

**SMITHFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 01, 2016 @ 6:30 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, Mrs. Eileen Crudele, Director of Special Education, Benjamin Scungio, Esq. School Committee/School Department Attorney. Absent Joseph Baxter, Representative to the School Committee. Mr. Clough called the meeting to order at 6:30 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. At 6:36 p.m. Mrs. Cipriano moved to convene into Executive Session to discuss: Legal advice regarding investigative proceedings concerning allegations of civil misconduct: Student ineligibility audit. R.I. Gen Laws 42-46-5(a)(6). Mrs. Heenan seconded the motion. This requires an individual vote. The individual vote was 5-0 polled by Mr. Clough, Chair.

Returned to open session at 7:25 p.m. Mr. Clough reported that there were no votes taken in executive session.

Mrs. Cipriano moved to accept the Executive Summary report regarding the audit of student ineligibility to participate in the high school sports program. Mrs. Harnois seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mrs. Harnois moved to seal the minutes of the Executive Session. Mrs. Heenan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mrs. Cipriano moved to approve and keep the Executive Session minutes of August 1, 2016 closed pursuant to R.I. Gen Laws §§ 42-46-4 and 5. Mrs. Harnois seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Clough announced that Consent Agenda Item 3.1 (A) Approval of the Minutes of the July 20, 2016 School Committee Meeting will be removed from the Consent Agenda Items.

3. Mrs. Cipriano moved to approve Consent Agenda Items:

3.2 Bills

A) Regular Bill invoices:

2015-2016	\$45,318.65
2016-2017	\$83,937.29
For a total of:	\$129,255.94

B) Prepaid Checks from July 20, 2016 through July 26, 2016 totaling \$30,196.65

C) Lunch Bills totaling \$35,809.97

3.3 Appointments

- A) Rosemarie Cabral, .5 Special Education Teacher, High School, 2016-2017 School Year.
- B) Rosemarie Cabral, Chairperson, Special Education, High School 2016-2017 School Year.

3.4 Resignations:

- A) William Grimley, Night Custodian, Twenty-Five years of Service, effective September 30, 2016.

3.5 Homeschooling:

K.F., S.F., C.D., D.C., and E.C. approved for homeschooling.

3.6 Leaves

- A) Amanda Grundel, Personal Leave, one-year for 2016-2017 School Year.
- B) Tomas Gruczka, Family Medical, September 15, 2016 through October 14, 2016.

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

Mrs. Cipriano moved to approve Consent Agenda Item:

- 3.1 A) Minutes of the July 20, 2016 School Committee Meeting.

Mr. Barrows seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote. Mrs. Heenan and Mrs. Harnois abstained from the vote because they were not present at the School Committee Meeting of July 20, 2016.

4. HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

A student representative was not present at the meeting.

- 5. Mr. Barrows moved to approve that the Superintendent move forward with the Attorney's recommendations listed in the Executive Summary Audit Report (Section VI #1-4). Mrs. Cipriano seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.
Mr. Clough explained the background on the audit. He reviewed the process, findings, conclusions and recommendations from the Executive Summary Report. Mr. Clough concluded that the recommendations from the report will go to the Superintendent and Administrators, who will in return present options to the school committee at the next school committee meeting.
- 6. Mrs. Harnois moved that the fall coaches for the 2016-2017 School Year, pending receipt of required paperwork be approved. Mrs. Heenan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote. Mr. Clough clarified that the approval is for all fall coaches for the 2016-2017 School Year, to include the Athletic & Co-Athletic Director appointments.
- 7. The Committee had a discussion on the shared Grant Writer Program that the town has. Mr. O'Brien informed the Committee that the grant writer's contract expired in June and was not renewed. He added that the grant writer worked with the high school principal and applied for a grant that the district was not awarded. The grant writer had also applied for another grant to build the pre-school playground at McCabe, but as of the current date RIDE has not notified the district of a grant award.

8. COMMUNICATIONS: None

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

1. Mr. O'Brien updated the Committee on the RI Department of Education steps and processes as it pertains to acquiring an Educational Consultant for the District's Elementary School Reconfiguration.
2. Mr. O'Brien told the Committee about two large cement units that the school department has received from the town. He said the units are on the high school field and one will be for storage, and the other is intended to store equipment. The units came from Cox, and a Crane Company donated their services to deliver the units.

10. PUBLIC FORUM: None.

11. COMMITTEE COMMENT:

- Mrs. Harnois and Mrs. Cipriano commented on the work being done to the high school gym, they thanked Mr. Mencucci for overseeing the project.
- Mrs. Cipriano questioned if the Executive Summary report of the sports audit will be made available to the public, and questioned if the public will be able to make suggestions to the process. Mr. Scungio clarified that the Executive Summary will be available for the public, and the public is welcome to make suggestions.
- Mr. Clough expressed his frustration and disappointment with all of RIDE's steps and processes (Stage I & Stage II) that are necessary in order to obtain an Educational Consultant for the district. He added taxpayer dollars are being spent on the long process that RIDE currently has in place.
- Mrs. Heenan suggested the possibility of SHS Art classes decorating the concrete buildings that are located on the high school field.

At 7:55 p.m. Motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Harnois; seconded by Mrs. Heenan. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Petrone
Secretary