

Middletown Public Schools

Middletown, Rhode Island

September 20, 2007

7:00 p.m. – Regular Meeting

MICHAEL S. PINTO CONFERENCE ROOM

Members Present: Michael F. Crowley, Jr., Chairman

William Coogan arrived at 7:54

Edward K. Draper

Theresa M. Spengler

Member Absent: Liana F. Fenton, Vice-Chair

Also Present: Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Superintendent of Schools

Catherine McLeish, Business Manager

Edward Collins, Director of Facilities

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Chairman Michael Crowley. Administrative staff members present were Timothy Ryan, Steven Ruscito, Michelle Fonseca, Gail Abromitis, Maureen Cicchitelli, Stephen Ponte, and Linda Savastano. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

SPOTLIGHT ON TEACHING AND LEARNING

No Spotlight on Teaching and Learning for September 20, 2007

PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS

- **Presentation to Richard Updegrave, Esq. – Mrs. Kraeger introduced Attorney Richard Updegrave. Mr. Crowley commended and thanked Mr. Updegrave for his service to the Middletown school community. All school committee members wished him good luck with his endeavors.**

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

No Student Activities for September 20, 2007

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INFORMATION

Mrs. Kraeger noted items of information in the School Committee Package:

- **Letter of substantial approval of CRP**
- **Legislation on peanut and nut tree allergy**
- **State's interest in collaboration of services ~ state-wide school supplies is already in place; the 2nd piece is to implement a state-wide transportation bid**

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Kelsey Dugan, Class of 2007 President, requesting funds to help offset the cost of a new Middletown High School sign.

MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Edward Draper. That the School Committee receive the communication and hold it in abeyance until the October 18, 2007 meeting when budget will be approved. Unanimous vote.

Theresa Spengler asked if the request could be submitted to Middletown Education Collaborative. Mrs. Kraeger said she would like to meet with Kelsey Dugan to talk about other fund raisers.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Edward Draper. To approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous vote.

1000. Approval of Minutes of August 16, 2007 School Committee Meeting

1100. Approval of Invoice Register, dated August 9, 2007, in the amount of \$82,296.25

1110. Approval of Invoice Register, dated August 21, 2007, in the amount of \$503,515.05

1120. Approval of Invoice Register, dated September 4, 2007, in the amount of \$439,711.82

1200. Approval of Special Grants Register, dated August 21, 2007, in the amount of \$5,810.07

1210. Approval of Special Grants Register, dated September 4, 2007 in the amount of \$762.21

1300. Superintendent's Recommendation on Personnel

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SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION ON PERSONNEL

APPOINTMENTS

Martha A. Ullman, M.D. School Physician

Hakan Durudogan, D.D.S. School Dentist

Carmela Geer COZ Family Center Coordinator

Tara Sweeney Grade 5, Gaudet – One Year Only

TRANSFERS

Mary Clark Multi-Age Teacher, Forest Avenue School

to Grade One Teacher, Forest Avenue School

Joanne Reilly-Chaves Grade Two Teacher, Forest Avenue School

to Grade Three Teacher, Forest Avenue School

Christa Robinson Kindergarten Teacher, Aquidneck School

to Multi-Age Teacher (One Year Only), Forest Avenue School

Jennifer LaMond ESL Teacher to Grade Seven ELA Teacher, Gaudet

**James Williams Guidance Counselor, Gaudet to Grade Six Teacher,
Gaudet**

**Karen Massaro PE/Health Teacher, Gaudet to PE/Health Teacher,
Middletown High School**

**Michele Smith Special Education Teacher, Middletown High School
to Literacy Teacher, Middletown High School**

**David Kilmer Team Leader Custodian Foreperson Level II (Day),
Aquidneck School**

to Team Leader Custodial Foreperson Level I, Gaudet Middle School

**Robert Marshall Team Leader Custodian Level I (Night), Middletown
High School**

**to Team Leader Custodial Foreperson Level II (Day) ~ Aquidneck
School**

Susan McIntosh 6-hour Teacher Assistant, Forest Avenue School to

Middletown High School

RECALLS

Tara Mellow Grade One Teacher, Aquidneck School

Cynthia Tanguay Grade Four Teacher, Aquidneck School (One Year Only)

