

Middletown Public Schools

Middletown, Rhode Island

October 15, 2009

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

Absent:

Peter Wood, Director of Technology

The regular School Committee Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Michael Crowley. Administrative staff members present were Vincent Giuliano, Michael Mancieri, Stephen Ponte and Steven Ruscito. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

SPOTLIGHT ON TEACHING AND LEARNING

“How We Use Data to Impact Instruction”

Mrs. Savastano introduced Ron Dumais, Donna Chelf, Missy Kerins, Erica Bulk, Jan O’Donnell and Susan Petti. Trisha Dougherty and Helen Mikolaitis also assisted in developing the presentation. The focus of the presentation was “Driving Our Achievement – The Importance of Using Technology and Data” in the Middletown Public Schools. Online reporting supports teachers with differentiated instruction and flexible grouping.

A webpage call FIB’s (Finding Interesting Books) was developed that highlights student book reviews.

Teachers now have ready access to information about their students with the TIEnet system. Students use the TIEnet system for online portfolio, e-Capstone, PBGR management and ILPs. Students at Gaudet will be aligning technology projects with technology standards.

PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS

- Student Awards – Newport Daily News Athlete of the Week**

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- Gaudet School Bully Prevention Program – The Women’s Resource Center recently honored Gaudet School for their Bullying Prevention Program. There have been partnerships made with the Boys’ and Girls’ Club and the Newport County YMCA.**

- National School Bus Safety Week – This is held during the week of October 19 – 23, 2009**

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

- MHS Student Government – Mr. Ruscito introduced Jordan Lee, Sr. Class President, and Danielle Dube, Senior Class Vice-President, who discussed the Homecoming events. The Student Government’s vision is to make student government more united.**

INFORMATION

Mrs. Kraeger highlighted items of information:

- MPS eNews Flash, which will replace “The Standard”.**
- Newspaper article on “Walk To School” day**
- NASA Grant**

CORRESPONDENCE

No “Correspondence” for October 15, 2009.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTON: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) Kellie DiPalma. To approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous vote.

- Approval of Minutes of September 24, 2009 School Committee Meeting**
- Approval of Minutes of September 24, 2009 Executive Session**
- Approval of Invoice Register, dated September 18, 2009, in the amount of \$93,439.42**
- Approval of Invoice Register, dated September 10, 2009, in the**

amount of \$139,885.87

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SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION ON PERSONNEL

APPOINTMENTS

Daniel Toner Groundskeeper

RESIGNATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF RETIREMENT

Alicia Hicks Chief Clerk, Middletown High School

MHS STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Maria Dowler Yearbook Co-Advisor

Bernadette Moniz Yearbook Co-Advisor

J.H. GAUDET SCHOOL ADVISORS

Jill Armstrong Art Club Co-Advisor

Jonathan Paquette Art Club Co-Advisor

Nancy Ashmore Yearbook Advisor

Ron Dumais Computer Club Advisor

Heidi Gauch Student Council Advisor

ACTION ITEMS

BUDGET APPROVAL

MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve the 2009-2010 School Budget in the amount of \$35,657, 477. Unanimous vote.

The budget needed to be reduced from the 5.5% request to 2% Town Council approval. All contracts have been settled with a 0% increase, with a 1% salary increase for clerical staff.

In 06-07 there were 313 staff members and this year there are 274.8 staff members. The Total budget is \$35,657,477. Mr. Crowley thanked the administration for their work.

POLICY – 3082 “School Committee Duplication of Materials” – 2nd Reading

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve Policy 3082 ”School Committee Duplication of

Materials”, 2nd Reading. Unanimous vote.

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**POLICY – 3085 “School Committee Fundraising for School Programs”
– 2nd Reading**

MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Kellie DiPalma. That the School Committee approve Policy 3085 ”School Committee Fundraising for School Programs”, 2nd Reading. Unanimous vote.

POLICY – 3091 “School Committee Grant Procedures” – 2nd Reading

MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) Kellie DiPalma. That the School Committee approve Policy 3091 ”School Committee Grant Procedures”, 2nd Reading. Unanimous vote.

CHEMICAL HEALTH & STUDENT SAFETY POLICY

This motion was tabled.

HOME SCHOOLING

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma, 2) Theresa Spengler. That the School Committee approve Home Schooling 09-10-02 and 09-10-03.

Unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS

•H1N1 – There have been weekly conference calls with RIDE and the R.I. Department of Health regarding the H1N1 virus. We are ready and prepared to staff the clinics.

NEW BUSINESS

•PARENT/COMMUNITY CHATS – Mrs. Kraeger is proposing Parent/Community Chats, which would be held for an hour prior to School Committee Meeting. This would give the School Committee, administration and the community the opportunity to have a dialogue about different initiatives. A policy would be developed. Parents will be solicited as to what topics they would like to discuss.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

•CURRICULUM – Mrs. Savastano reported that NECAP and NWEA testing is taking place. NECAP tests grades 3-8 and 11 in math and reading & writing. Science testing is completed in the spring. NWEA

tests grades 2-9.

The Math Task Force meets once per month for an hour to review math curriculum work. The group is looking at aligning GSE's and GLE's. A K-12 math glossary will also be developed.

•**FINANCIAL** – The FY 09-10 budget is balanced. Mrs. Kraeger reported that she attended the Impact Aid Conference in Washington recently. There is a possibility of prior year payments being received, which would help with next year's budget.

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•**FACILITIES** – Mr. Collins reported that there were 200 work orders performed in September. They have locked in the rate for electricity with TransCanada at 5.5 cents. Forest Avenue School and J.H. Gaudet School are featured in the book "The Language of School Design", a book that recognizes top educational designs throughout the world.

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

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Mrs. Fenton attended three meetings on Career Pathways in which they discussed student internships, externships, course-ware, online courses and lectures on websites.

Miss DiPalma attended the Safety Advisory Committee Meeting. The committee reviewed the draft of Gaudet School's Bullying Prevention Plan. The committee is also reviewing the Chemical Health Policy. Several changes were recommended.

ADJOURN FROM MEETING

MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. To adjourn from School Committee Meeting at 9:07 p.m. Unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Rosemarie K. Kraeger
Clerk**