

REGULAR NORTH PROVIDENCE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 23, 2013

The North Providence School Committee met on October 23, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the Administration Conference Room at the High School. Members present were Chairman Marciano, Mr. Cataldi, Mr. Iannetta, Mr. Palmieri, Mrs. Picard, Mr. DaSilva and Mr. Andreozzi. Also present were Superintendent Smith, Mr. McNamee, Ms. Jacques and Mr. Henneous. Dr. Carson and Mr. Wright were present for the Regular Session only. Appropriate disclosure was made by the Chair concerning compliance with R.I. General Laws 42-46-(4)&(5) indicating that any person to be discussed had been appropriately notified.

Motion by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Palmieri and carried to go into open session at 6:02 p.m. The regular session was recessed to go into Executive Session at 6:02 p.m. The open session reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order.

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The Chair led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

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 three actions considered in Executive Session to be voted on in open session. Motion by Gina Picard, seconded by Mr. Palmieri and carried by unanimous consent to deny Grievance No. I-02-2013/2014. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and carried by unanimous consent to continue discussions in Grievance No. I-03-2013/2014. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Palmieri and carried by unanimous consent to deny Grievance No. I-04-2013/2014.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

Superintendent Smith read correspondence received by the RI Department of Attorney

General addressed to Mr. Goho regarding the texting and driving program. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and carried by unanimous consent to place the correspondence on file.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS 6-13.

No public comments were received.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Superintendent's Communication.

(a) VAASA Presentation

Members of VAASA (Varsity Athletes Against Substance Abuse) gave a brief presentation regarding the program. Each spoke about what the program means to them and the various activities they participate in. The Chair thanked them for their hard work and for their courageous decision to make non-destructive decisions.

(b) Kids Klub and (c) Middle School Program

Representatives from Kids Klub spoke about the results of a survey

given to the middle school parents to determine if there is a need for after school programs for the Middle Schools. Members asked questions and offered comments.

(d) Student Information System

Mr. Wright spoke about the need to keep parents more informed and the Student Information System being the cornerstone of the entire school system. The current system is deficient in several areas. The Parent and Student Portals are critical and Aspen falls short in both areas. He spoke about the proposed system's tech support and account manager. Members asked questions and offered comments.

2. Monthly Financial Report.

Superintendent Smith asked the Committee to grant advice and consent to approve the Monthly Financial Report as submitted. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and carried to approve the Monthly Financial Report as submitted. Mr. Andreozzi voted nay to the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 6 to 1.

3. Home Schooling.

Superintendent Smith asked the Committee to grant the Home

Schooling Request(s) as submitted. Motion by Mr. Iannetta, seconded by Mr. DaSilva and Mr. Palmieri and carried by a vote of 4 to 3 to grant the Home Schooling Requests as submitted. Mrs. Picard, Mr. Andreozzi and Mr. Cataldi voted nay to the motion.

4. Field Trips.

Superintendent Smith recommended approval of the Field Trip Requests as submitted. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and carried by unanimous consent to grant the Field Trips as submitted.

5. Standing Orders.

Superintendent Smith requested that the vote to approve the Standing Orders be placed on hold to allow the nurses to review the proposed Orders.

6. Affirmative Action Policy.

Superintendent Smith recommended approval of the Affirmative Action Policy as submitted. Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mrs. Picard and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Affirmative Action Policy as submitted.

7. Health & Wellness Policy – 1st Reading.

Superintendent Smith recommended approval of edited Health & Wellness Policy for the 1st reading. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and carried by unanimous consent to approve the 1st Reading of the Health & Wellness Policy as submitted.

8. Bussing Policy (amended) – 1st Reading.

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. DaSilva to approve the Bussing Policy (amended) – 1st reading. Superintendent Smith spoke about the issue with several parents who are consistently not picking their children up at the bus stop. Discussion took place regarding the Policy. Members asked questions and offered comments and suggestions, including referring the issue of parent pick-ups to the truant officer to review the residency issue and to refer the Policy to the Policy Committee. Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mrs. Picard and Mr. Andreozzi and carried by unanimous consent to approve the 1st reading of the amended Bussing Policy.

9. Snow Removal.

Motion by Mr. Iannetta, seconded by Mr. Andreozzi and Mr. Palmieri and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Snow Removal

Contract as submitted.

10. Student Information System.

Superintendent Smith recommended approval of the Student Information System Contract as submitted. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Palmieri, Mr. DaSilva and the entire Committee and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Student Information System Contract as submitted.

11. Middle School After School Program.

Motion by Mr. Iannetta, seconded by Mrs. Picard and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Middle School After School Program as submitted.

12. Kids Klub Tuition Account Ordinance.

Mr. McNamee spoke about the Council ordinance regarding restricting use of the Kids Klub funds to capital improvements and expressed the need to bring the money back into the School Department so that it can be used for technology. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and carried by unanimous consent to send a communication to the Council requesting that the Kids Klub funds be transferred to the School Department to be used for technology in the elementary schools.

