

REGULAR NORTH PROVIDENCE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
DECEMBER 14, 2011

The North Providence School Committee met on December 14, 2011 at 6:15 p.m. in the Administration Conference Room at the High School. Members present were Chairman Marciano, Mrs. Reall, Mr. Iannetta, Mr. Cataldi, Mrs. Picard and Ms. Leva. Also present were Superintendent Ottaviano, Mr. McNamee, Mr. Scungio, Mr. Ryan, Mr. Tedeschi and Mr. Milazzo. Mr. Scungio was present for the Regular 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 Mrs. Reall, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and carried to go into open session at 6:15 p.m. The regular session was recessed to go into Executive Session at 6:15 p.m. The regular session reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

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. The Chair asked that everyone take a moment to reflect on the men and women who gave their lives for us in the Iraq War and the hope that some of the members of the service will be home soon.

III. CHAIR TO REPORT OUT ANY VOTES TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECEIVE MOTION BY COMMITTEE MEMBER TO SEAL EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES PURSUANT TO APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF RIGL 42-46-(4) & (5).

The Chair reported that there were no votes taken in Executive Session.

Next, the Chair explained that the Agenda was going to be taken out of order and that the Student Recognition was going to be moved to the top of the Agenda.

VII. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Student Recognition.

Mr. Cataldi spoke about Mrs. Reall's saying that everything that comes out of this Town always comes from the students and recognized Mellanie Adorno for her compassion and kindness towards an elderly man who fainted and had been injured. Ms. Adorno was presented with recognition and members of the Committee offered congratulations.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

The Chair next reported that there was no correspondence received.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS 3-4.

No comments were received.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Monthly Financial Report.

Superintendent Ottaviano asked for the advice and consent of the Committee for approval of the December 14, 2011 Monthly Financial Report. Motion by Mrs. Reall, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and Mrs.

Picard as to Resolution No. 11-12-01. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the N.P. School Committee vote to approve the December 14, 2011 Monthly Financial Report as submitted. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mrs. Reall, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

2. Field Trips.

Superintendent Ottaviano read the Field Trip Requests and asked for the advice and consent of the Committee for approval of the Requests. Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mrs. Picard and Mr. Iannetta as to Resolution No. 11-12-03. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the N.P. School Committee vote to approve the Field Trip Request as submitted. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mrs. Reall, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

3. Class of 2012 Winter Ball Contract.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Class of 2012 Winter Ball Contract as submitted. Motion by Mr. Iannetta, seconded by Mrs. Picard as to Resolution No. 11-12-04. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the N.P. School Committee vote to approve the Class of 2012 Winter Ball

Contract as submitted. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mrs. Reall, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

4. Class of 2013 Senior Prom Contract.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Class of 2013 Senior Prom Contract as submitted. Motion by Mrs. Reall, seconded by Mrs. Picard and Mr. Iannetta as to Resolution No. 11-12-05. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the N.P. School Committee vote to approve the NPHS Class of 2013 Senior Prom Contract as submitted. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mrs. Reall, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

5. Revised Use of Property Policy.

This item was moved to the January meeting.

6. Annual Report.

A copy of the annual report was provided to the members of the Committee for their review.

7. Discussion re: Budget Waiver and Cuts.

Mr. Scungio explained that the School Committee authorized Legal Counsel to Petition the Court regarding approximately 1.2 million dollars necessary to fund the School Department. Members of the Town Council are in agreement with the 1.130 million dollar figure but the Mayor has not responded to the request. The next step is to request Waivers from the Department of Education. Although it is not expected that the request will have any impact because it is unlikely that the waivers will be granted, the next step would be to go back to the Council and the Mayor to request the funds.

8. Athletic Training and Sports Medicine Service.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Contract at no cost. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Cataldi as to Resolution No. 11-12-08. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the N.P. School Committee vote to approve the No Cost Athletic Training and Sports Medicine Service Contract as Submitted. Mr. Iannetta asked Mr. Goho and Mr. Williams if they recommend the program – both recommended the program. A roll call vote was taken as followed: Ms. Leva, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mrs. Reall, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

9. Breathalyzer Policy.

This matter was removed.

10. Tri-Town Grant MOU Approvals.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of the Tri-Town Grant MOU Approvals as submitted. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta as to Resolution No. 11-12-18. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the N.P. School Committee vote to approve the Tri-Town Grant MOUs as submitted. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mrs. Reall, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

VII. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT.

1. Technology Subcommittee Report – Mrs. Picard.

Mrs. Picard reported that Mr. Ryan and Mr. McNamee are reviewing the Plan to present at the next meeting. She added that the District has a lot of ground to make up. The website is up and running and the email system is being worked on. It is expected that the Plan will be in place in January.