Heidi Gauch Grade Seven Social Studies Teacher, Gaudet

Gail Sullivan-McCune Full Time Art Teacher

Gary Sebastiao Full Time Music Teacher

Kellie Sorel Ducharme Grade Seven Science Teacher, Gaudet

Ann Sullivan .2 Social Studies Teacher, Middletown High School

Philip Statser Full Time Music Teacher

Robyn Borges Grade Two Teacher, John F. Kennedy School

Erin Doorley Multi-Age Teacher, John F. Kennedy School

Lori Call Multi-Age Teacher, John F. Kennedy School

Laurie Oliveira Grade Three Teacher, John F. Kennedy School

Jane Violet Grade Five Teacher, Gaudet

Jamie Sheridan Grade Five Teacher, Gaudet

Ronald Dumais Technology Integration, Gaudet

Allan Waite Industrial Arts, Middletown High School

Justin Buffman Grade Seven Math Teacher, Gaudet

Susan Cunningham Science Teacher, Middletown High School

Linda Ferreira 6-Hour Teacher Assistant, Forest Avenue

Four)

FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

Jaime Sheridan Grade Five Teacher, Gaudet Middle School

For a period of Twelve weeks starting from September 5, 2007

RESIGNATIONS

Margaret Palmer Grade Four Teacher, Forest Avenue School

John Milliken Custodian, effective December 28, 2007

Karen Armstrong Grade Eight Teacher, Gaudet Middle School

2007 FALL COACHING APPOINTMENTS

Eric Godin Head Coach Girls Varsity Soccer

Shannon Lewis Girls JV Soccer

2007 FALL VOLUNTEER COACHING APPOINTMENTS

Christopher Greene Volunteer Boys' Soccer Coach

Richard Formica Volunteer Boys' Soccer Coach

Ted Hersey Volunteer Gaudet Cross Country Coach

MHS STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Patrick Aylward Student Activities Coordinator

Michelle Oliveira Senior Class Advisor

Susan Sisson Senior Class Advisor

Philip Statser Junior Class Advisor

Michele Smith Sophomore Class Advisor

Maria Dowler Sophomore Class Advisor
Renee Brietzke Freshman Class Advisor
Marianne Curtis Freshman Class Advisor
Stephen Fagan Math League Advisor
Kevin Zahm Fall Dramatics Directorship
Kevin Zahm Spring Dramatics Directorship
Steven Ruscito Student Council Advisorship
Philip Statser Band Directorship
Claudia Vars Choral Directorship
Frank Lema Flag Team Coordinator
Sue Suprock Tempo
Ramona Bessinger Tempo
Philip Statser Tempo
Alicia Hicks Yearbook
Karen Sheely Yearbook
Barbara Reed National Honor Society
Carol Turcotte National Honor Society
Timothy Sunn Natural Helpers

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ACTION ITEMS

MISA 2007-2008 Position Paper

MOTION: 1) Edward Draper, 2) Theresa Spengler. That the School Committee endorse the 2007-2008 Position Paper from the Military Impacted Schools Association.

JOB DESCRIPTIONS – 2nd Reading

MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Edward Draper. That the School Committee approve the job description for Child Opportunity Zone (COZ) Family Center Coordinator. (2nd Reading)

STANDING ORDERS FOR NURSES

MOTION: 1) Edward Draper, 2) Theresa Spengler. That the School Committee approve the Standing Orders for Nurses.

TOWN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MOTION: 1) Edward Draper, 2) Theresa Spengler. That the School Committee appoint Michael Crowley to the Town Information Technology Advisory Committee with Edward Draper as the alternate.

OLD BUSINESS

Advisory Committee -- Mrs. Fenton had previously suggested the development of three advisory committees. She suggested contacting community members and parents to serve on three committees for sports and after school activities; mathematics, science & technology, and fine arts. A group discussion should take

place about funding, how to sustain and enhance the programs and the implication of the Fielding Nair facilities study.

Edward Draper said he has received positive feedback on the discussion of high school and Pop Warner programs and how they are working together.

