

**NEWPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
Special Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, August 21, 2014, 2:00 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 2:14 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, Sandra J. Flowers, Ph.D., Robert J. Leary (absent), Thomas S. Phelan, and Robert B. Power, Ed.D.; and **School Department:** Superintendent of Schools Colleen B. Jermain.

**2.0 ACTION ITEMS.**

**2.1 Personnel Actions.**

**Appointments:** Vice Chairperson Gaines made a motion to approve the appointments, as presented. Dr. Power seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (6-0).

**Transfers:** Vice Chairperson Mrs. Gaines made a motion to approve the transfers, as presented. Ms. Bolan seconded the motion, which carried (5-1-0). Recusing from the motion was: Sandra J. Flowers, Ph.D.

**Recalls:**

Vice Chairperson Mrs. Gaines made a motion to approve Recalls, with the exception of the Physical Education/Health Teacher, for discussion at the request of Mr. Phelan. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (6-0). Discussion followed. At the request of Mr. Phelan, Superintendent Jermain stated that the request to recall the physical education/health teacher position was due to meeting the needs of the students this year. She detailed that last year there was a scheduling and capacity concern, wherein some students were not taking physical education for one-half of the school year. She stated that last school year, the high school schedule was not but should have been student driven, of which must be followed. This January,

Superintendent Jermain stated this scheduling process would begin and overall there should be department chairpersons who would be more involved. Everyone will need to utilize the Aspen (SIS) program; and, overall, there should be increased extensive involvement and ownership in the scheduling of students by all administrators and guidance personnel. She also stated that a consultant would be returning in September. At the request of Chairperson Dr. Shoemaker, Superintendent Jermain stated that she would report back to the committee regarding the travel of staffing and course subscriptions throughout the coming school year.

The motion carried unanimously to approve the recalls, as presented (6-0).

**Appointment—Rogers High School Interim Principal.**

Dr. Flowers made a motion to approve the appointment of Gerald Foley, as Rogers High School Interim Principal. Ms. Bolan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (6-0). Mr. Foley will begin his duties on Monday, August 25, 2014.

APPOINTMENTS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Date</u>
Diane McBrier	Instructional Support Teacher – Pell Elementary School	08/21/14
Aaron Sherman	Instructional Support Teacher – Pell Elementary School	08/21/14
Sybil Grayko	Instructional Support Teacher – Pell Elementary School	08/21/14
Audrey Boisvert	Instructional Support Teacher – Pell Elementary School	08/21/14
Susan Moore	Instructional Support Teacher – Pell Elementary School	08/21/14
Peter Corr	Social Studies Teacher – Rogers High School (due to retirement)	09/01/14
James Psaras	Head Teacher – Pell Elementary School	08/21/14
Carla Jewell	Head Teacher – Pell Elementary School	08/21/14
Marlene Horan	Para Educator PCA – Thompson Middle School	09/03/14
Christine Wirges	Para Educator PCA – Thompson Middle School	09/03/14
Noelle Robinson	Para Educator – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14

TRANSFERS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Date</u>
Barbara Dennis-Bale	Library Clerk – Thompson Middle School to Main Office Clerk – Pell Elementary	08/18/14
Jean Lewis	Behavior Support Program (Korney) – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Wanda Jones	Behavior Support Program (Korney) – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Caroline Ware	Enhanced Classroom – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Kathleen Kenney	Enhanced Classroom – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Michelle Ela	Enhanced Classroom – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Amy Minick	Kindergarten – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Carmen Scott	Kindergarten – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Kendra Tarlton	Kindergarten – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Lucia Williams	Kindergarten – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Pat Mace	Kindergarten – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Peggy Leary	Kindergarten – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Susan Botelho	Kindergarten – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Cathie Decker	PCA – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Jen Taylor	PCA – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Karyn Whitaker	PCA – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Katie Dugan	PCA – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Kristen Seyster	PCA – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14

To Approve 09/16/14

5.1

Melissa Crowley	PCA – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Annamarie Johnson	PCA (Miraglia-LOA) – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14

TRANSFERS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Date</u>
Beth Desrosiers	Special Class (Behbehani) – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Sheila DeAscentis	Special Class (Behbehani) – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Francoise Hayes	Special Class (Jewell) – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Julie Pinto	Special Class (Jewell) – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Elizabeth Buckley	Special Class (Miraglia-LOA) – Pell Elementary School	09/03/14
Lauren Valen	Pre-K - Pell Elementary School (JFK Location)	09/03/14
Mary Souza	Pre-K Pell Elementary School (JFK Location)	09/03/14
Susan Potter	Pre-K Pell Elementary School (JFK Location)	09/03/14
Jamie Meeks	PCA – Rogers High School	09/03/14
Nancy Coyne	PCA – Rogers High School	09/03/14
Wendy Steindler	PCA – Rogers High School	09/03/14
Beth Dias	Program Para – Rogers High School	09/03/14
Karen Romanski	Program Para – Rogers High School	09/03/14
Muriel Doval	Program Para – Rogers High School	09/03/14
Tommy Lewis	Program Para – Rogers High School	09/03/14
Denise Gaspar	Behavior Support Program (Teacher TBD) – Thompson Middle School	09/03/14
Guia Coleman	Behavior Support Program (Teacher TBD) – Thompson Middle School	09/03/14
Alix Gifford	PCA – Thompson Middle School	09/03/14
Karoline Cranson	PCA – Thompson Middle School	09/03/14
Sandra DelBonis	PCA – Thompson Middle School	09/03/14
Vicki Lynch	PCA – Thompson Middle School	09/03/14
Wendy Moretta	PCA – Thompson Middle School	09/03/14
Elizabeth Silveria	Special Class (Caster) – Thompson Middle School	09/03/14
Stephanie Biello	Special Class (Caster) – Thompson Middle School	09/03/14

RECALLS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Date</u>
Allison Gontero	Kindergarten Teacher – Pell Elementary School	08/21/14
Andrew Martucci	Physical Education/Health Teacher – Rogers High School	08/21/14
Kate O'Neill	Grade 3 Teacher – Pell Elementary School	08/21/14
Linden Smith	Special Education – Pell Elementary School (2014 – 2015)	08/21/14
Robert Toribio	Kindergarten Teacher – Pell Elementary School	08/21/14

**2.2 Early Learning Center—John F. Kennedy School Building—Lease.**

Dr. Power made a motion to authorize the Chairperson or the Superintendent to execute the John F. Kennedy School Building Lease for one-year only, as presented, subject to legal counsel approval of same. Ms. Bolan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (6-0).

**2.3 Policy No. 5370—Academic Eligibility for Participation in Extracurricular Activities—Request to Suspend—Ratification of Vote.**

Vice Chairperson Mrs. Gaines made a motion to ratify the vote to suspend Policy No. 5370—Academic Eligibility for Participation in Extracurricular Activities, as amended on August 12, 2014. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Voting against the motion was: Thomas S. Phelan. The motion carried (5-1).

**3.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS.**

**3.1 Superintendent's Update—School Year 2015.** Superintendent Jermain updated the committee on the Pell School—Dexter Street safety traffic plan. She also notified the committee that a resolution was going to be presented to the city council based on the recommendation by the Charter Review Commission report. Should the resolution pass, the school department would be requested to submit a monthly update of its financials and revenue and expenditure forecasts. Superintendent Jermain shared proposed student enrollment and stated that if the committee had consensus she would be speaking to the second best candidate, James Murano, for the position of interim Principal of Rogers High School, to see if he would be interested in joining the district to assist in the redesign/restructuring efforts of the Newport Area Career and Technical Center (NACTC) and Alternative Learning Program (ALP), while working with the Assistant Principal. Mr. Murano's resume was distributed to the committee; and, as a result, the consensus of committee members was to allow Mr. Murano to begin his interim position on Tuesday, August 26, 2014. He will be appointed, retroactive, at the committee's next meeting.

**4.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION.** No executive session was held.

**5.0 ADJOURNMENT.**

At 3:09 p.m., Vice Chairperson Mrs. Gaines made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (6-0).

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**Charles P. Shoemaker, M.D.**  
Chairperson

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**Colleen B. Jermain**  
Clerk