

Approved Meeting Minutes 9/14/06

CUMBERLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE

AUGUST 9, 2006

MINUTES

A special meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Wednesday, August 9, 2006, at the Administrative Office/Cafetorium, 2602 Mendon Road, was called to order by Chairman Paul Neves at 6:30 PM, with the following present:

Paul Neves, Chair, Donald J. Costa, Vice Chair, Arthur DaCosta, Clerk,

Robert C. Thibodeau, Earl T. Wood

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

Absent: Teel; Superintendent; Susan C. Carney, Ph.D, Assistant Superintendent

Tardy: Rosa Crowley, Linda Teel, Earl Wood

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

II. Approval of Agenda - On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by

Mr. Costa, it was VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE the agenda, with Ms. Crowley, Ms. Teel, Mr. Wood not having arrived.

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

A. Personnel Matters - Exception (1)

1. CTA Grievance Hearings - 3

Mr. DaCosta made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session. Mr. Costa provided a second. On a roll call vote, it was VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE the motion, with Ms. Crowley, Ms. Teel, Mr. Wood not having arrived. Open Session recessed at 6:40 p.m.

Open Session reconvened at 7:37 p.m. On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE sealing the Executive Session minutes.

IV. Reports of Standing Committees - None.

V. FY 2006-2007 Budget Update - The Superintendent made introductory remarks about presenting a budget to meet 100% of the needs of the students 100% of the time. The outcome of the budget process has left a shortfall of \$2,594,952. By charter the school committee has 30 days to not leave the school department with a deficit. She stated she has recommendations for tonight and does have a plan of action for tomorrow night, depending on tonight's outcome.

Cumberland School Committee

August 9, 2006/Minutes -2-

Dr. Morelle noted the consolidation of St. Joan's Annex and JJM Cumberland Hill School and intends to be out of St. Joan's by Friday. She thanked Dr. Carney for her work with student data. The following actions were taken:

A. Mr. DaCosta made a motion to approve the transfer of \$167,355 from the fund balance to the budget. A second was provided by Ms. Teel. The Business Manager reported the amount is from the last audit report received. Mr. Wood moved to amend the motion to show this amount is from the 2004-2005 audit. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the amended motion. The Chair noted that these cuts do have an educational impact. The Superintendent reported the shortfall would then be reduced to \$2,427,597.

B. On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the addition of a Grade 6 Teacher at McCourt Middle School in the amount of \$54,330. This includes salary and fringe benefits at third step.

C. On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Mr. Costa, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the elimination of a new Special Education Position at CHS in the amount of \$54,330.

D. On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Mr. Wood and Ms. Teel, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the reduction of

\$9,498 for the Annex Nurse due to a resignation.

E. Mr. Thibodeau made a motion to approve an increase in the amount of \$10,458 for Substance Abuse Counselors at the middle school level to maintain Project Success. A Second was provided by Ms. Crowley. The Superintendent noted she is seeking alternative funding sources. Mr. wood requested the amounts of the grants. On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Ms. Teel, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE TABLING until tomorrow.

F. On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the reduction of \$10,000 in Student Transportation in Special Education.

G. On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Mr. Wood, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the reduction of \$56,000 for a therapist. Ms. Moore explained this is due to a student moving to another district.

H. Mr. Thibodeau made a motion to reduce Athletics in the amount of \$32,900 and Health by \$2,174 to level fund. Ms. Teel provided a second. On a roll call vote, it was VOTED 5-2 TO APPROVE the motion, with the following voting AYE: Mr. Thibodeau, Ms. Crowley, Mr. DaCosta, Ms. Teel, Mr. Neves; NAY: Mr. Costa, Mr. Wood.

I. Mr. Thibodeau made a motion to approve the reduction in Medical Insurance in the amount of \$200,000. Ms. Crowley provided a second. The Business Manger explained the current year's budget was over-expended and doesn't recommend this.

Cumberland School Committee

They are still negotiating the administrative costs. The Business Manager stated she is still working on the cost of retirements buying insurance. The Superintendent stated she needs guidance of where to find this amount if it is not approved. On a roll call vote, it was VOTED 5-2 TO APPROVE the motion, with the following voting AYE: Mr. Teel, Mr. DaCosta, Ms. Crowley, Mr. Thibodeau, Mr. Neves; NAY: Mr. Wood, Mr. Costa.

J. Mr. Costa made a motion to reduce Educational Supplies by \$43,592. Mr. Thibodeau provided a second. The Superintendent explained it doesn't include books; it is for glue, paper, pens. She stated she asked everyone to look at their budgets and reduce this line by 10%. She explained they have taken an inventory and are sharing needs and overages in First Class. The motion FAILED 6-1 with the following voting AYE: Mr. Neves; NAY: Mr. Thibodeau, Ms. Crowley, Mr. Costa, Mr. DaCosta, Ms. Teel, Mr. Wood.

K. On a motion by Mr. Thibodeau, and a second by Mr. Costa and Ms. Teel, it was VOTED 6-1 TO APPROVE the Business Office Software Conversion in the amount of \$63,760, with Mr. Wood voting against. The Superintendent explained that the entire amount might not be needed and with the hiring of a new Business Manger might be a request of a different modification.

L. Mr. DaCosta made a motion to approve the reduction of \$64,000 in the Maintenance and Repair of Buildings in the amount of \$64,000.

Ms. Crowley provided a second. The Superintendent explained this item had been tabled at a prior meeting and Mr. Hilton has modified the recommendation. Discussion ensued regarding the repairs needed to buildings. On a roll call vote, the motion FAILED 4-3, with the following voting AYE: Ms. Teel, Ms. Crowley, Mr. Neves; NAY: Mr. Wood, Mr. DaCosta, Mr. Costa, Mr. Thibodeau.

M. Mr. DaCosta made a motion to increase the Electricity line by \$8,177. Ms. Teel provided a second. On a roll call vote, it was VOTED 5-2 TO APPROVE the motion, with the following voting AYE: Ms. Thibodeau, Ms. Crowley, Mr. Costa,

Ms. Teel, Mr. Neves; NAY: Mr. Wood, Mr. DaCosta.

Mr. Costa stated the amount of the short fall is now approximately \$637,226.

VI. Personnel Recommendations - The Superintendent presented the following:

A. On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Mr. Costa and the rest of the committee, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the appointment of Colleen Pendergast, Assistant Principal, at Joseph L. McCourt Middle school, effective 8/10/2006. (FTE: 1.0; Step: n/a, Advanced Lane: n/a, Co-pay: 20%, budgeted). The Superintendent introduced the appointee.

B. On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Ms. Crowley, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the appointment of Lesley Fastovsky, Chemistry Teacher at Cumberland High School, effective 8/28/2006. (FTE: 1.0; Step: 5; Advanced Lane: Masters, Co-pay: 10%,

budgeted)

Cumberland School Committee

August 9, 2006/Minutes -4-

C. On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Ms. Crowley, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE** the resignation of Lorie Chadwick, School Nurse, at Cumberland Preschool Center, effective 8/10/2006.

D. On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE** the appointment of Karli Hastings, Special Educator at Joseph L. McCourt Middle School, effective 8/10/2006.

E. On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE** the resignation of Elise Nenna, Special Educator at North Cumberland Middle School, effective 8/10/2006.

F. On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Ms. Crowley, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE** the resignation of Filomena Alves, Teacher Assistant at B.F. Norton School, effective 8/10/2006.

G. On a motion by Ms. Crowley, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE** the resignation of Oscar Arteaga, Girls Soccer Assistant Coach, effective 8/10/2006.

H. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Ms. Teel, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE** the FMLA Maternity Leave of Susan Bleecker, Grade 4 Teacher at Garvin School, effective

8/28/2006 to return to work on 10/30/2006.

I. On a motion by Ms. Crowley, and a second by Ms. Teel, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the request of Kimberly Hatch, Speech/Language Pathologist at Ashton School to reduce her work schedule to a .6 FTE position for the 2006-2006 school year, effective 8/28/2006. Ms. Moore stated she did approve the request to reduce the position to three days a week and it would not be necessary to fill the position for the two days. It was noted she may have to go through the job pool next year for a full time position.

VII. Recalls - None.

VIII. Comments from the Public - Ms. Lambert commented on having boxes to move classrooms but with no tape or labels and that it didn't go as smoothly as hoped. She felt there is hoarding of some supplies and extras of other materials. Ms. Vachon thanked the committee for restoring the educational items.

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

A. Personnel Matters - Exception (1)

1. CTA/ICSE

2. Superintendent's Annual Evaluation/Objectives

Cumberland School Committee

August 9, 2006/Minutes -5-

J. Negotiations/Litigation - Exception (2)

1. CTA/ICSE

2. Central Administrators' Contracts

3. Non-Contractual Salaries

Executive Session was not needed.

X. Adjournment - On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE adjourning the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Harris

Recording Secretary

Approved by the School Committee 9/14/06