

# Regional Board of Superintendents' Meeting

Northern Rhode Island Collaborative

2352 Mendon Road

Cumberland, RI 02864

## Minutes

A regular meeting of the Regional Board of Superintendents was held at 2352 Mendon Road, Cumberland, RI, on **Tuesday, February 6, 2007**. The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by Chairman, Robert O'Brien.

In addition to Mr. O'Brien, the following Board members were present: Dr. Dellith, Mrs. Iacovelli, Mr. Lindberg, Dr. Macera, Mr. Nasif, Dr. Ottaviano, as well as Julian E. MacDonnell, Jr., Executive Director, Dr. Robert E. Fricklas, Assistant Director, and Craig Enos, Director of Administration. Guests: District Assistant Superintendents/Curriculum Directors: Nancy Brown, Johnston; Dr. Susan Carney, Cumberland; Dr. Maureen Chevrette, No. Smithfield; Robert Gerardi, North Providence; Melinda Smith, Lincoln.

### **Routine Matters:**

#### **1.0 The Minutes of the Meeting of January 9, 2007**

Moved: Dr. Dellith

Approved: Dr. Dellith

Seconded: Ms. Iacovelli

Ms. Iacovelli

Mr. Lindberg

Dr. Macera

Mr. Nasif

Mr. O'Brien

Dr. Ottaviano

Dr. Dellith motioned to approve Agenda Items 2-4, which was seconded by Dr. Ottaviano, carried by all.

#### **2.0 Bills for the month of January, 2007**

Moved: Dr. Dellith

Approved: Dr. Dellith

Seconded: Dr. Ottaviano

Ms. Iacovelli

Mr. Lindberg

Dr. Macera

Mr. Nasif

Mr. O'Brien

Dr. Ottaviano

## **Communications and Reports:**

**3.0** Nothing to report.

## **Appointments:**

**4.0** Nothing to report.

## **Old Business:**

### **5.0 High School Principal Reform Seminar**

The Executive Director reported that the last meeting of the High School Principals took place in December on Component V “Policy Infrastructure and Data Use’ before the Commissioner’s forum. Mr. MacDonnell questioned if we wanted to move forward with this series as the other components have not yet been discussed.

Discussion took place on the policy, and it was agreed that the next meeting will take place on March 1 as originally scheduled. Mr. MacDonnell will advise High School Principals to bring copies of their policies to the meeting for discussion.

### **6.0 Strategic Planning – Professional Development**

The Executive Director reported that one of the Strategic Planning Goals that was identified was a Professional Development Plan. Mr. MacDonnell distributed copies of ideas that were identified at the last meeting of the Curriculum Leadership Team, who were invited to attend today’s Board meeting, and reviewed as follows:

- Develop a Northern Rhode Island Professional Development Plan
  - . Bring together all Assistant Superintendents/Curriculum Directors
  - . Identify professional development goals
  - . Identify common professional development areas
  - . Identify appropriate professional development delivery systems
  
- Review current professional development practices in Rhode Island
  - . East Bay Collaborative model
    - Content area specialists funded by LEA’s
    - \$25 / pupil, no fees to members
    - Job embedded professional development
    - Demonstration classrooms
  - . Train the Trainer – Modeling/Coaching
  - . State supported professional development linked to State initiatives
  - . Secondary Reform

-- Next Steps – Developing Structures to Support a NRIC Model of PD

1. Identify what we want to create and are willing to support as a Collaborative.
  - . Common professional development days
  - . Common professional development plan
  - . Common consolidated resource plans
2. NRIC Board support for a Professional Development Coordinator/Grant Writer
3. Common professional development areas supported by NRIC trainers, through job embedded or after school workshops/courses with higher ed linkages and possible graduate credits:
  - . Data to Improve Instruction
  - . Data Warehousing
  - . Differentiated Instruction-classroom modeling
  - . Expository Writing, across the curriculum
  - . Reading, across the curriculum
  - . Mathematics/Numeracy, elementary and secondary focus
  - . Science – RI Ocean Literacy – Ballard Project – Elem. Science
  - . Teaching Assistants
  - . Supplemental Reading programs, Wilson, etc.
  - . Teacher mentoring/modeling
  - . Technology Integration into the curriculum
  - . Technology Standards

Discussion ensued on moving forward in developing a professional development plan. It was suggested that the Collaborative survey the districts regarding their professional development needs, topics, audience, areas of strength, and trainers available. The information will be compiled for discussion at the next Board meeting.

**7.0 Building Update**

The Executive Director reported that an appraisal was done of the Daewoo property in Smithfield at \$2.2 - \$2.5 million. Conceptual drawings are being developed by Mark Saccoccio & Associates to include housing the central office, professional development center, and maintenance/storage. Mr. MacDonnell advised that a meeting is scheduled with Attorney Ben Scungio and property owner, Richard Conti, on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**New Business:**

**8.0 Nominations for NRIC Board Chair**

The Executive Director reported that according to the NRIC By-Laws, nominations for Board officers take place in February. Mr. MacDonnell advised that Mr. O'Brien,

Chair, is at the end of his two-year term and entertained nominations for a new Board Chair.

Dr. Dellith motioned to nominate Mr. Robert O'Brien for a second term as Chairman of the NRIC Board of Superintendents, which was seconded by Mr. Lindberg, carried by all.