2. Charter School Resolution.

Superintendent Ottaviano explained that the School Committee is being asked to sign a resolution in opposition to the Mayoral Academy (Achievement First) Charter School. There are a number of reasons that the Committee has a problem with the School. The Chair asked Mr. DaSilva to speak about the Mayoral Academy. Mr. DaSilva spoke about the fact that we do not have any “at risk” schools so the District does not need the Charter School. The Town Council sent a letter to the Board of Regents voicing its opposition to the Proposed Charter School. He recommended that the School Committee join their colleagues in Warwick, Providence and Cranston in voicing its opposition to the proposed Charter School. Mr. Cataldi voiced his concern with the Mayor’s support of the Charter School and felt that it is very hypocritical. The Mayor contends that the District needs to cut full-day kindergarten but the Mayoral Academy provides for full-day kindergarten. He questioned the Mayor’s motives. Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mrs. Reall as to Resolution No. 11-12-07. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the N.P. School Committee vote to approve the Charter School Resolution as submitted. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mrs. Reall, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

3. Approval of Contracts.

Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mrs. Picard to approve the

contract for the Director of Non-Instructional Operations. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mrs. Reall, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

4. Clarification to Mayor's Office re: Truck.

Mr. Cataldi spoke about the article in the Breeze. He explained that the Committee accepted the truck and brought it back for some minor repairs two days later and then took it back again. The Committee never refused the truck. He spoke about all the tax increases of over 16 million dollars and the fact that the School Department is tired of being the punching bag. Mrs. Reall also spoke about the fact that at no time did the School Department refuse the truck. She questioned how an article appears in the Breeze without confirming the information is accurate. Mr. Iannetta concurred with comments made by his colleagues. The Chair confirmed the fact that the Committee agreed to accept the truck.

VIII. REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COMMITTEE

Mr. Berger addressed the Committee regarding music lessons. He explained that the

Program would not cost the District any money and would be funded by the parents.

Mr. Cataldi suggested that the matter be referred to the Subcommittee to be taken up in January.

IX. NEW BUSINESS.

1. Bids.

No bids were received.

2. Resignations.

Superintendent Ottaviano asked for the advice and consent of the Committee for approval of the resignations of Melissa Gilheeny – Speech/Language Pathologist Centredale Elementary School Effective December 6, 2011. Motion by Mr. Iannetta, seconded by Mrs. Reall as to Resolution No. 11-12-11. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the N. P. School Committee vote to approve the resignation as submitted. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mrs. Reall, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

3. Leaves of Absence.

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended that the Committee approve the Leave of Absence Requests from Allison Ambrose – Secondary

Social Studies Teacher – NPHS – Unpaid Leave of Absence Effective January 3, 2012 through April 13, 2012; Crystal Bozigian – Girls’ Varsity Softball Assistant Coach – NPHS Effective – 2011/2012 Season Only (1 Year Leave of Absence); Susan Jeschke – Teacher Assistant – McGuire Elementary School – Unpaid FMLA Leave Effective November 14, 2011 through November 30, 2011; Sherry Lombardi – Grade 3 Elementary Teacher – Centredale Elementary School Paid FMLA Leave December 1, 2011 through December 13, 2011; Christen Magill – Assistant Principal – NPHS Paid Medical Leave Effective December 12, 2011 through December 22, 2011; Thomas Policastro – ESL Teacher NPHS Paid FMLA Leave Effective November 28, 2011 through December 9, 2011; Kalena Santilli – Middle School Math Teacher – Birchwood Middle School – Unpaid Leave of Absence Effective January 9, 2012 through March 30, 2012; and Stephanie Vieira – Teacher Assistant – NPHS Paid FMLA Leave Effective November 9, 2011 through November 15, 2011 and Unpaid FMLA Leave Effective November 16, 2011 through a date to be determined. Motion by Mrs. Reall, seconded by Mr. Iannetta as to Resolution No. 11-12-13. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the N. P. School Committee vote to approve the Leaves of Absence requests as presented. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mrs. Reall, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business was presented.

XI. USE OF PROPERTY REQUESTS

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended that the Committee grant advice and consent to the 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, with the exception of the Denise's Dance Studio, the Gay Straight Alliance, the Senior Babe Ruth League, and the NPHS Athletic Department Field. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and Mr. Cataldi as to Resolution No. 11-12-15. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the North Providence School Committee grant advice and consent to the approval of the Use of Property Requests with the exceptions above. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mrs. Reall, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

XII. APPROVAL OF BILLS

Superintendent Ottaviano recommended approval of December 2011

List of Bills as presented and submitted to the Committee. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta as to Resolution No. 11-12-16. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the North Providence School Committee grants advice and consent to approve and pay the December 2011 List of Bills in the amount of \$701,444.24. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mrs. Reall, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

XIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Cataldi, Mrs. Reall and Mr. Iannetta as to Resolution No. 11-12-17. Be it resolved that, at the Recommendation of the Superintendent, the North Providence School Committee approve and seal the Minutes of the November 16, 2011 Executive Session in accordance with R.I.G.L. 42-46-4 and 5. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mrs. Reall, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mrs. Reall as to Resolution No. 11-12-17. Be it resolved that, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the N.P. School Committee vote to approve the Minutes of the November 16, 2011 School Committee Meeting as presented. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Leva, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mrs. Reall, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, and the

Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS IN AGENDA ITEMS 7 - 13.

Public comments were received.

XV. PENDING BUSINESS

No pending business was discussed.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date Submitted to Committee:

Date Approved by the Committee: