

SMITHFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 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. Sean Clough. Absent: Mr. Brenden Oates. Also present were: Mr. Robert O'Brien, Superintendent, Mr. Craig Levis, Special Education Director, Mrs. Lisa Cournoyer, Business Manager. Ben Scungio, Esq. School Committee/School Department Attorney, Matthew Strik, Student Representative to the School Committee. Mr. Iannitelli called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M.

1. Mr. Iannitelli read the Emergency Evacuation and Health Notification.

2. Mr. Clough moved to approve Consent Agenda Items:

2.1 Minutes:

A) Minutes of the July 7, 2014 School Committee Meeting

2.2 Bills:

A) Regular Bills

B) Prepaid Checks from July 7, 2014 through August 1, 2014

C) Lunch Bills

2.3 Leaves:

A) Maternity leave for Jessica Remillard, Math teacher, High School, from August 26, 2014 through October 13, 2014.

2.4 Resignations:

A) Resignation of William Fezette, Bookkeeper, Administration Office, effective no earlier than August 15, 2014, and no later than September 5, 2014.

B) Resignation of Lisa Sparks, .6 Social Worker, LaPerche Elementary, effective immediately.

C) Resignation of Jenna Kochakji, Special Education Speech Language Pathologist, effective immediately.

2.5 Appointments:

A) Anthony Ward-Smith, Middle School Boys' Soccer Coach, effective Fall Season 2014, pending certification and successful completion of a background criminal investigation.

B) Jessica Lakeway, Kindergarten Teacher, Step 7, William Winsor, effective 2014-2015 school year.

C) Darcy Staruch, Kindergarten Teacher, (Step 3—step is pending verification of employment), William Winsor, effective 2014-2015 school year, pending successful completion of a background criminal investigation.

D) Gary Fitzpatrick, Assistant Football Coach, effective Fall Season 2014, pending successful completion of a background criminal investigation.

E) Jessie MacDonald, Bookkeeper, Administration, effective August 18, 2014.

2.6 Homeschooling:

Student Name	Parent(s) or Guardian	School Grade
Bastajian, Roupen	Mr. & Mrs. Roupen Bastajian	GMS 6
Bastajian, Sela	Mr. & Mrs. Roupen Bastajian	Winsor 5
Camara, Dylan	Ms. Margaret Camara	OCRS 3
DeChristofaro, Evan	Mr. & Mrs. John DeChristofaro	GMS 7
DeChristofaro, John	Mr. & Mrs. John DeChristofaro	GMS 8
DeChristofaro, Natalia	Mr. & Mrs. John DeChristofaro	GMS 8
Doucet, Caleb	Mrs. Michele Doucet	GMS 8
Doucet, Joshua	Mrs. Michele Doucet	SHS 12
Fontenault, Kerith	Mr. & Mrs. Joshua Fontenault	Winsor 2
Maione, Heather	Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Maione	SHS 12
Plunkett, Margaret	Ms. Vicki S. Plunkett	GMS 7
Roberts, Ariel	Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Roberts	GMS 6

Mrs. Harnois seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

3. HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

High school student representative Matt Strik reported:

- Students are preparing for the new school year.**
- The first newsletter for the class of 2015 has been sent out.**
- The high school travel club completed another successful trip. The**

club traveled to Germany, Poland, Czech Republic and Hungary.

• The senior class courtyard cleanup is scheduled for August 20, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

4. Genevieve Ciullo and John McGrath from Aramark were present to give an end of year report on the food service program. Ms. Ciullo reported that the food program offered a RI Roots Promotion that was very successful. The financial return had improved to \$30,500.00 which was partly due to staff savings. The food menu for 2014-2015 is ready and new items will be introduced. There will be a price increase of .10 for the secondary and elementary lunches. Elementary full price lunches will be \$2.35 and secondary will be \$2.60. Ms. Ciullo said Aramark is seeking new dishwashing equipment for two of the schools, and there will be tasting plates at the high school level in the upcoming year to encourage the children to purchase lunches.

5. Mr. Clough moved that Aramark's request to purchase equipment be approved. Mrs. Harnois seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote. Ms. Ciullo told the Committee that Aramark had received three quotes for dishwasher replacements for the High School and LaPerche Elementary. Kittredge was the lowest quote received at \$22,711.38 for the high school and \$19,026.15 for LaPerche. The equipment will be purchased by Aramark and leased to the school department with no interest. The cost will be charged to the school department's monthly bill.

6. Mrs. Harnois moved that the food service contract with Aramark be renewed. Mrs. Heenan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Ms. Ciullo from Aramark presented Aramark's budget for the 2014-2015 school year.

7. Mr. Clough moved that the revisions to the Diploma System Policy be approved. Mrs. Heenan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote. Mr. Kelley was present to discuss the revisions with the Committee. Mr. Kelley said the language in some sections has been reworded to give more flexibility in the policy.

Public comment: Joan LaFauci

8. Mrs. Heenan moved that the revisions to the eligibility policy for extracurricular activities be approved. Mr. Clough seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Mr. Kelley was present to discuss the revisions with the Committee. He said this is a student handbook change to the requirements for student eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities. Mr. Kelley said the high school will go back to following the RI Interscholastic League's Eligibility Rules, as they did in the past.

9. Mrs. Palazzo did a presentation on SHS grading practices for the upcoming school year. Mrs. Palazzo reviewed the grading & reporting philosophy, guidelines and practices of the high school.

She reviewed the primary and secondary purposes of grading students' work and reviewed the grading practices that align with grading philosophy and expectations.

