

REGULAR NORTH PROVIDENCE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

JANUARY 28, 2009

The North Providence School Committee met on January 28, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. in the Administrative Conference Room at the High School. Members present were Chairwoman Reall, Mr. Marciano, Mr. Cataldi, Mr. Iannetta, Mr. Palmieri, Ms. Leva and Mrs. Picard. Also present was Superintendent Ottaviano, Mr. Scungio, Ms. Celona and Ms. Donoyan. Mr. Lynch and Mr. Milazzo were present for the public session only. Appropriate disclosure was made by the Chair 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 Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mr. Marciano and Mr. Palmieri and carried to recess the regular session and convene Executive Session at 5:33 p.m. in accordance with R.I. General Laws 42-46-4 and 5 for the purpose of Obtaining Legal Advice re: Potential Litigation Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws 42-46-5(a) and Collective Bargaining Work Session Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws 42-46-5(a)(2). The Chair, 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 6:37 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.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order.

II. SALUTE TO FLAG

The Chair led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence dedicated to President Obama to get us through this very, very difficult time and may he grow in wisdom and grace.

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

The Chair next reported out that there were and no votes taken in Executive Session. She added that any person 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).

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and unanimously carried to accept and seal the record of the Executive Session in accordance with R.I.G.L. 42-46-4, 5, and 7(c).

The Chair announced that the Clerk, Mrs. Picard, would be responsible for some additional duties including sending out some

correspondence offering congratulations and taking care of the executive session motion. She also offered congratulations to the new members, the Honorable Tami Leva and the Honorable Gina Picard.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

The Chair reported that the Committee had not received any correspondence.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. School District/State Collaboration

Superintendent Ottaviano read the list of areas where the District collaborates with other agencies in the State for purposes of group bidding in an effort to lower costs.

2. Field Trip Requests.

Ms. Donoyan recommended approval of the Field Trip Requests as submitted. Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mr. Palmieri and unanimously carried to approve the Field Trip Requests as submitted in accordance with School Committee Policy. The Chair added that Mr. Morrison put on a concert Sunday and Mayor Lombardi gave the

music department \$1000.00 from the Christmas party.

3. Monthly Financial Report.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the January 28, 2009 Financial Report as submitted. Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mr. Marciano and unanimously carried to approve the January 28, 2009 Financial Report as submitted.

VI. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT.

1. Reorganization of Committee.

The Chair announced that the Reorganization was already done but that Superintendent Ottaviano would make it part of the meeting. Superintendent Ottaviano called the meeting to order in accordance with the Charter for the purpose of electing a Chairperson of the North Providence School Committee and asked if there are any nominations for the position of Chairperson. Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Ms. Leva to place the name of Helen Reall in nomination as Chairperson. Superintendent Ottaviano asked if there were any counter nominations, any counter nominations, any counter nominations. Hearing none, a roll call vote for the election of Helen Reall as School Committee Chairperson was taken as follows: Tami Leva, aye; Stephen Palmieri, aye; Gina Picard, aye; Anthony

Marciano, aye; Donald Cataldi, aye; and Ronald Iannetta, aye. By a vote of 6 yeas and 0 nays, Helen Reall was elected Chairperson of the North Providence School Committee. Congratulations were offered.

Next was Vice Chairman. Motion by Mr. Palmieri, seconded by Mr. Iannetta to place the name of Donald Cataldi for the position of Vice Chair. Superintendent Ottaviano asked if there were any counter nominations, any counter nominations, any counter nominations. Hearing none, a roll call vote for the election of Donald Cataldi as School Committee Vice Chair was taken as follows: Tami Leva, aye; Stephen Palmieri, aye; Gina Picard, aye; Helen Reall, aye; Anthony Marciano, aye; Ronald Iannetta, aye. By a vote of 6 yeas and 0 nays, Donald Cataldi was elected Vice Chairman of the North Providence School Committee. Congratulations were offered.

