

Regional Board of Superintendents' Meeting

Northern Rhode Island Collaborative
640 George Washington Highway, Suite 200
Lincoln, RI 02865

Minutes

A regular meeting of the Regional Board of Superintendents was held at 640 George Washington Highway, Suite 200, Lincoln, RI, on **Tuesday, May 5, 2009**. The meeting was called to order at 12:51 p.m. by Chairman Robert O'Brien.

In addition to Mr. O'Brien, the following Board members were present: Dr. Dellith, Ms. Fortunato, Dr. Gerardi, Mr. Lindberg, Dr. Ottaviano, and Mr. Welford, as well as Julian E. MacDonnell, Jr., Executive Director, Robert Wall, Director of Educational Services, Craig Enos, Director of Administration, and Thomas Rambacher, Director of Technology. Guests: Attorney Benjamin Scungio, Marianne Fosnaugh of Hibiscus Software, Eric Butash, Director of Technology, North Smithfield

Routine Matters:

1.0 The Minutes of April 7, 2009

Moved: Dr. Gerardi
Seconded: Dr. Ottaviano

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

2.0 Bills for the month of April, 2009

Moved: Dr. Dellith
Seconded: Dr. Ottaviano

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

The Board agreed to take agenda item #9 out of order:

New Business:

9.0 Hibiscus Software Presentation by Marianne Fosnaugh Requested by Dr. Robert Gerardi

The Executive Director welcomed Ms. Marianne Fosnaugh to the meeting. Dr. Robert Gerardi introduced Ms. Fosnaugh to the Board and reported on the success of the

program in North Providence and plans to implement in Woonsocket.

Ms. Fosnaugh distributed information to the Board on the XConnects Program and gave a PowerPoint presentation reviewing the results of the program that was implemented in North Providence. Ms. Fosnaugh also reported the program is now being adopted in Scituate.

Dr. Gerardi advised the program is based on the 2005 and 2007 GLE's and recommended it to all districts.

Mr. Robert Wall reported that Ms. Fosnaugh will also present her XConnects Program to the Special Education Directors at their meeting on May 13th along with a presentation by NetRTI.

Mr. MacDonnell thanked Ms. Fosnaugh and she left the meeting at 1:30 pm.

Old Business:

3.0 Strategic Planning – Professional Development

. Discussion of McREL Draft Professional Development Proposal

The Executive Director reported that the cost for district teams to be trained is \$7,000 and questioned if any of the districts are interested for training this summer. We can also open this up to the entire state. Mr. MacDonnell will check with RISSA. Further discussion to take place at the next meeting.

. Michael Schmoker Professional Development Opportunity, May 09

The Executive Director advised that the elementary and middle school principals are attending today's session.

Mr. O'Brien, Chairman, reported that the portable equipment for the Bob Ballard project has been tested. They will broadcast 24-7 in September. Training will possibly take place over the summer and questioned if any other districts are interested.

4.0 District Technology Collaboration

The Executive Director welcomed Tom Rambacher, NRIC's Technology Director, and Eric Butash, North Smithfield's Technology Director to the meeting to discuss District Technology Collaborative Purchasing. Mr. Butash gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Collaborative Purchasing Process for the Summer 2009. Purchase items were identified – desktops, laptops, servers, thin clients, laser printers, networking equipment – and they are working on developing a price list with vendors. A survey will go out this week on anticipated purchases with returns by May 15th. Quotes will be obtained from vendors by May 29th with a district price list available June 1st. District purchase orders will reference NRIC pricing. Future items for purchase were also discussed.

Mr. O'Brien advised that the State may receive stimulus monies for an SIS system and that districts may be required to go with one SIS system for the entire State. Discussion followed regarding RINET and SIS systems.

Mr. Lindberg requested copies of the survey be sent to the Superintendents.

Mr. O'Brien thanked Mr. Rambacher and Mr. Butash for their presentation. They left the meeting at 2:05 pm.

5.0 Oil Bid

Mr. Craig Enos reported that only one company responded to the oil bid – Brennan Oil Company -- at a variable price of 11.3 cents. Mr. Lindberg was disappointed that no one bid on a fixed price and suggested going out to bid again in central Massachusetts.

New Business:

6.0 Board Meeting Schedule 2009-2010

The Executive Director reviewed the proposed Meeting Schedule for 2009-2010. Mr. MacDonnell questioned the Board on the January 2010 meeting date.

Dr. Dellith motioned to approve the proposed Board Meeting Schedule for 2009-2010 with the January 5, 2010 date. The motion was seconded by Mr. Welford and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Dellith
Seconded: Mr. Welford

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

7.0 Green Cleaning Products Bid

Mr. Craig Enos reported that information was received from Central Falls, Johnston, North Smithfield and Pawtucket on bid specs. He will re-send and give it another week.

Mr. MacDonnell advised that we can piggyback with LEARN.

8.0 Bacon & Company Auditor's Management Letter

Mr. Craig Enos reported on the Auditor's Management Letter received from Bacon & Company, reviewing their recommendations concerning NRIC's payroll system and receiving signed/approved time sheets before payroll is processed. Mr. Welford expressed concern with 50% of time sheets being processed without administrator approval. Discussion followed on ways to improve the system. Mr. MacDonnell and Mr. Enos will review the procedures and will discuss further at the next meeting.

Mr. Enos then reported on Section II regarding: NRIC providing payroll processing services to outside entities, i.e. HIPPIY Program; maintaining a working capital of 1-2 months of operating expenses; maintaining Federal Grant Funds in a separate non-interest bearing checking account.

Attorney Scungio will develop a policy to address this recommendation. He suggested contacting the bank to see if they could maintain a non-interest bearing account for the grant funds.

Executive Session --

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 legal advice related thereto.

Chairman O'Brien entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session at 2:26 pm, which was moved by Mr. Lindberg, seconded by Dr. Dellith; an individual vote was taken and carried by all. The closed session ended at 2:32 pm. There were no votes taken during Executive Session.

Information:

Nothing to report.

With no further information to report, Mr. O'Brien entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:33 p.m., which was moved by Dr. Dellith, seconded by Mr. Welford, and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Dellith
Seconded: Mr. Welford

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

Respectfully submitted,

Robert O'Brien, Chairman