

**SMITHFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2016 @ 6:45 P.M.
HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
MINUTES**

Members present: Mr. Sean Clough, Chair, Mrs. Kellie-Ann Heenan, Vice-Chair, Mrs. Virginia Harnois, Secretary, Mrs. Rose Marie Cipriano, and Mr. Brent Barrows. Also present were: Mr. Robert O'Brien, Superintendent, Mrs. Bridget Morisseau, Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Lisa Cournoyer, Director of Financial Operations, Ryan Strik, Student Representative to the School Committee.

I. OPEN SESSION – 6:45 p.m.

1. Mr. Clough called the meeting to order.
2. Mr. Clough read the Emergency Evacuation and Health Notification, notified the public of the public comment sign-up sheet, and reminded the public to speak at the podium when addressing the Committee.

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:47 p.m.

Mr. Barrows moved to convene into Executive Session (Closed) pursuant to RI General Laws Section 42-46-5(a) to discuss matters pertaining to:

1. Matters pertaining to personnel in accordance with the Open Meeting Act, RI General Laws 42-46-5(a)1.
2. Matters pertaining to Collective bargaining (negotiations) in accordance with the Open Meeting Act, RI General Laws 42-46-5(a)2 pursuant to R.I. Gen Laws 42-46-5(a).

Mrs. Cipriano seconded the motion. This requires an individual vote. The individual vote was 5-0 polled by Mr. Clough, Chair.

Mrs. Cipriano moved to seal the minutes of the Executive Session of January 19, 2016. Mrs. Harnois seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Motion to adjourn executive session made by Mrs. Cipriano. Mrs. Harnois seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

III. OPEN SESSION - 7:07 p.m.

1. Mr. Clough called the open session to order and said there were no votes taken on the agenda items in executive session.
2. Mrs. Cipriano moved to seal minutes of the executive session. Mrs. Harnois seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.
3. Mrs. Cipriano moved to approve Consent Agenda Items:
 - 3.1 Minutes of the February 1, 2016 School Committee Meeting
 - 3.2 Bills:
 - A) Regular Bill invoices totaling \$326,140.37
 - B) Prepaid Checks from February 1, 2016 through February 19, 2016 totaling \$295,044.59
 - 3.3 Leaves:
 - A) Bobbie-Jo Carnevale, Pre-K Teacher, Anna McCabe, Maternity, August 29, 2016 through October 14, 2016.

3.7 Resignation:

A) Frank Varrecchione, Girls Lacrosse Coach, High School, effective immediately.

Mrs. Heenan seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

4. HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: (See attached).

5. Mrs. Harnois moved to approve the 2016-2017 Budget. Mrs. Heenan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote. Mrs. Cournoyer was present to answer questions. Mr. O'Brien told the Committee that included in the executive summary, there has been an additional AP course added. The AP course will be computer science, he added that with the addition of this course, there will now be 11 AP courses. He gave a quick review of all the AP class choices that are available to students. He said there are currently 17 EEP courses. Mr. Clough noted that the school department is asking the town for a 4% increase to the school department's budget. He made note that even with the utilization of our estimated remaining surplus, there will be tough decisions that would have to be made and brought forward.

6. Mrs. Cipriano moved to authorize the Superintendent to draft a letter to the town in regards to the school department paying for the cost of custodians for in town sports leagues contingent upon the town signing the Memorandum of Understanding. Mr. Barrows seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote. The letter as stated above, will be sent over to the town. The Memorandum of Understanding went before the town council and the town council tabled the signed MOU agreement contingent upon receipt of a letter from the school department saying the school department would cover the costs of custodians for in town sports leagues. At the next school committee meeting, the committee will review and possibly update or tweak the list of designated in town leagues versus those that are designated as out of town organizations.

7. COMMUNICATIONS: None.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. O'Brien told the Committee that a meeting with the Commissioner from the Department of Education that had been scheduled and cancelled has been rescheduled to March 29th at 3:30 p.m. at the High School. The meeting will be about The School Empowerment Act to be enacted in the General Assembly that the Commissioner is putting forward.

9. PUBLIC FORUM: None.

10. COMMITTEE COMMENTS: None.

At 7:20 p.m., motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Barrows; seconded by Mrs. Cipriano. The motion to adjourn passed with a 5-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Petrone
Secretary

School Committee Meeting

22 February 2016

Student Representative Report

Ryan Strik ~ Student Representative to the School Committee

1. I would like to start my report by reintroducing Joe Baxter, who is sitting in the audience. He will be succeeding me as Student Representative to the School Committee in one month, as the next meeting will be my final meeting in this chair.
2. Smithfield Men's basketball begins their playoff run tonight, at home against North Kingstown at 7pm. Because of this, most of you must have had trouble parking as a large crowd is expected to cheer on the Sentinels. Currently, the Sentinels sit in 3rd place behind LaSalle and Hendricken, as North Kingstown sit in 9th place.
3. A sports recap for you here:
 - a. Boys hockey currently sit 4th out of 5 teams in their division, with a record of 7-6. They broke their .500 record with a win this past Saturday against the Cranston East/West Co-Op.
 - b. The Girls basketball season came to an unfortunate end last week with a 48-50 loss on a buzzer beater 3 pointer to Cranston West. Their end of season placement puts them at 35th in the state.
 - c. Boys swimming placed 7th in the state, and Girls placed 13th at their separate State meets this past Saturday.
4. Bracelets for the Daniel R. DiChiara scholarship fund are still on sale from the Senior Class government. As vice-president, I recently had the opportunity to meet with Daniel's mother and father. The experience was both gratifying and humbling. In our short but meaningful conversation, she thanked us for honoring Daniel and carrying on his memory. This past weekend, I came across a small quote by Irving Berlin. It read: "The song has ended, but the melody lingers on". It is to carry on Dan's lasting impact on life that I mention this at these meetings, and continue to distribute these bracelets. I am proud to say that we have collected over \$950 in donations in just one month. If anyone would like to purchase one of these bracelets, or simply make a donation, I will have them at the next school committee meeting, or on me at all times throughout the day.