

Regional Board of Superintendents' Meeting

Northern Rhode Island Collaborative

Main Office

2352 Mendon Road

Cumberland, RI 02864

Minutes

A regular meeting of the Regional Board of Superintendents was held at the Main Office, 2352 Mendon Road, Cumberland, RI 02864, on **Tuesday, February 1, 2005**. The meeting was called to order at 1:19 p.m. by Mr. Joseph Nasif, Chairman.

In addition to Mr. Nasif, the following board members were present: Ms. Hanley, Ms. Iacovelli, Mr. O'Brien, Dr. Ottoviano, Dr. Tindall-Gibson, and Dr. VonVillas, as well as, Julian E. MacDonnell, Jr., Executive Director. Guest: Attorney Benjamin Scungio.

Mr. Nasif entertained a motion to approve today's agenda, which was moved by Ms. Hanley and seconded by Mr. O'Brien, carried by all.

Routine Matters:

1.0 The Minutes of the Meeting of January 4, 2005

<u>Moved:</u>	Ms. Iacovelli	<u>Approved:</u>	Ms. Hanley
<u>Seconded:</u>	Mr. Nasif		Mr. O'Brien
			Dr. Ottoviano
			Dr. Tindall-Gibson
			Dr. VonVillas

2.0 Bills for the month of January 2005

<u>Moved:</u>	Dr. VonVillas	<u>Approved:</u>	Ms. Hanley
<u>Seconded:</u>	Ms. Iacovelli		Mr. Nasif
			Mr. O'Brien
			Dr. Ottoviano
			Dr. Tindall-Gibson

Mr. Nasif welcomed Dr. John Tindall-Gibson, the new Superintendent in Lincoln, to the Board meeting.

Executive Session:

The Board agreed to take Executive Session out of order.

Communications and Reports:

3.0 Correspondence from Dr. Donna Ottoviano

The Executive Director reported that a thank you note was received from Dr. Ottoviano.

4.0 Request for Leave of Absence - Sandra Draine, IA

The Executive Director recommended the Board approve the request for a leave of absence for Sandra Draine, Instructional Assistant, for the remainder of the school year 2004-05.

<u>Moved:</u>	Dr. VonVillas	<u>Approved:</u>	Ms. Hanley
<u>Seconded:</u>	Dr. Ottoviano		Ms. Iacovelli
			Mr. Nasif
			Mr. O'Brien
			Dr. Tindall-Gibson

Appointments:

5.0 Nothing to report.

New Business:

6.0 Election of Officers – Nominations

The Executive Director entertained nominations for the positions of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the NRIC Regional Board of Superintendents. Mr. Nasif will be completing his term as Chair and will be retiring in June 2005. The position of Vice Chairman was vacated by Rick Scherza, former North Smithfield Superintendent.

Dr. VonVillas motioned to nominate Mr. Bob O'Brien as Chair, which was seconded by Dr. Ottoviano, carried by all.

<u>Moved:</u>	Dr. VonVillas	<u>Approved:</u>	Ms. Hanley
<u>Seconded:</u>	Dr. Ottoviano		Ms. Iacovelli
			Mr. Nasif
			Mr. O'Brien
			Dr. Tindall-Gibson

Mr. O'Brien motioned to nominate Dr. Barbara VonVillas as Vice-Chairman, which was seconded by Dr. Ottoviano, carried by all.

<u>Moved:</u>	Mr. O'Brien	<u>Approved:</u>	Ms. Hanley
<u>Seconded:</u>	Dr. Ottoviano		Ms. Iacovelli
			Mr. Nasif
			Dr. Tindall-Gibson
			Dr. VonVillas

7.0 March Board Meeting Date

The Executive Director reported that he and Dr. Fricklas will be the presenters at a conference on March 1, 2005 and requests the Board’s approval to reschedule the March 1st Board Meeting date to March 8, 2005.

