

**REGULAR NORTH PROVIDENCE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 22, 2008**

The North Providence School Committee met on October 22, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. in the Administration Conference Room at the High School. Members present were Chairman Martinelli, Mrs. Reall, Mr. Marciano, Mr. Cataldi, Mr. DaSilva, Mr. Iannetta, and Mr. Palmieri. Also present was Superintendent Ottaviano, Mr. Scungio, Mr. Henneous, and Mr. Milazzo. Ms. Celona, Mr. Lynch, and Ms. Donoyan were present for the public session only. Appropriate disclosure was made by the Chairman concerning compliance with R.I. General Laws 42-46-5(a)(1) indicating that any person to be discussed had been appropriately notified.

Motion by Mrs. Reall, seconded by Mr. DaSilva and carried to recess the regular session and convene Executive Session at 5:30 p.m. in accordance with R.I. General Laws 42-46-4 and 5 for the purpose of consideration of an Employee Discipline Matter pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws 42-46-5(a)(1). Chairman Martinelli, by open call, polled the present Members of the Committee who voted unanimously to move into Executive Session for the purpose stated.

The open meeting reconvened at 6:53 p.m. into regular session as a result of unanimous vote of the Members of the Committee to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene into open session. Chairman

Martinelli returned to the meeting during School Committee Reports.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Marciano called the meeting to order.

II. SALUTE TO FLAG

Mr. Marciano led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

III. CHAIR TO REPORT OUT ANY VOTES TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Marciano next reported out that there were no votes taken in executive session. He added that any individual to be discussed has been notified in advance in writing that they may request that such discussions be held in open session pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a). He added that Chairman Martinelli did not feel well and asked him to stand in for him and that he would try to get back to the meeting.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Marciano reported that the Committee had not received any

correspondence.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Annual Report

Superintendent Ottaviano stated that the first reading of the Nut Allergy Policy is in the packets and the comments made by the School Committee and the public were taken into consideration. This is the second reading.

2. Field Trip Requests.

Ms. Donoyan recommended approval of the Field Trip Requests as submitted. Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mr. DaSilva and unanimously carried to approve the Field Trip Requests as submitted in accordance with School Committee Policy.

3. Home Schooling Approval.

Ms. Donoyan recommended approval of the Home Schooling Request as presented. Motion by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and unanimously carried to approve the Home Schooling Requests as presented.

4. Affirmative Action Policy.

Ms. Donoyan recommended approval of the Affirmative Action Policy as presented. Motion by Mrs. Reall, seconded by Mr. DaSilva and unanimously carried to approve the Affirmative Action Policy as presented.

5. Standing Orders Addendum.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Standing Orders Addendum as presented. Motion by Mrs. Reall, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and Mr. DaSilva and unanimously carried to approve the Standing Orders Addendum as presented.

6. Updated Emergency Response Plan.

Superintendent Ottaviano stated that all school departments in Rhode Island must have a Plan and North Providence does. The Plan being presented for approval has been updated. Motion by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Cataldi, Mr. Iannetta, and Mr. Palmieri and the entire Committee and unanimously carried to approve the Updated Emergency Response Plan as presented.

7. School Security.

Superintendent Ottaviano stated that a two and one half page

document of all the bulleted items dealing with all the items for school safety are provided in the packets. Motion by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mrs. Reall and unanimously carried to accept the document and place it on file.

8. Monthly Financial Report.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the October 22, 2008 Financial Report as submitted. Motion by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and unanimously carried to approve the October 22, 2008 Financial Report as submitted with regret.

VI. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT.

1. Newly Elected Officials Orientation.

Mrs. Reall spoke about the fact that for the past sixteen years, the Committee has always asked that newly-elected officials be invited to the executive sessions. Motion by Mrs. Reall, seconded by Mr. DaSilva and unanimously carried to invite the newly-elected members to the executive session on a non-participatory status and that they also receive copies of the Agenda.

2. Child Care Update.

Mr. Palmieri reported that he will be meeting with the Assistant

Superintendent regarding this issue.

3. Nut Allergies.

Mr. Palmieri spoke about the controversy at the last meeting and made a point of clarification that he is 100% in favor of the child with peanut allergies. Motion by Mr. Palmieri, seconded by Mr. DaSilva and unanimously carried to allow people to bring lunches into the school and place them in bins and not to have any lunches in the classroom.

4. Conservation of Energy.

Mr. Palmieri spoke about energy conservation and suggested that the vendor he spoke with be allowed to look at the energy bills. Members of the Committee had no problem with the vendor meeting with Mr. Milazzo to talk about energy conservation.

5. Handicap Parking at the High School.

Mr. Palmieri spoke about a parent at the High School who approached him regarding access problems that their child is having.