13. Review of Dress Code.

Superintendent Smith spoke regarding the dress code. No motion was needed.

14. Records Retention Policy – 1st Reading.

Superintendent Smith spoke regarding the Records Retention Policy – 1st Reading. No motion by needed.

15. RTTT Update.

Ms. Jacques gave a brief update regarding the Race to the Top Grant.

16. Parent Involvement Policy Implementation.

Superintendent spoke about the Parent Engagement Policy Action Plan.

17. Facilities Management Agreement.

Superintendent Smith recommended approval of the Facilities Management Agreement as submitted subject to attorney review.

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Palmieri and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Facilities Management Agreement as submitted subject to attorney review.

18. Dance Workshop.

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Palmieri and carried by unanimous consent to grant the request by the Dance Workshop to approve the Dance Workshop Recital Use of Property Fee at the Old Rate for the next year.

VII. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS.

No reports were received.

VIII. REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COMMITTEE

1. Discussion re: Snow Removal – R. DaSilva.

Mr. DaSilva spoke about the fact that the School Committee needs to be proactive with asking people to remove the snow from the sidewalks so the children can be safe. He suggested that a letter be sent to the Mayor and Council.

Motion by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Palmieri and carried by unanimous consent to send a letter to the Town Council with a copy to the Police Department and the Mayor requesting that they be proactive by asking people to remove the snow from the sidewalks to ensure that the school children are safe.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

1. Bids.

Superintendent Smith asked the Committee to grant advice and consent to approve the bids as submitted.

Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mr. Palmieri and carried by unanimous consent to approve the bid for uniforms for Crossing Guards, Yard Monitors and Custodians as submitted.

Motion by Mr. Andreozzi, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and Mr. Iannetta and carried by unanimous consent to approve the bid for Snow Removal as submitted.

Motion by Mr. Andreozzi, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and Mr. Palmieri and carried by unanimous consent to approve the bid for Facilities Assessment as submitted.

2. Resignation(s).

Superintendent Smith asked the Committee to grant advice and consent to the Resignation(s) as submitted.

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and carried by unanimous consent to approve the resignation(s) as submitted.

3. Retirement(s).

No retirements were received; the retirement that was submitted was rescinded.

4. Leaves of Absence.

Superintendent Smith asked the Committee to grant advice and consent to the Leaves of Absence as submitted. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Leave of Absence Requests as submitted.

5. Layoff(s)/Non-Renewal(s)

There were no Layoff(s)/Non-Renewals.

6. Appointments.

Superintendent Smith asked for the advice and consent of the Committee to approve the appointment of Gregory Berger – Elementary Music Band Director Effective for the 2013/2014 School Year, Amy Gingras – Elementary Music Band Director Effective for the 2013/2014 School Year, and Stephen Morrison – Elementary Music Band Director Effective for the 2013/2014 School Year. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Palmieri and carried to grant advice and consent to the Appointments as presented. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

The Chair asked the appointees to stand and receive recognition and applause.

7. Layoff Recision(s).

Superintendent Smith asked the Committee to grant advice and consent to the Layoff Recision(s) as submitted. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and carried by unanimous consent to grant advice and consent to the Layoff Recision(s) as submitted.

8. Displacements.

No Displacements were received.

X. OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business was presented.

XI. USE OF PROPERTY

Superintendent Smith asked for guidance regarding several Use of Property Requests, including the Request to waive the custodian fees by North Providence High School Youth Wrestling League Tournament. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and carried by unanimous consent to waive the cost of the custodian fee.

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and carried by unanimous consent to waive the custodian fee as requested by the RI Basketball Coaches Association. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and carried by unanimous consent to waive the custodian fee as requested by the NP Jets for their Dance Fundraiser.

Motion by Mr. Iannetta, seconded by Mrs. Picard and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Use of Property Requests as submitted.

XII. APPROVAL OF BILLS

Superintendent Smith recommended approval of the October 2013

List of Bills as presented and submitted to the Committee. Motion by Mrs, Picard, seconded by Mr. Palmieri and carried to approve the October 2013 List of Bills as presented. Mr. Andreozzi voted nay to the motion. Mr. Iannetta recused himself from the vote on the Approval of Bills. The motion carried by a vote of 5 to 1.

XIII. APPROVAL OF FUNDRAISERS.

The motion was tabled.

XIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Palmieri and carried to approve and seal the Minutes of the September 25, 2013 and October 9, 2013 School Committee Executive Sessions as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and carried to approve the Minutes of the September 25, 2013 and October 9, 2013 School Committee Meetings as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS IN AGENDA ITEMS 7 - 13.

No public comments were received.

XV. PENDING BUSINESS

No pending business was discussed.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. DaSilva and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Caranci

**Recording Secretary of the North Providence
School Committee**

Date Submitted to Committee: November 15, 2013

Date Approved by the Committee: November 20, 2013