Next was Clerk. Motion by Mr. Iannetta, seconded by Mr. Cataldi to place the name of Gina Picard in nomination as Clerk. Superintendent Ottaviano asked if there were any counter nominations, any counter nominations, any counter nominations. Hearing none, a roll call vote for the election of Gina Picard as School Committee Clerk was taken as follows: Tami Leva, aye; Stephen Palmieri, aye; Donald Cataldi, aye; Helen Reall, aye; Anthony Marciano, aye; and Ronald Iannetta, aye. By a vote of 6 yeas and 0 nays, Gina Picard was elected Clerk of the North Providence School Committee. Congratulations were offered.

Next were Designation of Counsel and Clerk. The Chair recommended that Brennan, Recupero, Cascione, Scungio & McAllister be designated as Legal Counsel effective January 2009 to January 2011. Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and Mr. Marciano and unanimously carried to designate Brennan Recupero, Cascione, Scungio & McAllister as Legal Counsel Effective January 2009 to January 2011. The Chair recommended that Margie Caranci be designated as School Committee Secretary Effective January 2009 to January 2011. Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and Mr. Iannetta and unanimously carried to designate Margie Caranci as School Committee Secretary Effective January 2009 to January 2011.

2. Subcommittees.

The Chair made a recommendation for School Committee Subcommittees as presented in the packets and asked all those in favor to signify by stating aye and those opposed to signify by stating nay. There were no nays to the recommendation and the motion carried by unanimous consent.

3. Child Care Update – Mr. Palmieri.

Mr. Palmieri addressed the Child Care survey issue and felt that there needs to be a price included in the survey. Members of the Committee offered comments. Motion by Mr. Palmieri, seconded by

Mr. Marciano and unanimously carried to send the survey out to the parents with a price on the survey.

4. Bus Routes During Snow Storms – Mr. Palmieri.

Mr. Palmieri addressed the issue of bus routes during snowstorms. He suggested distributing a list of streets that would not be used during storms. Members of the Committee offered comments and opinions. Mr. Milazzo recommended the use of the Alert Now System to notify parents.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments and opinion were received on Agenda Items 3-5.

VIII. REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE

No requests to address the Committee were received.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration of Awarding Bids.

Superintendent Ottaviano spoke about the Bids for Lead Hazard

Reduction Project. The Chair added that the Committee received the bids tonight and would need some time to review the bids and costs. Members of the Committee offered comments and suggestions, including possible use of the stimulus money. Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mr. Marciano and unanimously carried to table the Consideration of Awarding the Bids for Lead Hazard Reduction Project.

2. Consideration of Amendments to Agenda and By Laws.

Ms. Leva addressed the issue of making changes to the Agenda by resolution and roll call vote and made a recommendation to refer the matter to the By Laws Subcommittee for consideration and reporting back to the Committee. Motion by Ms. Leva, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and unanimously carried to refer the matter to the By Laws Subcommittee for consideration.

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

A. Resignations.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Resignations submitted by Anthony Carbone – Social Studies

Department Chair North Providence High School Effective at the End of the 2008/09 School Year; Kimberly DiTusa – Girls’ Fast Pitch Assistant Coach North Providence High School Effective January 8, 2009; and Paula Turcone – Physical Education/Health Department Chair North Providence High School Effective at the End of the 2008/09 School Year. Motion by Mr. Iannetta, seconded by Ms. Leva and unanimously carried to approve the Resignations as submitted. Discussion took place with respect to new positions. Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mr. Marciano and unanimously carried to refer any vacant position to the Finance Committee before it is posted for study to determine if the vacancy needs to be filled.

