

SMITHFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 11, 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; Ms. Mary Ann Carroll, School Committee/School Department Attorney; and Joseph Baxter, 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. Cipriano moved to approve the Consent Agenda items:
  - 2.1 Approval of the Minutes of the March 7, 2016 School Committee Meeting
  - 2.2 Approval of Bills:
    - B) Regular Prepaid Checks from March 7, 2016 to April 8, 2016 totaling \$747,805.57
    - C) Lunch Bills totaling \$41,771.50
  - 2.3 Approval of Appointments:
    - A) Justin Palazzo, Boys Lacrosse Coach, Spring Season 2016
    - B) Steven Quattrini, Baseball Coach, Spring Season 2016
  - 2.4 Approval of Resignations:
    - A) Janet Ciampanelli, Grade 1 teacher at Anna McCabe Elementary School, effective May 1, 2016.

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

Mrs. Harnois moved to approve the Consent Agenda item:

- 2.2 Approval of Bills:
  - A) Bill invoices totaling \$243,659.38

The Committee discussed charge differentials in ice time for boys and girls hockey. Mrs. Heenan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

**3. HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT (See Attached).**

4. There was a discussion and demonstration on Durham Bus Tracker. Stephen Schmuck and Fran Adamski from Durham School Services were present to discuss and demonstrate a new app for parents to track their child on the school bus and answered questions from the Committee. The Committee thanked Durham for bringing Bus Tracker to Smithfield. Mr. O'Brien and the Committee also thanked Durham for their donation of prom dresses to the community.

5. Mrs. Cipriano moved that the changes to the Use of School Facilities Policy be approved. Mrs. Harnois seconded the motion.

Mr. O'Brien said that at the last school committee meeting some changes to the district's use of facilities policy were discussed. He said that the suggested changes were incorporated into the policy and that a revised policy was included in the school committee packets, as well as a comparison sheet of fees charged in other districts.

Mrs. Cipriano moved to amend the original motion to approve the Use of School Facilities Policy with the following changes: increase the fee for the high school auditorium for-profit rate to \$1,000.00 per day, an increase of \$30.00 to each of the four filing fees, and the reinforcement of the **No Smoking Policy** under General Regulations to include electronic vaporizer cigarettes. Mr. Barrows seconded the motion to amend the original motion. The motion to amend passed with a 5-0 vote.

The motion to adopt the entire Use of Facilities policy as amended passed with a 5-0 vote.  
Public Comment: Alex Brown

6. Mrs. Harnois moved that the lease agreement for the YMCA be approved. Mrs. Heenan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mr. O'Brien said that the suggested changes that the Committee had from the last school committee meeting have been incorporated into the lease agreement and that a copy with the suggested changes was included in the school committee packets. Mr. O'Brien said that he would like to use some of the money to pay for custodial fees for PTO/PTA events on the weekends. He said that the money raised from the PTO/PTA events is for our students, and that if we are covering the cost for recreational sports, we should also cover the cost for PTO/PTA events.

7. Mrs. Harnois moved that the School Construction Bond Change Order Number 12 be approved in the amount of \$289,370. Mrs. Heenan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mr. O'Brien said that a copy of a proposed change order from Ahlborg Construction Corporation was included in the school committee packets. He said that this change order would add all new LED lighting to Anna McCabe Elementary School, as well as new acoustical ceiling tiles. Mr. O'Brien said that the original plan for McCabe was to re-install existing lights after the abatement and that new ceiling tiles would have been installed in some parts of the building. He said that this change order allows us to add LED and new

ceiling tiles throughout the entire school. Mr. O'Brien said that we would get \$28,912.00 in rebates from National Grid, 39% housing aid reimbursement, as well as 50% to 60% reduction in electricity cost at McCabe. He said that at 50%, that would be a savings of \$14,409.00 at McCabe and that the energy savings would pay for the lights in only a few years. Mr. Clough said that this change order has already been approved by the Town Council because it had already been on their Agenda. He said that our meeting for the previous day had been canceled due to snow and time was of the essence.

## **8. COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A) A copy of the revised 2016-2017 school calendar with the School Committee meeting dates circled.
- B) A copy of an Ethics training handout provided by the town.

