

Approve 05/08/2012.

5.1

NEWPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 10, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1.0 OPENING ITEMS.

- 1.1 Call to Order.** Chairperson Patrick K. Kelley called the Regular Meeting of the Newport School Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Newport Public Schools' Administration Center, in Room 924.
- 1.2 Roll Call.** Attendance was as follows: School Committee Members: Chairperson Patrick K. Kelley, Vice Chairperson Rebecca Bolan, Sandra J. Flowers, Ph.D., Jo Eva Gaines, Robert J. Leary, Thomas S. Phelan, and Dr. Charles P. Shoemaker. School Department: Superintendent of Schools John H. Ambrogi, Ed.D., Director of Curriculum and Instruction Caroline Frey, Ed.D., Director of Property Services Paul Fagan, and Director of Administrative Services John Miley.
- 1.3 Pledge of Allegiance.** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- 1.4 Moment of Silence.** Moment of Silence was presented, as follows:
- **Michael J. Clark, Sr.:** who passed away on Monday, March 19, 2012, in Vista, California. He was the son of the late Alfred J. Clark and Doris (Vars) Clark Lalli, and the step-son of the late Francis J. Lalli. Formerly of Newport, Mr. Clark was a Computer Programming Teacher at Rogers High for 18 years, before retiring in June of 1990. He was the brother of Geraldine (Clark) Grande and her husband Alexander, Michael H. Lalli and his wife Carolyn, and Peter Lalli and his wife Nancy, and was the former husband of Claire Clark of Florida. He also leaves four children, Linda Sweeney and her husband Gregg of Tampa, Florida, Michael J. Clark, Jr. and his wife Donna of Vista, California, Christine Clark of La Crescenta, California, and Kathleen Saltzman of Tampa, Florida, nine grandchildren and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.
 - **Senator June Nesbitt Gibbs:** who passed away on Sunday, April 8, 2012, at her home in Middletown, Rhode Island. Senator Gibbs was born on June 13, 1922 in Newton, Massachusetts, to

Samuel and Lulu (Glazier) Nesbitt. She graduated from Newton High School in 1939 and Wellesley College in 1943. She served as a Lieutenant in the Navy during World War II and went on to earn her Master's Degree in Mathematics from Boston University in 1947. Senator Gibbs was elected to the Rhode Island State Senate in 1984 and served until 2008. Over the years, she represented Middletown, Little Compton, and parts of Portsmouth, Newport, and Tiverton. She was Deputy Minority Leader from 1985 until the end of her tenure in the Legislature. Prior to this, she served on the Middletown Town Council from 1974 to 1980 and from 1982 to 1984. For over 60 years, Senator Gibbs was an active member of the United Congregational Church. She contributed her time and energy to many community organizations, while most recently serving on the Board of Rhode Island Kids Count, Newport Hospital Ethics Committee, and Rhode Island Foundation's Newport County Fund Advisory Committee. Senator Gibbs leaves a daughter, Elizabeth Gibbs, who is a Science Teacher at Thompson Middle School, and son-in-law, Eliot Raymond, of Portsmouth; first cousin, Rosalie Morgan, of Natick, Massachusetts; brother-in-law, Paul Kuzmick, of Livingston, New Jersey, and numerous cousins. She was the widow of Donald T. Gibbs, Librarian at the Redwood Library for 39 years, and is also predeceased by her sister, Ruth Nesbitt of New York, New York.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT. No Public Comment was received.

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to take out of order Discussion Item No. 7.1. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

7.1 Rogers High School Campus—Goes GREEN. Rogers High School Science Teacher Scott Dickison presented to the Committee a proposal entitled "Rogers High School Campus Goes GREEN", which addresses some of the water runoff coming from Rogers High School to Lily Pond. He stated that this project would support the addition of rain gardens to the campus and be completed with donations and/or volunteer services provided by local contractors. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ambrogi indicated his support for the project, contingent upon receiving donations and/or volunteer services from local contractors. Discussion followed. Some Committee Members requested this Proposal be considered for approval at the Committee's May Meeting.

3.0 RESOLUTIONS AND CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT. No Resolutions and/or Certificates of Achievement were presented.

4.0 STUDENT ACTIVITIES.

4.1 Student Council Update: Amy Richards. Student Council President and School Committee Representative Amy Richards provided the Committee with an update on Student Activities of the Student Council: Quarter Four begins; Senior Projects completed; Advanced Placement Exams; College Acceptances; Spring Break—Greece Trip; Spring Sports Season; and “Our Town” Theater Production.

