

CUMBERLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 8, 2005

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Thursday, September 8, 2005 at the Administrative Office/Cafetorium, 2602 Mendon Road, was called to order at 7:30 PM, by Chairman Paul Neves, with the following present:

Paul Neves, Chairman, Donald J. Costa, Vice Chair, Arthur DeCosta, Clerk,

Rosa Crowley, Linda Teel, Earl T. Wood

Also Present: Donna A. Morelle, Ed.D., Superintendent, Joseph A. Rotella, Esq., Director of Administration

Absent: Robert C. Thibodeau

I. Pledge of Allegiance - The Pledge of Allegiance was led by committee members.

II. Approval of Agenda - On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Ms. Crowley, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the agenda.

III. Chairperson's Report - The Chair reported he received thank you notes from the job share teachers for the committee's support. Mr. Neves thanked Mr. Costa and the administrative team for their

support during his recent health issue.

IV. Comments from the Public - None.

V. Report of Standing Committees

A. Property Committee - Mr. Wood reported meeting to discuss the fees for use of facilities and who should be charged and who should be exempt, as well as fees for the athletic fields.

VI. Consent Agenda

A. Police Report

B. Approval of Minutes

1) Open Session: 7/28/05, 8/11/05

2) Executive Session: 7/28/05, 8/11/05

C. Maintenance Report

D. Enrollments Report

E. Building Use Report

It was noted there was no police report. The consent agenda was approved by UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

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VII. Old Business

A. Building Committee Update - The Superintendent reported the two

building committees are meeting as scheduled. The 2010 Building Committee has been very effective in providing a smooth opening of school. Mr. Driscoll had provided an update on issues at the High School, specifically the bathroom projects and the curtain wall. The bond date is approaching and the 2010 Building Committee will not be meeting until after the bond vote. Dr. Morelle reported Mark Lindgren will be added to the 3.5 Building Committee as a voting member.

B. Search Committee Update - Mr. Rotella reported almost all openings have been filled. They are still screening for a Spanish teacher position.

VIII. New Business

A. Home Schooling Instruction Requests - On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Ms. Crowley and Mr. DaCosta, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the list of home school requests as presented.

B. Opening of School Year Update - The Superintendent reported on the successful opening of school relative to enrollment, the leadership team and staffing, facilities and transportation. She noted the new principals were well received. She reported they are now initiating a search for a consultant who specializes in the middle school learning environment. She stated Durham Bus worked diligently and is revising some of the bus routes. Mr. Hilton reported on facilities, stating the schools are bright, shiny and noted the difficulty in cleaning the High School for the start of school. He reported they will be instituting some new methods of cleaning. He

stated the transitional building didn't have the capability of shutting off water in an emergency, relying on the Town. That was taken care of in a half day with the cooperation of employees in the building. He noted they are trying to make the custodians a part of the mission statement and provide proper lighting, offering a feeling of safety, security and a clean, healthy environment.

C. Technology Update - Mr. Barrett reported on the progress of the intranet capabilities since the end of school in June. He demonstrated use of School Max and the First Class system with a power point presentation.

D. District Strategic Planning - The Superintendent reported it was time to re-institute the strategic planning committee and set new goals, especially with new testing, noting two schools are no longer low scoring. She also noted there are some equity issues and a need to be more responsive to society and the educational environment. There should be clear measurable one year action plans. The Superintendent will review what groups should be represented and report back to the committee.

IX. Superintendent's Recommendations

A. Personnel Recommendations - The Superintendent presented the following:

1. On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Mr. Wood and Mr. Costa, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the following resignations:

a. Kimberly Bishaw, Assistant Cross Country Coach at North Cumberland Middle School, effective 8/16/2005.

b. Courtney Chauvette, Grade 5 Teacher at BF Norton School, effective 8/26/2005.

c. Lisa McCormack, Grade 6 Teacher at Cumberland Middle School, effective 8/26/2005.

d. Diane Egan, .4 School Psychologist, Systemwide, effective 8/31/2005.

2. On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Ms. Crowley, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the retirement of Susan Petrie, Science Teacher at North Cumberland Middle School, effective 8/31/2005.

