

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 **Wednesday, April 9, 2008**. The meeting was called to order at 12:45 p.m. by Chairman, Robert O'Brien.

In addition to Mr. O'Brien, the following Board members were present: Dr. Barnes, Mr. Lindberg, Dr. Macera, Dr. Morelle, Dr. Ottaviano, and Mr. Welford, as well as Julian E. MacDonnell, Jr., Executive Director, Robert E. Wall, Director of Educational Services, and Craig Enos, Director of Administration. Guests: Thomas Conlon, Business Manager, Pawtucket, represented Dr. Hans Dellith in his absence; Nancy Brown, Professional Development Director, Johnston; Pat Dubois, Director of Literacy & Grants, Woonsocket; and Dr. Robert Gerardi, Assistant Superintendent, North Providence; Attorney Benjamin Scungio.

Chairman O'Brien advised that the April Board Meeting was rescheduled to today at the request of Dr. Hans Dellith, who is not in attendance. Mr. O'Brien requested that in the future that if there is a conflict with a meeting date, to please give at least one week's notice to request a change. Dr. Morelle expressed concern with changing the scheduled meeting dates. Dr. Macera questioned if a Superintendent could send a replacement if they're not able to attend. Mr. O'Brien advised that they could but that person is not able to vote. Mr. Lindberg would like to see the scheduled meeting dates stand with the exception of extenuating circumstances.

Routine Matters:

Chairman O'Brien entertained a motion to approve Agenda Items 1-2, which was moved by Dr. Ottaviano, seconded by Dr. Macera, carried by all.

1.0 The Minutes of the March 19, 2008 Annual Meeting

Moved: Dr. Ottaviano

Approved:

Seconded: Dr. Macera

Dr. Barnes
Mr. Lindberg
Dr. Macera
Dr. Morelle
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Ottaviano
Mr. Welford

2.0 Bills for the month of March, 2008

Moved: Dr. Ottaviano

Approved:

Seconded: Dr. Macera

Dr. Barnes
Mr. Lindberg
Dr. Macera
Dr. Morelle
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Ottaviano
Mr. Welford

Move into Closed Executive Session pursuant to Chapter 42-46-5(a) 1, 2 & 5 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island for discussion of the acquisition and sale of real estate and legal advice related thereto.

Mr. O'Brien entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session at 12:50 pm, which was moved by Mr. Lindberg, seconded by Dr. Ottaviano. An individual vote was taken and carried by all. The closed session ended at 1:30 pm. There were no votes taken during Executive Session.

Old Business:

3.0 Strategic Planning – Professional Development

Chairman O'Brien welcomed the Curriculum Directors Nancy Brown from Johnston and Bob Gerardi from North Providence to the meeting and asked them to discuss the professional development plan on Using Data and on choosing Michael Schmoker as the facilitator. Mr. Gerardi and Ms. Brown advised that Michael Schmoker is the best and was suggested by a member of the Curriculum Team to go national rather than thinking small; however, if the dollar amount is an issue, they can work with others to put together the best professional development plan. Mr. Gerardi advised that the whole program is comprehensive and is cutting edge. He advised that test scores in North Providence are going up because they are Using Data to Improve Instruction.

Mr. MacDonnell distributed copies of an outline on "Using Data to Improve Instruction".

Discussion continued on obtaining info on utilizing Doug Reeves and on the implementation of the plan. Dr. Macera suggested that the Curriculum Team obtain a written proposal on what is being provided and the cost and bring back to the Board.

Discussion followed on professional development on Election Day throughout the districts. Mr. O'Brien suggested that everyone try to free up Election Day for administrators and select another date for others.

Mr. O'Brien reported on the recent Telepresence and Education Workshop he attended in Mystic, Connecticut on April 7 & 8 and distributed copies of the workshop participants for the Board's review. Mr. O'Brien reported that he made a presentation on behalf of Smithfield and the Northern Rhode Island Collaborative and was happy to report that he has a commitment from every organization listed that they are willing to work with us. Mr. O'Brien advised that we will be in the national spotlight and that the State of Rhode Island will be a model for the country. Mr. O'Brien is requesting support from the districts with their Curriculum Directors and teachers. A Telepresence Coalition has been formed to obtain funding.

(Dr. Barnes left the meeting at 2:10 pm).

The Board congratulated Mr. O'Brien on all of his efforts.

(Dr. Macera, Mr. Lindberg, Mr. Gerardi and Ms. Brown left the meeting at 2:15 pm).

4.0 Building Update

This agenda item was discussed during Executive Session. No votes were taken.

5.0 Healthcare Update

The Executive Director reported that the Northern Rhode Island Collaborative was rejected from the Governmental Healthcare Group as Blue Cross/Blue Shield does not think of us as being a government entity. Mr. MacDonnell will research this issue.

New Business:

6.0 Board Meeting Schedule 2008-09

Chairman O’Brien suggested this agenda item be tabled until the next meeting.

7.0 Preliminary 2008-09 NRIC Budget

The Director of Administration, Craig Enos, distributed copies of the NRIC Balance Sheet, Statement of Revenues, Support and Expenses, along with the Accounts Receivable Detail Aging Report for the Board’s review. Mr. Enos advised that these reports will be provided on a monthly basis. Mr. Tom Conlon requested that a copy be sent to him.

Mr. Enos reported that the 2008-09 Preliminary Budget, provided to the Board in their agenda packet, was based upon enrollment data. The final budget will be completed for the Board’s review at the May meeting.

Mr. O’Brien thanked Mr. Enos and Mr. MacDonnell for their hard work.

(Dr. Morelle left the meeting at 2:25 pm).

Mr. Welford suggested the following format change in the Accounts Receivable Detail Aging Report: Show Budgeted Amount, Current Year to Date, Remaining Balance.

With no further information to report, Mr. O’Brien entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:26 p.m., which was moved by Dr. Ottaviano, seconded by Mr. Welford, and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Ottaviano
Seconded: Mr. Welford

Approved: Mr. O’Brien
Dr. Ottaviano
Mr. Welford

Respectfully submitted,

Robert O’Brien, Chair