

Approved 11/08/2005.

5.1

SEAL MINUTES
NEWPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 11, 2005

MINUTES

Call to Order. Chairperson Dr. Charles P. Shoemaker called the Regular Meeting of the Newport School Committee to order at 7:02 p.m. at the Thompson Middle School Beatrice Berman Bazarsky Performing Arts Center and Cafeteria. Attendance was as follows: School Committee Members: Chairperson Dr. Charles P. Shoemaker, Vice Chairperson Robert J. Leary (arrived at 7:20 p.m.), David R. Carlin (absent), Hugo J. DeAscentis, Jr., Jo Eva Gaines, Dr. O. William Hilton, Jr., and Thomas S. Phelan; School Department: Superintendent of Schools John H. Ambrogi, Ed.D., Director of Special Education Linda Martin (absent), Interim Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Professional Development Marie Hanley (absent), Business Manager Bruce Alexander (absent), Director of Property Services Paul Fagan, Coordinator of Human Resources and Information Services Fran Eames (absent), School Building Principals, Administrators, and School Committee Counsel Neil P. Galvin (absent).

ROLL CALL.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

1.0 MOMENT OF SILENCE.

- **Elizabeth M. Otilige:** who passed away on Tuesday, September 27, 2005, at Forest Farm Health Care Center in Middletown. She was the mother of Interim Sheffield School Principal Joan Alose.
- **Kaidan Jameson Williams-Killian:** who passed away on Sunday, October 9, 2005, at Newport Hospital. He was four months of age and the grandson of our Central Office Receptionist Jackie Killian.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT. Public Comment was received from: Council 94-Local 841 Senior Business Agent John Vars, residing in Narragansett, Rhode Island, relative to the ongoing contract negotiations between the Newport School Committee and Council 94-Local 841; and Para Educator Karen Benvenuto, residing in Middletown,

Rhode Island, who spoke on behalf of the Membership. It was noted that Council 94-Local 841 Members were in the audience.

3.0 STUDENT ACTIVITIES.

3.1 Student Council Update: Emma Reidy. Student Council President, Emma Reidy, provided the Committee with a brief description of school activities planned for this school year to date: Practice SAT Test for Sophomores and Juniors, Football Team Statistics, and Homecoming Week Activities: Pep Rally, Senior Bonfire, Power-Puff Football, Spirit Week, Homecoming Game, and Dance.

4.0 RESOLUTIONS AND CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT. There were no Resolutions or Certificates of Achievement presented.

5.0 CONSENT AGENDA.

5.1 Approval of Minutes. Mrs. Gaines made a motion to consent to the approval of the Minutes, as presented, as follows. Mr. Phelan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (5-0).

- **Special Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, October 5, 2005.**
- **Special Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, September 27, 2005.** Item No. 29: The vote should read: "5-1, with Hugo J. DeAscentis, Jr., voting against the motion".
- **Regular Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, September 13, 2005.** At the request of Dr. Hilton, the administration clarified that the Request for Conference/Workshop under the Consent Agenda had been approved.
- **Special Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, September 6, 2005.** There were no amendments made.
- **Special Meeting Minutes of Monday, September 5, 2005.** There were no amendments made.

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5.5

Personnel Actions.

Resignations. N/A.

Retirements. N/A.

Leaves of Absence. N/A.

Appointments.

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to consent to the approval of the Request for Appointment of: Laura Caster, Special Educator, Cranston-Calvert School, with a starting date of October 12, 2005. Mr. Phelan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (5-0).

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to consent to the approval of the Request for Appointment of: Karen Lesinski, Clerk Typist, Underwood School, with a starting date of October 13, 2005. Mr. Phelan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (5-0).

At the request of Chairperson Dr. Shoemaker and given the following Requests for Appointments for the Aquidneck Island Adult Learning Center, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ambrogi will provide the Committee with an update of the Aquidneck Island Adult Learning Center's funded programs relative to the recommendation in the City of Newport's School Department Business Advisory Letter for Year Ending June 30, 2004.

