

Approved 11/13/2007.

5.1

NEWPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 9, 2007

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER. Chairperson Dr. Charles P. Shoemaker called the Regular Meeting of the Newport School Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Thompson Middle School Beatrice Berman Bazarsky Performing Arts Center and Cafeteria.

ROLL CALL. Attendance was as follows: School Committee Members: Chairperson Dr. Charles P. Shoemaker, Vice Chairperson Robert J. Leary, David R. Carlin, Hugo J. DeAscentis, Jr., Jo Eva Gaines, Dr. Thomas P. Galvin, and Thomas S. Phelan; School Department: Superintendent of Schools Dr. John H. Ambrogi, Director of Student Services Amy Donnelly Roche (absent), Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Professional Development Jacqueline Naspo, Ed.D. (absent), Business Manager Michael Saunders (absent), Director of Property Services Paul Fagan (absent), Director of Technology Anthony Tomah, Director of Human Resources Fran Eames (absent), School Building Principals, Administrators, and School Committee Counsel Neil P. Galvin.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

1.0 MOMENT OF SILENCE.

- **C. William Cote:** who passed away on Sunday, September 23, 2007, at Newport Hospital, at the age of 73. Captain Cote has worked for the Aquidneck Island Adult Learning Center in the CNA and Diploma Plus programs.
- **Paul W. Crowley:** who passed away on Monday, September 24, 2007, at home. The Honorable Paul William Crowley served as a RI State Representative and was a former member of the Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education.
- **J. Peter Dugan Sr. :** who passed away on Tuesday, October 2, 2007 at Newport Hospital, at the age of 70. He was the father of Colleen Soares, a clerk at Thompson Middle School, and Kerri Kunze, a food service preparer at Rogers High School, and grandfather of Maureen Martin, District Information Clerk at Newport Public Schools.
- **Elizabeth D. Olaynack:** who passed away Wednesday, October 3, 2007, at home, at the age of 67. She is the mother-in-law of Lisa Olaynack, a teacher at Thompson Middle School.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT.

No Public Comment was received.

3.0 STUDENT ACTIVITIES.

3.1 Student Council:

3.1.1 Update—Amelia Dias. No report was provided.

4.0 RESOLUTIONS AND CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT.

4.1 On behalf of the Newport School Committee, Chairman Dr. Charles P. Shoemaker publicly read aloud the Resolution for Michael J. Browner, Jr., Social Studies Teacher, for Newport Public Schools, as the 2008 Newport Teacher of the Year and as the Newport Public Schools' Nominee to the Rhode Island Department of Education for consideration as the 2008 Rhode Island Teacher of the Year. Mr. Browner was presented the Resolution, and he thanked the Committee, administration, students, peers, the community, and the Selection Committee for this commendation. Mrs. Gaines made a motion to accept the Resolution, as presented. Mr. Leary seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

5.0 CONSENT AGENDA. Mrs. Gaines made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda, as presented, with the exception of Personnel Actions: Item No. 5.5, to be acted on separately, at the request of Member Mr. Carlin. Mr. Leary seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

5.1 Approval of Minutes. Mrs. Gaines made a motion to consent to the approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, September 11, 2007; as follows. Mr. Leary seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

- **Regular Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, September 11, 2007.** No amendments were made.

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to

5.5 Personnel Actions.

5.2 Resignations.

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to accept the Resignation of: Michael Kuriscak, Freshman Basketball Coach, RHS, effective October 1, 2007. Mr. Leary seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to accept the Resignation of: Frank Newsome, JV Basketball Coach, RHS, effective October 1, 2007. Mr. Leary seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to accept the Resignation of: Amy Nicodemus, Head Cross Country Coach, RHS, effective September 14, 2007. Mr. Leary seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0)

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to accept the Resignation of: Christopher Richards, Indoor Track Coach, and Outdoor Track Coach, RHS, effective October 3, 2007. Mr. Leary seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0)

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to accept the Resignation of: Aaron Sherman, Drama Advisor, RHS, effective September 26, 2007. Mr. Leary seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0)

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to accept the Resignation of: Michael Whaley, Assistant Girls Basketball Coach, RHS, effective September 17, 2007. Mr. Leary seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0)

5.3 Retirements.

There were no Retirements presented.

