

Middletown Public Schools

Middletown, Rhode Island

Thursday, April 16, 2015

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Michael S. Pinto Conference Room

Members Present:

Theresa Spengler, Chairman

Kellie DiPalma Simeone, Vice-Chairman

Douglas Arnold

Liana Fenton

William O'Connell

Also Present:

Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Superintendent of Schools

Linda Savastano, Assistant Superintendent

Raquel Pellerin, Business Manager

Peter Anderson, Director of Facilities/Transportation and Safety

The Regular School Committee Meeting was called to order at 5:34

p.m. Administrative staff members present were Michelle Fonseca, Donna Chelf, Gail Abromitis, and Steve Ponte. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

SPOTLIGHT ON TEACHING AND LEARNING

No “Spotlight on Teaching and Learning” for April 16, 2016.

PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS

•**Student Awards – Student awards were presented in two categories:**

-**Newport Daily News Athlete of the Week**

-**Cyber Patriot Team**

A brief recess taken.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

No “Student Activities” for April 16, 2015.

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INFORMATION

Mrs. Kraeger noted the following items of information:

- The Wave**
- Senior events for the Class of 2015**
- Middletown Public Schools Teacher of the Year**
- Month of the Military Child**
- NAFIS letter**
- Donation letters**

CORRESPONDENCE

No “Correspondence” for April 16, 2015.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Approval of Minutes of the following minutes:**

-March 11, 2015 Budget Workshop

-March 17, 2015 Budget Workshop

-March 19, 2015 Budget Workshop and Regular School Committee Meeting

•Approval of the following vouchers:

March Vouchers

Voucher Number Date Total

1301 3/2/2015 \$3,746.04

1300 3/2/2015 \$1,364.57

1299 3/2/2015 \$19,991.70

1298 3/2/2015 \$309,166.40

1314 3/10/2015 \$56,635.85

1313 3/10/2015 \$16,385.68

1312 3/10/2015 \$57,621.21

1311 3/10/2015 \$3,787.50

1310 3/10/2015 \$190,654.48

1324 3/11/2015 \$85.00

1315 3/17/2015 \$464,127.69

1325 3/19/2015 \$653.49

1328 3/23/2015 \$32,670.03

1327 3/23/2015 \$70,716.58

1326 3/23/2015 \$1,392.00

1331 3/24/2015 \$925.00

1330 3/24/2015 \$61,003.73

1329 3/24/2015 \$6,459.56

1333 3/27/2015 \$315.00

Total \$1,297,701.51

•Approval of Superintendent's Recommendation on Personnel

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION ON PERSONNEL

APPOINTMENT EFFECTIVE MARCH 9, 2015

Brittney Schuchman .5 Kindergarten, Forest Avenue School

SPRING COACHING APPOINTMENT EFFECTIVE MARCH 24, 2015

David Awamleh Junior Varsity Baseball Coach

APPOINTMENT EFFECTIVE APRIL 13, 2015

Lindsey Trifero-Myers Bus Monitor

APPOINTMENTS EFFECTIVE APRIL 16, 2015

Ron Dumais Technology Innovation Coach (District-Wide with focus on Math/Science) 1.5 years only

David Fontaine Technology Innovation Coach (Grades 9-12 with focus on Math/Science) 1.5 years only, MHS

Luis Oliveira Technology Innovation Coach (Grades 9-12 with focus on Math/Science) 1.5 years only, MHS

Gustavus Steppen Technology Innovation Coach (Grades 9-12 with focus on Math/Science) 1.5 years only, MHS

Joshua Beagan Technology Innovation Coach (Grades 5-8 with focus on Math/Science) 1.5 years only, J.H. Gaudet School

Caitlin Briggs Technology Innovation Coach (Grades 5-8 with focus on Math/Science) 1.5 years only, J.H. Gaudet School

Angela Kelley Technology Innovation Coach (Grades 5-8 with focus on Math/Science) 1.5 years only, J.H. Gaudet School

Caitlin Coyne Technology Innovation Coach (Grades 4 with focus on Math/Science) 1.5 years only, J.H. Gaudet School

Cathleen Palkovic Technology Innovation Coach (Grades K-3 with focus on Math/Science) 1.5 years only, Aquidneck School

Shannon Dugan Technology Innovation Coach (Grades K-3 with focus on Math/Science) 1.5 years only, Aquidneck School

Deanne Reilly Technology Innovation Coach (Grades K-3 with focus

on Math/Science) 1.5 years only, Forest Ave. School

Brittney Schuchmann Technology Innovation Coach (Grades K-3 with focus on Math/Science) 1.5 years only, Forest Ave. School

RESIGNATION EFFECTIVE MARCH 24, 2015

Jonathan Devolve Junior Varsity Baseball Coach

RESIGNATION EFFECTIVE April 9, 2015

Kimberly Polley Bus Monitor

APPROVAL OF JOB SHARE FOR 2014 - 2015 SCHOOL YEAR

Kimberly Ceglarski .5 Kindergarten Teacher, Forest Avenue School

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ACTION ITEMS

SPONSORSHIP POLICY- 1ST READING

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve the Sponsorship Policy – 1st Reading.

Unanimous vote.

The policy backs up legislation being brought forward by Senator DiPalma regarding sponsoring billboards on athletic fields.

STANDING ORDERS FOR SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAMS POLICY REVISION

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve the revised Standing Orders for School Health Programs. Unanimous vote.

The only revision to the policy was the addition of the HPV vaccine for Grade 7. This is a 3-dose phase-in for fall of 2015.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART POLICY REVISION

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve revised Policy 2000.1 Organizational Chart. Unanimous vote.

GUNS IN SCHOOLS RESOLUTION

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve the Guns in Schools Resolution. Unanimous vote.

There was a question regarding someone who has a permit to carry a weapon. This resolution would not allow a gun to be brought into a school, even if the gun owner has a permit.

TUITION RATE

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve the Tuition Rate for 2015-2016. Unanimous vote.

Special Education tuition will be negotiated individually.

2015-16 SCHOOL CALENDAR

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve the 2015-2016 School Calendar. Unanimous vote.

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent to keep February Break for the 2015-2016 school year and begin school before Labor Day since the holiday is so late this year. The last day of school would be June 16, 2016. Tiverton has eliminated February Break. Portsmouth and Newport School Departments have decided to keep February Break for the 2015-2016 school year.

There is a “Presidential Preferential Election” scheduled for April 26, 2016. If it is necessary to use the schools, they would need to be closed.

OLD BUSINESS

- Waiver Request – A letter has been sent to the Rhode Island Council on Elementary and Secondary Education regarding a waiver for the “State of Emergency” day. No response has been received.**
- Core Committee – The initial meeting was scheduled for April 14th. In an effort to reach a larger number of interested community members, the meeting was rescheduled to May 11th, with an additional date of May 26th set.**

NEW BUSINESS

No “New Business” for April 16, 2015.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

•Curriculum – The PARCC PBA window has been completed. The next window is May 4th. Technology Innovation Coaches have been appointed. These positions are part of the van Beuren Grant and are stipend positions, lasting 1 ½ years. The NEASC Visit to Middletown High School begins on Sunday, May 3, 2015.

•Financial – School lunch menus are now digital and are linked to the food service website. Chartwells is teaming up with “Prevent Child Abuse America” on an anti-bullying initiative focusing on the prevention of peer abuse and the promotion of positive social development. Transportation bids have been received. They are higher than budgeted, but lower than other districts.

•Facilities – State inspections were performed on March 2, 3, and 6. The issue with signage has been corrected. There have been minor issues with accidental damage to the security blinds that were installed. This is being rectified. Card access is still in progress. The Administration Building will be the pilot facility. The estimated completion date is May 8, 2015. There was significant damage to the asphalt at Forest Avenue School. The Facilities Department will repair the damage with recycled asphalt. Four roof sections at Middletown High School and Gaudet School have been identified. Repairs at the main entrance to Gaudet School will be repaired, based on projected funding. The new vehicle is in use.

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee receive the Superintendent’s Reports. Unanimous

vote.

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REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Mr. O'Connell attended the NSBA Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. Next year's conference will be held in Boston, Massachusetts, from April 9-11, 2016.

Mrs. Fenton distributed handouts:

- A Preliminary Analysis of Career and Technical Education in Rhode Island, a RIPEC Study. Workshops will be held next month.**
- The Ocean State Wave – This is Governor Raimondo's plan for the next four years. Everything done at the State level has to coincide with this.**

Mrs. Fenton attended a meeting on April 8th regarding "Composites: The Future of Rhode Island's Economy". The meeting was attended by Governor Gina Raimondo, Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, and Congressman David Cicilline among others.

Mrs. Fenton attended a Strategic Review Team Meeting at RIDE.

Mrs. Fenton also attended an April 13th meeting on cyber security. This meeting is in conjunction with Roger Williams University and CCRI. Mrs. Fenton asked if we could get 8 students from Newport County to attend a summer camp on cyber security and forensic science.

Mrs. DiPalma Simeone is the School Committee liaison to the Middletown Prevention Coalition. A forum will be held on April 27th at 7:00 p.m. at CCRI, hosted by the Ocean State Prevention Alliance regarding the unintended consequences of and the impact of marijuana in our community. A representative from the Attorney General's Office will be in attendance.

Mrs. Spengler attended a RIASC School Committee Chair Committee Meeting. They focused on feedback to help identify key characteristics in what is wanted in a new Commissioner.

Mrs. Spengler also attended a meeting regarding Common Core Standards. PARCC was discussed. Middletown is ahead of a lot of districts in the state. Mrs. Spengler suggested a professional day for parents. Mrs. Spengler also thanked the teachers for their work on the PARCC Testing.

ADJOURN FROM MEETING

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) William O'Connell. To adjourn from School Committee Meeting at 6:37 p.m. Unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Chair