<u>Moved:</u>	Dr. Dellith	<u>Approved:</u>	Dr. Dellith
<u>Seconded:</u>	Mr. Lindberg		Ms. Iacovelli
			Mr. Lindberg
			Dr. Macera
			Mr. Nasif
			Mr. O'Brien
			Dr. Ottaviano

Mr. Nasif entertained a motion to nominate Dr. Donna Ottaviano as Vice-Chair, which was seconded by Dr. Dellith, carried by all.

<u>Moved:</u>	Mr. Nasif	<u>Approved:</u>	Dr. Dellith
<u>Seconded:</u>	Dr. Dellith		Ms. Iacovelli
			Mr. Lindberg
			Dr. Macera
			Mr. Nasif
			Mr. O'Brien
			Dr. Ottaviano

## **9.0 NRIC Surplus Discussion**

Mr. Robert O'Brien, Chair, reported that this agenda item was requested for clarification of the NRIC surplus. The Executive Director reviewed the history of the surplus as follows:

- February 2000, the Board directed \$728,000 toward a capital improvement fund for the purchase of a building/property;
- October 2000, the establishment of a non-profit holding company is discussed in order to insulate the Collaborative from liability and to enable NRIC to purchase a building;
- November 2000, the Board approves the surplus be added to the capital fund which brings the total to \$2M;
- December 2000, the Board authorizes the creation of a 501(3)C non-profit holding corporation;
- January 2002, the Board approved the financing of \$4,000,000 to building an office complex/school.

Mr. MacDonnell advised of two current accounts: \$3.2 M in the holding company account and the NRIC regular operating fund account.

Dr. Dellith requested a fiscal report of these accounts. Mr. Craig Enos, Director of Administration, advised he would provide a copy of our bank statement along with the new Audit Report at the next meeting.

(Mr. Nasif left the meeting at 2:00 pm)

Discussion took place regarding the future utilization of these funds and new programs. This item will be placed on the agenda for March for further discussion.

**10.0 Joint Legislative Information Meeting**

The Executive Director distributed information on SORICO's recent legislative informational meeting as a guideline for the upcoming NRIC Legislative Informational Meeting on February 12<sup>th</sup>. Mr. O'Brien discussed the proposed format of the meeting and unfunded mandates as suggested topics – out of district transportation, non-public textbooks, teacher retirement, healthcare, elimination of 10 steps in teacher contracts, and exceptional costs in special education.

Dr. Ottaviano will email the District Budget Comparison Chart used for last year's meeting to Debbie Jannetta for forwarding to the Superintendents so that the information can be compiled and put into a PowerPoint presentation.

(Dr. Susan Carney left the meeting at 2:35 pm)

(Dr. Macera left the meeting at 2:50 pm)

**Executive Session: - Closed session pursuant to Chapter 42-46-5(a) 1&2 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island.**

The Board agreed to discuss Agenda Item #11 – Employment Non-Renewals – in Executive Session, and therefore, Mr. O'Brien, Chairman, entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session at 3:05 p.m. which was moved by Dr. Dellith, seconded by Ms. Iacovelli. An individual vote was taken and the motion was carried by all.

At 3:10 p.m., Dr. Dellith motioned to return to Open Session, which was seconded by Dr. Ottaviano; an individual vote was taken and the motion was carried by all.

**11.0 Employment Non-Renewals:**

Teachers (SAP):

S. Robidoux  
D. Farrar  
M. Dubuc  
K. Short  
A. Notz  
M. Nelson

Teachers (RAP):

B. Coletta  
K. Regan  
J. Petrella  
S. Auclair  
J. Leeds  
P. Hainsworth  
J. Zecchin  
R. Rose

Program Coordinator:  
D. Fiorio

TEC – Program Manager:  
J. Signorelli-Slade

Speech Language Pathologist:  
S. Henry

Occupational Therapists:  
C. O'Brien  
E. Manchester

Social Workers:  
R. Lapierre  
J. Wood

COTA:  
S. Mendonca

Physical Therapists:  
J. Wentworth  
M. Shiel-L'Esperance

School Nurse/Teachers:  
R. Noel

Vocational Evaluator:  
T. O'Brien

Job Facilitators:  
T. Fagan  
G. Wattendorf-Guiney  
T. Costello

After discussion in Executive Session, Dr. Ottaviano motioned in Open Session to accept the recommendation of the Executive Director of the Employment Non-Renewals of the above listed employees due to the anticipated reduction in student enrollment. The motion was seconded by Dr. Dellith, carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Ottaviano  
Seconded: Dr. Dellith

Approved: Dr. Dellith  
Ms. Iacovelli  
Mr. Lindberg  
Mr. O'Brien  
Dr. Ottaviano

### **Informational Matters:**

#### **12.0 Teacher Assistant Network Session – April 2007**

Information was provided on the next session of the RIDE Teacher Assistant Network.

With no further information to report, Mr. O'Brien entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:11 p.m., which was moved by Mr. Lindberg, seconded by Dr. Ottaviano, and carried by all.

Moved: Mr. Lindberg  
Seconded: Dr. Ottaviano

Approved: Dr. Dellith  
Ms. Iacovelli  
Mr. Lindberg  
Mr. O'Brien  
Dr. Ottaviano

Respectfully submitted,

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Robert O'Brien, Chair