Liana Fenton and Rosemarie Kraeger will be meeting with the Economic Development Board.

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business for September 20, 2007

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SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

• OPENING OF 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR

- It was a smooth opening of school.**
- There are some overages in classrooms—particularly at the high school, and we are working with union leadership to balance the classes.**

- Enrollment and staffing continues to be difficult to predict.
- Enrollment is declining, however data does not suggest students are leaving for private schools,
- Military movement creates enrollment fluctuations
- Staff reductions did hold in most cases
- Limited English Proficiency (LEP) population is another unpredictable factor
- Mr. Ryan and Mrs. Cicchitelli have been working with the state department to design a new model to provide services to LEP (i.e. collaborative classes, assessments during school year, and a more systematic approach for identification.)
- Mr. Crowley suggested looking at professional development for teachers throughout the district so they have instructional strategies to use with the LEP students in the classroom.
- Mr. Crowley asked if the War College could work with us more to support these families.
- Edward Draper asked about the LEP students and how many are from the War College. Mr. Ryan said about 80-90 percent.

- **CURRICULUM –**

- Michael Mancieri, Vincent Giuliano, Maureen Cicchitelli, and Gloria Howard are meeting with parents regarding the standards based report card on September 25th at 6:30 at Gaudet.
- TIENET – The curriculum piece has been put into TIENET as well as

released NECAP item tasks.

- Roger Taylor, an educator with experience in differentiated instruction, will be at the high school on October 9th.
- GLE booklets are at the printer. Thank you to Maureen Cicchitelli, Linda Savastano, and Gloria Howard. These booklets will help with the understanding of the standards based report card. All booklets were printed using grant funds. Mr. Draper asked if there could be scoring information for the report card in the booklets. This concept could be developed with future booklets.
- AP scores – Review the information in the packet. There are some identified trends. Mr. Ruscito and Ms. Sheehan will present information at the October meeting and frame an action plan.

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- Planetarium activities include: Birthday Party With the Stars. Family Fun Nights on October 15th and November 19th, and a six-week after-school program starting on Thursday's beginning October 11th.
- The Middletown Recreation Program is looking to provide after school programs at Gaudet.

- FINANCIAL –

Cathy McLeish is working on the numbers to finalize the 2007-2008 Budget. The first payroll went out successfully. Thank you to all in the Business Office staff. We needed to order textbooks for the high school. Mrs. Kraeger will attend the Impact Aid Conference in Washington in the end of September.

• FACILITIES –

The buildings are in good shape. The facilities staff deserves a great deal of credit. We have been removing all of the old finish on the floors, and we are using all GREEN products. We are one of two school districts in the state who has gone entirely GREEN. The Press Box is being constructed at Gaudet field. In another month, the storage facility will be started.

• CORE FACILITIES COMMITTEE –

We are still working on getting a November date from Town Council.

MOTION: 1) Edward Draper, 2) William Coogan. That the School Committee receive the Superintendent's Reports. Unanimous vote.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Mr. Coogan asked if we could document bullying incidences. Mrs. Kraeger said the district can cull out data from the discipline reports. Mr. Coogan asked how do teachers and administrators identify/differentiate bullying from other incidences. Mr. Draper talked about a book which helped the Safety Advisory Committee members understand how to identify incidences of bullying.

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Mr. Draper said the bullying topic was well received by the Safety Advisory Committee and the program is moving forward. We are getting assistance from Women's Resource Center relative to violence prevention. The SPFSIG grant will assist our approach in schools.

Mr. Crowley attended an executive meeting at RIASC. The officers of RIASC will meet with the new Board of Regents chair. The Island Funding Committee is moving forward with more information from RIPEC.

Mrs. Kraeger commended the Forest Avenue Staff: Mr. Ponte,

Principal; Mrs. Colaneri, Lead Teacher and staff in response to the water line break on Forest Avenue. The staff and students were evacuated to Gaudet Middle School. Mr. Giuliano, principal of Gaudet, had plans ready. Connect Ed was an excellent tool to contact parents quickly.

ADJOURN FROM MEETING

MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Edward Draper. To adjourn from School Committee Meeting at 8:16 p.m. Unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Clerk