

**Middletown Public Schools**

**Middletown, Rhode Island**

**September 2, 2009**

**5:00 p.m. – Executive Session**

**Immediately Followed by Regular Meeting**

**MICHAEL S. PINTO CONFERENCE ROOM**

**Members Present:**

**Michael F. Crowley, Jr., Chairman**

**Theresa Spengler, Vice-Chair**

**Kellie M. DiPalma**

**Liana F. Fenton**

**William R. O'Connell**

**Also Present:**

**Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Superintendent of Schools**

**Linda Savastano, Assistant Superintendent for Academic and  
Technology Services**

**Edward Collins, Director of Facilities**

**Ben Scungio, School Department Attorney**

**Absent:**

**Peter Wood, Director of Technology**

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION: 1) William O'Connell, 2) Kellie DiPalma. To go into Executive Session 42-46-5 (a) 1,2,5,8,9 at 5:02 p.m. Unanimous vote.**

**The regular School Committee Meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Chairman Michael Crowley. Administrative staff members present were Steven Ruscito, Vincent Giuliano, Michael Mancieri, Michelle Fonseca, Gail Abromitis and Stephen Ponte. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

**No votes were taken in Executive Session.**

## **SPOTLIGHT ON TEACHING AND LEARNING**

**No "Spotlight on Teaching and Learning" for September 2, 2009.**

## **PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS**

**No “Proclamations/Awards” for September 2, 2009.**

## **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

**No “Student Activities” for September 2, 2009.**

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTON: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. To approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous vote.**

- Approval of Minutes of July 28, 2009 School Committee Meeting**
- Approval of Minutes of July 28, 2009 Executive Session**
- Approval of Invoice Register, dated August 18, 2009, in the amount of \$545,395.92**

## **SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION ON PERSONNEL**

### **APPOINTMENTS**

**Tara Manion .6 to Full-Time Librarian**

**Eric Godin Athletic Director**

**Colleen Larson Dean of Students**

**Alana Robles .5 Art Teacher**

**Emma Hookway Music Teacher**

**Gustavus Steppin Math Teacher, Middletown High School**

**Kevin Zahm Director of Science, Math and Physical Education**

## **RESIGNATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF RETIREMENT**

**Catherine McLeish Business Manager**

## **RESIGNATION**

**Corinne Piner-Badar Math Teacher, Middletown High School**

## **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**Colleen Larson Dean of Students, Middletown High School**

**From September 21, 2009 to October 23, 2009**

**Gary Sebastiao Music Teacher, J.H. Gaudet School**

**From October 6, 2009 to December 4, 2009**

## **FALL COACHING APPOINTMENTS**

**Andrew Leys Varsity Football Coach**

**Steve Ponte Assistant Varsity Football Coach**

**Arthur Bell Junior Varsity Football Coach**

**Ryan McCormack Assistant Junior Varsity Football Coach**

**Charles Russ Freshman Football Coach**  
**TBA Assistant Freshman Football Coach**  
**Luis Oliveira Boys Varsity Soccer Coach**  
**Chris Greene Boys' Junior Varsity Soccer Coach**  
**Dave Kolator Girls' Varsity Soccer Coach**  
**TBA Girls' Junior Varsity Soccer Coach**  
**Kristen Seyster Coed Varsity Cross Country Coach**  
**Angela Santa Asst Coed Varsity Cross Country Coach**  
**TBA 6th/7th/8th Gr. Coed Cross Country Coach**  
**Marianne Curtis Girls' Varsity Tennis Coach**  
**Karen Massaro Girls' Varsity Volleyball Coach**  
**Gail Abromitis Girls' Junior Varsity Volleyball Coach**  
**Renee Brietzke Cheerleading Coach (Fall)**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

**No “Correspondence” for September 2, 2009.**

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE**

**MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton , 2) Kellie DiPalma. That the School Committee award the contract for student accident insurance to Lefebvre Insurance. Unanimous vote.**

**Lefebvre Insurance was recommended by RIASBO.**

**POLICY – 3030 “School Committee Budget Implementation, Monitoring and Transfers” – 2nd Reading**

**MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve Policy 3030 ”School Committee Budget Implementation, Monitoring and Transfers”, 2nd Reading. Unanimous vote.**

**POLICY – 3050 “School Committee Capital Reserve Account” – 2nd Reading**

**MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve Policy 3050 ”School Committee Budget Capital Reserve Account”, 2nd Reading. Unanimous vote.**

