

**SMITHFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2014 @ 7:00 P.M.  
HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER  
MINUTES**

Members present: Mr. Richard Iannitelli, Chair, Mrs. Kellie-Ann Heenan, Vice-Chair, Mrs. Virginia Harnois, Secretary, Mr. Brenden Oates and Mr. Sean Clough. Also present were: Mr. Robert O'Brien, Superintendent, Mrs. Bridget Morisseau, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Craig Levis, Special Education Director, Mrs. Lisa Cournoyer, Business Manager, Mr. Ben Scungio Esq., School Committee/School Department Attorney. Absent: Mr. Matthew Strik, Student Representative to the School Committee. Mr. Iannitelli called the meeting to order at 7:12 P.M.

1. Mr. Oates moved to approve Consent Agenda Items:

- 1.1 Minutes:**

- A) Minutes of the March 3, 2014 School Committee Meeting

- 1.2 Bills:**

- A) Regular Bills
    - B) Prepaid Checks from March 3, 2014 March 14, 2014

- 1.3 Appointments:**

- A) Spring Coaches

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SALARY</u>	<u>NAME</u>
Middle School Baseball Coach	1720	<b>Kyle VanRossum</b>
Assistant Boys' Track Co-Coach	887	<b>Richard McPhillips</b>
Boys Lacrosse Club	2029	<b>Robert A. Jackson</b>

- B) Katherine Melo, Special Education Paraprofessional (One-Year Position), Gallagher Middle School, for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year.

- C) Renee Melaragno, Special Education Paraprofessional, High School transition program for the 2013-2014 School Year.

Mrs. Harnois seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

2. **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

A high school representative was not present at the meeting.

3. There was a presentation from Anna McCabe School on a project they have been working on. Mrs. Morissette, the environmental education coordinator from the Narragansett Bay Commission, was present to give an overview of Narragansett Bay's environmental program. Mrs. Lenore and Mrs. Marchetti were present along with some of their students. The students presented their findings of the water quality testing that they have been working on as part of the Woonasquatucket Watershed Explorer Program. This is an environmental program that McCabe's fifth grade students have been participating in for over fifteen years.
4. Mr. O'Brien did a presentation on the District's NECAP scores. Mr. O'Brien updated the Committee on the District's NECAP scores. He said this is the last year he will be giving NECAP results because next year the students' will be taking PARCC assessments. Mr. O'Brien said Smithfield students as compared with the rest of the state---in the majority of the areas tested---have scored *proficient with distinction*. Mr. O'Brien said he is pointing out the proficient with distinction because it is an indication that Smithfield has the students that would benefit from advanced placement courses. Smithfield currently offers the

lowest number of advanced placement courses in RI, and RI offers the lowest number of advanced placement courses in the country.

5. Mrs. Harnois moved that the Committee approve to go out to bid for a facilitator to work with the ad-hoc policy committee to review and update district policies. Mr. Oates seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mr. O'Brien said the ad-hoc policy committee would like to have a facilitator guide them through the revision and updating of the district's entire policy manual. He said Coventry and Providence may also be going out to bid for a facilitator and we may want to do a joint bid for these services. Mr. O'Brien answered questions the Committee had. Mr. Oates suggested that we also look into going out to bid for Smithfield alone, because he feels with Smithfield being a smaller district we may be able to get a better price.

6. Mr. Oates moved that the bid for emergency radios be awarded to CFM Communications in the amount of \$18,498.60. Mr. Clough seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mr. O'Brien said we received three bids for the radios. CFM Communications was the lowest bid and was the recommended company by the safety committee who reviewed and rated the bids.

7. Mr. Clough moved that the line item changes to the 2013-2014 budget be approved. Mr. Oates seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

8. The Performance Audit recommendation on broadband capability and computers in the classrooms were discussed.

Recommendations number 3 and 4 under review of Instructional Programs recommends high speed broadband capabilities be available at the elementary schools and the classrooms should have 4-6 computers for students. Mr. Barrette was present and discussed these two recommendations. Mr. Barrette elaborated on the two initiatives. He said there is a need for high speed internet access in the schools because currently there is not enough broadband capability in the schools. Mr. Barrette also said there is a need for the additional computers in the classrooms. He said the district has decided in order to have more flexibility with the availability of more computers, laptops will be made available in mobile form in the schools. Mr. Barrette also said to better prepare for the PARCC testing, the district will be conducting field testing online.

Public comment: Kimberly Johnson Miele

9. Mr. Oates moved that the resolution concerning facilities be discussed and acted upon. Mrs. Harnois seconded the motion.

The Committee discussed the resolution. This is legislation that is currently in the state house concerning school facilities. Mrs. Heenan suggested two minor changes in the document. Mr. Oates moved to amend the original motion to reflect the suggested changes in the wording of the document. Mr. Clough seconded the amended motion. The amended motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

10. Mr. Oates moved that a request to the town council for \$15,495 from impact fees to pay for kindergarten furniture be discussed and acted upon. Mrs. Harnois seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mr. O'Brien said this is money we were going to take out of our capital account to pay for kindergarten furniture.

11. Mr. Oates moved that the Committee approve to go out to bid for architectural and engineering services in accordance with Stage II regulations of the RIDE School Construction process for the roofs. Mrs. Heenan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mr. O'Brien said Stage II of the RIDE Necessity of School Construction guidelines requires the School Department to have an architectural/engineering firm review all existing conditions and develop a RIDE approvable Five (5) Year Capital Plan. Mr. O'Brien had given the Committee in their packets the summary and scope of work that will be submitted to the Town Finance Director to develop an RFP and to submit to the Town Council for approval. The Committee had a discussion of the process for the roofs. Mr. O'Brien explained that the difference between Stage II and Stage I is that Stage I was roof specific. Stage II will be a more extensive analysis of existing conditions for everything, including structural work. Mr. O'Brien gave the Committee a letter from RIDE indicating that Stage I of the project has been approved.

**12. COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

**13. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

1. Mr. O'Brien announced student member awards of the Future Business Leaders of America Club in business subject competitions that were held March 4, 2014 at Johnson and Wales University:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Winner</b>
Business Law	1 <sup>st</sup> place	Josh Warrener
Client Services	2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Shelby DiNobile
Management Decision	2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Joseph Baxter Emily Sheehan Brandon Valcourt
Global Business	4 <sup>th</sup> place	Matthew Kuhar Kai Vennema
Economics	5 <sup>th</sup> place	Nick Paiva

2. Mr. O'Brien said the information from Saccocio on the condition of the roofs at the high school, middle school and administration building has been sent to the town and the financial review commission. He said Mr. Oates sent him a sample of bond legislative language for housing aid and he has forwarded that information to the town. Mr. O'Brien said that Randy Rossi has told him that the town will have their bond attorney put the general language on health and safety in the legislation so that we can get housing aid.
3. Mr. O'Brien said that the student that caused the middle school to be evacuated because of a threat that was written on a bathroom wall has been caught and disciplined.

**14. PUBLIC FORUM:** None.

**15. COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

Mr. Iannitelli said we are very close to going over all of the performance audit items, and will be finishing up in the spring.

Mr. Iannitelli, Mrs. Harnois, and Mrs. Heenan said they attended the Wizard of Oz show that was held at the high school, and that they enjoyed the show and it was a great show.

**16 EXECUTIVE SESSION: Not needed.**

At 8:14 p.m. motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Oates; seconded by Mrs. Harnois. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa A. Petrone  
Secretary