

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, March 7, 2006**. The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by Mr. Robert O'Brien, Chairman.

In addition to Mr. O'Brien, the following Board members were present: Ms. Iacovelli, Mr. Lindberg, Dr. Morelle, Dr. Ottaviano, Dr. Tindall-Gibson, Dr. VonVillas, and Dr. Watkins, as well as, Julian E. MacDonnell, Jr., Executive Director, Dr. Robert Fricklas, Assistant Director, and Craig Enos, Business Manager. Guests: Craig Closser, Superintendent, and Wendy Hanasky, Director of Technology Services, of the Jefferson County Ohio Educational Service Center.

Routine Matters:

Dr. VonVillas motioned to approve Items 1 -5, which was seconded by Ms. Iacovelli, carried by all.

1.0 The Minutes of the Meeting of February, 2006

<u>Moved:</u>	Dr. VonVillas	<u>Approved:</u>	Mr. Lindberg
<u>Seconded:</u>	Ms. Iacovelli		Dr. Morelle
			Mr. O'Brien
			Dr. Ottaviano
			Dr. Tindall-Gibson

2.0 Bills for the month of February 2006

<u>Moved:</u>	Dr. VonVillas	<u>Approved:</u>	Mr. Lindberg
<u>Seconded:</u>	Ms. Iacovelli		Dr. Morelle
			Mr. O'Brien
			Dr. Ottaviano
			Dr. Tindall-Gibson

Communications and Reports:

3.0 Nothing to report.

Appointments:

4.0 Appointment of Steven Mendonca, COTA

The Executive Director recommended the appointment of Steven Mendonca, as a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant.

Moved: Dr. VonVillas

Approved: Mr. Lindberg

Seconded: Ms. Iacovelli

Dr. Morelle

Mr. O'Brien

Dr. Ottaviano

Dr. Tindall-Gibson

New Business:

5.0 Nothing to report.

Old Business:

6.0 Virtual Learning Academy

The Executive Director welcomed Craig Closser, Superintendent, and Wendy Hanasky, Director of Technology Services, of the Jefferson County Ohio Educational Service Center, for a presentation on the Virtual Learning Academy.

(Dr. Watkins arrived at 1:15 p.m.)

Mr. Closser distributed an informational packet to the Board and began with a PowerPoint presentation of an overview of the VLA Program as an extension of the school district offering an educational option for those students who are home-bound, home-schooled, in need of reclamation, who have dropped out, have special needs and are at-risk, are assigned to alternative schools, and who may be incarcerated.

Mr. MacDonnell reported that he had researched VLA programs as a result of the Operating Committee's requests for an alternative opportunity for their students, and found that the Jefferson County Ohio's VLA program to be the best.

(Ms. Iacovelli left the meeting at 2:08 p.m.)

Discussion followed on the program along with questions regarding the alignment to R.I. standards.

Mr. Closser and Ms. Hanasky left the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

7.0 Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements

Chairman Robert O'Brien continued discussions from the previous meeting on the development of a uniform policy. He distributed a copy of "RIDE Technical Assistance

FAQs Regarding the RI High School Diploma System” to the Board. Mr. O’Brien advised he attended a meeting with the Commissioner and he requested guidelines from the State to be sure that we are addressing all issues.

Elements of the policy to be addressed are the amount of credits needed and students coming from out of state.

A meeting with all high school principals and guidance counselors was suggested in order to share information. A possible format for an April 5th or 6th meeting was discussed. Mr. MacDonnell will survey the districts regarding the dates, possibly changing the date of the April 4th Board Meeting.

(Dr. Watkins left the meeting at 2:35 p.m.)

Information was distributed at the request of Arthur Campbell, RISSA, seeking the Superintendents’ support regarding House Finance Committee Meetings at the State House on March 9th.

Informational Matters:

8.0 Teacher Assistant Network Session, April 2006

The Executive Director provided information on the next session of the Teacher Assistant Network in April 2006.

Other Matters:

- Dr. VonVillas questioned the status of the non-renewal/dismissal/lay-off letters that were sent out to NRIC employees under her signature as Vice-Chair in the absence of Chair, Robert O’Brien. Mr. MacDonnell advised that hearings may not be necessary as rescinding non-renewals/lay-offs may start to take place in early May.
- Mr. O’Brien discussed meeting with RIDE regarding certification.
- Mr. Lindberg requested copies of job descriptions for an ELL Coordinator and a Functional Life Skills Teacher.
- Discussion of school calendars for 2006-07.
- Dr. VonVillas questioned the status of “330 Minutes”.

Executive Session:

Nothing to report.

With no further information to report, Mr. O'Brien entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:52 p.m., which was moved by Dr. VonVillas and seconded by Dr. Ottaviano, carried by all.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra A. Jannetta