B. Retirements.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Retirements listed in the School Committee packet and made a brief statement of the accomplishments of each retiree and wished them the best. Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and Mr. Cataldi and unanimously carried to approve the following retirement requests with regret. John Aurecchia – Industrial Arts Teacher North Providence High School Effective at the end of the 2008/2009 School Year; Lorraine Bello – Math Teacher North Providence High School Effective at the end of the 2008/2009 School Year; Anthony Carbone – Social Studies Teacher North Providence High School Effective at the end of the 2008/2009 School Year; Darlene Chabot – Teacher Grade 3 – Marieville Elementary School Effective at the end of the 2008/2009

School Year; Roland Cherella – Social Studies Teacher North Providence High School Effective at the end of the 2008/2009 School Year; Ronald Crudele – English Teacher North Providence High School Effective at the end of the 2008/2009 School Year; Allen Garzone – Science Teacher North Providence High School Effective at the end of the 2008/2009 School Year; Cynthia Marciano – ESL Teacher North Providence High School Effective at the end of the 2008/2009 School Year; Stephen Marnik – Math Teacher Ricci Middle School Effective at the end of the 2008/2009 School Year; William Ragano – Social Studies Teacher North Providence High School Effective at the end of the 2008/2009 School Year; John Schultheis – Science Teacher North Providence High School Effective at the end of the 2008/2009 School Year; Paula Turcone – Physical Education/Health Teacher North Providence High School Effective at the end of the 2008/2009 School Year; Anthony Vacca – Teacher – Grade 5 McGuire Elementary School Effective at the end of the 2008/2009 School Year; and Michael Whittet – Special Education Teacher North Providence High School Effective at the end of the 2008/2009 School Year.

C. Leaves of Absence.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Leave of

Absence requests for Karyn Babcock – Science Teacher Birchwood Middle School for Paid FMLA Effective December 1, 2008 through March 20, 2009; Stacey Bachini – English Teacher North Providence High School for Paid FMLA Effective February 23, 2009 through March 5, 2009 and Unpaid FMLA Effective March 6, 2009 through May 29, 2009; Bambilyn Cambio – Speech/Language Pathologist Marieville School for Paid FMLA Effective December 22, 2008 through April 9, 2009; Darlene Chabot – Elementary Teacher Marieville School for Paid FMLA Effective February 25, 2009 through March 10, 2009 and Unpaid FMLA Effective March 11, 2009 through May 22, 2009; Michelle Geremia – Physical Education/Health Teacher Centredale School for Paid FMLA Effective April 20, 2009 through May 15, 2009 and Unpaid FMLA Effective May 18, 2009 through the end of the 2008/2009 School Year; Ellen Goldenberg – Speech/Language Pathologist Pre School/Birchwood Middle School for Paid Medical Leave Effective January 20, 2009 through the end of the 2008/2009 School Year; Andrea Martel – Teacher Assistant Whelan School for Unpaid Medical Leave Effective January 26, 2009 through April 30, 2009; and Kevin Rubino – Custodian (2nd Shift) Ricci Middle School for Paid FMLA Effective December 15, 2008 through December 31, 2008 and Unpaid FMLA Effective January 2, 2009 through March 13, 2009.

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

D. Appointments.

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

Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and unanimously carried granting advice and consent to the appointment of Linda Potvin – Elementary Secretary Stephen Olney School Effective January 5, 2009; and Alison Wroblewski – Assistant Swim Coach North Providence High School Effective for the 2008/2009 Season Only. 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 Mr. Marciano,

seconded by Mr. Iannetta 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. Cataldi and Mr. Palmieri and unanimously carried to approve and pay the January 2009 List of Bills in the amount of \$1,662,352.20.

XIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of the December 17, 2008 Regular Meeting of the North Providence School Committee as presented. There was no Executive Session on December 17, 2008.

Motion by Mr. Marciano, seconded by Mrs. Picard and unanimously carried to amend the Minutes of the November 13, 2008 Regular Meeting of the North Providence School Committee to reflect Mr. Marciano's motion regarding the public safety issue.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS IN AGENDA ITEMS 7-12

No Public comments 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. Marciano, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Margie Caranci,
Recording Secretary of the North Providence
School Committee**

Date Submitted to Committee:

Date Approved by the Committee: