

Middletown Public Schools

Middletown, Rhode Island

Thursday, May 21, 2015

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Michael S. Pinto Conference Room

Members Present:

Theresa Spengler, Chairman

Douglas Arnold

Liana Fenton

William O'Connell

Member Absent:

Kellie DiPalma Simeone, Vice-Chairman

Also Present:

Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Superintendent of Schools

Raquel Pellerin, Business Manager

Peter Anderson, Director of Facilities/Transportation and Safety

The Regular School Committee Meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. Administrative staff members present were Stephen Ponte, Michelle Fonseca, Beth Hayes, Donna Chelf, and Linda Beaupre. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

SPOTLIGHT ON TEACHING AND LEARNING

No “Spotlight on Teaching and Learning” for May 21, 2016.

PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS

Proclamations/Awards were presented in the following categories:

*Teacher of the Year – Mrs. Kim D’Arpino was introduced as Middletown Teacher of the Year for 2015. Mrs. D’Arpino was MEC Teacher of the Year last year. She has taught in Middletown for 25 years.

•Retirees Recognition –

Christopher Sisson Librarian, Elementary 29 years

Susan Roque Special Education, MHS 35 years

Claire Johnson Music Teacher, K-12 18 years

TOTAL 82 years

- National Teacher Day – A proclamation was presented in recognition of National Teacher Day.**

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STUDENT ACTIVITIES

No “Student Activities” for May 21, 2015.

INFORMATION

Mrs. Kraeger noted the following items of information:

- Memo from Town Council President recognizing MHS for being named the #2 high school in the State by U.S. News and World Report. Mrs. Kraeger congratulated the entire district on this recognition.**
- Donation Letters**
- Gaudet Times magazine**

CORRESPONDENCE

No “Correspondence” for May 21, 2015.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) William O’Connell. To approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous vote.

•Approval of the following minutes:

-April 16, 2015 School Committee Meeting

-May 5, 2015 Special School Committee Meeting

•Quarterly Report ending March 31, 2015

•Approval of the following vouchers:

Voucher Summary-April 2015

1345 4/1/2015 \$311,282.12

1344 4/1/2015 \$20,166.48

1343 4/1/2015 \$3,770.74

1342 4/1/2015 \$1,372.37

1348 4/6/2015 \$3,922.50

1350 4/7/2015 \$1,501.25

1349 4/7/2015 \$5,540.58

1351 4/8/2015 \$598,081.32

1352 4/14/2015 \$20.00

1361 4/15/2015 \$185.28

1362 4/16/2015 \$69,080.82

1364 4/17/2015 \$5,460.33

1363 4/17/2015 \$87,520.50

1375 4/20/2015 \$660.89

1365 4/20/2015 \$321,421.96

Approval of Superintendent's Recommendation on Personnel

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION ON PERSONNEL

APPOINTMENTS EFFECTIVE APRIL 28, 2015

**Heidi Gauch MOST Grades 4-6 After School Intervention Teacher –
Literacy**

**Renee Fagan MOST Grades 4-6 After School Intervention Teacher –
Literacy**

**Christine Karoly MOST Grades 4-6 After School Intervention Teacher
– Literacy**

**Anne Coogan MOST Grades K-3 After School Intervention Teacher –
Literacy**

**Lori Call MOST Grades K-3 After School Intervention Teacher –
Literacy**

**Debra Prentiss MOST Grades K-3 After School Intervention Teacher –
Literacy**

**Leslie Gilman MOST Grades K-3 After School Intervention Teacher –
Literacy**

Kim Smith MOST Grades K-3 After School Intervention Teacher – Literacy

Erin Doorley-Foreman MOST Grades K-3 After School Intervention Teacher – Literacy

APPOINTMENT EFFECTIVE MAY 26, 2015

Ann Clark .8 ELL And .2 Reading Specialist (K-8) (Long Term Substitute)

FALL COACHING APPOINTMENT EFFECTIVE AUGUST 10, 2015

Arthur Bell Varsity Football

John Horsman Assistant Varsity Football

Matt Kestler Junior Varsity Football

Jared Nimblett Assistant Junior Varsity Football

Zachary Yates Freshman Football

Luis Oliveira Boys' Varsity Soccer

Thomas Conrad Boys' Junior Varsity Soccer

Paula Guarino 6th/7th/8th Grade Coed Cross Country Co-Coach

Jennifer Cavallaro 6th/7th/8th Grade Coed Cross Country Co-Coach

Rachel Sliwowski Girls' Varsity Tennis

Leah Rosin-Pritchard Girls' Varsity Volleyball

Darcy Roland Girls' Junior Varsity Volleyball

Jennifer Mahoney Fall Cheerleading

Stephen Turcotte Girls' Junior Varsity Soccer

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

MATERNITY LEAVE - ARTICLE XIV, C, OPTION #1 (NEA/Middletown)

Kristin Lambert Reading Specialist, J.H. Gaudet School

From September 1, 2015 to October 13, 2015

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ACTION ITEMS

REDUCTION IN FORCE

MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) William O'Connell. That the Superintendent's Report be accepted and adopted and the necessary letters sent out. Unanimous vote.

