

REGULAR NORTH PROVIDENCE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

DECEMBER 22, 2004

**The North Providence School Committee met on December 22, 2004
at 6:35 p.m**

**p.m. in the Library at the High School. Members present were
Chairman Norato, Mr. Marciano, Mr. DaSilva, Mrs. Reall, Dr. Pallotta
and Mr. Cataldi. Also present were Superintendent Ottaviano and Mr.
Scungio. Ms. Hickey, Mr. Milazzo and Mr. Azar were present for the
regular meeting only.**

**Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mrs. Reall and carried to recess
the regular meeting and go into executive session for the purpose of
discussing administrative contracts.**

The meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting began by saluting the flag. Next, Chairman Norato

asked for a moment of silence.

Mr. Marciano that Mr. Wilkes will not be able to attend the meeting because of a family emergency. However, he wanted to offer his congratulations to Mr. Norato and wish him the best of luck.

The first item on the Agenda was Correspondence. There being none, Dr. Pallotta asked Representative Corvese to come forward to give a presentation. Representative Corvese explained by stating that Mr. Norato devoted 16 years to the School Committee and the education system in North Providence. He spoke about the 12 years he spent on the School Committee with Mr. Norato and Dr. Pallotta and how he enjoyed their time together. He added that he was proud to serve with them and proud to call them both colleagues and friends. He next read a citation from the House of Representatives and presented it to Mr. Norato. Next, Jim DiPrete spoke about how 16 years is a long time to serve and how he never waivered. On behalf of the Board of Regeants, presented him with a plaque. Next, Dr. Pallotta added his congratulations to Mr. Norato. He and Mr. Norato have been friends for nearly 40 years and Tom has always been the life of the party. He always remained focused on what was good for the kids. There is no such thing as a private life when you serve in an elected position and many times it was very difficult. He did not have an easy chairmanship over the last several years. Dr. Pallotta added that friend to friend, he would really miss his telephone calls. It was a great ride. The friendship will never cease. He wished Tom and his

family the best of wishes and good health. He also added that he hoped that Tom will stay involved. He next read a plaque presented to Mr. Norato on behalf of the

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School Committee. Next, Mrs. Reall stated that on a lighter note, Tom Norato has always been a gentleman as well as a chauffeur. He also never let us forget the original 1.4 million. She congratulated him on a job well done and added that she will miss him. Dr. Pallotta added that there was one more presentation. Mayor Mollis congratulated Mr. Norato on 16 years of service. He thanked him on behalf of the people of North Providence and added that it was a pleasure serving with him on the Council and School Committee. Next, Mr. Marciano spoke about the touching remarks that everyone made. He added that Tom's demeanor and temperament over the years was always very even-tempered. Next, Mr. Cataldi stated that there is not much more that can be said about Tom Norato. Even though he and Tom

have not always seen eye to eye, Tom has always been a gentleman and a professional. He wished him luck in his new endeavors and wished him and his family the best of health and happiness.

The next item on the Agenda was the Superintendent's Report. First was the NPHS Literacy Team Presentation. Mrs. Delasanta asked each of the students present to give a short statement on literacy program has effected them. Bianca Ianiero, Omar Reyes, Ken Thompson, and Gisselle Valencia spoke about how the literacy program has helped them to enjoy reading more. Ms. Napolitano spoke about the benefits of reading with our children and students. She added that the group is small but strong. Mr. Cataldi commended them for their commitment to this program and told them that they should be very proud of their accomplishments and commitment. Dr. Pallotta also offered congratulations to the students and teachers and said that he was particularly struck by the comment that one student made about reading raising self-esteem.

Next was Field Trip Requests. Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Field Trip Request by Ricci Middle School to attend Cardi's Furniture on January 13, 2005.

Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Dr. Pallotta and Mrs. Reall and carried to approve the field trip as requested.

Next was the 2005 School Committee Meeting Schedule.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the schedule as submitted.

Motion by Mrs. Reall, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and carried to approve the 2005 School Committee Meeting Schedule as submitted.

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Next was the Monthly Financial Report. Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Monthly Financial Report as presented.

Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Dr. Pallotta and carried to approve the Monthly Financial Report as presented.

