

**Meeting Minutes Approved: July 10, 2008 with the following amendment: "Mr. Bernado" should read as Mr. Prignano, Business Manager**

**1**

**1 STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS**

**2**

**PROCEEDINGS AT:**

**3**

**School Committee Town of Cumberland**

**4**

**5 IN RE: School Committee Meeting**

**6**

**DATE: Thursday, June 12, 2008**

**TIME: 7:30 P.M.**

**7**

**PLACE: Cumberland High School**

**Auditorium**

**8**

**2600 Mendon Road**

**Cumberland, RI**

**9**

**10 SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

**11 Donald J. Costa, Chairperson**

**Karen MacBeth, Clerk**

**12 W. David Wagner**

**Robert Thibodeau**

**13 Lisa Beaulieu**

**Earl T. Wood**

**14**

**15 APPEARANCES:**

16 FOR THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

17 Joseph A. Rotella, Esquire

18

ALSO PRESENT:

19

Donna A. Morelle, Ed.D./Superintendent

20 Susan C. Carney, Ph.D./Assistant Superintendent

21

22

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1 (HEARING COMMENCED AT 7:30 P.M.)

2 MR. CHAIRMAN: The first thing on  
3 the agenda is the Pledge of Allegiance. Please  
4 rise. Mr. Wood, please lead us with the Pledge  
5 of Allegiance.

6 (PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE)

7 MR. CHAIRMAN: Approval of agenda.  
8 Motion by Mr. Wood, second by Mr. Wagner. All  
9 those in favor? Opposed? The ayes have it.  
10 5 to 0. The next item on the agenda is Employee

11 Recognition. Dr. Morelle?

12 MS. MORELLE: Thank you, Mr. Costa.

13 It is that time of year at the Annual School  
14 Committee Meeting where the School Committee  
15 invites our employees, both our teaching staff  
16 and support staff who have made the decision  
17 after very valuable careers here in the district  
18 to take a different direction in their careers,  
19 and we have invited here this evening for public  
20 recognition of the opportunities that you've  
21 provided to students in the district and to be  
22 certain that the community is aware of all of  
23 the valuable years that you've given to the  
24 service in the Cumberland Public Schools, and to  
25 make certain that as you give thought to what

3

1 you're going to do in the next phase of your  
2 life, that you know that we will be thinking of  
3 you, and we wish you the very best, and the  
4 School Committee wants to make sure that they  
5 offer you their best wishes this evening. What  
6 I'd like to do is read the names of all the  
7 retirees, and then offer the certificates that I  
8 have, and when they come up to get them, I know  
9 that you'll give them your congratulations.

10           **The names of the retirees this year**  
11   **are Margarida Amaral, B.F. Norton School; Amilee**  
12   **Bianco, B.F. Norton School; Alan Bogossian,**  
13   **Cumberland High School; James Borden, Cumberland**  
14   **High School; Joanne Conway, Cumberland High**  
15   **School; Jacqueline Crowley, System-Wide;**  
16   **Rosemary Crozier, Garvin Memorial School; Regina**  
17   **Fanning, Cumberland High School; Donna Ferguson,**  
18   **Cumberland High School; Linda Freudigmann, B.F.**  
19   **Norton School; Cheryl Healey, Cumberland Hill**  
20   **Elementary School; Deborah Jones, Cumberland**  
21   **High School; Vera Kelaghan, Cumberland High**  
22   **School; David Meikle, System-Wide; Casimiro**  
23   **Silverio, Cumberland High School; Donna Steiner,**  
24   **Cumberland High School; Suzanne Tellier, Garvin**  
25   **Memorial School; Theresa Aragao, Ashton School;**

4

1   **Ethel Conway, Garvin Memorial; Marie Dion,**  
2   **Community School; Dorothy Plant from the**  
3   **Administration Office; and Maria Silva from**  
4   **McCourt Middle School. We'd like to offer you a**  
5   **round of applause.**

6           **(APPLAUSE)**

7           **MS. MORELLE: The School Committee**  
8   **has certificates for you, and as I call your**

9 name if you could come up, I know the School  
10 Committee would like to congratulate you with at  
11 least a hand shake, if you'll just go across in  
12 front of the auditorium.

13 I will go through the names. Terry  
14 Aragao, Amilee Bianco, Alan Bogossian, James  
15 Borden, Ethel Conway, Joanne Conway, Jackie  
16 Crowley, Rosemary Crozier, Debbie Jones, Vera  
17 Kelaghan, David Meikle, Cheryl Healey, Dorothy  
18 Plant, Maria Silva, Casimiro Silverio, Donna  
19 Steiner, Suzanne Tellier.

20 Mr. Costa, with that, I'll turn the  
21 comments over to you.

22 MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you,  
23 Dr. Morelle. Having been on the School  
24 Committee as many years as I have, it's great to  
25 see some of the teachers here that I had in

5

1 school when I was here back in the early '60s  
2 and '70s. I'm only joking. Having been on this  
3 committee for 14 years, I've gotten a chance to  
4 meet a lot of these teachers who are retiring  
5 this evening, and I can honestly say that it's  
6 been a pleasure on my behalf having each and  
7 every one of you, because I do frequently go to

8 schools and meet with the teachers and the staff  
9 and the kids, and what have you, and you guys  
10 are going to be sorely missed.

11 I just did a quick calculation of  
12 how many years of service. I have roughly about  
13 700 years of service this evening that's  
14 retiring which is astonishing to me. Once  
15 again, on behalf of the School Committee, I  
16 would like to thank you very much for your  
17 service with the Cumberland School Department,  
18 and also, more importantly, for the kids of the  
19 Town of Cumberland. Thank you.

20 (APPLAUSE)

21 Next is the Student Government  
22 Report. I think we have Ms. McCann here.

23 MS. McCANN: For those who don't  
24 know me, my name is Krista McCann and I am vice  
25 president of student government here at

6

1 Cumberland High School. These are just a few  
2 things that have been going on in our upcoming  
3 Cumberland agenda. On May 4th, we had our  
4 junior prom at Kirkbride which was a success.  
5 We did not participate in the Renaissance Games  
6 this year. On May 18th there was class

7 government speeches and voting for all the  
8 classes.

9 On May 18th was the senior  
10 reception at Lake Pearl Luciano, and that was a  
11 success also. During May 21st to 25th, there  
12 was staff appreciation week which was held by  
13 student government and it went very well this  
14 year. Each day we just planned something nice  
15 for the staff, whether putting apples in the  
16 office for them, we made goodie bags for them  
17 and put them in their mailboxes and they were  
18 very appreciative this year for that.

19 On May 23rd we had our last  
20 government meeting of the year. On June 6th was  
21 our last faculty dress-down day of the year, and  
22 this year it went to Patrick Holmes Memorial  
23 Scholarship, and we raised \$378 toward that  
24 fund. On June 11th will be the student  
25 government elections for everyone in the student

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1 government informational, and also on June 11th  
2 is the graduation for the seniors of Cumberland.  
3 Thank you.

4 The correction for the graduation  
5 for Cumberland High School seniors is June 16th,

6 Monday, and that's also the date for the student  
7 government election, so I apologize.

8 MR. COSTA: I guess we can recess  
9 for five minutes.

10 (SHORT RECESS)

11 MR. CHAIRMAN: The Chairman's  
12 Report, I have none from the public. Joe,  
13 anybody sign up?

14 MR. ROTELLA: Yes, sir.

15 MR. CHAIRMAN: Evan Wood.

16 MS. MCCORMICK: Hello, good  
17 evening, School Committee Members and  
18 Dr. Morelle, my name is Casey McCormick. We're  
19 here tonight because we were concerned that  
20 Dr. Morelle would like to close the pool because  
21 it is too costly to run. Everything is about  
22 money, but the swim team is taking care of the  
23 pool and there's only one coach. One, the  
24 students' needs are more important than money.  
25 Our pool is used by the entire community and

8

1 swim team practices, Monday through Saturday,  
2 Special Olympics and Blue Fish Swim Team. This  
3 is the only sport where an athlete is  
4 scrutinized down to the wobble on the starting

5 block.

6 Swimming is truly an exact science.

7 We learn the exact hand, arm, foot, and leg

8 positions of all four strokes. Our flips turns,

9 pullouts, timings, starts, almost (inaudible)

10 because we might be disqualified. If we are on

11 the starting block exactly on time and we may

12 twitch or move a body party ever so slightly, we

13 are also disqualified. What are we trying to

14 say -- what are we trying to say is that so many

15 sports require a great deal of dedication,

16 passion, and team spirit. We have all of these

17 qualities as does our coach.

18 We are fortunate to have an

19 amazingly talented swim coach meet here at CHS.

20 Everyone in town knows Bruce Calvert because he

21 has been the CHS swim team coach since our

22 parents were in high school and taught the

23 majority of us to swim when we were much

24 younger, and now we are proud to be Bruce's and

25 CHS swimmers.

9

1 Teachers should be working to keep

2 Mr. Calvert at our high school because of his

3 abilities. He has led the CHS swim team to

4 seven state championships and been inducted into  
5 the RI Hall of Fame. This year the swim team  
6 came in second place and we were the top  
7 finishing high school team at Bay View  
8 Vocational, finishing third, and we have one  
9 All-American swimmer.

10 Most of us swimmers go on to  
11 college and continue swimming. Swimming is a  
12 lifelong sport people are able to do at any age.  
13 We are supportive of each and every member of  
14 our team. Our support is not based on swimming  
15 abilities, but we have respect for the  
16 commitment put forward by the individuals.  
17 Allowing Dr. Morelle to close the pool means  
18 that all our efforts and practices in vain  
19 (inaudible) which took us so long to correctly  
20 learn. Thank you.

21 MS. MORELLE: First of all, I want  
22 to thank you for your incredibly articulate  
23 comments, and I can imagine that the comments  
24 that were in a budget article in the newspaper  
25 probably prompted your remarks. You can sit

10

1 down, if you want. That's okay.

2 I want to thank you for having the

3 motivation to speak about it tonight as a group.  
4 I want you to know that the comments that were  
5 in the paper were as a result of talking to Town  
6 Council because they've questioned that they  
7 could understand what the possible consequences  
8 would be if they didn't provide funding to the  
9 school department. We were fortunate enough  
10 that instead of being what's called level funded  
11 by the Town, which means that instead of getting  
12 no increase in our funding, we got a fairly  
13 substantial increase relative to what we asked  
14 for, and there may have been also some  
15 relatively good news from the state today, and  
16 we're looking at that carefully.

17 I also want you to know that I have  
18 a very good sense of a lot of what you talked  
19 about because both of my daughters were swimmers  
20 here at the high school, so I have a great  
21 respect for swimming as a sport and for all of  
22 you as swimmers, and that any decision that was  
23 made would come from this entire group. If in  
24 fact I had to make some sort of recommendation  
25 that had to do with the pool, it would not

1 reflect on our respect for you as swimmers or

2 for Bruce Calvert as a coach. We know how  
3 talented you are and we know how talented  
4 Mr. Calvert is. Thank you, very much, for  
5 coming tonight.

6 MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. The next  
7 is the Reports of Standing Committees.

8 Mr. Wagner?

9 MR. WAGNER: Yes, Mr. Costa. The  
10 Finance Subcommittee met very briefly this  
11 evening and we tabled all items but one, and  
12 that was the one I wanted to deal with was the  
13 Pathways to Literacy, the contract for the Dunn  
14 Literacy Initiative Project.

15 MR. CHAIRMAN: That's another one  
16 by itself. There are no payment of bills?

17 MR. WAGNER: No, there are no  
18 payment of bills.

19 MR. CHAIRMAN: Next, Mr. Wagner, we  
20 have on Section B is the Award of the Contract.

21 MR. WAGNER: Yes, it was passed by  
22 a 2-0 vote, and I would like to make a motion  
23 that we go ahead and approve it. The total  
24 amount is \$170,200 and the money for that would  
25 be coming out of Article 31 money.

1           **MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion by Mr. Wagner**  
2 **to award the two-year contract for Dunn Literacy**  
3 **Initiative in the amount of \$170,200, not to**  
4 **exceed.**

5           **MS. BEAULEIU: Second.**

6           **MR. CHAIRMAN: Second by**  
7 **Ms. Beauleiu.**

8           **MR. CHAIRMAN: Any discussion?**

9           **MR. WOOD: Is this going to take**  
10 **place under New Business?**

11           **MS. MORELLE: No.**

12           **MR. CHAIRMAN: It's on an item by**  
13 **itself. Any other discussion? Hearing none.**  
14 **All those in favor? Against? The ayes have it.**  
15 **5 to 0.**

16           **MR. WAGNER: That concludes the**  
17 **report of the Finance Subcommittee.**

18           **MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Wood?**

19           **MR. WOOD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.**  
20 **The Property Subcommittee met prior to this**  
21 **meeting to talk about a list of potential**  
22 **maintenances for the pool. This summer, with**  
23 **Mr. Hilton being in the hospital, we actually**  
24 **tabled this for our July meeting, but**  
25 **Mr. Bernado is going to follow up on some of the**

1 things I know that have already been done, and  
2 he's going to look into what we need to complete  
3 the list that Mr. Calvert has given us. So it's  
4 been tabled until our July meeting to follow up  
5 on that.

6 Under Miscellaneous, we did have a  
7 brief discussion about -- because of another  
8 blurb in the local newspaper, about the B.F.  
9 Norton roof, and we talked about funding for  
10 B.F. Norton because at the last committee  
11 meeting we actually approved a contractor. We  
12 know that we have the money in two accounts now,  
13 so we had a brief discussion about that. It was  
14 just an informational meeting tonight, no votes  
15 were taken.

16 MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Wood, I know we  
17 all got a list from Mr. Calvert in our packet.  
18 Is there any possible way to get a price  
19 associated with all of these prior? I mean,  
20 he's got like seven things. Some of the stuff  
21 we could probably do inhouse, but is it possible  
22 to get a cost associated with this?

23 MR. WOOD: We can look into that.

24 MR. CHAIRMAN: Before July? I  
25 mean, we're talking about perhaps doing some

1 budget reviews at the end of this month. It  
2 would be helpful to us anyway to see where we  
3 stand for budget, because I know like  
4 Dr. Morelle says there's good news in the paper  
5 today, but it's all predicated on revenues from  
6 an outside source, and you know how I feel when  
7 there is no guarantee. If we can get a cost  
8 associated with this prior to, I believe we're  
9 going to maybe have a workshop on the 28th or  
10 26th of June for the budget just to give us an  
11 idea of what we're looking at to revamp the  
12 pool, if it's a couple hundred thousand. Okay?

13 MR. WOOD: I know some work has  
14 already been done by this 2010 project. This is  
15 basically some of the main things that have to  
16 do with the pool; the filter room motors, things  
17 like that. I believe Richard had indicated at  
18 the last meeting and the last Property  
19 Subcommittee meeting that some of this has  
20 already been done by the staff. That's what  
21 Alex is going to check out for us. But I don't  
22 see why we can't get a rough subtotal of what it  
23 would cost to do this maintenance.

24 MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Is Ms. Goulet

25 here? I happened to notice on this about the

15

1 lockers in the pool wing. I think we had  
2 discussion about -- between yourself and myself  
3 and Richard Hilton. Was that the area of the  
4 pool wing to replace some of those lockers?

5 MS. GOULET: Yes.

6 MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Does  
7 that conclude all the extended committees?  
8 Okay, moving on on the Consent Agenda.

9 MS. MACBETH: Well, we can take  
10 them as a whole, but we need to take out the  
11 open session of 5/8/08. We don't have those  
12 minutes here. I have a question on one, the  
13 initial motion that was made. I believe that  
14 Mr. Thibodeau had made it, so when you do look  
15 at the notes, we will have them for our next  
16 school committee meeting. But before we approve  
17 them, I want to make sure that everyone agrees  
18 on that one.

