence were forwarded for School Committee information, including a memo from the New Shoreham Teachers' Association regarding the formation of a Transitioning Team as specified in the contract.**

**Kirk Littlefield stated that several home softball games have been scheduled and he requested permission to fix the school field with some infield material mix. It will cost approximately \$25 per yard and he thinks 60 yards will be needed. A motion (Hall, Butcher) to spend no more than \$1500 of the \$25,000 earmarked for the middle and high school playground equipment to fix the infield carried with a vote of 4-1 with Sean McGarry voting in the negative.**

## **Executive Session**

**A motion (Padien, Hall) at 9:23 p.m. to go into executive session pursuant to Rhode Island General Law 42-46-4, 5(a)(2) for contract negotiations carried with a vote of 5-0.**

## **Open Session**

**A motion (Padien, Tretheway) at 9:43 p.m. to return to open session carried with a vote of 5-0.**

**A motion (Padien, Tretheway) to seal the minutes of the executive session carried with a vote of 5-0.**

### **Adjournment**

**A motion (Padien, Hall) at 9:44 p.m. to adjourn carried with a vote of 5-0.**

**Marsha L. Gutierrez, Clerk**

**Date approved: June 16, 2008**

**\*\*Double asterisk is used to define motions in the minutes for easier identificatio**