5.4 Leaves of Absence.

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to approve the Family Medical Leave of Absence of Kate Mulholland-Bower, Special Education Teacher, Thompson Middle School, from October 22, 2007, through January 1, 2008. Mr. Leary seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to approve Paternity Leave of Absence of: James Silva, Social Studies Teacher, Rogers High School, from October 2, 2007, through November 12, 2007. Mr. Leary seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

5.5 Appointments/Transfers.

Mr. Carlin made a motion to approve the Appointment of: Deborah Barandiaran, Clerk Typist, Alternative Learning Program, effective October 10, 2007. Mrs. Gaines seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

Mr. Carlin made a motion to approve the Appointment of: Steven Kalble, Food Technical Assistant, Newport Area Career and Technical Center, effective October 15 2007. Mrs. Gaines seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

Mr. Carlin made a motion to approve the Appointment of: Nancy Ryan, Interim Director, Even Start, effective October 10, 2007. Mrs. Gaines seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

Mr. Carlin made a motion to approve the Appointment of: Kerri Smith, Occupational Therapist, Districtwide, effective October 29, 2007. Mrs. Gaines seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

Mr. Carlin made a motion to approve the Appointment of: Erin Sullivan, Occupational Therapist, Districtwide, effective October 22, 2007. Mrs. Gaines seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

Extended School Day.

Mr. Carlin made a motion to approve the 2007-2008 School Year Only Stipend Positions for Extended School Day Teachers, as presented below. Mrs. Gaines seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

Extended School Day 1 Year Only

<u>Appointee Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
June McGreavy	Carey	Immediately
Kathy Owens	Carey	Immediately
Christina Rose	Carey	Immediately
Marilyn Donnelly	Coggeshall	Immediately
Nona Gilmore	Coggeshall	Immediately
Elizabeth Gallagher	Cran-Cal	Immediately
Jennifer Green	Cran-Cal	Immediately
Erika Lacey	Cran-Cal	Immediately
Barbara O'Neill	Cran-Cal	Immediately
Pam Hill	Sullivan	Immediately
Carla Jewell	Sullivan	Immediately

Various Stipend Positions.

Mr. Carlin made a motion to approve the 2007-2008 School Year Only Stipend Positions, as presented below. Mrs. Gaines seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

Stipend Positions 1 Year Only

<u>Appointee Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
<u>Elementary</u>		
Kathleen Bradley	Bus/Playground Duty, Cran-Cal	10/10/07
Brian Krauss	Bus/Playground Duty, Cran-Cal	10/10/07
	Morning duty only	
Suzanne Platt	Lead Team Math Teacher, Gr 4 Cogg	10/10/07
<u>Thompson Middle School</u>		
Candace Lewia	Science Curriculum Liaison (3-year)	10/10/07
Stephanie Sullivan	Social Studies Curriculum Liaison (3-year)	10/10/07
Karen Gallagher	Yearbook Advisor (co-advisor)	10/10/07
Sharon McDonnell	Yearbook Advisor (co-advisor)	10/10/07
<u>Rogers High School</u>		
Brian Sullivan	Bus/Cafeteria Duty	10/10/07
Peter Corr	Drama Advisor (co-advisor)	10/10/07

Lauren Dunbar	Drama Advisor (co-advisor)	10/10/07
Ted Hackman	Senior Class Advisor (co-advisor)	10/10/07
Michael Whaley	Senior Class Advisor (co-advisor)	10/10/07

Coaches

Carlene Paschoal	Cross Country Coach, TMS	09/14/07
George Maris	Boys Varsity Soccer Assistant Coach, RHS	09/07/07
Patrick Mahoney	Assistant Girls Soccer Coach, RHS	09/07/07
Blair Morgera	Assistant Football Coach, RHS	09/10/07
Emily Winsor	Head Girls Volleyball Coach, RHS	09/01/07

Aquidneck Island Adult Learning Center.

Mr. Carlin made a motion to approve the 2007-2008 School Year Only Stipend Positions for Extended School Day Teachers, as presented below. Mrs. Gaines seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

<u>Appointee Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Patrick Rossoni	ABE/GED Evening	Triplett	Immediately
Sandra Smith	ABE/GED Evening	Portsmouth HS Middletown HS	Immediately
Patricia Wells	ABE/GED Evening	Tiverton HS-	Immediately
Angelo Soto	ABE/GED Daytime	Triplett-Days	Immediately
Mary Buckwalter	ABE/GED Daytime	Lucy's Hearth	Immediately
James Kenney	Diploma Plus	Triplett	Immediately
Patrick Sullivan	Diploma Plus	Triplett	Immediately
Suzanne Harkness	ESL	Thompson MS	Immediately
Alice Jones	ESL	Middletown HS	Immediately
Alina Sargent	ESL	Thompson MS	Immediately
Cindy Boswell	ESL	Triplett	Immediately
MaryAnn Quick	EL/CIVICS	Triplett	Immediately
Dorcas Taylor	ESL	Middletown HS	Immediately
Susan VonVillas	VTA-Nursing	Triplett	Immediately
Marilyn Moffatt	VTA-Nursing	Triplett	Immediately
Peter Silveria	VTA-Plumbing	NACTC	Immediately
James Grundy	VTA-Pipefitting	NACTC	Immediately
Robert Dimery	VTA-Electrical	Triplett	Immediately
Michael Melchione	VTA-Electrical	Triplett	Immediately
Jeffrey Lemler	VTA-Computer Software applications	Triplett	Immediately

Transfer(s).

Mr. Carlin made a motion to approve the Transfer of: Susan Dias, Custodian, Thompson Middle School, First Shift, to Custodian, Cranston-Calvert Elementary School, Second Shift, effective October 10, 2007. Mrs. Gaines seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

- 5.6. Requests for Home Instruction.** Mrs. Gaines made a motion to approve the following Requests for Home Instruction: Douglas Snyder, and Dakota Triplett. Mr. DeAscentis seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

Superintendent of Schools John H. Ambrogi, Ed.D., distributed the approved Personnel Actions (attached) dated October 9, 2007, as presented.

6.0 DISCUSSION

6.1 High Expectations for All Student: RHS Honor's Program.

Patricia DiCenso, Rogers High School Principal, presented the Rogers High School Honors Program course of study. During the 2007-2008 School Year Rogers high school is offering 17 honors courses to 695 students. RHS is offering 8 AP courses this year.

Mr. Leary requested that the School Committee hear a presentation about the new Alternate Learning Program at Rogers High School.

6.2 Facilities: Update. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ambrogi reported that Dr. Richardson, the demographer, was surprised at the lower enrollment. He will provide an updated Demographic Study upon receipt of the October enrollment figures.

There are some issues that are being looked at regarding the stairs at Thompson Middle School and the quality of the concrete that was used during the construction process.

Outdoor space at Rogers High School was discussed. Dr. Ambrogi indicated that the macadam areas at the high school campus need to be resurfaced and a dollar figure will be included in a future capital budget proposal.

6.3 TAN Contract Negotiations

Mr. Leary indicated that TAN has requested that contract negotiations begin, and the committee must be knowledgeable about the current TAN contract and how it compares with other districts around Rhode Island. During past negotiations, the school committee contracted with Mark Coburn to prepare a comprehensive contract analysis. It was noted that RI Association of School Committees and the Education Partnership have prepared contract analysis reports. Dr. Ambrogi will investigate existing materials and provide current materials to the committee for their review. Other cost drivers, such as the relationship with the Governmental Health Trust, should be examined to determine their length and value to the school committee.

6.4 School Committee Attorney

Dr. Shoemaker thanked Attorney Neil Galvin for his continued support and an excellent job as counsel for the committee. Mr. Leary indicated that the contract for the school committee attorney expires in January and asked if a request for

professional services should be issued for the position of school attorney. Requesting a proposal would allow the committee to see what might be available for services. Dr. Ambrogi indicated that school law was a very specialized area of law and certain attorneys specialize in this area. Newport City Councilman Justin McLaughlin reported that the Newport City Council requests that interested parties contact the council and the council appoints the City Solicitor at the organizational meeting of the council. Discussion was held about including the position of attorney in the organizational meeting. After discussion, it was determined that the Policy Committee will address policy concerning the appointment of the school committee attorney and report back to the committee with proposed policy changes.

6.5 Subcommittee Reports:

6.5.1 Facilities Planning Subcommittee. Subcommittee Chairperson Mr. DeAscentis stated that he had no new business to report.