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to consent to the approval of the following Requests for Appointments for the Aquidneck Island Adult Learning Center and to begin immediately: Patrick Rossoni, ABE/GED Evening, Triplett; Andrelino Alix, ABE/GED Evening, Middletown High School; Patricia Wells, ABE/GED Evening, Tiverton High School; Sandra Smith, ABE/GED Evening, Portsmouth High School; Angela Soto, ABE/GED Daytime, Triplett; Mary Buckwalter, ABE/GED Daytime, Lucy's Hearth; James Kenney, Diploma Plus, Triplett; Patrick Sullivan, Diplomas Plus, Triplett; Suzanne Harkness, ESL, Thompson Middle School; Alice Jones, ESL, Middletown High School; Jullie Mott, ESL, Thompson Middle School; Cindy Boswell, ESL, Triplett; Mary Ann Quick, EL/Civics, Triplett; Lena Shaputnic, ESL, Middletown High School; Susan VonVillas, VTA, Nursing, Triplett; Peter Silveria, VTA, Plumbing, NCATA; James Grundy, VTA, Pipefitting, NCATA; Robert Dimery, VTA, Electrical, NCATA; Michael Melchione, VTA, Electrical, NCATA; Jeffrey Lemler, VTA, Computer Software Applications, Triplett; and Patrick Rossoni, VTA, Medical Terminology, Third Party Billing, Triplett. Mr. Phelan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (5-0).

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to consent to the approval of the Request for Appointment of: Kathy Murphy, Lead Team Mathematics Teacher, Grade 1, Underwood School, with an immediate start date. Mr. Phelan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (5-0).

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to consent to the approval of the Request for Appointment of: Nancy Folcarelli, Lead Team Mathematics Teacher, Grade 2, Sullivan School, with an immediate start date. Mr. Phelan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (5-0).

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to consent to the approval of the Request for Appointment of: Jennifer Hole, Lead Team Mathematics Teacher, Grade 3, Carey School, with an immediate start date. Mr. Phelan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (5-0).

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to consent to the approval of the Request for Appointment of: David Koutsogiane, Lead Team Mathematics Teacher, Grade 4, Carey School, with an immediate start date. Mr. Phelan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (5-0).

Transfers. N/A.

Recalls. N/A.

5.6 Requests for Waiver of Rental Fees. There were no Requests for Waiver of Rental Fees.

5.7 Requests for Field Trips. There were no Requests for Field Trips.

5.8 Requests for Conferences/Workshops. There were no Requests for Conference/Workshop.

5.9 Requests for Home Instruction. There were five Requests for Home Instruction. Mrs. Gaines made a motion to approve the Requests for Home Instruction, as presented. Mr. Phelan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (5-0).

5.10 Bids.

5.10.1 Occupational and Physical Therapy Services. Mrs. Gaines made a motion to approve the Bid of Bristol County Rehabilitation Services, Inc., as presented. Mr. Phelan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (5-0).

5.11 Fiscal Impact Analysis. There were no Fiscal Impact Analyses.

Superintendent of Schools John H. Ambrogi, Ed.D., distributed the approved Personnel Actions dated October 11, 2005, as presented.

6.0 DISCUSSION

6.1 Subcommittee Reports:

6.1.1 Facilities Planning Subcommittee. As reported by Mr. DeAscentis, a PowerPoint Presentation to the School Committee on the Newport Public Schools' Facilities Long-Range Plan for 2005-2025 was held on October 5, 2005; and, as a result of the Plan, an Elementary Facilities Timeline of Activities was recommended to be drafted by the administration. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ambrogi reviewed the proposed Timeline of Activities with the Committee.* Mr. DeAscentis pointed out that this Timeline was a proposal and may be modified accordingly throughout the process. Dr. Ambrogi emphasized to the Committee that the Request for Proposal for a Demographer would be the initial activity and the cost for such a study could be estimated at approximately \$10,000 and might take until January 1, 2006, for release of the Demographer's findings. Dr. Ambrogi then reviewed each of remaining activities of the Timeline after January 1, 2006, as follows: Receive Presentations and Community Input; March 1, 2006: School Committee Decision; Request for Proposal to Appoint Architect; June 1, 2006: Appoint Architect; November 1, 2006, Specification from Architect; Presentations; February 1, 2007: Bond Referendum; Bid Documents and Bids; July 1, 2007: Groundbreaking Ceremony; and September, 2009: Opening Facilities. Discussion followed.

*At 7:20 p.m., Vice Chairperson Robert J. Leary arrived to the meeting.

6.1.2 Newport School Committee/Newport City Council Liaison. As reported by Dr. Hilton, the Newport School Committee/Newport City Council Liaison Subcommittee will be meeting on Monday evening, October 17, 2005, beginning at 7 p.m., at the Thompson Middle School Library.

6.1.3 Policy. As reported by Mrs. Gaines, the Final Draft of the 2005-2006 Newport School Committee Policy Manual will be distributed to the Committee and Central Office Administrators for review. Once revisions are made, she stated that the Policy Manual would be released districtwide. Mrs. Gaines also reported that the Policy Subcommittee would begin meeting on a regular basis for this school

year, and Subcommittee Members and Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ambrogi agreed to begin meeting weekly, with its first two meetings scheduled for Thursday, November 3 and 17, 2005, at 1:30 p.m., in the Central Administration's First Floor Conference Room.

