

Middletown Public Schools

Middletown, Rhode Island

April 12, 2016

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Michael S. Pinto Conference Room

Members Present:

Theresa Spengler, Chairman

Kellie DiPalma Simeone, Vice-Chairman

Douglas Arnold

Liana Fenton

Member Absent:

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

SPOTLIGHT ON TEACHING AND LEARNING

No “Spotlight on Teaching and Learning” for April 12, 2016.

PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS

•Middletown Cyber Patriot Team, coached by Town IT Director Matt Wainwright, recently place 2nd out of 32 teams in Rhode Island. On May 25th, the State Police will honor all teams at the Crown Plaza in Warwick.

A brief recess was taken. The meeting reconvened at 5:40 p.m.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

No “Student Activities” for April 12, 2016.

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INFORMATION

Mrs. Kraeger noted the following items of information:

- Middletown flu vaccination numbers- 450 individuals received vaccinations.**
- Notice from Attorney McAllister regarding an appeal to RIDE.**
- Commissioner Wagner’s State of Education address.**
- Stage II fast track repair program.**
- April is “Month of the Military Child”. Forest Avenue School honors military kids with a parade. They also learn how to fold flag and meet with members of the different branches of service.**

CORRESPONDENCE

No “Correspondence” for April 12, 2016.

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 22, 2016 School Committee Meeting and Executive Session

•Approval of the following vouchers:

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•Approval of Superintendent's Recommendation on Personnel

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION ON PERSONNEL

APPOINTMENT EFFECTIVE MARCH 21, 2016

Peter Grimes Bus Monitor

APPOINTMENT EFFECTIVE APRIL 25, 2016

Lindsey Pribula Bus Monitor

APPOINTMENT EFFECTIVE APRIL 4, 2016

Zenaida Desjardins 3-Hour Teacher Assistant, Forest Avenue School

VOLUNTEER COACHING APPOINTMENTS EFFECTIVE MARCH 14, 2016

Kristen Seyster Volunteer Track

OLD BUSINESS

•2016-2017 SCHOOL CALENDAR DISCUSSION – There was discussion about the 2016-2017 school calendar. The following dates have been set:

oAugust 29, 2016 – New Teacher Orientation

oAugust 30, 2016 – All Teacher Orientation

oAugust 31, 2016 – First Day for Students

oSeptember 5, 2016 – Labor Day

oSeptember 7, 2016 – Professional Development Day

oSeptember 13, 2016 – Primary Day

oFebruary 20 – 24, 2017 – February Vacation

oApril 14, 17-21, 2017 – Good Friday followed by April Vacation

oJune 16, 2017 – Last day of school, barring snow days

•BOND UPDATE – In July, a group will be formed to get information out to the community regarding the bond issue.

NEW BUSINESS

No “Correspondence” for April 12, 2016.

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ACTION ITEMS

TITLE I PARENT POLICY – 2nd READING

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve the Title I Parent Policy, 2nd Reading. Unanimous vote.

FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT POLICY – 2nd READING

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve the Family Medical Leave Act Policy, 2nd Reading. Unanimous vote.

KITCHEN EQUIPMENT BID

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee award the Kitchen Equipment Bid to Kittredge

Foodservice Equipment and Supplies. Unanimous vote.

CIP CELL TOWER ADJUSTMENT

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee reallocate \$5,293.32 from previous projects outlined in School Cell Tower Rental Income to asbestos abatement at Middletown High School. Unanous vote.

APPROVAL TO FILE WITH MHEC STATE COLLABORATIVE

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve utilizing the Massachusetts Higher Education Consortium (MHEC) to sign a purchasing arrangement for potential future procurement needs of equipment, furniture, technology services, etc. Unanimous vote.

This is similar to BuyBoard and TIPS that were approved by the School Committee in the past. It would give the district the option to purchase equipment, furniture, technology services, etc.

HOME SCHOOLING

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve Home Schooling 15-16-08 and 15-16-09. Unanimous vote.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

•CURRICULUM – Mrs. Savastano discussed the Technology Integration Template for Curriculum Units and showed an example of how they select text standards. This

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example includes student presentations. Students are asked to produce and not consume technology using technology integration. This is being completed with all grade levels with help from the 12 Technology Innovation Coaches. The same template is used K-12. Funds for coaches and substitutes came from the van Buren grant.

PARCC Assessments have begun in all four buildings. This year there is one window (April 11 – May 27) as opposed to two last year. There are 4 units of math, which are 60-90 minutes each. All grades 3-8 students are tested. At Middletown High School, it depends on what courses a student is enrolled in, but mostly grades 9 and 10 students. To date, there have been a handful of refusals. This test gives experience in taking assessment tests such as SAT and ACT's, which are required in high school.

•FINANCIAL – Chartwell’s numbers have been received. The profit for March is \$9,000 and the year-to-date cumulative number is \$43,000.

A meeting was held today with the Department of Revenue. Middletown was picked as one of six communities in the State to participate in a pilot program related to updating Article 15 as it relates to municipalities. The district is right on target with financials. The General Fund is a little below \$700,000. There is concern on the revenue side for basic Impact Aid. We still have not received the targeted amount for this year and are about \$200,000 short. The worst case will be to shift prior year payments.

•FACILITIES – AHERA Inspections, which need to take place every three years, have been completed. These inspections validate the need for the bond issue. Facilities Department training will take place next week. On Thursday, there will be a pre-bid walkthrough for the Administration Building HVAC bid. The bid opening will take place on April 21st. At the May School Committee Meeting, the Committee will be asked to approve three new policies related to the RIDE Stage II Application. The Facilities Department is working with the Town to complete the press box and stairs at the Aquidneck School field.

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

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Mrs. Fenton and Mrs. Simeone recently attended the NSBA Conference in Boston. A number of districts have a student/youth member on their School Committee. It was suggested that it not be a top student, but more a student in the middle or 60% achievement level so they can suggest items that need improvement.

There will be a Town Council Budget Workshop on Monday, May 2nd at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall. The April 25th date has been cancelled.

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ADJOURN FROM MEETING

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. To adjourn from the Regular School Committee Meeting at 6:26 p.m. Unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Clerk