

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, June 4, 2013.**

The following Board members were in attendance: Dr. Barnes, Dr. DiLullo, Ms. Fortunato, Mr. Lindberg, Mr. O'Brien, Dr. Pallotta, Ms. Smith, 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: Attorney Benjamin Scungio

I. Opening of Meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm by Chair, Georgia Fortunato, with a motion by Dr. DiLullo, seconded by Mr. O'Brien and carried by all.

II. Approval of Minutes:

A. Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 7, 2013, which was moved by Dr. Pallotta, seconded by Dr. Thornton, carried by all.

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| <u>Moved:</u> | Dr. Pallotta | <u>Approved:</u> | Dr. Barnes |
| <u>Seconded:</u> | Dr. Thornton | | Dr. DiLullo |
| | | | Ms. Fortunato |
| | | | Mr. Lindberg |
| | | | Mr. O'Brien |
| | | | Dr. Pallotta |
| | | | Dr. Thornton |

III. Old Business:

A. Consider/Discussion and possible vote on plan for Graduation/Summer Programs Offering

Chair Georgia Fortunato thanked Bob O'Brien for all of his assistance in getting this program off the ground. Mr. O'Brien distributed copies to the Board of a sample letter to parents, the proposed budget to the RI Foundation, and the overview of the program in conjunction with the RI Afterschool Plus Alliance. Mr. O'Brien advised he has met with the RI Foundation and that the grant was approved and there would be no cost to the districts. Mr. O'Brien reviewed the proposed budget and also asked the Superintendents for their feedback on the sample letter to parents. Mr. O'Brien requested the number of students from each district so that he can determine the percentage of students for each district. Cumberland confirmed 103; Johnston 109, Lincoln 60; Foster-Glocester 37, North Smithfield 19 and Smithfield 34. Ms. Fortunato requested that NRIC send another email to those districts not present today – Woonsocket, Pawtucket and North Providence to obtain their student numbers.

Discussion also took place regarding training for the teachers with the business partners along with the Summer School Coordinator position. Mr. Nasif advised six applicants have been received for the Director of Summer School and that interviews will be scheduled.

(Ms. Melinda Smith arrived at 12:45 pm).

B. Consider/discussion and possible vote on plan for Executive Director Search

Ms. Fortunato, Chair, reported that the Screening Committee will meet after the Board meeting today to review the 15 applications that have been received. Interviews will then be scheduled with the remaining members of the Screening Committee.

C. Consider/discussion and possible vote on plan for the Need for Additional Classroom Space

Mr. Nasif, Interim Executive Director, reported that student enrollment is increasing and space is becoming very tight at St. James School. Mr. Nasif indicated there is a need for an additional one to two classrooms. He recently toured the St. Lawrence School in North Providence but it was not in the proper condition. Other options are the re-rental of space at St. Joan's School in Cumberland or the possibility of modular classrooms, however, the cost would be high.

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion for the Board to give Mr. Nasif authority to move forward in exploring options for additional classroom space, which was moved by Dr. Pallotta, seconded by Mr. O'Brien and carried by all.

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

Approved: Dr. Barnes
Dr. DiLullo
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. Lindberg
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Pallotta
Ms. Smith
Dr. Thornton

D. Consider/discussion and possible vote on NRIC Audit 2011-12

Craig Enos, Director of Administration, advised that the final Audit Report for 2011-12 was received from Pat Boucher of Bacon & Company after her report at last month's meeting, copies of which were provided to the Board. Mr. Enos reported that there was no action to be taken.

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the Audit Report for 2011-12, which was moved by Dr. DiLullo, seconded by Dr. Pallotta and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. DiLullo
Seconded: Dr. Pallotta

Approved: Dr. Barnes
Dr. DiLullo
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. Lindberg
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Pallotta
Ms. Smith
Dr. Thornton

IV. New Business:

A. Consider/discussion and possible vote on Employment Non-Renewals for Non-Certified Staff 2013-14

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the employment non-renewal of the following non-certified staff for 2013-14:

Job Facilitators

Maura Silvia
Theresa Fagan
Ashley Picard

Clerks

Debra Kociuba
Joanne Campbell

Travel Trainer

Georgia Wattendorf-Guiney

The motion was made by Dr. Pallotta, seconded by Dr. DiLullo and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Pallotta
Seconded: Dr. DiLullo

Approved: Dr. Barnes
Dr. DiLullo
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. Lindberg
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Pallotta
Ms. Smith
Dr. Thornton

B. Consider/discussion and possible vote on Rescinding Employment Non-Renewals for 2013-2014

Mr. Nasif, Interim Executive Director, recommended that this agenda item be tabled until the July meeting when more up-to-date enrollment figures are received.

C. Consider/discussion and possible vote on plan for NRIC Budget 2013-2014

Mr. Craig Enos, Director of Administration, distributed copies of the Proposed Tuition Rates for 2013-14 along with an Overview of the Budget. Mr. Nasif, Interim Executive Director, reported that we have been working closely to contain expenses and that this is the first time there will be no increases in tuition rates.

One factor is receiving early enrollment numbers from the special education directors. Mr. Nasif also advised that enrollment is climbing and the Auditory Oral Program is expanding outside NRIC districts. If more students are received into the SAP Program, the tuition may reduce even more. Another factor was a huge savings in unemployment expenses thanks to the assistance of Attorney Ron Cascione.

Mr. Enos also advised that we have been in discussions with the Main Office landlord and the possibility of moving to the first floor. Effective January 1, 2014 if there is no movement, we will not be charged for the entire space on the second floor.

Discussion and questions followed on various budget items. Dr. Pallotta questioned why there was no budget shown for Psychological Evaluations, Printing, and Meeting Supplies and recommended that an amount be included in the budget. Also, Dr. Barnes recommended that Actual figures be shown in the budget.

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to accept the Budget for 2013-2014 with the recommended changes, which was moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Dr. DiLullo and carried by all.

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| <u>Moved:</u> | Mr. O'Brien | <u>Approved:</u> | Dr. Barnes |
| <u>Seconded:</u> | Dr. DiLullo | | Dr. DiLullo |
| | | | Ms. Fortunato |
| | | | Mr. Lindberg |
| | | | Mr. O'Brien |
| | | | Dr. Pallotta |
| | | | Ms. Smith |
| | | | Dr. Thornton |

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to accept the Tuition Rates for 2013-2014, which was moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Dr. DiLullo and carried by all.

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| <u>Moved:</u> | Mr. O'Brien | <u>Approved:</u> | Dr. Barnes |
| <u>Seconded:</u> | Dr. DiLullo | | Dr. DiLullo |
| | | | Ms. Fortunato |
| | | | Mr. Lindberg |
| | | | Mr. O'Brien |
| | | | Dr. Pallotta |
| | | | Ms. Smith |
| | | | Dr. Thornton |

D. Consider/discussion and possible vote on plan for Purchase of 15-Passenger Van

Mr. Nasif, Interim Executive Director, requested the Board's approval in purchasing a 15-passenger van which will be utilized for transporting students and transporting supplies by the custodian which would reduce mileage expenses. Funds for the van would come from monies received from the recent sale of the NRIC truck.

Discussion followed regarding the possibility of leasing the van along with regulations for the number of students to be transported.

Mr. Nasif will gather information and bring it before the Board at the July meeting.

V. Expense Warrants for May 2013

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the Bills for May 2013, which was moved by Dr. Pallotta, seconded by Dr. DiLullo.

Moved: Dr. Pallotta
Seconded: Dr. DiLullo

Approved: Dr. Barnes
Dr. DiLullo
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. Lindberg
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Pallotta
Ms. Smith
Dr. Thornton

VI. Executive Director Report:

Nothing to report.

VII. Executive Session:

Nothing to report.

VIII. Information:

- Bob Wall, Director of Educational Services, advised that, as requested at the last meeting, copies have been made available of NRIC's Evaluation Program for the Board's information and will be reviewed on next month's agenda.
- The Director of Summer School position was discussed. Interviews will be conducted by Bob O'Brien, Adam Greenman and Joe Nasif.

With no further information to report, Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:10 pm, which was moved by Dr. Pallotta, seconded by Dr. DiLullo and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Pallotta
Seconded: Dr. DiLullo

Approved: Dr. Barnes
Dr. DiLullo
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. Lindberg
Mr. O'Brien
Dr. Pallotta
Ms. Smith
Dr. Thornton

Respectfully submitted,

Georgia Fortunato, Chair