19 MR. CHAIRMAN: We can take this  
20 consent agenda quickly. The Police Report, is  
21 the committee satisfied with the Police Report?  
22 On the Truancy Report, is everybody satisfied?

23 MR. WAGNER: No questions.

24           **MR. CHAIRMAN:** Next, the Approval  
25 of the Minutes. This is where it gets kind of

16

1 confusing. One, we have the open sessions of  
2 4/10, 5/8 and 5/22. I believe, Mrs. Macbeth,  
3 you wish to --

4           **MS. MACBETH:** Well, we don't have  
5 the 5/8. I have them, but I don't think the  
6 full committee has them here.

7           **MR. CHAIRMAN:** Right. So we can at  
8 least approve the 4/10 and table the 5/8.

9           **MR. ROTELLA:** Mr. Chairman, I would  
10 suggest that someone make a motion to table 5/8.

11           **MR. WAGNER:** I'd like to make a  
12 motion to table the minutes of 5/8 until  
13 corrections are made.

14           **MS. MACBETH:** Second.

15           **MR. CHAIRMAN:** Okay. Second by  
16 Mrs. Macbeth. We are going to table the May 8th  
17 of '08.

18           **MR. ROTELLA:** We need a vote.

19           **MR. CHAIRMAN:** Okay. All in favor?  
20 Against? Ayes have it. 5 to 0.

21           **Motion to accept the 4/10 and the**  
22 **5/22 meetings?**

23 MR. WAGNER: So moved.

24 MS. BEAULEIU: Second.

25 MR. CHAIRMAN: Second by

17

1 Ms. Beauleiu. Discussion?

2 MS. MACBETH: Are we taking this as  
3 a whole because we didn't make motions for the  
4 police and the truancy? Do you want to do that  
5 at the very end?

6 MR. CHAIRMAN: Sure. There's a  
7 motion on the floor to accept this open session  
8 of minutes of 4/10 and 5/22. It was motioned by  
9 you, Mr. Wagner, seconded by Mrs. Beaulieu. All  
10 those in favor? Against? Hearing none. Ayes  
11 have it. 5 to 0.

12 Police Truancy Report we didn't  
13 take them as a whole. Motion to accept the  
14 Truancy and the Police Report?

15 MR. WAGNER: So moved.

16 MR. WOOD: Second.

17 MS. BEAULIEU: Second.

18 MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion by  
19 Mr. Wagner, Mr. Wood and Ms. Beaulieu. Any  
20 discussion? Against? All in favor? Ayes have  
21 it.

22 Next is the special meeting of  
23 5/14/08.

24 MR. WAGNER: I make a motion to  
25 accept those, Mr. Chairman.

18

1 MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion by  
2 Mr. Wagner.

3 MS. BEAULEIU: Second.

4 MR. CHAIRMAN: Second by  
5 Mrs. Beauleiu. Discussion? Against? All those  
6 in favor? Ayes have it, 5 to 0.

7 Next is the Facility Report and  
8 Enrollment Report. Motion?

9 MR. WAGNER: So moved.

10 MR. WOOD: Second.

11 MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion made by  
12 Mr. Wagner, second by Mr. Wood. All those in  
13 favor? Against? Ayes have it, 5 to 0.

14 Next is the approval of the  
15 minutes. We have the Executive Session Minutes  
16 of 5/8/08.

17 MS. MACBETH: I don't know if they  
18 were included in your packets or not.

19 MR. CHAIRMAN: All right.

20 MS. MACBETH: Motion to approve.

21           **MR. WAGNER: Second.**  
22           **MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion by**  
23 **Mrs. Macbeth, second by Mr. Wagner. Any**  
24 **discussion? Hearing none. All in favor?**  
25 **Against? Ayes have it. 5 to 0.**

19

1           **MR. ROTELLA: Mr. Chairman, there**  
2 **were no votes taken on the 5/8.**

3           **MR. CHAIRMAN: There were no votes**  
4 **taken on the 5/8? Okay. We can take them as a**  
5 **group. Unsealing of the Executive Session**  
6 **Minutes of 11/29/07.**

7           **MR. ROTELLA: You should take those**  
8 **separately.**

9           **MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. The first one**  
10 **is the Vote to Unseal the Executive Session**  
11 **Minutes of 11/29/07. Motion?**

12           **MS. MACBETH: Motion to unseal.**

13           **MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion by**  
14 **Ms. Macbeth. Second?**

15           **(SILENCE)**

16           **Second for discussion. Discussion?**  
17 **Joe, I didn't see those in that packet, are they**  
18 **in there?**

19           **MR. ROTELLA: Yes, they are. Would**

20 you like to see them?

