

SMITHFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2016 @ 7:00 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. Eileen Crudele, Director of Special Education; Ronald Cascione, Esq. School Committee/School Department Attorney; and Ryan Strik, Student Representative to the School Committee. Mr. Clough called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

1. 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.
2. Mrs. Harnois moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items:
  - 2.1 Minutes of the February 22, 2016 School Committee Meeting
  - 2.2 Bills:
    - A) Regular Bill invoices totaling \$192,810.19
    - B) Prepaid Checks from February 22, 2016 through March 4, 2016 totaling \$397,431.94
  - 2.3 Leaves:
    - A) Theresa Bean, Administrative Assistant, Administration Office, Medical Leave, March 1, 2016 through March 15, 2016.
    - B) Lisa Petrone, Administrative Assistant, Administration Office, Medical Leave, March 14, 2016 through May 6, 2016.
  - 2.4 Appointments:
    - A) Amber Polak, Girls Lacrosse Coach, High School, Spring Season 2016.

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

3. **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:** (See attached.)  
The committee thanked Ryan Strik for his service as student representative and wished him well in the future.
4. There was a presentation of the Rhode Island Early Learning and Development Standards (RIELDS) Certificates to students.

Mr. O'Brien said that each year we present the RIELDS (RI's Early Learning and Development Standards) Certifications from the Dept. of Education. Mr. O'Brien said that he would also like to acknowledge the high school's Family Consumer Science teachers, Karen DiSano, Mary Richards, and Francine Cassano for continuing to make this program a success. Mrs. DiSano presented the certificates.

Mr. O'Brien and the Committee congratulated the following students who were in receipt of the certificates:

Zoe Colavecchio, Taylor Deming, Alyssa DeSimone, Kathryn Deus, Michaela Dolan, Jade Dumoulin, Aimee Elliott, Hope Gentile, Kaitlyn Kibbe, Chloe Olean, Haley Stamp, Kayla Sanderson, Jessica Siddall, and Rachel Siddall.

5. Mr. Barrows moved that the Committee approve to go out to bid for equipment for the school lunch program. Mrs. Cipriano seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mr. O'Brien said that a list of the items requested was included in the school committee packets. The Committee discussed the items on the list.

6. Mrs. Cipriano moved that the Committee discuss and act upon sending a letter to the town council requesting they pay for an Educational Consultant not to exceed \$35,000.00. Mrs. Heenan seconded that motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mr. O'Brien said that he had a meeting with Randy Rossi, Dennis Finlay, and Joe DaSilva from RIDE to find out if we needed to hire an Educational Facilities Consultant if we wanted to build or add on to our elementary schools. Mr. O'Brien said that Mr. DaSilva told them that RIDE would want a report from an Educational Consultant if they were going to approve a major construction project. Mr. O'Brien said that Mr. DaSilva also shared the names of several Educational Consultants if we were to go out to bid for one. Mr. O'Brien said that The Committee needs to send a letter to the Town Council requesting that they pay the cost to hire an Educational Consultant. He said that if the council agrees to pay for the consultant, we could then go out to bid. The Committee discussed RIDE's recommendation and the hiring of an educational consultant.

7. The Committee discussed the use of buildings fees, policy and protocol. Mr. O'Brien said that a copy of the use of buildings policy that includes the fee structure for different spaces in the schools was included in the school committee packets. Mr. O'Brien said that a copy of an old lease agreement for the YMCA was also included in the school committee packets and that the YMCA would like to lease space at Old County Road starting next year. The Committee discussed the lease to the YMCA. Ms. Shauna Lewis from the YMCA was present at the meeting and spoke to the Committee about the YMCA's leasing space at Old County Road School. Mrs. Harnois moved to approve a charge \$250 per week for the YMCA's use of Old County Road Elementary School. Mrs. Cipriano seconded the motion. The committee further discussed the YMCA lease. Mrs. Harnois moved to withdraw her motion to approve a charge of \$250 per week for the YMCA's use of Old County Road Elementary School, and Mrs. Cipriano moved to withdraw her second. Mr. Clough said that the use of buildings fees, policy, protocol and the YMCA lease would be addressed at the next meeting.

Public Comment: Mr. Daniel Kelley

8. Mrs. Cipriano moved to ratify the Custodian/Maintenance Employee Contract. Mr. Barrows seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mr. O'Brien said that custodians and maintenance workers in the district do an outstanding job and deserve a raise. He said that a copy of the fiscal impact statement was included in

the school committee packets, which includes the cost over the three years. He said that the contract and the fiscal impact statement will be posted on the district's website. Mr. O'Brien said that he wanted to thank Lisa Petrone for the time she spent updating this contract. He said that the old contract was only accessible to us in a PDF format, and it did not have a Table of Contents. He said that the old contract was converted to a Word format, and a Table of Contents was added.

9. The Committee discussed the Administrative Review of the USDA School Meal Programs.

Mr. O'Brien said that the Department of Education reviewed our school lunch program. He said that he was pleased to announce that the review had no findings. Mr. O'Brien thanked Jessie MacDonald and Lisa Cournoyer for their outstanding work. He said that the review team was in our district for three days and were constantly asking for information on the lunch program. Mr. O'Brien said that the lead person from RIDE stopped by his office to let him know how impressed he was with Jessie and Lisa and that he has been in many districts and Smithfield's review was the quickest and an easy one to do because everything was so organized.

10. Mr. Barrows moved to approve the school calendar for the 2016-2017 school year. Mrs. Cipriano seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote. The Committee discussed the school calendar and agreed that school committee meeting dates should be noted on the calendar.

**11. COMMUNICATIONS: None**

**12. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

A) Mr. O'Brien congratulated Dan Kelley on being elected President-Elect for the National Association of Secondary School Principals at last week's NASSP conference. He said that Dan will have the opportunity to learn about the challenges and successes that principals around the country are facing. He will be an advocate for school leaders, teachers and students when he meets with local, state and federal leaders across the country. Mr. O'Brien said that this is a tremendous opportunity that will put a positive light on Smithfield High School, the School Department, and the Town. He said that having a voice on the National stage influencing policy decisions is a benefit for all of us. Mr. O'Brien said that Dan Kelley will begin his term as President-Elect on July 1, 2016 and continue through June 30, 2017. He will continue his role as principal. He said that on July 1, 2017, he will begin a one-year term as President of NASSP, and this will require a one year leave of absence. Mr. O'Brien said that he and Dan are still working out the details of the leave and will have a plan for the School Committee soon.

B) Mr. O'Brien said that RIDE will be making a presentation on the diploma system changes at 6:00 pm on Monday, March 21, 2016 in the high school auditorium. He asked that the Committee change the start time of the Monday, March 21, 2016 school committee meeting to 7:30 pm so that the Committee would be able to attend the RIDE presentation.

C) Mr. O'Brien said that on Wednesday, April 6, 2016 the Rhode Island Supreme Court will be in session at the high school from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm. Mr. O'Brien said that it is an honor to have the Supreme Court in session at Smithfield High School.

### **13. PUBLIC FORUM**

### **14. COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

Mrs. Heenan commented on proposed significant changes to the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Mr. Clough commented that the Sports Advisory Commission is seeking a school committee member to serve. Mr. Barrows said that he would serve on the Sports Advisory Commission.

At 8:20 pm, motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Cipriano, seconded by Mrs. Heenan. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Boscio  
Interim Secretary

Students Representative Report  
School Committee Meeting: 7 March 2016  
Student Rep: Ryan Strik

1. The SHS Music Department's Production of Cinderella is coming this weekend. The shows are Friday March 11th at 5, Saturday March 12th at 7, and Sunday March 13th at 2.
2. There will be a Spring Dance on Friday April 1st from 7-9pm, all students are encouraged to attend.
3. The Smithfield High School Men's Basketball team has now reached the final four in the RIIL State Tournament. This has been a charge that is almost 15 years in the making. The boys will face LaSalle on Saturday March 12th at 6pm in the Ryan Center at URI.
4. Bracelets commemorating the late Dan Diciara are still on sale for \$2 from any Senior Class Officer. I am proud to say that we have raised over \$1000 for the Daniel R Diciara scholarship fund.
5. March Madness Spirit Week will be at the end of this month. The Days are:

Monday 3/28	Fashion Disaster Day
Tuesday 3/29	Character Day
Wednesday 3/30	Twin Day
Thursday 3/31	America Day - Wear Red, White and Blue
Friday 4/1	Green & Gold Day
6. As I mentioned at the last meeting, this will be my final evening as Student Representative. I would like to end my report tonight by thanking the Committee for allowing me this opportunity for the past year and a half, as well as Mr. Decurtis, the SHS social studies teacher involved in this program, for letting me serve in this position. So, thank you very much.