Motion by Mr. Palmieri, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and unanimously carried to authorize Mr. Milazzo to work on the access issue with the

parents to resolve the situation.

6. School Security.

Mr. Marciano spoke about a tragedy that occurred in another school district where a car drove into a school. He asked that Mr. Milazzo look into ways to put some type of barriers up to prevent this and report back to the Committee.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comments and opinion were received on Agenda Items 3-5.

VIII. REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE

There were no requests to address the Committee.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration of Awarding Bids.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the acceptance of the Bid for the Emergency Call Notification System to Saf-T Net/AlertNow as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mr. Marciano and carried

unanimously to award the Bid for Emergency Call Notification Systems to Saf-T Net/Alert/Now.

Motion by Mr. DaSilva to recess the regular session to go back into Executive Session to obtain legal advice. A roll call vote was taken and all seven members of the Committee voted unanimously to recess the regular session to go back into Executive Session at 7:55 p.m. for the purpose of obtaining legal advice.

The regular session reconvened at 8:25 p.m.

2. Consideration of Resignations; Retirements; Leaves of Absence; Dismissals; Layoffs; Non-Renewals; Layoff Rescissions; Appointments.

A. Retirements.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Retirement of Barbara Guarnieri – Elementary School Secretary – Stephen Olney School Effective December 26, 2008. Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and unanimously carried to approve the retirement of Barbara Guarnieri as presented with regret.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Retire of

Ann Romanowsky – Speech/Language Pathologist Centredale Elementary/N. P. High School Effective December 26, 2008. Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and Mr. DaSilva and unanimously carried to approve the retirement of Ann Romanowsky as presented with regret.

B. Leaves of Absence.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Leave of Absence request for Amalia DeAngelis – Foreign Language Teacher N.P. High School Paid FMLA Effective August 25, 2008 through November 21, 2008; Jennifer Goulding – Science Teacher N. P. High School Paid FMLA Effective November 24, 2008 through January 28, 2009 and Unpaid FMLA Effective January 28, 2009 through March 13, 2009; Kevin McHugh – Assistant Wrestling Coach N.P. High School Unpaid Leave (1 Year Only) Effective 2008/09 Season Only; and Maureen Sammartino – Teacher Assistant Marieville School Unpaid FMLA Effective September 22, 2008 through December 19, 2008.

Motion by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and Mr. Marciano and unanimously carried to approve the Leaves of Absence Requests as presented.

C. Dismissal

Pertaining to the Disciplinary Action regarding an employee as discussed in Executive

Session and with legal counsel, Motion by Mr. Marciano to accept the agreement discussed with the understanding that if the employee does not accept the terms of the agreement, there will be an automatic termination. Mr. Cataldi stated that he would be voting against the motion and felt that the Superintendent's recommendation should be upheld. Mrs. Reall agreed with Mr. Cataldi's statement. A roll call vote was taken – Mr. DaSilva, aye; Mr. Cataldi, nay; Mrs. Reall, nay; Mr. Marciano, aye; Mr. Martinelli, aye; Mr. Palmieri, aye; Mr. Iannetta, aye. The motion carried by a vote of 5 to 2.

E. Appointments.

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

Motion by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mrs. Reall unanimously carried granting advice and consent to the appointment of Donna Douglas – Crossing Guard Woonasquatucket Avenue and George Street Effective October 23, 2008; Kim Hardman – Assistant Detention

Officer – Ricci Middle School Effective October 22, 2008; and Susan Rainone – Girls’ Basketball Coach – N.P. High School (One Year Only) Effective 2008/2009 Season. Members of the Committee offered congratulations and applause.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

There being no Old Business the Committee moved on to the next agenda item.

XI. USE OF PROPERTY REQUESTS

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Use of Property Requests submitted which were not previously approved, based on School Committee Policy, availability and the request meeting all the necessary conditions. Motion by Mrs. Reall, seconded by Mr. DaSilva and unanimously carried to approve the Use of Property Requests as submitted.

XII. APPROVAL OF BILLS

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the List of Bills as presented and submitted to the Committee. Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mr. DaSilva and unanimously carried to approve and pay the October 16, 2008 List of Bills in the amount of \$120,897.41.

XIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of the September 24, 2008 Executive Session as presented and kept closed and sealed in accordance with R.I.G.L. 42-46-4, 5 and 7(c).

Motion by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Marciano and unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of the September 24, 2008 Regular North Providence School Committee Meeting as presented.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS IN AGENDA ITEMS 7-12

Public comments and opinion were received on Agenda Items 7-12.

XV. PENDING BUSINESS

There being no pending business, the Committee moved on to the next agenda item.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and Mrs. Iannetta and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Iannetta,

Secretary of the North Providence School Committee

Date Submitted to Committee: Nov. 19, 2008

Date Approved by the Committee: Nov. 19, 2008