

SMITHFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 25, 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; Mrs. Lisa Cournoyer, Director of Financial Operations, Benjamin Scungio, Esq., School Committee/School Department Attorney; Mr. Clough called the meeting to order at 7:02 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.

At this time, Item Nos. 4 and 5 were moved to before the Consent Agenda items.

2. Mrs. Cipriano moved to approve the Consent Agenda items:
 - 2.1 Approval of the Minutes of the April 11, 2016 School Committee Meeting
 - 2.2 Approval of Bills:
 - A) Bill invoices totaling \$401,967.46
 - B) Regular Prepaid Checks from April 11, 2016 to April 22, 2016 totaling \$44,072.46
 - C) Lunch bills totaling \$91,822.62
 - 2.3 Approval of Appointments:
 - A) Lee Ann Brown, Boys' Head Track Coach, Spring Season 2016

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

3. HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: None

4. The 2016 Science Olympiad participants were recognized. Mr. O'Brien said that students from Gallagher Middle School and Smithfield High School participated in the 2016 Science Olympiad. He said that both teams finished fourth in the state out of 22 districts that participated. Mr. O'Brien congratulated both teams and their coaches, Mrs. Kathleen Babcock, Mr. John Leonard, Mr. Jeff Altomari, Ms. Jane Ramos, and Ms. Tamara McCurdy, for their outstanding work. He said that the students worked after school for many weeks preparing for the event and that he attended the Science Olympiad with his grandson and was very impressed with the depth of science knowledge the students utilized for each event. Mr. O'Brien said that he wanted to personally thank the coaches and parents who volunteered to help our students. Some of the students were present and demonstrated their science projects to the Committee.

5. The 2016 Partnership Award was presented to Kati Machtley, Director of the Women's Summit at Bryant University.

Mr. O'Brien said that each year Katie invites ten young women from our high school to attend the Women's Summit, as well as three staff members. He said that The Women's Summit has been sold out each year, but that Katie makes sure to always save room for ten of our high school students. Mr. O'Brien said that the young women who attend the conference talk about how the speakers inspired them and that last year the top ten students at our high school were young women. He thanked Katie Machtley for making a difference in the lives of young women. Some of the women who have attended the Women's Summit were present to tell Katie Machtley about their experience.

At this time, there was a ten-minute recess for coffee and pastry.

6. The Committee discussed a use of facility request by St. Philip School. Mr. O'Brien said that St. Philip School has requested to use the high school auditorium and the hallway outside of the auditorium as a concession area on June 1st, 2nd, and 3rd from 3:00 pm to 11:00 pm for a musical presentation of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat". Ms. Melissa Robert from St. Philip School was present to answer questions from the Committee. Melissa Robert told the Committee that the dates requested will actually be June 2, 3, and 4.

Mr. Barrows moved to approve a use of facility request by St. Philip School, provided there is no conflict with the requested dates. Mrs. Cipriano seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

7. Mrs. Harnois moved that the Gun Control Resolution be discussed and acted upon.

Mr. O'Brien said that a copy of the resolution was included in the school committee packets. The Committee discussed the Resolution.

Mrs. Cipriano seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-2 vote (Mr. Clough and Mr. Barrows voting nay).

Public Comment: Ms. Kim Ziegelmeyer spoke in support of the Gun Control Resolution.

8. Mr. Barrows moved that a lawn mower be transferred to the Town.

Mr. O'Brien said that we no longer need the lawn mower now that the Town is maintaining our fields and cutting the grass. He said that with the town taking over the grounds, we now have a savings this year that will be more than the value of the mower.

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

9. **COMMUNICATIONS: None**

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. O'Brien said that Ms. Christine DePetrillo, a teacher at Old County Road Elementary School, wrote and received a \$9,000.00 Centennial Community Grant through the Rhode Island Foundation titled Woodland Whispering Project.

11. PUBLIC FORUM: None

12. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Mrs. Cipriano commented on the recent Teaching and Learning Night held at the four elementary schools.

At 8:10 pm, motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Heenan, seconded by Mrs. Cipriano. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Boscio
Interim Secretary