

Approve 08/13/2013.

5.1

NEWPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Special Meeting
Tuesday, July 30, 2013, 12:30 p.m.

MINUTES

1.0 OPENING ITEMS.

1.1 Call to Order. Chairperson Charles P. Shoemaker, M.D., called the Special Meeting of the Newport School Committee to order at 12:35 p.m., at the Newport Public Schools' Administration Center, in Room 924.

1.2 Roll Call. Attendance was as follows: School Committee Members: Chairperson Charles P. Shoemaker, M.D., Vice Chairperson Jo Eva Gaines, Rebecca Bolan (absent), Sandra J. Flowers, Ph.D., Robert J. Leary, Thomas S. Phelan, and Robert B. Power, Ed.D. School Department: Superintendent of Schools John H. Ambrogi, Ed.D., and Director of Administrative Services Joan Tracey.

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2.0 Action Items.

2.1 Personnel Actions.

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to consent to approve appointments, layoffs, leave of absence, and resignations, as presented, with the exception of the Renewals—2013-2015 Contracts for Administrators, at the request of Mr. Leary. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (6-0). Discussion followed. Mr. Leary voiced his concern that this was the first time he was aware of the proposed contract terms for administrators, as a result of the Administrative Compensation Subcommittee Meetings held this past spring. Mr. Phelan stated he would not be supporting the motion. Mrs. Gaines made a motion to consent to approve the "Renewals—2013-2015 Contracts for Administrators", as presented. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion, which carried (4-2). Those Members voting in favor of the motion were: Chairperson Charles P. Shoemaker, M.D., Vice Chairperson Jo Eva Gaines, Sandra J. Flowers, Ph.D., and Robert B. Power, Ed.D. Those Members voting against the motion were: Robert J. Leary and Thomas S. Phelan.

APPOINTMENTS/TRANSFERS/RECALLS

APPOINTMENT

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Date</u>
Diane Sheehan	Newport Public Schools Art Teacher – School Year 2013-14	07/30/13
Britt Brule	Pell Elementary Upper School PBIS Coordinator	07/30/13
Lori Delemos	Pell Elementary Lower School PBIS Coordinator	07/30/13
Audrey Boisvert	Pell Elementary Instructional Support Team Teacher – 3 rd Grade	07/30/13
Kate Caruolo	Pell Elementary Instructional Support Team Teacher – 1 st Grade	07/30/13
Sybil Grayko	Pell Elementary Instructional Support Team Teacher – 2 nd Grade	07/30/13
Diane McBrier	Pell Elementary Instructional Support Team Teacher – Kindergarten	07/30/13
Sue Moore	Pell Elementary Instructional Support Team Teacher – 4 th Grade	07/30/13

LAYOFFS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Date</u>
Michele Ela	Cranston Calvert School – Special Education Personal Attendant	06/30/13
Felicia Connelly	Cranston Calvert School – Special Education Personal Attendant	06/30/13
Christie Mataronas	Underwood School – Special Education Para Educator	06/30/13
Heather Reed	Coggeshall School – Special Education Para Educator	06/30/13

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Date</u>
Jamie Berdy	Maternity Leave, Special Education Teacher – TMS	09/09/13 – 11/08/13

RESIGNATION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Date</u>
Mary Aswell	Girls Outdoor Track Assistant Coach – Rogers High School	July 08, 2013
Joelle Mondorf	School Psychologist – Newport Public Schools	July 22, 2013
Michael Newsome	Assistant Football Coach – Rogers High School	July 09, 2013
Beth Raffa	Cheerleading Advisor/Coach – Thompson Middle School	July 24, 2013

RENEWALS - 2013 – 2015 CONTRACTS FOR ADMINISTRATORS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Kimberly Behan	Upper School Principal, Claiborne Pell Elementary School
Jennifer Booth	Executive Director of Teaching, Learning and Professional Development
Robert Campion	Assistant Principal, Thompson Middle School
Jaime Crowley	Principal, Thompson Middle School
Amy Donnelly Roche	Director of Student Services
Frances Eames	Director of Human Resources
Paul Fagan	Director of Property Services (one-year only)
Christianne Fisher	Assistant Principal, Rogers High School
Wendy Gasior	Administrative Assistant to Superintendent
Osiris Gonzalez	Director of Technology
Eddie Merritt	Attendance Facilitator
James Nelson	Principal, Rogers High School
Jane Perkins	Lower School Principal, Claiborne Pell Elementary School
Doreen Schlackman	School Accountability Specialist/Info. System Manager
Joan Tracey	Director of Administrative Services/Business Manager

- 2.2 Fiscal Year 2014 Budget.** Discussion and review followed regarding the following documentation (attached): Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2013 Explanation of Projected Year End Swing from Projected Deficit to Projected Surplus; 2014 Revenue Budget for City Council; and Changes in Fiscal Year 2014 Budget for consideration in adopting a balanced Budget for Fiscal Year 2014. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ambrogi reviewed with the Committee the five (5) changes recommended that would provide the district with a balanced Budget for Fiscal Year 2014, which include the following:

- “Reduction in salary and benefit lines, as a result of the elimination of three teaching positions, K, 2, and 5, based upon current enrollment figures (see attached); and
- Reduction in the substitute line resulting from our ability to utilize Race To The Top monies to defray costs.
- On the Revenue side, we will utilize a re-appropriation of fund balance in the amount of \$450,000; and, as a result of the information we received from the federal government including sequestration, we believe we can increase the Impact Aid to \$625,000.
- On the negative side, we will need to take out the Career and Technical categorical aid, as it needs to be in a separate account and not in a restricted budget account.
- Last, but not least, we are recommending the possible withdrawal of \$776,932 from the OPEB Trust. This withdrawal would need to be approved by the School Department’s Trustees, based upon the attached document, Dr. Shoemaker (President), Mr. Leary (Treasurer), and Dr. Flowers (Secretary) are the trustees that would need to approve this transfer. This transfer would take place only if needed and only after the first of the year.”

By making these changes, Superintendent Dr. Ambrogi stated that the School Department would have a balanced Budget, which would not require program cuts or additional staff cuts nor would it ask for additional funds from the City Council nor would it require taking a Caruolo action against the City Council should they not provide additional funding.

Discussion followed regarding the fifth (5th) recommendation of possibly withdrawing \$776,932 from the OPEB Trust should it be necessary to approve such transfer and that such transfer would take place only after the first of the year. Members Mr. Leary, Mr. Phelan, and Dr. Power stated that they could not support the fifth (5th) recommendation to possibly withdraw \$776,932 from the OPEB Trust.

Resident and City Council Member Michael Farley suggested possibilities to balance the Budget.

Dr. Ambrogi stressed that the School Department is state mandated to submit a balanced Fiscal Year School Budget 2013-2014 by July ending.

Mrs. Gaines made a motion to support the Superintendent's first four Budget Recommendations, as presented. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (6-0). Mrs. Gaines made a motion to support the Superintendent's fifth Budget Recommendation, transferring \$776,932 from the OPEB Trust to the 2013-2014 Budget, as may be needed. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion, which did not carry (3-3). Those Members voting in favor of the motion were: Chairperson Charles P. Shoemaker, M.D., Vice Chairperson Jo Eva Gaines; and Sandra J. Flowers, Ph.D. Those Members voting against the motion were: Robert J. Leary, Thomas S. Phelan, and Robert B. Power, Ed.D.

With no balanced 2013-2014 Budget, next steps will need to be determined—i.e.: Caruolo Process.

It was noted that the City Council tentatively has scheduled a joint meeting with the School Committee on August 29, 2013, beginning at 6:30 p.m., in order to discuss the School Department's Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget and consideration for additional funding.

3.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION. No Executive Session was held.

4.0 ADJOURNMENT.

At 1:40 p.m., Mrs. Gaines made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (6-0).

Charles P. Shoemaker, M.D.
Chairperson

John H. Ambrogi, Ed.D.
Clerk