21 MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, if you don't  
22 mind. There were some votes taken that evening,  
23 Mr. Rotella.

24 MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. On the  
25 Executive Session Minutes of 11/29/07, there was

20

1 a vote on personnel matters, the  
2 Superintendent's Annual Evaluation Objectives.  
3 The vote was 5 to 0.

4 MR. ROTELLA: Mr. Costa, there's a  
5 requirement that we report out the vote.

6 MR. CHAIRMAN: That's what I'm  
7 doing.

8 MR. ROTELLA: I think it's  
9 sufficient to report out the personnel matter  
10 and the vote that was taken on that personnel  
11 matter.

12 MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. I get  
13 you.

14 The next was a Negotiation and  
15 Litigation. There was a vote taken, 5 to 0.  
16 The next was the non-contractual salaries. It  
17 was voted --

18 MS. MACBETH: Do we need to state

19 who was there for the 5 to 0 vote?

20 MR. ROTELLA: No, as long as you  
21 report out the vote.

22 MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. On the  
23 Noncurrent Contractual Salaries, there were  
24 three votes; one was 5 to 0 and the other two  
25 were 4 to 1, and that concludes the executive

21

1 session votes of 11/29.

2 MR. KELLY: Mr. Chairman, you're  
3 not only required to report out the vote, you're  
4 required to report how each person voted and  
5 what the motion was. Simply saying a 5 to 0  
6 vote doesn't tell the public who voted how and  
7 who was present at the meeting because the  
8 minutes of the Executive Session are not being  
9 unsealed, so the public doesn't have access to  
10 who was in attendance at the meeting, and simply  
11 saying a 5 to 0 vote, it doesn't say what the  
12 motion was.

13 MR. WAGNER: We certainly can  
14 identify who voted and in what way. I think as  
15 far as the motion itself, again, depending on  
16 what the motion covered, you're right, we can  
17 certainly disclose it. You just have to be

18 careful, but the way it was done now is not  
19 informing the public.

20 MR. ROTELLA: Mr. Costa, first of  
21 all, I think you need to keep in mind that we're  
22 dealing with personnel matters. There is an  
23 exemption under the Open Records Law. Anything  
24 that is identifiable to a particular individual  
25 is not open for public scrutiny under that Open

22

1 Records Law. So what you need to do is you need  
2 to be a little bit careful as to how you're  
3 reporting this stuff up.

4 MR. WAGNER: I would recommend that  
5 you let Mr. Rotella review that and let him  
6 disclose that.

7 MR. ROTELLA: Well, it doesn't  
8 matter who does it, does it?

9 MR. CHAIRMAN: No.

10 MR. WAGNER: And I would certainly  
11 think that you're probably a little better able  
12 to do it than I am.

13 MR. CHAIRMAN: That's fine, Joe.  
14 Let me go back. When I started on the personnel  
15 matters, I identified what the vote would be  
16 taken, the Superintendent's evaluation

17 objectives. I mean, we accept them as she had  
18 presented to us, so there's nothing contractual.

19 MR. ROTELLA: Well, it is  
20 contractual, because it's part of her contract.  
21 Now that it's out in the open, it's specifically  
22 identifiable to the individual.

23 MR. CHAIRMAN: For Mr. Kelly's  
24 sake, the five members who were present that  
25 evening were myself, Lisa Beauleiu, Bob

23

1 Thibodeau, Dave Wagner, Bill Wood, and, of  
2 course, Superintendent Morelle. Mrs. MacBeth  
3 was absent and Mr. