

**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, September 10, 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. Guest: Attorney Benjamin Scungio

**I. Opening of Meeting:**

The meeting was called to order at 12:31 pm by Chair, Georgia Fortunato, with a motion by Dr. DiLullo, seconded by Dr. Pallotta and carried by all.

**II. Approval of Minutes:**

A. Ms. Fortunato, Chair, entertained a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 6, 2013, which was moved by Dr. Pallotta, seconded by Dr. DiLullo, 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

**III. Old Business:**

**A. Consider/Discussion and update Pathways to Graduation/Summer Programs Offering**

Mr. Nasif, Interim Executive Director, gave a final report of the Pathways to Graduation Program that concluded on August 22, 2013. Mr. Nasif thanked Christine Bonas and David Mellor for their assistance. Mr. Nasif reported that a total of 300 student seats were available; we received a commitment from districts of 127, but the final actual number of students was 67. Mr. Nasif also extended thanks to Bank of America, Navigant Credit Union and to Rhode Island College for a highly successful program. Rhode Island College will be providing a video of the program and will share with the Superintendents.

Mr. Nasif advised that planning for next year's program will begin earlier. Student certificates were distributed to the Superintendents for those students who did not attend on the last day.

**B. Consider/discussion and possible vote on St. Joans' Lease**

Mr. Nasif reported that based on increased enrollment and the need for more classroom space, he entered into an agreement with Fr. Bourdon of St. Joan's Parish for space at St. Joans School. Mr. Nasif advised Fr. Bourdon offered the same rental rate as two years ago, which was \$37,945.47 for all of the first floor. Mr. Nasif indicated that 50% of the rate will be paid if we sub lease some of the space to Maple Hill Learning Center. Mr. Nasif requested the Board's approval of the St. Joan's Lease Agreement for one year.

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the lease agreement for rental of St. Joan's School for 2013-2014. The motion 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

**C. Consider/discussion and possible vote on plan for Sub Lease of St. Joan's to Maple Hill Early Learning Center**

Mr. Nasif reported that Maple Hill Early Learning Center is a preschool that was formerly located on Lonsdale Avenue in Lincoln. They have since relocated to space at St. Joans School. Fr. Bourdon of St. Joans Parish has allowed NRIC to sublease some of our space to Maple Hill. They will pay us \$17,000 for 10 months. Mr. Nasif indicated that we are hoping to create a partnership with them in the future. Mr. Nasif is requesting the Board's approval of the sub lease of St. Joan's to Maple Hill Early Learning Center.

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the sub lease agreement with Maple Hill Early Learning Center for 2013-2014. The motion was made by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Dr. Pallotta and carried by all.

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

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 plan for TEC Lease**

Mr. Nasif reported that the lease agreement for the TEC was received yesterday from Owen Williams. The agreement is for a one-year lease paying \$1,250 per month from September through December 2013 and \$1,500 per month for January through August 2014. Mr. Nasif is requesting the Board's approval of the lease agreement for the TEC.

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the lease agreement for the TEC Center for 2013-2014. The motion was made 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 plan for Strategic Planning**

Mr. Nasif reported that he has contacted Ralph Jasbarro and Frank Leary as possible facilitators for NRIC's Strategic Planning session planned for the latter part of October. He advised previous Strategic Planning sessions were held in 2005-06, 2008 and June 2012. Mr. Nasif recommended that the 2012 document (which was provided to the Board) be reviewed and updated, and that the recent Needs Assessment be incorporated. Mr. Nasif suggested either one 4-hour session or two 2-hour sessions be held. Mr. Nasif will email the facilitator's available dates to the Board.

Discussion took place regarding the need for district central office staff to attend along with the question of a need for a facilitator.

Mr. Nasif will find out what the cost of the facilitator would be.

**B. Consider/discussion and possible vote on Interim Executive Director Contract**

Ms. Fortunato, Chair, advised that this agenda item would be discussed during Executive Session.

**C. Consider/discussion and possible vote on Lease Agreement with Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District for 2013-2014 Southern RI Transition Program**

Mr. Nasif reported that SORICO's Transition Program was formerly located in Westerly but the space is no longer available. There was no formal lease agreement at that time and there was no rental fee.

Exeter-West Greenwich has agreed to lease space at Lineham School to SORICO's Transition Program with no rental fee.

Mr. Nasif is requesting the Board's approval of the lease agreement with Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District for 2013-2014.