3. On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE tabling the request for a Medical Leave of Absence of Robert Vartanian, Custodian days at Community School, effective 8/19/2005.

4. On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Ms. Crowley and Mr. Wood, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the following appointments:

a. Elizabeth McIlroy, Special Education Teacher at Ashton School, effective 8/29/2005 (FTE 1.0, Step 2, Advanced Lane: Masters; 10% Copay, Budgeted)

b. Leigh Butterworth, Physical Education/Adaptive Teacher at BF Norton School, effective 8/29/2005 (FTE 1.0, Step 1, no Advanced Lane, 10% Copay, Budgeted)

c. Jessica Macedo, Grade 5 Teacher at BF Norton School, effective 8/29/2005 (FTE 1.0, Step 2, Advanced Lane: Masters; 10% Copay; Budgeted) 1 year.

d. Erin Rowe, Special Education Teacher at BF Norton School, effective 8/29/2005 (FTE 1.0, Step 1, no Advanced Lane, 10% Copay, Budgeted).

e. Valerie Curley, Kindergarten Teacher at Community School, effective 8/29/2005 (FTE .5, Step 1, no Advanced Lane, 10% Copay, Budgeted).

f. Beth Brier, Special Educator Severe/Profound at Cumberland Hill School, effective 8/29/2005 (FTE 1.0, Step 2, Advanced Lane: Masters, 10% Copay, Budgeted).

g. Stephanie Marrero, Grade 6 Teacher at Joseph L. McCourt Middle School, effective 8/29/2005 (FTE: 1.0, Step 1, no Advanced Lane, 10% Copay, Budgeted), 1 year only.

h. Judith Redihan, Grade 6 Teacher at Joseph L. McCourt Middle School, effective 8/29/2005 (FTE 1.0, Step 1, Advanced Lane: BA+30, 10% Copay, Budgeted) 1 year only.

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i. Paul Lombardi, Middle School Teacher at North Cumberland Middle School, effective 8/29/2005 (FTE .8, Step 3, Advanced Lane: Masters, 10% Copay, Budgeted) 1 year only.

j. Heather Hamilton, Middle School Teacher at North Cumberland Middle School, effective 9/12/2005 (FTE 1.0, Step 1, Advanced Lane BA+30, 10% Copay, Budgeted) 1 year only.

k. Angela DelDonno, Special Education Teacher at North Cumberland Middle School, effective 8/29/2005 (FTE .8, Step 1, no Advanced Lane, 10% Copay, Budgeted)

Dr. Morelle introduced Ms. Marrero and Mr. Lombardi.

B. General Comments - The Superintendent reported on the change in meeting location for the second monthly School Committee meetings from BF Norton to the Transitional Building. It has been posted on web sites, at the Public Library and sent to the Valley Breeze. Dr. Morelle attended a rally organized by Dr. Koutsogiane to let the students know about the name change of Cumberland Middle School. The Town held its second vote last night and there will be a formal dedication to change the name of the middle school to Joseph L. McCourt Middle School. The Superintendent noted that all schools are raising funds for hurricane relief. There was an ordinance passed at the Town Council meeting to coordinate a bank account with the Red Cross so a tax statement would be available.

X. Comments from the Public - None.

XI. School Committee Comments (School Liaison Reports) - Ms. Teel reported the Pre-School got off to a great start. She thanked Mr. Skitt and Mr. Draper for their efforts in a very positive future at Community School. She encouraged everyone to vote September 27th.

XII. Vote to go into Executive Session for Discussion and/or Action Items Referred to in GLRI 42-46-5

A. School Safety

B. Personnel Matters - Exception (1)

1. CTA/ICSE

C. Negotiations/Litigation - Exception (2)

1. CTA/ICSE

Mr. Costa made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session. Mr. DaCosta provided a second. On a roll call vote, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the motion. Open session recessed at 8:45 p.m.

Open session reconvened at 10:22 p.m. On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Mr. Wood, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE sealing the Executive Session minutes.

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XIII. Adjournment - On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE adjourning the meeting at 10:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Harris

Recording Secretary