

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 Barnes & Noble, Smithfield Crossings, 371 Putnam Pike, Smithfield, RI, on **Tuesday, December 4, 2012**. The meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm by Chair, Georgia Fortunato, with a motion by Dr. DiLullo, seconded by Dr. Donoyan and carried by all.

In addition to Ms. Fortunato, the following Board members were present: Ms. Cylke, Dr. DiLullo, Mr. O'Brien, Dr. Pallotta, Dr. Ryan, and Dr. Donoyan, as well as Joseph M. Nasif, Jr., Interim Executive Director, and Craig Enos, Director of Administration. Guests: Paula DiPaola, and Taylor McNeilly of Barnes & Noble.

The Board agreed to take Agenda Item #7 out of order for the Barnes & Noble presentation.

New Business:

- 7.0 Presentation by Paula DiPaola, Community Relations Manager, Barnes & Noble**
Ms. Paula DiPaola welcomed the Board back to Barnes & Noble and thanked them for the opportunity to introduce Barnes & Noble's new device, the Nook HD+ 9" Tablet. Before describing the new Nook, Ms. DiPaola asked the Superintendents for their participation again this year in the Favorite Teacher Contest in April 2013, which awards \$5,000 for the teacher and the school, and gave them the opportunity to sign up.

(Ms. Deborah Cylke arrived at 12:35 pm).

With the assistance of her colleague, Taylor McNeilly, Ms. DiPaola provided information to the Board on the Nook HD+ and reviewed the "Top Ten Reasons Why the Nook HD+ is the Smart Choice for Your School System".

Ms. DiPaola and Mr. McNeilly entertained questions and the Superintendents had the opportunity to demonstrate the Nook HD+. Several of the features of the Nook HD+ were discussed. The price for the 16gb model is \$269.00 and \$299.00 for the 32 gb. Ms. DiPaola advised that bulk discounts are available.

After further discussion, Ms. DiPaola advised that she is willing to have the Superintendents sample the Nook HD+ in their own districts for a week in January/February and gave them the opportunity to sign up.

Ms. Fortunato thanked Ms. DiPaola and Mr. McNeilly and the presentation concluded at 1:14 pm.

Routine Matters:

1.0 The Minutes of November 13, 2012

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

Approved: Ms. Cylke
Dr. DiLullo
Dr. Donoyan
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Pallotta
Dr. Ryan

2.0 Bills for the Month of November 2012

Moved: Dr. Ryan
Seconded: Dr. Pallotta

Approved: Ms. Cylke
Dr. DiLullo
Dr. Donoyan
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Pallotta
Dr. Ryan

Old Business:

3.0 Strategic Planning – Professional Development – Collaborative Planning

Mr. Nasif, Interim Executive Director, reported that we have completed our most recent Teacher Assistant Training program with 18 students and 6 students in the previous class. Another class is planned for January 2013 and we will continue to offer the program as long as there is continued interest. Mr. Nasif will keep the Board informed.

4.0 NRIC Budget 2013-2014 / Current Grant Projects

As requested by the Board at the November meeting, Mr. Craig Enos, Director of Administration, provided a listing of current NRIC Grant Projects. Mr. Enos reviewed each grant totaling approximately \$2 million along with the administrative fee that is received by NRIC for each.

During discussion, Dr. Pallotta questioned how this money is reflected in the budget and suggested the possibility of credits to the districts. Ms. Fortunato suggested discussing the issue with our attorney and placing the item on the agenda for our January meeting. Mr. Enos also suggested we seek guidance from our auditor, Bacon & Company. Mr. O'Brien suggested the possibility of setting up a reserve account for these funds. Further discussion will take place at the next meeting.

Mr. Nasif and the Board thanked Mr. Enos for his aggressiveness on his work in obtaining these grants for NRIC.

5.0 Electronics Recycling

Ms. Fortunato, Chair, advised that since this agenda item requires a vote, she requested that it be placed on the January meeting agenda and reworded as “Approval of the removal of obsolete equipment”.

6.0 NRIC Truck

The Interim Executive Director requested that NRIC’s truck and plow be sold as it is no longer being used. Mr. Nasif provided an information sheet to the Board regarding its make and model along with the Kelly Blue Book value of approximately \$17,000.

Ms. Fortunato advised that since this agenda item requires a vote, she also requested that it be placed on the January meeting agenda and be reworded as “Approval of the sale of NRIC Truck”.

New Business:

8.0 Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Policy

The Interim Executive Director informed the Board of the need for an Automated External Defibrillator at the St. James site and the Main Office Training Center and requested approval of the policy. Mr. Nasif also advised that we have applied for a Safety Grant with The Trust for payment of one of the two AED’s.

Ms. Fortunato advised that since this agenda item requires a vote, she also requested that it be tabled to the January meeting agenda and be reworded similar to school committee meetings as “Approval of the AED Policy.....1st Reading or 2nd Reading. Ms. Fortunato also requested that in the future a template of the agenda be sent to her in advance.

9.0 Building Maintenance

The Interim Executive Director reported of the uncleanliness at the St. James site and has met with the custodians regarding the matter. Mr. Nasif also reports he has been working closely with the Union and hopes to resolve the issue.

Information:

10.0 Interim Executive Director Comments

Mr. Joseph Nasif reported that he is meeting with the staff of our Auditory Oral Program at Orchard Farm today regarding their concerns and ideas for the future of NRIC. He will also be meeting with the St. James staff on Thursday along with the staff at the TEC Center next week.

Mr. Nasif indicated that the staff is excited to have the opportunity to submit their input.

Mr. Nasif will report back to the Board at the January meeting regarding the feedback and will discuss the districts' needs and the vision for the future of NRIC.

11.0 NRIC Non-Violent Crisis Prevention Intervention Training

The Interim Executive Director reported that the CPI training that was scheduled for December has been postponed to January 2013 to accommodate charter school staff that were interested. Mr. Nasif will advise of the dates when they have been confirmed.

With no further information to discuss, Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:42 pm, which was moved by Dr. DiLullo, seconded by Ms. Cylke, and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. DiLullo
Seconded: Ms. Cylke

Approved: Ms. Cylke
Dr. DiLullo
Dr. Donoyan
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Pallotta
Dr. Ryan

Respectfully submitted,

Georgia Fortunato, Chair