## **9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

1. Mr. O'Brien said that he met with PTO and PTA presidents to let them know that he was working on a guidebook for special events sponsored by an organization or the school. He said that he had asked the Interlocal Trust to help him develop the guidebook and rules that he would have the school committee approve. Mr. O'Brien said that he had informed the PTO presidents that no special events should take place where alcohol is being served. He said that he received an e-mail informing him that the school department and the PTOs/PTAs **would** have "sponsorship liability" if a student event is held where alcohol is being served and that essentially, everyone involved in the "stream of commerce to the marketplace" is potentially liable. Mr. O'Brien said the guidebook would also include other events that are prohibited. He said that the guidebook he was looking at as a model has prohibited events in red, events that would need a risk management questionnaire filled out and approved by the district in yellow, and all other events that are allowed would be in green.
2. Mr. O'Brien said that he would like to commend and thank Angelo Mencucci for his work to get a water main break at Gallagher Middle School fixed over the Easter weekend. He said that a timeline for the repair on Saturday and Sunday, March 26 and 27, 2016. Mr. O'Brien said that this required Angelo to be at Gallagher Middle School most of the days over Easter weekend. He said that if the repair had not been done over the weekend, Gallagher Middle School would have had to have been closed on the following Monday and Tuesday. Mr. O'Brien said that a copy of the invoice in the amount of \$17,797.00 from Boyle & Fogarty Construction was included in the school committee packets and that payment will have to come from capital.
3. Mr. O'Brien said that he would like to remind everyone that there will be a joint meeting with the Town Council on Monday, April 25, 2016, at 6:00 pm in the high school media center prior to the school committee meeting.
4. Mr. O'Brien said that he would like to thank Collen Poyton and Eileen Crudele for writing and getting a \$10,000 Pre-school Grant and a \$5,000 Rising Star Grant. Eileen

Crudele told the Committee that the Pre-School will be presenting at the end of May and that this is all part of applying to Bright Stars, which is a rating system used for quality pre-school programs.

5. Mr. O'Brien said that repair of the high school track will begin on June 1, 2016 and that the track will be closed for the month of June. He said that the work has been delayed because of the temperatures. Mr. O'Brien said that the condition of the track is worse than last year and that the work is more involved, but the price will be the same. Mr. O'Brien said that some patch work would be done right away on the track so that it could be used for practice.

**10. PUBLIC FORUM: None.**

**11. COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

Committee comments made by Mrs. Harnois and Mrs. Cipriano regarding the recent concerts at LaPerche and McCabe.

Committee comments made by Mrs. Cipriano and Mrs. Harnois on the Northern Rhode Island Collaborative dinner.

Committee comment by Mrs. Cipriano on the recent RIDE sessions with Commissioner Wagner.

At 8:40 pm, motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Harnois, seconded by Mrs. Cipriano. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Boscio  
Interim Secretary

## School Committee Meeting - April 11, 2016

### Student Representative Report

1. Good Evening everyone, I know that Ryan introduced me at the last meeting, but just to repeat: My name is Joe Baxter, and I am currently a Junior. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone, Ryan, and the Committee for this great opportunity, I am looking forward to it!
2. A couple weeks ago was spirit week at SHS featuring staple dress up days including character day, twin day, fashion disaster day, a new fan favorite: red white and blue day, and of course green and gold day. Many students participated and enjoyed many spirit week activities. Towards the beginning of the week, the Sentinels cheered our Unified Basketball on to success as they took the win. A great time was had by all. Of course the week was capped off with a student faculty basketball game, where the students eventually caught up to the teachers and earned a narrow victory. It was a great game, and the students were out for revenge after being beaten pretty badly by the faculty earlier in the year.
3. Sentinels Spring Sports teams are gearing up for their first games and meets. Players and coaches are preparing for their competitive schedules to begin soon. Girls Softball just won, giving them 2 wins so far, promising season
4. Lastly, SHS hosted the Supreme Court this past Wednesday. It was a great day where around 200 students involved in social studies and law classes heard the court's oral arguments for the day. Afterwards there was a Q&A and lunch with the justices and students really enjoyed that. Students gained a lot of insight and advice from RI's top legal minds.
5. Questions