Public comment: Joan LaFauci

10. Mr. Iannitelli said that there would be a more detailed update on the Performance Audit at the next school committee meeting. He said the Committee will follow up with items that have already been done and set a timetable for items that need to be done. He said that several of the recommendations that were made through the Performance Audit have been completed.

11. Mrs. Heenan moved that the energy management agreement with Silent Sherpa be approved. Mrs. Harnois seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote. Mr. O'Brien said the Northwest Consortium has worked out an agreement with Silent Sherpa to provide energy management services to three of the four districts. (Smithfield, Lincoln and North Smithfield). Mr. O'Brien added that the agreement has been reviewed and approved by the attorney. The cost is \$6,000 per year per school district. Silent Sherpa will report to the districts any discrepancies as they are found and offer options to the schools to move forward in a positive direction in relation to energy management.

Public comment: Joan LaFauci

12. Mrs. Harnois moved to table that the School Committee request

permission from the Town to use Capital Funds up to \$200,000 if needed, to fill the vacant unfilled positions to a future school committee meeting. Mr. Clough seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

13. Mrs. Harnois moved that the addition of two new paraprofessionals be approved. Mrs. Heenan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote. Mr. O'Brien said these positions are necessary to support students in the all day kindergarten (one at LaPerche, one at McCabe). He said these two positions have a zero impact on the budget and they are presently in the budget. There are currently two paraprofessionals that are displaced due to the elimination of the extended kindergarten program.

14. Mr. Clough moved that the #2 Fuel Oil be awarded to Peterson Oil Service, Inc. at an increment of .0150 per gallon for 2014-2015 and .0160 for the 2015-2016 year, for two years, pending town council approval on August 5, 2014. Mrs. Heenan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Three bids were received for #2 fuel oil. The bids were reviewed by Mrs. Cournoyer, Mr. Mencucci and Mr. Rossi. Peterson Oil Service, Inc. was the lowest bidder.

15. Mr. Clough moved that the boiler cleaning services be awarded to Industrial Burner Service Inc. in the amount of \$21,000.00, pending town council approval on August 5, 2014. Mrs. Heenan seconded the

motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

The bid was reviewed by Mrs. Cournoyer, Mr. Mencucci and Mr. Rossi. Industrial Burner Service Inc. was the only submittal for Boiler Cleaning Service for 2014-2015. Mr. Iannitelli commented on the receipt of one bidder every year. Mrs. Cournoyer said the bid is advertised in the Providence Journal, and is always posted on the town's website, and the bid does go out to multiple vendors.

16. Mr. Clough moved that the snow plowing services be awarded to Dave's Towing Service, Inc. based upon the cost per snowstorm of 2"-6" \$2,500. 6.1"-12" \$3,900 and 12.1" and above \$7,000, pending town council approval on August 5, 2014. Mrs. Heenan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Two bids were received for snow removal services. The bids were reviewed by Mrs. Cournoyer, Mr. Mencucci and Mr. Rossi. Dave's Towing Service, Inc. was the lowest bidder.

17. There was a discussion on the Stage Two report.

The Committee reviewed an updated list of immediate health and safety items and the costs associated with them. Mr. O'Brien told the Committee if the bond is approved in November it would allow us to address the immediate health and safety needs in all of our schools including the roofs at the high school and Gallagher and the roof at the Administration building. He said the roof at the administration building would not be eligible for housing aid but is an immediate health and safety concern and would need to be done.

18. COMMUNICATIONS:

- A) A copy of Smithfield's budget report summary for fiscal year 2014.**
- B) A copy of a letter to the Town Council regarding proposed charter changes.**
- C) A copy of a petition to end the use of Common Core State Standards in Smithfield.**

19. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- 1. Mr. O'Brien commended Angelo Mencucci for the outstanding work he and his crew are doing. Mr. O'Brien said the gas lines are installed at the high school and McCabe. The oil tank at McCabe will soon be removed. Mr. O'Brien said Angelo is working on the installation of cameras at all of our elementary schools, and he has worked long hours to get the Stage II approved from the Department of Education.**
- 2. Mr. O'Brien referenced 2 documents in regards to the compliance of variances granted to William Winsor School from 2004 and 2008. He clarified that a decision was made by the State of RI Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review that would allow the occupancy of William Winsor School based upon variances being enforced. Mr. O'Brien said that no timetable was placed on deficient items as long as the school department continually complies with all of the variances granted. Mr. O'Brien said everything has been done and will be continued to be done to be in compliance to keep William Winsor School open.**

20. PUBLIC FORUM: None.

21. COMMITTEE COMMENTS:

Mr. Iannitelli informed the Committee that on the town council agenda for tomorrow night, the town council is trying to set up a joint meeting with the school committee to discuss the maintenance of grounds. He also suggested that the overall Stage II Report be discussed with the town council when the joint meeting is set.

22. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Closed) pursuant to RI General Laws Section 42-46-5(a):

At 8:25 p.m. Mr. Clough moved to go into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to:

A) Matters pertaining to School Security. RIGL42-46-5(a)3.

B) Matters pertaining to collective bargaining. RIGL42-46-5(a)2.

Mrs. Heenan seconded the motion. This requires an individual vote. The individual vote was 4-0 polled by Mr. Iannitelli, Chair.

Returned to open session at 10:01 p.m. Mrs. Harnois moved to seal the minutes of the Executive Session. Mr. Clough seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Clough; seconded by Mrs. Heenan. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa A. Petrone

Secretary