

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 D. Carlo Trattoria, 970 Douglas Pike, Smithfield, RI 02917, on **Tuesday, January 10, 2006**. The meeting was called to order at 1:25 p.m. by Mr. Robert O'Brien, Chairman.

In addition to Mr. O'Brien, the following board members were present: Dr. Dellith, Ms. Iacovelli, Dr. Macera, Dr. Morelle, Dr. Ottaviano, Dr. Tindall-Gibson, Dr. VonVillas and Dr. Watkins, as well as, Julian E. MacDonnell, Jr., Executive Director, and Craig Enos, Business Manager. Guests: Dr. Anthony D'Acchioli and Benjamin Scungio, Esq.

Mr. O'Brien welcomed Dr. Maureen Macera, the new Superintendent in Woonsocket, to today's meeting.

Routine Matters:

Dr. D'Acchioli motioned to approve Items 1 -4, which was seconded by Dr. Ottaviano, carried by all.

1.0 The Minutes of the Meeting of November, 2005

<u>Moved:</u>	Dr. D'Acchioli	<u>Approved:</u>	Dr. Dellith
<u>Seconded:</u>	Dr. Ottaviano		Ms. Iacovelli
			Dr. Macera
			Dr. Morelle
			Mr. O'Brien
			Dr. Tindall-Gibson
			Dr. VonVillas
			Dr. Watkins

2.0 Bills for the month of November & December 2005

<u>Moved:</u>	Dr. D'Acchioli	<u>Approved:</u>	Dr. Dellith
<u>Seconded:</u>	Dr. Ottaviano		Ms. Iacovelli
			Dr. Macera
			Dr. Morelle
			Mr. O'Brien
			Dr. Tindall-Gibson
			Dr. VonVillas
			Dr. Watkins

Communications and Reports:

3.0 Resignation of Barbara Montague, Occupational Therapist

The Executive Director recommended the Board accept the resignation of Barbara Montague, Occupational Therapist.

Moved: Dr. D'Acchioli

Approved: Dr. Dellith

Seconded: Dr. Ottaviano

Ms. Iacovelli

Dr. Macera

Dr. Morelle

Mr. O'Brien

Dr. Tindall-Gibson

Dr. VonVillas

Dr. Watkins

Appointments:

4.0 Nothing to report.

New Business:

5.0 Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements

Chairman Robert O'Brien reported that this agenda item came out of discussion at the recent RISSA meeting and felt that this policy should be reviewed as a group as the guidelines are similar for all districts. Mr. O'Brien suggested that this item should be tabled for discussion until the February meeting.

6.0 New Superintendent Mentoring

The Executive Director reported that Arthur Campbell, RISSA, requested that this item be brought up for discussion regarding interest in a new Superintendent Mentoring Program in northern Rhode Island. Is there an interest in having a mentor or being a mentor?

Discussion took place regarding Superintendents working within the Collaborative region or statewide, continuing with RISSA's breakfast meetings, and the Critical Friends Group.

Old Business:

7.0 Land/Building History Review

The Executive Director distributed copies of "Background on Land Purchase" and reviewed the beginnings of the Collaborative's search for land and the initial reasons why – negotiations of the leases, Main Office property for sale, uncertainty of parochial school space; the quality of existing classrooms; consolidation of programs in order to alleviate

transportation issues.

Mr. MacDonnell reported that 8 acres of land was purchased at the Epheta House property from the Town of Cumberland at a cost of \$500,000. A non-profit holding company was developed. Financing options were brought before the Board. At that time, the estimated cost of construction for 30,000 square feet was \$6,000,000.

In 2006, the issues have not changed. Rental costs are increasing – current rent \$280,000 per year will increase to \$400,000 at the end of 10 years for the same space. Classrooms in all buildings are not of high quality and are in need of repair. The Collaborative desires to move forward with a building project. Tuitions continue to increase; the rental space is the only piece where we have control. The Special Ed Directors have indicated their concern with the competition of the new Meeting Street facility being constructed.

Discussion ensued regarding building in phases, the need for a series of proposals and/or options, whether the Collaborative is eligible for housing reimbursement, and the need for additional space for the Professional Development Academy.

The Executive Director indicated that he was under the impression that there was a tuition surcharge for the building fund, however, this did not happen. The surcharge was contingent upon the financing of a loan and this did not happen.

The Executive Director advised that the next step would be to develop proposals for the building project and bring before the Board for review.

Informational Matters:

- 8.0 Nothing to report.

Miscellaneous:

- Dr. Morelle shared a letter from Keith Oliveira of RIDE regarding the Beacon Charter School issue.
- Ms. Iacovelli questioned the rates for OT's, PT's, & COTA's. Mr. MacDonnell advised the projected rate for the next budget is \$88.00 per hour. Ms. Iacovelli requested that Related Services rates be on the February agenda.
- Dr. Watkins questioned if we had an Alternative Program for suspensions. Mr. MacDonnell discussed the 11th Day Program. Mr. O'Brien suggested that Alternative Programs be discussed at the February meeting.

Executive Session:

Nothing to report.

Mr. O'Brien thanked everyone for their attendance and with no further information to report, entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 p.m., which was moved by Dr. D'Acchioli and seconded by Dr. Dellith, carried by all.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra A. Jannetta