In the past, this was required to be completed by March 1st. The date is now June 1st.

SPONSORSHIP ADVERTISING ON SCHOOL GROUNDS POLICY – 2ND READING

MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) William O'Connell. That the School Committee approve the Sponsorship Advertising on School Grounds

Policy – 2nd Reading. Unanimous vote.

Mrs. Spengler said we need to have clear guidelines as to what is appropriate advertising.

**COMPUTER/NETWORK/DATA TECHNICIAN I JOB DESCRIPTION –
1ST READING**

MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) William O’Connell. That the School Committee approve the Computer/Network/Data Technician I Job Description – 1st Reading. Unanimous vote.

**COMPUTER/NETWORK TECHNICIAN II JOB DESCRIPTION – 1ST
READING**

MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) William O’Connell. That the School Committee approve the Computer/Network II Job Description – 1st Reading. Unanimous vote.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS POLICY – 1ST READING

MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) William O’Connell. That the School Committee approve Health and Wellness Policy – 1st Reading. Unanimous vote.

Mr. Ponte, Chair of the school Health and Wellness Committee,

updated the committee on the Health and Wellness policy. The policy meets the requirements of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization act of 2004 and the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010.

Additions to the policy include nutrition guidelines, how to reward children without giving food, classroom and school celebrations, and competitive food and beverage sales.

Mrs. Kraeger thanked everyone for their work on the policy.

DESIGNATE FUNDS

MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) William O'Connell. That under GASB 54 and Middletown Public Schools Spending Policy, any prior year Impact Aid payment in excess of budget amount will be assigned to one time expenditure only, such as Capital Improvement Projects, Capital Expenditures, or Technology, and Curriculum. Unanimous vote.

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This is necessary every year at approximately this time. The School Committee assigns the dollars. One-on-one laptops for teachers were funded by designating funds. Laptop carts and one-on-one laptops for students are items that could be funded by designating

funds for the 2015-16 school year.

BUS CONTRACT

MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) William O'Connell. That the School Committee award the bus contract to Ocean State Transit. Unanimous vote.

East Bay school districts went out to bid for the bus transportation bid. Ocean State Transit came in with a good price for Middletown. The service has been very good in the past. They have adapted to bus routes and have been responsive to issues.

OLD BUSINESS

•Core Committee – The first Core Committee Meeting was held on May 11th. The next meeting will be held on May 26th. The committee will look into the expansion of Forest and Aquidneck Schools. Mrs. Spengler said the first meeting was well attended by about 20 people. Mr. Litman showed potential designs. Forest Avenue School is limited because it sits on less acreage than Aquidneck School.

NEW BUSINESS

•Dual Enrollment – A policy is being drafted as required on dual enrollment. The Governor has promoted it for high school students taking high school and college courses at the same time. Currently, the student pays for course at URI and CCRI. School districts are required to put in a draft policy by the end of June. The State will pay a portion of the tuition.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

•Mrs. Kraeger received an official letter that the six districts that applied for a waiver for the State of Emergency Day were approved. There will be a one day reduction in make-up days. The last day of school will now be Tuesday, June 23rd.

•Financial – Charter school payments have increased, leaving a net loss of \$7K. Mrs. Fenton asked about the budget consultant that the Town suggested. Mrs. Kraeger will follow up on this. The School Committee agreed in January that we welcome a consultant. The first public hearing was held last night. The next one will be held May 27th.

•Facilities – We are currently radon testing in all buildings. Boiler inspections have been completed at Middletown High School. The other schools will follow. Security

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blind modifications are completed. Much needed parking lot repairs were completed at Forest Avenue School. The facilities crew did a great job. Most work was completed by facilities staff. The front wall at MHS has been repaired.

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

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

- Mrs. Fenton and Mrs. Simeone attended the State School Committee Annual Meeting. There was discussion about why students who participate in sports should get credit for PE. This is being done in New Hampshire.
- Mrs. Fenton attended a manufacturing engineering meeting at Bryant College discussing career pathways.
- Mrs. Fenton attended a Newport County mentoring group meeting. Sixty students went to Raytheon and visited different departments.
- Mrs. Fenton attended a STEM Conference at Rhode Island College. The group is working on putting together a framework about what STEM education should be in the State.

The next School Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, June 22, 2015.

ADJOURN FROM MEETING

MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) William O'Connell. To adjourn from School Committee Meeting at 6:30 p.m. Unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Chair