

**SMITHFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2017 @ 7:00 P.M.  
HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER  
MINUTES**

Members present: Mr. Sean Clough, Chair; Mr. Brent Barrows, Vice-Chair; Mrs. Virginia Harnois, Secretary; Mrs. Rose Marie Cipriano, and Mrs. Cheryl Hirst-Hodgins. 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; and Benjamin Scungio, Esq., School Committee/School Department Attorney. 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 Minutes
    - A) Approval of Minutes of the January 17, 2017 School Committee Meeting
  - 2.2 Bills
    - A) Regular Bill invoices totaling \$120,042.09
    - B) Prepaid Checks from January 17, 2017 through February 3, 2017 totaling \$343,723.81
  - 2.3 Leaves
    - A) Julia Tanski, Grade 3 teacher, William Winsor, Maternity, April 3, 2017 through the end of the 2016-2017 School Year.
    - B) Heather Ferreira, Special Education teacher, LaPerche, Maternity, May 29, 2017 through November 9, 2017.
    - C) Kenneth Hill, Custodian, High School, Parental, March 6, 2017 through April 29, 2017.
    - D) Cliver Calderon, Custodian, OCRS, Medical, January 26, 2017 through February 21, 2017.
    - E) Debra Calderon, Paraprofessional, McCabe, Family Medical, Intermittent leave from January 26, 2017 through February 21, 2017.
  - 2.4 Resignations
    - A) Christopher Branch, Football Coach, High School, effective immediately.
    - B) James Cook, Assistant Football Coach, High School, effective immediately.
    - C) Michael Montella, Assistant Football Coach, High School, effective immediately.
    - D) Anthony Sasso, Assistant Football Coach, High School, effective immediately.
    - E) Christina Arthur, Special Education teacher, Greenville House, effective February 24, 2017.
    - F) Andrea Pleau, Social Studies teacher, Middle School, effective immediately.
    - G) Amanda Grundel, Reading teacher, Middle School, effective immediately.

## 2.5 Homeschooling:

A.B, J.B, L.B, T.B., and H.D. approved for homeschooling.

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

### 3. HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Joseph Baxter, the student representative, reported:

- Thanked Quinn Judge for filling in at the previous school committee meeting.
- Second semester is underway at the high school.
- The Student Council will be running an event each week of March, with most being on Friday nights.
- One of the events will be Mr. Sentinel, which will be put on by the Senior Class. Dates and times will follow.
- Updates to Sports rankings: Basketball: Boys are 25<sup>th</sup> and Girls are 21<sup>st</sup>; Hockey: Boys' are 1<sup>st</sup> in their division and Girls' are 6<sup>th</sup> in their division; and Wrestling is 2<sup>nd</sup> in their division.

4. There was a presentation by high school student Chandler Harkins regarding his Eagle Scout Project.

Mr. O'Brien said that Chandler Harkins had put together first aid kits to support the elementary schools. Chandler Harkins presented his project to the Committee, and the Committee congratulated him for a job well done and thanked him for supporting the schools.

5. There was a presentation on PSATs and SATs from the high school. Mr. Kelley spoke to the Committee about the state tests, and introduced Dena Johnson from College Board, who gave a presentation on PSATs and SATs. Mr. Kelley answered questions from the Committee.

6. There was a presentation by NESDEC (New England School Development Council) consultant services for the search for a new Superintendent. Mr. Arthur Bettencourt from NESDEC was present and gave a presentation on the services they provide as well as answered questions from the Committee.

7. Mr. Barrows moved to approve a new dishwasher for Old County Road School. Mrs. Cipriano seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Ms. Donna Humphries from Aramark was present to discuss some options and answered questions from the Committee. The Committee discussed the three options presented. Mrs. Hirst-Hodgins moved to accept Option 3, leasing a new dishwasher. Mrs. Cipriano seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

8. There was an Audit Presentation for the 2015-2016 School Year. Mr. Civetti of Robert J. Civetti, CPA, Accounting & Tax Preparation Services was present to give the report and answered questions from the Committee.

9. Mrs. Harnois moved that Athletic Director Bruce Ewart be given a 5% raise. Mr. Barrows seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote (Mrs. Cipriano voting nay).

Mr. O'Brien said that Athletic Director Bruce Ewart did not get a raise last year and is the lowest paid athletic director in the state. He said that all coaches received a 5% raise this year.

10. Mr. Barrows moved that the 2016-2017 budget line item changes be approved. Mrs. Cipriano seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.  
Mr. O'Brien said that a copy of the line item changes and a revised budget were included in the school committee packets. Mrs. Cournoyer reviewed the budget line item changes and answered questions from the Committee.
11. Mrs. Cipriano moved to award the bid for the chair lift at the Administration Building to Garaventa USA, Inc. in the amount of \$64,314.79. Mrs. Hirst-Hodgins seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.  
Mr. O'Brien said that a chair lift is needed at the administration building to comply with ADA requirements. He said that the Special Education Director and child find screening space are located on the second floor.
12. Mr. Barrows moved to approve the Program of Studies for the high school. Mrs. Cipriano seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.  
Mr. O'Brien said that the Program of Studies was included in the school committee packets. Mr. Kelley discussed course changes to the Program of Studies and answered questions from the Committee.

**13. COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A) A copy of upcoming meetings for contract negotiations and budget hearings.
- B) A press release announcing that Anna McCabe Preschool has earned National Accreditation from NAEYC. (National Association for the Education of Young Children).

**14. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

- A) Mr. O'Brien said that the Educational Vision Workshop with Dr. Frank Locker was scheduled for February 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.

**15. PUBLIC FORUM**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1. Luigi Bottella	Football
2. Kathryn Cortes	Football

**16. COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Mrs. Cipriano	Rhode Island Trust Recognition Plaque

**17. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** (Closed) pursuant to RI General Laws Section 42-46-5(a):

At 9:00 p.m., Mrs. Cipriano moved to convene into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to Collective bargaining (negotiations) in accordance with the Open Meeting Act, RI General Laws 42-46-5(a)2.

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

Returned to open session at 9:35 p.m. Motion to adjourn Executive Session made by Mrs. Cipriano. Mrs. Harnois seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

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

Motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Cipriano; seconded by Mrs. Harnois. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Boscio  
Interim Secretary