

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 2, 2015.**

The following Board members were in attendance: Dr. Barnes, Dr. Capellan, Ms. Dubois, Ms. Fortunato, Dr. Pallotta, Ms. Smith, and Dr. Thornton as well as Joseph M. Nasif, Jr., Executive Director, and Craig Enos, Director of Administration. Guest: In the absence of Patricia DiCenso of Pawtucket, Lee Rabbitt, Assistant Superintendent.

I. Opening of Meeting:

Chair, Georgia Fortunato welcomed to the meeting Dr. Victor Capellan as the new Superintendent in Central Falls before calling the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. with a motion by Dr. Pallotta, seconded by Dr. Barnes and carried by all.

II. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes:

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2015, which was moved by Dr. Pallotta, seconded by Ms. Dubois, carried by all.

Moved: Dr. Pallotta
Seconded: Ms. Dubois

Approved: Dr. Barnes
Dr. Capellan
Ms. Dubois
Ms. Fortunato
Dr. Pallotta
Dr. Thornton

III. Old Business

A. Consider/discussion and possible vote on RI Induction Program

Mr. Nasif reported that he will be meeting again with Hilda Potzreba this week. Mr. Nasif indicated that according to a survey of districts, 23 districts indicated an interest in the Induction Program if the costs are underwritten either by RIDE or through grants. RIDE will not be funding the program with the exception of the national organization membership. Ms. Potzreba is looking into possible funding through the Gates Foundation. Mr. Nasif will keep the Board informed.

The Board agreed to take New Business agenda items out of order.

IV. New Business:

D. Consider/discussion and possible vote on Student Opportunities at CCRI

Mr. Nasif introduced Ms. Jane DeMelo, Teacher at our Transition Employment Center, who will give the Board an overview of our TEC students and the opportunities at CCRI. Ms. DeMelo advised that TEC students are currently at CCRI two days per week where they are enjoying all aspects of college life. A meeting was held with Dean Cunningham where we requested to expand the program to five days per week. We plan for all TEC students to apply to CCRI, take the Accuplacer, and take their first course “College Success” and utilize their facilities.

(Ms. Melinda Smith arrived at 8:07 a.m.)

Ms. DeMelo entertained questions from the Board. Mr. Nasif reported that the TEC Program is growing and that the CCRI component was in response to parents’ requests for college programs for their students. Ms. DeMelo left the meeting at 8:12 a.m.

Ms. Fortunato introduced Ms. Lee Rabbitt, Assistant Superintendent in Pawtucket, who is attending in Superintendent Patricia DiCenso’s absence.

A. Consider/discussion and possible vote on Status of Executive Director Position

Ms. Fortunato questioned the Board as to the status of the Executive Director position and how they wanted to proceed. After discussion, the consensus of the Board was that they were happy with the current status with Joe Nasif continuing to serve as NRIC’s Executive Director.

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve continuation of Joe Nasif as NRIC’s Executive Director. The motion was moved by Dr. Pallotta, seconded by Dr. Thornton and approved by all.

Moved: Dr. Pallotta
Seconded: Dr. Thornton

Approved: Dr. Barnes
Dr. Capellan
Ms. Dubois
Ms. Fortunato
Dr. Pallotta
Ms. Smith
Dr. Thornton

B. Consider/discussion and possible vote on Employment Non-Renewal of Non-Certified Staff for 2015-16

Mr. Nasif advised that this agenda item will be tabled.

C. Consider/discussion and possible vote on St. James Lease Agreement

Mr. Nasif provided copies of a draft of proposed changes to our St. James Lease Agreement received yesterday from Attorney Rita Turcotte. Mr. Nasif reported that

we have asked St. James to free up two rooms to be converted into classrooms. St. James' proposed changes include a significant rent increase which needs to be corrected. Mr. Nasif will meet with Attorney Turcotte to discuss and will report back to the Board.

E. Consider/discussion and possible vote on Director of Transition & Vocational Services Job Description

Mr. Nasif gave an overview of the TEC Program and how it has expanded -- the number of students and the number of employers. Due to growth and DOJ requirements, we must also include our St. James students and are suggesting that Cindy VanAvery oversee the whole project. Mr. Nasif advised that we are currently in negotiations with the Union to make this a non-union position and we have created a draft of the position's job description for the Board's review and approval.