5.0 CONSENT AGENDA.

5.1 Approval of Minutes.

5.1.1 Regular Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, March 13, 2012. Mr. Leary made a motion to consent to the approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, March 13, 2012, as presented. Mrs. Gaines seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

5.1.2 Special Meeting Minutes of Thursday, March 22, 2012. Mr. Leary made a motion to consent to the approval of the Special Meeting Minutes of Thursday, March 22, 2012, as presented. Mrs. Gaines seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

5.2 Personnel Actions.

APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. Leary made a motion to consent to the approval of the Appointments of:

Cynthia Cykert	Head Coach Girls Outdoor Track – RHS	April 11, 2012
Sam Hazinakis	Girls Outdoor Track & Field Assistant Coach – RHS	April 11, 2012
Peter O’Connell	Girls’ Fast Pitch Softball Coach – RHS	April 11, 2012
Taras Popowycz	Boys Soccer Head Coach – RHS	April 11, 2012

Mrs. Gaines seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

RESIGNATIONS.

Mr. Leary made a motion to consent to the approval of the Resignations of:

Mary Aswell	Girls Soccer Head Coach – Rogers High School	March 15, 2012
George Maris	Boys Soccer Head Coach – Rogers High School	March 15, 2012

Mrs. Gaines seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

LEAVES OF ABSENCE.

Mr. Leary made a motion to consent to the approval of the Leave of Absence of: Erin Sullivan-Washburn, Occupational Therapist, Leave without Pay, effective: 2012-2013 School Year only. Mrs. Gaines seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

5.3 Bid: Newport Area Career and Technical Center Building—Exterior Roof Replacement. Director of Property Services Paul Fagan highlighted the specifics of this Bid and indicated the funds would be applied to the State’s monies received as a result of the recent building’s takeover from the state to the city. Discussion followed. Mrs. Gaines made a motion to award the Bid for “Newport Area Career and Technical Center Building—Exterior Roof Replacement”, to Capeway Roofing Systems, of Westport, Massachusetts, in the total amount of \$313,000, as presented. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

5.4 Bid: Newport Area Career and Technical Center Building—HVAC System Improvement Project. Director of Property Services Paul Fagan highlighted the specifics of this Bid and indicated the funds would be applied to the State’s monies received as a result of the recent building’s takeover from the state to the city. Discussion followed. Mrs. Gaines made a motion to award the Bid for “Newport Area Career and Technical Center Building—HVAC System Improvement Project”, to Automatic Temperature Controls, Inc., of Cranston, Rhode Island, in the total amount of \$256,280, as presented. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

6.0 ACTION ITEMS.

6.1 School Committee Resolution—Shared Services with City of Newport. Mrs. Gaines made a motion to pass “Newport School Committee Resolution—Shared Services”, as presented. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The motion carried unanimously (6-1). Voting against the motion was: Thomas S. Phelan.

- 6.2 Resolution—Binding Arbitration—In Opposition to 202 H 7617 and H 7620.** Mrs. Gaines made a motion to pass “Newport School Committee Binding Arbitration Resolution—In Opposition to 2012 H 7617 and H 7620”, as presented. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The motion carried unanimously (7-0). Mr. Phelan requested that each Newport Delegate receive the Resolution, not only via e-mail, but via postal delivery to their residential address further indicating the Committee’s position.
- 6.3 Resolution—Contract Continuation—In Opposition to 2012 S 2532 and H 7250.** Dr. Shoemaker made a motion to pass “Newport School Committee Contract Continuation Resolution—In Opposition to 2012 S 2532 and H 7250”, as presented. Mrs. Gaines seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).
- 6.4 Resolution—Layoff Notification Date—In Support of 2012 S 2158, H 7272, and H 7863.** Mrs. Gaines made a motion to pass “Newport School Committee Layoff Notification Date Resolution—In support of 2012 S 2158, H 7272, and H 7863”, as presented. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

7.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS.

- 7.2 Mathematics Review Team—Update.** Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ambrogi stated that the Math Vertical Team met yesterday afternoon to develop recommendations regarding how the district could work together to improve mathematics proficiency K-12: identify trends and gaps based on NECAP scores in grades 3-8 & 11 over the past three years, examine AIMSweb benchmark data in grades K-2, identify current resources, and develop an improvement plan and action steps. Discussion followed. Dr. Ambrogi further stated that the next meeting of the Math Vertical Team would be scheduled for early May to continue developing recommendations and that the School Committee would receive an update at their May Meeting.
- 7.3 Impact of Truancy on Standardized Test.** Director of Curriculum and Instruction Dr. Frey reviewed with the Committee the results of an analysis on the impact of truancy on a student’s performance on standardized testing. She stated that youngsters who were out more than 18 days (10% of the school year) were more likely to be substantially below proficient on standardized test scores in both reading and mathematics and the gap increased at the high school level where there was a cumulative impact of years of truancy. Discussion followed. The Committee continued to agree that legislative support is necessary.

