

Regional Board of Superintendents' Meeting

Northern Rhode Island Collaborative

Main Office

640 George Washington Highway, Suite 200

Lincoln, RI 02865

23rd ANNUAL MEETING

Minutes

The Annual Meeting of the Northern Rhode Island Collaborative was held on **Wednesday, March 18, 2009** at Twelve Acres in Smithfield, Rhode Island.

The Executive Director, Julian E. MacDonnell, Jr., welcomed our guest speaker, Kenneth Swanson, Director of Diverse Learners at the R. I. Department Education, members of the Board of Superintendents, along with representatives from the school districts, school committee members, Northern Rhode Island Collaborative's employees and guests. Mr. MacDonnell then introduced Chairman, Mr. Robert O'Brien.

Mr. Robert O'Brien called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Upon determining representation from Burrillville, Cumberland, Foster-Glocester, Lincoln, North Providence, Pawtucket, and Smithfield, Mr. O'Brien declared a quorum. Mr. O'Brien welcomed all to the meeting recognizing special guest Kenneth Swanson, representatives from RIDE, Superintendents, School Committee members and district staff, attorneys, Collaborative staff, parents, and guests.

Report of Executive Director:

Mr. Julian MacDonnell reviewed NRIC's Annual Report which highlights our activities and new initiatives, a statement of our financial activities, our community partners, and our staff. Mr. MacDonnell stressed the need to work together to improve our programs and services especially in the challenges that face us in these difficult financial times. Mr. MacDonnell highlighted the successes of our newly instituted reading program, our Virtual Learning Program, the Oral-Deaf Program, and the RI Instructional Materials Accessibility Center. Our new Professional Development Training Center was also highlighted. Mr. MacDonnell advised that Dr. Michael Schmoker will be presenting a two-day conference in May for all Rhode Island administrators on the "Essential Elements of School Improvement" through the use of data to drive instruction, along with continued leadership training with Dr. Tim Waters of McREL and the Dana Center in conjunction with RIDE on Math and Science

Mr. MacDonnell recognized the commitment and continued support and leadership of the Board of Superintendents and their School Committees, Operating Committee, and Curriculum Leadership Team, along with our continued relationship with the RI Department of Education and the opportunity to work with them on special projects in order to provide educational opportunities and cost savings to our school districts.

Due to the economic challenges facing us today, NRIC is moving forward with initiatives in Cooperative Purchasing for Energy and Technology and will continue to work together to reduce

costs whenever we can. Mr. MacDonnell also expressed his thanks for the dedication and commitment of the NRIC staff, all of our community partners, and parents in support of the Collaborative's programs and services.

Speaker:

· Kenneth Swanson, Director of Diverse Learners, RIDE

Mr. Swanson gave an update on the happenings at RIDE including the anticipated appointment of a new Commissioner of Education.

Student Speaker:

Devon Bromley, Foster-Glocester Student at St. Lawrence School

Employee Recognition:

20 Years of Service:

Ann Marie Curry, Teacher

Ann Marie DeConti, Teacher

Myles Glatter, Social Worker

Donna Juneau, Instructional Assistant

Partnership Recognition / Special Partner Awards:

Regional Vocational Assessment Center:

Deb Best & Michael McIsaac, Dollar Tree Stores

Regional Alternative Program:

Drs. Steven Bonauto & Barry Plummer

Specialized Alternative Program:

Wendy & John Cianci, Sergeant C's Ice Cream

Old Business:

Nothing to report.

New Business:

Nothing to report.

With no further business to report, Mr. O'Brien, entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m., which was moved by Dr. Donna Morelle and seconded by Dr. Donna Ottaviano, carried by all.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert O'Brien, Chairman