8.0 Assistant Director’s Salary

The Executive Director reported that Dr. Robert Fricklas has completed his first year as Assistant Director of the Northern Rhode Island Collaborative. Mr. MacDonnell advised that Dr. Fricklas has completed all of his goals and objectives and is recommending that his work be rewarded with a salary increase of 4%. Dr. Fricklas’ current salary is \$87,000 and his recommended salary is \$90,480.

Discussion ensued regarding the 3.4% increase awarded to NRIC Union & non-Union members; the 5% increase awarded to Mr. Labonte, Business Manager, and the salaries of district Special Education Directors.

Dr. VonVillas motioned to approve the 4% salary increase to Dr. Robert Fricklas, which was seconded by Ms. Hanley.

Upon further discussion, it was suggested that Mr. MacDonnell obtain a listing of the current salaries of the district Special Education Directors in order to justify the 4% salary increase. Dr. VonVillas motioned to table this matter until the March 8th meeting whereby the salary increase would be made retroactive to Dr. Fricklas’ anniversary date.

<u>Moved:</u>	Dr. VonVillas	<u>Approved:</u>	Ms. Hanley
<u>Seconded:</u>	Dr. Ottoviano		Ms. Iacovelli
			Mr. Nasif
			Mr. O’Brien
			Dr. Tindall-Gibson

9.0 Employment Non-Renewals:

The Executive Director recommended the following employment non-renewals due to the uncertainty of the budget and future enrollments. Mr. MacDonnell suggested the non-renewal of Mr. Eugene LaBonte be discussed during Executive Session.

Administration

Eugene LaBonte

Program Coordinators

Tracey Andrews-Mellouise

Teachers - RAP

Steve Auclair
Peter Hainsworth
Talia Leary

John Leeds
John Petrella

Teachers - SAP

Gretchen Crawford
Cynthia Kupiec
Joanne Moretti
Wendy Williams

Adapted Physical Ed

Ryan Barrette
Peter Folse

Occupational Therapists

Erin Manchester
Colette O'Brien

Dr. VonVillas motioned to approve the above employment renewals with the exception of Mr. Eugene LaBonte, Business Manager, which will be discussed during Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ottoviano, carried by all.

Moved: Dr. VonVillas

Approved: Ms. Hanley

Seconded: Dr. Ottoviano

Ms. Iacovelli

Mr. Nasif

Mr. O'Brien

Dr. Tindall-Gibson

Old Business:

Nothing to report.

Informational Matters:

7.0 Nothing to report.

- The Executive Director reported that at the suggestion of Ms. Iacovelli, the Collaborative host a joint meeting of northern Rhode Island school district personnel, their School Committees, Town Councils, and Legislative members in order to educate legislators regarding funding issues and the impact that legislative mandates have on school districts. SORICO recently hosted a meeting for those school districts in southern Rhode Island. Mr. MacDonnell distributed information and the agenda for that meeting to the Board.

Ms. Iacovelli reported that issues discussed were: regional bussing, education funding, retirement/pensions, charter schools, and fire codes. The meeting lasted approximately 2 hours.

A possible meeting date of early March was suggested with a possible location at Johnston High School or North Providence High School. A facilitator of the meeting is needed and possible speakers on the different issues.

Mr. MacDonnell will meet with Lizann Gibson of SORICO to get more details.

- Mr. Nasif advised that as a result of the recent snowstorm the Superintendent snow chain needs updating.

Executive Session:

Pursuant to Chapter 42-46-5(a) 1&2 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, Mr. Nasif entertained a motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 1:47 p.m., which was moved by Dr. VonVillas, seconded by Ms. Iacovelli, carried by all.

The closed session ended at 2:16 p.m.

Mr. Nasif reported in Open Session that a vote was taken in Closed Session to non-renew the employment of Mr. Eugene LaBonte, Business Manager.

With no further information to report, Mr. Nasif entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:16 p.m., which was moved by Dr. VonVillas and seconded by Mr. O'Brien, carried by all.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra A. Jannetta