7.4 Rhode Island Department of Education—Categorical Funding. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ambrogi stated that the most recent information received from the Rhode Island Department of Education indicates that state aid would probably remain as originally forecasted—ie. a reduction of approximately \$90,000, and the proposal for special education of excess tuition cost and private school busing cost are still under discussion, and it appears, at this point in time, that there would not be funding changes in those areas.

7.5 Food Services Program—Update. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ambrogi reviewed the average meal count comparison and financial report, as of March ending, 2012. Discussion followed regarding the district's decrease in total participation and the program's negative fund balance. Discussion followed.

7.6 Pell School Building—Update. Pell Building Committee Chairperson Jo Eva Gaines stated that the Pell School construction process continues to move forward with weekly construction meetings. Discussion followed.

7.7 Subcommittee Reports. No Subcommittee Reports were presented. Committee Members requested the scheduling of meetings for the following Subcommittees: Policy (to review the Academic Eligibility Policy and Health and Wellness Policy, at the request of Ms. Bolan); Facilities; and Finance Advisory/Audit.

8.0 REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT AND STAFF.

8.1 Expenditure and Revenue Reports. Discussion followed. Mrs. Gaines made a motion to accept the Expenditure and Revenue Reports, as presented. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

8.2 Enrollment Reports. Discussion followed. Mrs. Gaines made a motion to accept the Enrollment Reports, as presented, along with cohort comparison. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

8.3 Damage Reports. No Damage Reports were presented.

8.4 Superintendent’s Update. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ambrogi listed for the Committee his activities to date:

1.	Race-to-the-Top Leadership Team—Webinar with Central Office Administrators (03-13-12)
2.	Rogers High School Campus Goes Green—Project Meeting (03-13-12)
3.	Rhode Island Foundation and RIDE— Guest Lecturer Dr. Howard Fuller—Closing Achievement Gaps (03-14-12)
4.	Pell School—Technology Equipment Meeting (03-14-12)
5.	Race-to-the-Top Participation and PD Plan—Meeting with Central Office Administrators (03-14-12)
6.	Pell School—Construction Meeting (03-15-12)
7.	SCORES Leadership Team Meeting (03-15-12)
8.	NSC Facilities Subcommittee Meeting (03-15-12)
9.	Pell School—Groundbreaking Ceremony (03-16-12)
10.	St. Patrick’s Day Parade (03-17-12)
11.	Meeting with Principals—Evaluation Program (03-19-12)
12.	NSC Liaison Subcommittee Meeting (03-20-12)
13.	School Funding Workshop with RIDE--- Sponsored by: RI League of Women Voters and Alliance for A Livable Newport (03-20-12)
14.	Nutrition Advisory Committee Meeting (03-20-12)
15.	Pell School—Construction Meeting (03-22-12)
16.	RI Risk Management Trust—Underwriting Committee Meeting (03-22-12)
17.	ASCD—Convention (03-24 to 03-26-12) (Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development)
18.	Thompson Mall Meeting (03-28-12)
19.	RI Mentoring Program Meeting (03-28-12)
20.	Pell School—Technology Equipment Meeting (03-28-12)
21.	Pell Building Committee Meeting (03-28-12)
22.	Pell School—Construction Meeting (03-29-12)
23.	East Bay Educational Collaborative (EBEC) Retreat (03-30-12)
24.	RI Kids Count Factbook Meeting (04-02-12)
25.	Naval Station Newport— Meeting with New Commanding Officer Captain Douglas Mikatarian (04-02-12)
26.	Race-to-the-Top Meeting—Professional Development—with Central Office Administrators (04-03-12)
27.	Meeting with BC/BS Representative—Medical and Dental Rate Plans—FY13 (04-04-12)
28.	Pell School—Construction Meeting (04-05-12)
29.	Meeting with City Manager—Shared Services (04-05-12)
30.	Math Vertical Team Meeting (04-09-12)

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to accept the Superintendent’s Update, as presented. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

9.0 SUGGESTED MEETING DATES AND AGENDA ITEMS.

9.1 Meeting and Agenda Requests. The Committee reviewed Meeting and Agenda Requests, as follows:

- To schedule the following Subcommittee Meetings: Policy, Facilities, and Finance Advisory/Audit; and
- To meet with the City Council on Thursday, May 24th, at 7 p.m., at the Council Chambers, to present the Fiscal Year 2013 School Department Budget.

10.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION. No Executive Session was held.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT.

At 8:22 p.m., Mr. Phelan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Leary seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

Patrick K. Kelley
Chairperson

John H. Ambrogi, Ed.D.
Clerk