Next was School Committee Reports. Dr. Pallotta stated that at the last meeting, the Committee approved administrators' contracts.

Adjustments were made which he recommended approval of.

Motion by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Marcian and Mrs. Reall to approve the Administrators' contract adjustments as presented.

Next was the Middle School Athletic Policy. Mr. DaSilva requested that this be taken off the Agenda and put back on next month's agenda.

Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mrs. Reall and carried to put this item on next month's agenda.

The next item on the Agenda was Public Comments on Agenda items 3-5. There being none, the next item on the Agenda was Requests to Address the Committee. Mr. Grande spoke about one of the bus routes going to Trinity being quite lengthy and that it takes forty-five minutes more than it needs to. He asked that the original bus route be reinstated. Chairman Norato said that the administration will look into this matter after the 1st of the year and suggested that Mr. Grande set up a meeting with Mr. Milazzo and Dr. Ottaviano.

Next was Resignations. Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the resignation of Lisa Birkett as Middle School Girls' Basketball Coach effective December 1, 2004.

Motion by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and Mrs. Reall and

carried to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for Lisa Birkett.

Next of Leave of Absence Requests. Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Leave of Absence Request, which was voted on as follows:

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Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mr. DaSilva and Mrs. Reall and carried to approve the leave of absence request for Gail Boyce – Kindergarten Teacher at McGuire School for Unpaid Leave from January 24, 2005 through June 17, 2005; Teresa Sousa – Teacher Assistant at Whelan School for Unpaid Leave from December 7, 2004 through December 17, 2004; and Kristen Spardello – Special Education Teacher for Unpaid Leave from January 3, 2005 through January 21, 2005.

Next was Layoffs. Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the layoff of Gina Collins – Teacher Assistant effective December 6, 2004.

Motion by Mrs. Reall, seconded by Mr. Marciano and carried to approve the layoff of Gina Collins – Teacher Assistant effective December 6, 2004.

Next was Appointments. Superintendent Ottaviano recommended that the Committee grant advice and consent to the appointments, which were voted on as follows:

Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mr. DaSilva and Mr. Cataldi and carried to grant advice and consent to the appointment of Bruce Butler – Elementary Principal of Marieville effective January 24, 2005; and Bambilyn Cambio - .6 Speech/Language Pathologist effective January 3, 2005.

Members of the Committee and Administration offered congratulations to the appointees.

Next was Old Business. There being none, the next item on the Agenda was Use of Property Requests.

The Use of Property Requests were voted on as follows:

Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and Mrs. Reall and carried to approve the Use of Property Requests as submitted in the December 22, 2004 School Committee packets.

Next was Approval of Bills. Superintendent Ottaviano recommended that the N.

Providence School Department List of Bills dated December 22, 2004 in the amount of \$854,913.91 be approved and paid.

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Next was Approval of Minutes.

Motion by Mrs. Reall, seconded by Mr. DaSilva and carried that the Minutes of the November 23, 2004 Executive Session be approved as

presented and kept closed in accordance with R.I.G.L. 42-44-4 and 42-44-5.

Next was Comments on Agenda Items 7-12. There being none, the next item on the Agenda was Pending Business.

Chairman Norato spoke about his sixteen years on the School Committee. He first admitted that 16 years is a long time, but also had to say that he really enjoyed it. He gave his wife and daughter a lot of credit for putting up with the lack of time he had and how difficult it is being in the public eye. He spoke about the accomplishments made during his sixteen years on the Committee. He thanked Paul Vorro and Jim DiPrete for being at the meeting and spoke about how proud he is of the accomplishments that everyone has made during his stay. He also spoke about Lynn Murphy Hickey, Fred Azar and Armand Milazzo doing a great job for the School District. He added that Dr. Ottaviano has been a great asset to the School District and spoke about how she is a very strong person that is doing a tremendous job. He also thanked the members of the School Committee, Ben Scungio, and Margie Caranci. With respect to Helen Reall, what could he say. With respect to Dr. Pallotta, he has been a friend for a long time. He wished Mr. Marciano, Mr. Cataldi, and Mr. DaSilva the best of luck. He thanked the Mayor and John Fleming for being at the meeting. He also wished Vito Martinelli the best of luck. He also thanked the members of the community.

Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Dr. Pallotta and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Wilkes