Ms. Fortunato suggested the Board review the job description and then entertained a motion to approve to begin the process of approving the job description for the non-union, grant-funded, one-year position of Director of Transition & Vocational Services beginning August 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. The motion was moved by Dr. Pallotta to accept the job description with the understanding that Mr. Nasif will follow up with agreement from the Union, salary and length of contract. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thornton and carried by all.

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| <u>Moved:</u> | Dr. Pallotta | <u>Approved:</u> | Dr. Barnes |
| <u>Seconded:</u> | Dr. Thornton | | Dr. Capellan |
| | | | Ms. Dubois |
| | | | Ms. Fortunato |
| | | | Dr. Pallotta |
| | | | Ms. Smith |
| | | | Dr. Thornton |

F. Consider/discussion and possible vote on Appointment of Director of Transition & Vocational Services

Ms. Fortunato advised that this agenda item be tabled until the salary and contract for the position has been determined.

V. Expense Warrants for May 2015

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to approve the Bills for May 2015, which was moved by Dr. Pallotta, seconded by Ms. Dubois, carried by all.

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| <u>Moved:</u> | Dr. Pallotta | <u>Approved:</u> | Dr. Barnes |
| <u>Seconded:</u> | Ms. Dubois | | Dr. Capellan |
| | | | Ms. Dubois |
| | | | Ms. Fortunato |
| | | | Dr. Pallotta |
| | | | Ms. Smith |
| | | | Dr. Thornton |

VI. Executive Director Report:

A. General Information

Mr. Nasif reported that NRIC's graduation will be held on Wednesday, June 3rd with four students. Mr. Nasif also advised that our ESY Program will begin July 6th.

VII. 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:** Employment Non-Renewal of Certified Staff for 2015-16
Executive Director Contract
Director of Transition and Vocational Services
Liability Issue

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session at 8:23 a.m. which was moved by Dr. Pallotta, seconded by Dr. Thornton and carried by all.

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| <u>Moved:</u> | Dr. Pallotta | <u>Approved:</u> | Dr. Barnes |
| <u>Seconded:</u> | Dr. Thornton | | Dr. Capellan |
| | | | Ms. Dubois |
| | | | Ms. Fortunato |
| | | | Dr. Pallotta |
| | | | Ms. Smith |
| | | | Dr. Thornton |

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to return to open session at 8:27 a.m. which was moved by Dr. Barnes, seconded by Dr. Pallotta and carried by all.

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| <u>Moved:</u> | Dr. Barnes | <u>Approved:</u> | Dr. Barnes |
| <u>Seconded:</u> | Dr. Pallotta | | Dr. Capellan |
| | | | Ms. Dubois |
| | | | Ms. Fortunato |
| | | | Dr. Pallotta |
| | | | Ms. Smith |
| | | | Dr. Thornton |

Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to Seal the Executive Session Minutes, which was moved by Dr. Barnes, seconded by Dr. Pallotta and carried by all.

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| <u>Moved:</u> | Dr. Barnes | <u>Approved:</u> | Dr. Barnes |
| <u>Seconded:</u> | Dr. Pallotta | | Dr. Capellan |
| | | | Ms. Dubois |
| | | | Ms. Fortunato |
| | | | Dr. Pallotta |
| | | | Ms. Smith |
| | | | Dr. Thornton |

Ms. Fortunato reported that there were no votes taken during Executive Session.

VIII. Information:

- Dr. Thornton advised that he has received a ruling from RIDE that Chromebooks are Maintenance of Effort. He will share a copy of the ruling with the Board.
- Mr. Enos thanked the Board for their vote to continue with Joe Nasif as NRIC's Executive Director.

With no further information to report, Ms. Fortunato entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 a.m., which was moved by Ms. Smith, seconded by Dr. Pallotta and carried by all.

Moved: Ms. Smith
Seconded: Dr. Pallotta

Approved: Dr. Barnes
Dr. Capellan
Ms. Dubois
Ms. Fortunato
Dr. Pallotta
Ms. Smith
Dr. Thornton

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Georgia Fortunato, Chair