

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, August 7, 2012.** The meeting was called to order at 12:36 pm by Georgia Fortunato, Chair, with a motion by Ms. Cylke, seconded by Mr. O'Brien and carried by all.

In addition to Ms. Fortunato, the following Board members were present: Ms. Cylke, Dr. Donoyan, Mr. O'Brien, and Dr. Thornton, as well as Joseph M. Nasif, Jr., Interim Executive Director, Robert Wall, Director of Educational Services, and Craig Enos, Director of Administration. Guests: Andrew Henneous, Esq., Cindy VanAvery, NRIC's Transition Employment Center.

Routine Matters:

1.0 The Minutes of July 10, 2012

Moved: Ms. Cylke
Seconded: Dr. Donoyan

Approved: Ms. Cylke
Dr. Donoyan
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Thornton

2.0 Bills for the Month of July 2012

Moved: Ms. Cylke
Seconded: Dr. Thornton

Approved: Ms. Cylke
Dr. Donoyan
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Thornton

Correspondence:

3.0 Notes from Julian E. MacDonnell, Jr., Dr. Donna Ottaviano, & Paula DiPaola of Barnes & Noble

4.0 Ms. Fortunato, Chair, read the thank you notes received from Mr. MacDonnell, Dr. Ottaviano, and Ms. DiPaola.

6.0 Resignation of Tina Dennis, Teacher

The Executive Director recommended the Board accept the resignation of Tina Dennis, Teacher, which was moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Dr. Thornton and carried by all.

Moved: Ms. Cylke
Seconded: Dr. Thornton

Approved: Ms. Cylke
Dr. Donoyan
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Thornton

Old Business:

7.0 Strategic Planning – Professional Development – Collaborative Planning

Mr. Nasif, Interim Executive Director, reported that another Strategic Planning session will be scheduled for the Fall possibly in late October. Mr. Nasif indicated this meeting is necessary for the future direction of NRIC. He will send out suggested dates to the Board.

8.0 Shared Resources

Dr. Pallotta was not in attendance and therefore nothing to report.

New Business:

9.0 Graduation Requirements/Presentation by Cindy VanAvery/Jane Slade

Ms. Fortunato welcomed Cindy VanAvery, NRIC's Transition Employment Center Manager, to the meeting to discuss the new Graduation Requirements. Ms. VanAvery advised that as a new Regional Transition Coordinator she has been participating in a discussion group with RIDE regarding the effect of the new graduation requirements as it relates to Alternate Assessment and special education students. Ms. VanAvery distributed copies to the Board of the "Secondary Regulations Guide May 2011" along with "Participation Criteria for the RI Alternate Assessment", drafts of the Certificates and the "Standards & Benchmarks" on "Citizen & Community", "Self Determination" and "Work Readiness".

Ms. VanAvery reviewed the Certificate templates and advised they were developed with the assistance of RIDE and are on the RIDE website. They will be piloted in three districts in the new school year. Feedback should be received by the end of the school year.

Mr. Wall discussed the impact of all special education students receiving a certificate along with feedback from parents.

Discussion followed regarding NRIC becoming a model for the State and assisting in the development of programs for the districts for these students. Mr. O'Brien expressed his hope that this would be an opportunity for NRIC.

The certificate vs. a diploma was also discussed.

Mr. Wall discussed our current transition programs and vocational evaluation programs and possibly expanding these programs to assist the districts.

Ms. Donoyan requested assistance with programs for disruptive students.

Mr. Nasif advised that we would check to see if we would want to move forward with these types of programs and will check further with the districts.

Ms. Fortunato thanked Ms. VanAvery for her assistance at today's meeting.

10.0 Employment Non-Renewal of Non-Certified Staff for 2012-13

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the non-renewal of the employment of the non-certified staff as presented on the attached list for 2012-13. The motion was made by Ms. Cylke, seconded by Dr. Thornton and carried by all.

Moved: Ms. Cylke
Seconded: Dr. Thornton

Approved: Ms. Cylke
Dr. Donoyan
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Thornton

11.0 Rescind Employment Non-Renewals of Certified and Non-Certified Staff for 2012-13

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve rescinding the employment non-renewals of the certified and non-certified staff as presented on the attached list for 2012-13.

Mr. Nasif reported that rescinding the employment of Mr. Francis Casey, Teacher, would depend on a number of factors that would take place at the "Job Pool" taking place on August 8th. Therefore, Ms. Fortunato suggested that Mr. Casey's rescinding be tabled until the September meeting.

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve rescinding the employment of non-certified staff member, Michael Notorangelo, Custodian which was made by Dr. Donoyan, seconded by Dr. Thornton and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Donoyan
Seconded: Dr. Thornton

Approved: Ms. Cylke
Dr. Donoyan
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Thornton

12.0 Opening of 2012-13 School Year

Mr. Nasif reported that he will meet with the Main Office Staff to plan NRIC's staff orientation. He emphasized the need for open communication with all employees and a new beginning for NRIC.

13.0 Transition Employment Center Lease 2012-13

Mr. Enos, Director of Administration, reported on the new location of NRIC's TEC Center on Esten Avenue in Pawtucket. The cost for a one-year lease would remain the same and would have more square footage. He requested the Board's approval of the new lease. The motion for approval was made by Ms. Cylke, seconded by Dr. Thornton and carried by all.

Moved: Ms. Cylke
Seconded: Dr. Thornton

Approved: Ms. Cylke
Dr. Donoyan
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Thornton

(Cindy VanAvery left the meeting at 1:30 pm).

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:

- NRICEU Grievances / Interim Executive Director

Ms. Fortunato, Chair, entertained a motion to move into Executive Session at 1:31 pm, which was moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Dr. Donoyan, carried by all.

Moved: Mr. O'Brien
Seconded: Dr. Donoyan

Approved: Ms. Cylke
Dr. Donoyan
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Thornton

Ms. Fortunato, Chair, entertained a motion to adjourn Executive Session at 1:52 pm and seal the minutes, which was moved by Ms. Cylke, seconded by Dr. Donoyan, carried by all.

Moved: Ms. Cylke
Seconded: Dr. Donoyan

Approved: Ms. Cylke
Dr. Donoyan
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Thornton

Ms. Fortunato, Chair, entertained a motion to go to Open Session at 1:53 pm, which was moved by Dr. Donoyan, seconded by Dr. Thornton, carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Donoyan
Seconded: Dr. Thornton

Approved: Ms. Cylke
Dr. Donoyan
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Thornton

Ms. Fortunato, Chair, reported the following vote as a result of discussions during Executive Session. A motion was made by Dr. Donoyan to increase the daily rate of Mr. Joseph Nasif, Interim Executive Director, from \$400.00 per day to \$500.00 per day effective August 1, 2012 which was seconded by Mr. O'Brien and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Donoyan
Seconded: Mr. O'Brien

Approved: Ms. Cylke
Dr. Donoyan
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Thornton

Information:

13.0 Dr. Donna Ottaviano Retirement Party

Mr. Nasif reminded everyone about Dr. Ottaviano's retirement party on August 9, 2012.

14.0 Interim Executive Director Comments

Mr. Nasif advised of the need for a positive attitude for the start of the new school year and support of the staff to work together as a team.

With no further information to discuss, Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 pm, which was moved by Dr. Donoyan, seconded by Ms. Cylke, and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Donoyan
Seconded: Ms. Cylke

Approved: Ms. Cylke
Dr. Donoyan
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Thornton

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Georgia Fortunato, Chair