6.5.1.1 Ad Hoc Building Committee. Mr. DeAscentis reported that the committee met September 17, 2007 and is in the process of completing the Stage I application for the state. Money in the state is tight and the Stage I application.

6.5.2 Newport School Committee/Newport City Council Liaison. Chairperson Dr. Shoemaker stated that he had no new business to report.

6.5.3 Policy. Subcommittee Chairperson Mrs. Gaines stated that the policy committee will be meeting this month, Wednesday, October 24, 2007 at 12:00 p.m. at the Administration Center.

6.5.4 Wellness. Subcommittee Chairperson Dr. Galvin stated that he had no new business to report, the wellness committee will be meeting this month, Wednesday, October 17, 2007 at 9:00 .a.m. at the Administration Center. Dr. Galvin attended the school leaders of RI Healthy School Coalition breakfast.

6.5.5 Rhode Island Association of School Committees (RIASC). Subcommittee Chairperson Mrs. Gaines reported that coming up is the chairs quarterly meetings. The professional development forum for the next quarterly meeting is on Contract Negotiation Sessions.

6.5.6 Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force. Subcommittee Chairperson Mr. Carlin reported that the main current activity of the task force is the development of activities to utilize a recent three year \$160,000 grant. The purpose of the grant is to figure out what programs will diminish or prevent substance abuse.

7.0 ACTION.

7.1 Approve Tuition Calculation 2007-2008.

Mr. Hugo DeAscentis, Jr. moved to approve the 2007-2008 tuition rates for the Newport Public Schools; Elementary, Middle and High and the Newport Area Career and Technical Center as recommended (attached). Mr. Phelan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

8.0 Reports from Superintendent and Staff: Expenditure and Revenue Reports, Enrollment Reports, Damage Reports, and Superintendent's Update.

8.1 Expenditure and Revenue Reports. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ambrogi reviewed with the Committee the Expenditure and Revenue Reports as of September 30, 2007. Mrs. Gaines made a motion to accept the Expenditure and Revenue Reports, as presented. Mr. DeAscentis seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

8.2 Aquidneck Island Adult Learning Center Report. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ambrogi reviewed with the Committee the Aquidneck Island Adult Learning Center Report for the month of September 2007. Mrs. Gaines made a motion to accept the Expenditure and Revenue Reports, as presented. Mr. DeAscentis seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

8.3 Enrollment Reports. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ambrogi reviewed with the Committee the Enrollment Reports as of September 28, 2007. Mrs. Gaines made a motion to accept the Expenditure and Revenue Reports, as presented. Mr. DeAscentis seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

8.4 Damage Reports. There were no Damage Reports presented this month.

8.5 Superintendent's Update. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ambrogi briefed the Committee on activities to date: First Night Meeting with Charles Roberts; NSC As Hoc Building Committee meeting; Meeting of Island Governmental Organizations with RIPEC; Child and Family Services Annual Meeting; Island Moving Company Meeting; Elementary Adm. Team Meeting; EBCAP Meeting; Newport Environmental Task Force; Newport Data in your Backyard Meeting; and Annual RIPEC Meeting, Providence. Mr. DeAscentis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's Update, as presented. Mrs. Gaines seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

9.0 SUGGESTED MEETING DATES AND AGENDA ITEMS

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ambrogi reviewed suggested meeting dates and agenda topics for the months of October and November, 2007, as follows:

- Tuesday, October 9, 2007, 7 p.m.:
Regular Newport School Committee Meeting
Thompson Middle School Cafeteria
- Monday, October 22, 2007:
Teacher In-Service Day [No School]
- Wednesday, October 24, 2007:
Policy Committee Meeting
12:00 p.m. Administration Center
- Monday, November 12, 2007:
Veteran's Day [No School]
- Tuesday, November 13, 2007:
Regular Newport School Committee Meeting
Thompson Middle School Cafeteria
- Thursday – Friday, November 22-23, 2007:
Thanksgiving Recess [No School]

Special Meetings may be scheduled, as required.

10.0 Executive Session.

At 8:57 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. Carlin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

OPEN SESSION

At 10:14 p.m., the meeting was called in Open Session.

Adjournment. At 10:15 p.m., Mrs. Gaines made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Carlin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).



Charles P. Shoemaker, M.D.
Chairperson



John H. Ambrogi, Ed.D.
Clerk