6.1.4 Rhode Island Association of School Committees (RIASC). Mrs. Gaines reviewed with the Committee collaboration initiatives to be sponsored by the Rhode Island Association of School Committees relative to Accounting Services and Telecommunications, as well as setting up a Collective Bargaining Academy to train School Committee Members.

6.1.5 Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force. Mr. Leary stated that the next meeting of the Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force would be held on Monday, October 24, 2005, at the Newport Police Department.

Metropolitan (MET) Center. Chairperson Dr. Shoemaker and Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ambrogi briefed the Committee on their meeting of earlier today with Representative Paul Crowley and Metropolitan (MET) Career Center Representatives relative to a proposed Satellite MET Center for Aquidneck Island, which initially would house 30 students, and be offered to all the East Bay Communities. Dr. Shoemaker stated concern, as the MET Center would be tuition free—wherein the Newport Area Career and Technical Center is not a tuition free institution. Discussion followed relative the Center's Program Initiatives—students work within the community in their interested occupational field, which results in limited hardware costs, and the Center is fully financed by state funding. Mrs. Gaines told fellow Committee Members that State Representatives should seek financial support for the Island's Newport Area Career and Technical Center. Discussion followed relative to how the Center would impact both the Newport Area Career and Technical Center and the Alternative School. Public Input was received.

7.0 ACTION. There were no Action Items.

8.0 Expenditure and Revenue Reports, Enrollment Reports, and Damage Reports.

8.1 Expenditure and Revenue Reports. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ambrogi reviewed with the Committee the Expenditure and Revenue Reports as of October 1, 2005.

8.2 Enrollment Reports. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ambrogi reviewed with the Committee the Enrollment Reports as of September 30, 2005.

8.3 Damage Reports. There was one Damage Report presented this month—Sullivan School.

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to accept the Expenditure and Revenue Reports, Enrollment Reports, and Damage Report, as presented. Mr. DeAscentis seconded the motion. Vice Chairperson Robert J. Leary reminded administration to bring expenditures in line with the declining student enrollment. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

9.0 SUGGESTED MEETING DATES AND AGENDA ITEMS

Dr. Ambrogi reviewed the meeting dates and suggested agenda topics, as noted below:

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| 9.1 | To be Determined.:
[Met: 3 p.m., July 7, 2005] | Newport School Committee
Facilities Planning Subcommittee
<u>Topic:</u>
Regular Meeting
<u>Location:</u>
Room 104, Lower Level, Triplett School |
| 9.2 | November 3 and 17, 2005, 1:30 p.m.:
[Met: 11:30 a.m., June 29, 2005] | Newport School Committee
Policy Subcommittee
<u>Topic:</u>
Regular Meeting
<u>Location:</u>
Newport Public Schools: Administration Center |
| 9.3 | October 17, 2005, 7 p.m.:
<u>Cancelled:</u>
7 p.m., September 12, 2005]
[Met: 7 p.m., August 1, 2005] | Newport School Committee
and
Newport City Council
Liaison Subcommittee
<u>Topic:</u>
Regular Meeting
<u>Location:</u>
Thompson Middle School Library, Second Floor |
| 9.4 | To be Determined:
[Met: 7 a.m., March 22, 2005] | Newport School Committee
Finance Advisory Subcommittee
<u>Topic:</u>
Regular Meeting
<u>Location:</u>
Conference Room, Second Floor
Newport City Hall |
| 9.5 | To be Determined:
[Met: 9 a.m., May 21, 2005] | Newport School Committee
School Committee/State Legislators Subcommittee
<u>Topic:</u>
Regular Meeting
<u>Location:</u>
Newport Police Department, Assembly Room |

9.6

7:00 p.m., November 8, 2005:

Newport School Committee

Regular Meeting

Location:

Thompson Middle School:

Beatrice Berman Bazarsky

Performing Arts Center and Cafeteria

A Special Meeting may be held next week for continued discussion relative to the Timeline for Elementary Facilities, Personnel Actions, and Executive Session, as may be needed.

10.0 Executive Session.

At 8:16 p.m., Mr. DeAscentis made a motion to go into **Executive Session** under jurisdiction of Rhode Island State Law, Chapter 46, 42-46-5 – Exceptions (a)(1) Personal Matters, and the person or persons affected have been notified in advance in writing and advised that they may require that the discussion be held in an open session; and (a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation. Mr. Phelan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (6-0).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

OPEN SESSION

At 8:43 p.m., the meeting was called in Open Session.

Adjournment. At 8:45 p.m., Mrs. Gaines made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Hilton seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (6-0).

Charles P. Shoemaker, M.D.
Chairperson

John H. Ambrogi, Ed.D.
Clerk