

# 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, June 5, 2007**. The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. by Chairman, Robert O'Brien.

In addition to Mr. O'Brien, the following Board members were present: Dr. Cirillo, Dr. Dellith, Ms. Fortunato, Mr. Lindberg, Dr. Macera, Dr. Ottaviano and Mr. Welford, as well as Julian E. MacDonnell, Jr., Executive Director, Dr. Robert E. Fricklas, Assistant Director, and Craig Enos, Director of Administration. Guest: Attorney Benjamin Scungio.

### **Routine Matters:**

Mr. Lindberg motioned to approve Agenda Items 1-2, which was seconded by Dr. Dellith, carried by all.

#### **1.0 The Minutes of the Meeting of May 1, 2007**

Moved: Mr. Lindberg

Approved:

Dr. Cirillo

Seconded: Dr. Dellith

Dr. Dellith

Ms. Fortunato

Mr. Lindberg

Dr. Macera

Mr. O'Brien

Dr. Ottaviano

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

Moved: Mr. Lindberg

Approved:

Dr. Cirillo

Seconded: Dr. Dellith

Dr. Dellith

Ms. Fortunato

Mr. Lindberg

Dr. Macera

Mr. O'Brien

Dr. Ottaviano

### **Communications and Reports:**

#### **3.0 Retirement of Margaret Buttenbaum, Program Coordinator**

The Executive Director recommended the Board accept the retirement with regret of Margaret Buttenbaum, Program Coordinator.

Moved: Dr. Dellith  
Seconded: Dr. Ottaviano

Approved: Dr. Cirillo  
Dr. Dellith  
Ms. Fortunato  
Mr. Lindberg  
Dr. Macera  
Mr. O'Brien  
Dr. Ottaviano

#### **Appointments:**

**4.0** Nothing to report.

#### **Old Business:**

##### **5.0 Strategic Planning – Professional Development**

The Executive Director reported that as discussed at the last meeting the sub-committee of the Board met with Mary Ann Snider regarding her proposal. Mr. MacDonnell asked Dr. Ottaviano to update the Board. Dr. Ottaviano advised that Ms. Snider gave a comprehensive description in the areas of assessment and of the students in the gap and ESL categories. The sub-committee felt that Ms. Snider was very knowledgeable and very amenable to our concerns and suggestions and was an excellent candidate.

Discussion followed regarding Ms. Snider's possible role at NRIC, her availability on a part-time basis, the parameters of a job description, and the need for posting of the position. Mr. O'Brien suggested the sub-committee meet again to define the parameters of the position and discuss further at the next meeting.

Discussion continued on the direction of NRIC and the focus on professional development, and the need for an action plan in order to implement the strategic plan. Mr. O'Brien expressed his concern regarding the lack of 100% participation.

Mr. O'Brien distributed copies of Smithfield's proposal with URI to work with NRIC regarding the "Expedition to the Black Sea" with Dr. Robert Ballard. Mr. O'Brien reported on three proposed Professional Development Days, August 21-23, 2007, for K-12 teachers. The cost would be \$100 per participant, \$100 stipend paid to each participant, funded by NRIC. Mr. O'Brien is seeking 10 teachers per district with a maximum of 100 teachers and is asking the Board to contact him regarding their interest before Friday, June 15, 2007.

(Mr. Welford arrived at 1:45 pm).

Dr. Dellith motioned to approve the use of NRIC monies to participate in this professional development opportunity with Smithfield School Department and URI's Expedition to the Black Sea, which was seconded by Ms. Fortunato.

Moved: Dr. Dellith  
Seconded: Ms. Fortunato

Approved: Dr. Cirillo  
Dr. Dellith  
Ms. Fortunato  
Mr. Lindberg  
Dr. Macera  
Mr. O'Brien  
Dr. Ottaviano  
Mr. Welford

## **6.0 Building Update**

The Executive Director reported Attorney Scungio will update the Board on this agenda item in Executive Session.

### **Executive Session**

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

- 1.0 Receive Legal Advise regarding purchase of real property
- 2.0 Consider purchase of real property

Dr. Dellith motioned to enter into Executive Session at 2:00 pm, which was seconded by Dr. Macera. An individual vote was taken which was carried by all.

At 2:50 p.m., Dr. Dellith motioned to enter into Open Session, which was seconded by Mr. Welford. An individual vote was taken which was carried by all.

The Board agreed to take Agenda #8 out of order.

## **8.0 Consideration of Resolution to Amend Enabling Act**

As a result of discussion during Executive Session, Attorney Scungio presented a Resolution to the Board for signature which would be presented to the R.I. General Assembly to pass legislation amending R.I. General Laws 16-3.1-8, which would clarify the powers, rights, duties and responsibilities of the Collaborative as enunciated in R.I. General Laws 16-3.1 et seq; clarify the specific powers of the Regional Board of Superintendents; and the ability to purchase a parcel of realty in furtherance of its statutory mission.

Mr. Lindberg motioned to approve the Resolution for signature by the Board, which was seconded by Mr. Welford, and carried by all.

Moved: Mr. Lindberg  
Seconded: Mr. Welford

Approved: Dr. Cirillo  
Dr. Dellith  
Ms. Fortunato  
Mr. Lindberg

Dr. Macera  
Mr. O'Brien  
Dr. Ottaviano  
Mr. Welford

**New Business:**

**7.0 Rescind Employment Non-Renewals**

The Executive Director recommended the employment non-renewals be rescinded for the following personnel based on the projected enrollment of 186 students for school year 2007-08.

Teachers

Marilyn Nelson (SAP)  
Peter Hainsworth (RAP)  
Joseph Zecchin (RAP)  
Rhonda Rose (RAP)  
Denise Fiorio (SAP)

Speech/Language Therapist

Sheila Henry (.8 FTE)

Occupational Therapists

Colette O'Brien  
Erin Manchester

TEC Program Manager/Grants Facilitator

Jane Signorelli-Slade

Physical Therapists

Jennifer Wentworth (.5 FTE)  
Mary Shiel-L'Esperance

Vocational Evaluator

M. Teresa O'Brien

Job Facilitator

Georgia Wattendorf-Guiney  
Thomas Costello

Dr. Dellith motioned to approve the Executive Director's recommendation to rescind the employment non-renewals of the above listed personnel based on the projected enrollment of 186 students for school year 2007-08. The motion was seconded by Mr. Welford, carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Dellith  
Seconded: Mr. Welford

Approved: Dr. Cirillo  
Dr. Dellith  
Ms. Fortunato  
Dr. Macera  
Mr. O'Brien  
Dr. Ottaviano  
Mr. Welford

**Informational Matters:**

- The Executive Director recommended the Board Meeting scheduled for July 10, 2007 be rescheduled to July 17, 2007. Mary S of URI will be invited to attend. Dr. Cirillo motioned to approve the Executive Director's recommendation, which was seconded by Dr. Ottaviano, carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Cirillo

Seconded: Dr. Ottaviano

Approved:

Dr. Cirillo

Dr. Dellith

Ms. Fortunato

Dr. Macera

Mr. O'Brien

Dr. Ottaviano

Mr. Welford

- Mr. Lindberg suggested that the Strategic Plan be included on the Agenda for each Board Meeting.

With no further information to report, Mr. O'Brien entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:55 p.m., which was moved by Dr. Ottaviano, seconded by Ms. Fortunato, and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Ottaviano

Seconded: Ms. Fortunato

Approved:

Dr. Cirillo

Dr. Dellith

Ms. Fortunato

Dr. Macera

Mr. O'Brien

Dr. Ottaviano

Mr. Welford

Respectfully submitted,

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Robert O'Brien, Chair