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the lease agreement for SORICO's Transition Program with the Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District for 2013-2014. The motion was made by Dr. Pallotta, seconded by Ms. Smith and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Pallotta  
Seconded: Ms. Smith

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 Lease Agreement with Providence School Department**

Mr. Nasif reported that the Providence School Department is currently running an Autism Program and wanted a site outside of Providence. They indicated an interest in utilizing space at our TEC Center in Pawtucket. Bob Wall and Cindy VanAvery met with them regarding their proposal. The proposal was reviewed by Ben Scungio and sent to Providence. Providence has agreed to pay us \$24,750 for space at our TEC Center.

Mr. Nasif is requesting the Board's approval of the lease agreement with the Providence School Department for 2013-2014.

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the lease agreement with the Providence School Department for 2013-2014. The motion was made by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Dr. Pallotta and carried by all.

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

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

**E. Consider/discussion and vote on Rescinding Employment Non-Renewal for Kathy O'Brien, Adaptive Phys Ed Teacher from .8 FTE to 1.0 FTE**

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve Mr. Nasif's request to rescind the employment of Kathy O'Brien, Adaptive Phys Ed Teacher from a .8 FTE to 1.0 FTE. The motion was moved by Dr. DiLullo, seconded by Ms. Smith and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. DiLullo  
Seconded: Ms. Smith

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

**V. Appointments:**

**A. Consider/discussion and vote on appointment of Nicole Miale, Career Assessment Specialist**

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the appointment of Nicole Miale, Career Assessment Specialist, which was moved by Dr. Pallotta, seconded by Dr. Thornton and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Pallotta  
Seconded: Dr. Thornton

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

**B. Consider/discussion and vote on appointment of Justine Beatini, Career Resource Specialist**

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the appointment of Justine Beatini, Career Resource Specialist, which was moved by Dr. Pallotta, seconded by Dr. Thornton and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Pallotta  
Seconded: Dr. Thornton

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

**C. Consider/discussion and vote on appointment of Ashley Picard, Career Resource Specialist**

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the appointment of Ashley Picard, Career Resource Specialist, which was moved by Mr. Lindberg, seconded by Dr. Thornton and carried by all.

Moved: Mr. Lindberg  
Seconded: Dr. Thornton

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

**D. Consider/discussion and vote on appointment of Jane DeMelo, Special Education Teacher, TEC, .5 FTE**

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the appointment of Jane DeMelo, Special Education Teacher, TEC, .5 FTE, which was moved by Dr. Pallotta, seconded by Dr. Barnes and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Pallotta  
Seconded: Dr. Barnes

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

**E. Consider/discussion and vote on appointment of Julie Rider, Teacher, High School**

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the appointment of Julie Rider, Teacher, High School, which was moved by Dr. Thornton, seconded by Dr. Pallotta and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Thornton  
Seconded: Dr. Pallotta

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

**F. Consider/discussion and vote on appointment of Leah Agabiti, Teacher Assistant, Middle**

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the appointment of Leah Agabiti, Teacher Assistant, Middle, which was moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Dr. Thornton and carried by all.

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

**VI. Expense Warrants for August 2013**

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

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

**VII. Executive Director Report:**

**A. General Information**

Mr. Nasif updated the Board on another TA Training Program scheduled to begin in October along with another Drivers' Training program with CCRI.

At this time, Ms. Fortunato, Chair, presented Dr. Michael Barnes, Superintendent of Foster-Glocester, with a plaque from the Board of Superintendents commemorating being chosen as Superintendent of the Year for 2013.

**VIII. 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:**

- Personnel – Interim Executive Director Contract

Ms. Fortunato, Chair, entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session at 12:53 pm, which was moved by Ms. Smith, seconded by Dr. Thornton and carried by all.

Moved: Ms. Smith  
Seconded: Dr. Thornton

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

Mr. Nasif, Mr. Wall, and Mr. Enos left the meeting at this time.

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to return to Open Session at 1:15 pm, which was moved by Ms. Smith, seconded by Dr. Thornton and carried by all.

Moved: Ms. Smith  
Seconded: Dr. Thornton

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

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the extension of Mr. Nasif's contract as Interim Executive Director for another 90 days at a rate of \$500.00 per day for the 2013-2014 school year. The motion 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

**X. Information:**

Nothing to report.

With no further information to report, Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:17 pm, which was moved by Ms. Smith, seconded by Dr. Pallotta and carried by all.

Moved: Ms. Smith  
Seconded: Dr. Pallotta

Approved: Dr. Barnes  
Dr. DiLullo  
Ms. Fortunato

Mr. Lindberg  
Mr. O'Brien  
Dr. Pallotta  
Ms. Smith  
Dr. Thornton

Ms. Fortunato advised that the October Board Meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 8 instead of October 1.

Respectfully submitted,

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Georgia Fortunato, Chair