

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, January 7, 2014.**

The following Board members were in attendance: Dr. Barnes, Ms. Cylke, Dr. DiLullo, Ms. Fortunato, Mr. O'Brien, Dr. Pallotta, Ms. Smith and Dr. Thornton as well as Joseph M. Nasif, Jr., Interim Executive Director, and Craig Enos, Director of Administration. Guests: Attorney Benjamin Scungio, Robert Wall, Director of Student Personnel Services, Pawtucket School Department and RIDE personnel, Lisa Foehr, Melissa Denton and Hilda Potrzeba

I. Opening of Meeting:

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

II. Approval of Minutes:

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 3, 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. DiLullo |
| <u>Seconded:</u> | Dr. Thornton | | Ms. Fortunato |
| | | | Mr. O'Brien |
| | | | Dr. Pallotta |
| | | | Ms. Smith |
| | | | Dr. Thornton |

The Board agreed to take Agenda Item IV out of order:

IV. New Business:

A. Presentation from RIDE on "Induction for Teachers" with Lisa Foehr, Melissa Denton, and Hilda Potrzeba

Ms. Fortunato welcomed Ms. Foehr, Ms. Denton and Ms. Potrzeba to the meeting. Ms. Foehr began their presentation by giving an overview of the Statewide Induction Program. Ms. Foehr reported that the purpose of meeting with Superintendents is to determine their feedback on the Induction Program and how to continue the program when Race to the Top concludes. Ms. Foehr advised that a Sustainability Committee was formed to discuss program options – consider sustaining the current model; go to a regional approach utilizing the Collaboratives; or each district goes off on their own. The Sustainability Committee is focusing on the regional approach and they are seeking feedback from the Superintendents.

(Ms. Cylke and Dr. Barnes arrived at 12:38 pm).

Ms. Denton reviewed what is needed to continue the Induction Program, posted several key issues and requested that each Superintendent present indicate their feedback. At the conclusion of this exercise, Ms. Foehr and Ms. Denton reviewed the Superintendents' feedback.

Ms. Foehr distributed information relating to the financial piece of the Induction Program and reported that a budget of \$700,000 was requested for continuation of the program through the LEA's. Further discussion followed. An evaluation form of today's presentation was also distributed to the Superintendents.

Ms. Fortunato thanked Ms. Foehr, Ms. Denton and Ms. Potrzeba for their presentation and they left the meeting at 2:00 pm.

III. Old Business:

A. Consider/discussion and possible vote on School Calendar 2014-15 (School Vacations)

Ms. Fortunato advised that continued discussion would take place regarding this agenda item which was requested by Dr. Barnes. Ms. Fortunato questioned if districts had the opportunity to discuss the subject of changing the February and/or April school vacations with their school committees. There were a couple of districts that had not yet discussed the issue but of the districts that did discuss the issue with their school committees they indicated that they were not interested in changing their calendars.

The Superintendents did indicate that they would be in favor of changing their school calendars to eliminate the February and April vacations if it was done statewide.

Dr. Barnes made a motion that the Northern Rhode Island Collaborative districts would support changing the school calendar to eliminate the February and April vacations if it was done statewide. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thornton. After discussion, the following vote took place:

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

Dr. Barnes will be meeting with Commissioner Gist and Tim Duffy and will advise them of NRIC's support for this change.

B. Consider/discussion and possible vote on Board Meeting Start Time

Ms. Fortunato reported that this agenda item was also requested by Dr. Barnes.

Dr. Barnes requested that the Board Meeting start time be changed to the beginning of the day instead of at 12:30 pm. Dr. Barnes suggested an 8:00 am meeting time.

After discussion, Dr. Barnes made a motion to request NRIC’s Board of Superintendents meeting time be changed to 8:00 am beginning with the July 2014 meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thornton and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Barnes
Seconded: Dr. Thornton

Approved: Dr. Barnes
Ms. Cylke
Dr. DiLullo
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. O’Brien
Dr. Pallotta
Ms. Smith
Dr. Thornton

IV. New Business:

B. Consider/discussion and possible vote on Pathways to Graduation Summer 2014 Program

Mr. Nasif, the Executive Director, questioned if the Board wanted to continue with the Pathways to Graduation Program again this summer. The program coordinators from last year, Chris Bonas and David Mellor have agreed to continue.

After discussion, Dr. Pallotta motioned to approve proceeding with the Pathways to Graduation Summer Program for 2014. The motion was seconded by Mr. O’Brien and carried by all.

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

Approved: Dr. Barnes
Ms. Cylke
Dr. DiLullo
Ms. Fortunato
Mr. O’Brien
Dr. Pallotta
Ms. Smith
Dr. Thornton

V. Resignation of Robert Wall, Director of Educational Services

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve, with regret, the resignation of Robert Wall, Director of Educational Services. The motion was made by Dr. Pallotta, seconded by Dr. DiLullo and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Pallotta
Seconded: Dr. DiLullo

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

VI. Appointment of Donna Foisy, Interim Director of Educational Services

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the appointment of Donna Foisy as the Interim Director of Educational Services. The motion was made by Dr. Pallotta, seconded by Dr. DiLullo and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Pallotta
Seconded: Dr. DiLullo

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

VII. Expense Warrants for December 2013

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

During discussion, Dr. Pallotta questioned the amount of \$149.00 for petty cash. Mr. Enos advised that a small amount of cash is available for discretionary use and is locked up at the Main Office.

Moved: Dr. Pallotta
Seconded: Ms. Smith

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

VIII. Executive Director Report:

A. General Information

Mr. Nasif reported that a new Teacher Assistant Training Program will begin on January 21. A flyer with the details was made available to the Board for their information.

IX. Executive Session:

Nothing to report.

X. Information:

Nothing to report.

With no further information to report, Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:11 pm, which was moved by Dr. Thornton, seconded by Dr. Pallotta and carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Thornton
Seconded: Dr. Pallotta

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Georgia Fortunato, Chair