**POLICY – 3060 “School Committee Purchasing Procedure” – 2nd Reading**

**MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve Policy 3060 ”School Committee Purchasing Procedure”, 2nd Reading. Unanimous vote.**

**POLICY – 3070 “School Committee Bid Purchase Policy” – 2nd Reading**

**MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) Kellie DiPalma. That the School Committee approve Policy 3070 ”School Committee Bid Purchase Policy”, 2nd Reading. Unanimous vote.**

**CHEMICAL HEALTH & STUDENT SAFETY POLICY**

**MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve the Chemical Health & Student Safety Policy, 1st Reading. Unanimous vote.**

**CONTRACTS**

**MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2)Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve the Teacher Assistant Contract for years 2009-2012. Unanimous vote.**

**The Fiscal Impact Statement will be posted on the school department website, as required by law.**

**ADDITIONAL STAFF**

**MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee authorize the Superintendent to add additional staff, if needed, based on enrollment. Unanimous vote.**

**Mrs. Kraeger will review the enrollment. This will impact the budget, so reductions will have to be made elsewhere.**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**TRANSITION TEAM UPDATE: Mr. Collins reported that the playground installation is behind schedule as a result of weather. It should be ready one week after school starts. The Gaudet Learning Academy will be ready for the opening of school. New storage units are continually being made. After school starts, teachers will provide feedback as to what they would like in the Learning Academy. The 4th grade lockers are installed. The parking lot study and redesign was completed today.**

**Mr. Mancieri discussed the entry and dismissal procedures at Gaudet. All busses will come into the front of the building. Student drop-off by parents will be in the back of the building with supervision. Walkers will leave last after the buses leave. The Transportation Policy has been revised. Instead of a “5 strike” rule, it is now a “3 strike” rule.**

**Fourth grade students will have a full year of Music, PE, Art and chorus, as well as Health, Library, Family and Consumer Science and Tech Ed for ½ year. They will also have recess for 30 minutes.**

**Mr. Giuliano thanked Mr. Collins and his crew for a phenomenal job.**

**At the 4th Grade Breakfast, the grade four teachers were introduced to parents and tours were given. There was also a 5th Grade Breakfast for parents, students and teachers.**

- Back to School Night for Grades 4-5 - September 22nd**
- Back to School Night for Grades 6-8 - September 24th**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**•ENROLLMENT UPDATE – Mrs. Kraeger showed the enrollment trend over the past three years and for this summer. A Grade 3 has been added at Forest Avenue and a Multi-Age at Aquidneck School. The Grade 2 numbers at Forest Avenue School are being reviewed.**

**•COMMISSIONER’S VISIT – Commissioner Gist will be visiting Middletown on September 29th from 12:30 to 4:00 p.m. The focus will be on Gaudet School because of the new Learning Community and technology.**

**•H1N1 – Mr. Collins and Mrs. Savastano attended a conference at CCRI and participated in a conference call regarding H1N1. There will be a weekly conference call and a letter to parents that is the same for every community. Vaccines should be administered October through December. Administration will meet with all nurse teachers to**

discuss procedures.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS**

•**CURRICULUM** – Mrs. Savastano reported that they are working with EBEC for support with PLP. They are also working with Newport grades K-6 looking at data and analyzing to see how they can support student achievement. Work is being done on a math project K-12. Task force members will meet 12 hours throughout the year. Vertical alignment of curriculum is also being looked at.

•**FINANCIAL** – Mrs. Kraeger said that they are working on getting to the bottom line that the Town Council set in June. The Business Manager position has been advertised. Miss DiPalma asked about sharing some job responsibilities with the town. The Town and the School Department are now working on payroll collaboration, but Mrs. Kraeger said that because our mission is different from the Town, we need our own Business Manager.

•**FACILITIES** – The football field is almost complete. The field is currently being lined. Football begins in two weeks. There will be a ribbon cutting prior to the first football game. To schedule the field, Middletown sports are scheduled first, followed by Pop Warner, then Salve. Mr. Collins said that they have locked in at 5.5 cents for electrical.

**MOTION: 1)Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee receive the Superintendent's Reports. Unanimous vote.**

**Mrs. Spengler requested that hand washing be enforced before lunch.**

**ADJOURN FROM MEETING**

**MOTION: 1)Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. To adjourn from School Committee Meeting at 7:11 p.m. Unanimous vote.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Clerk**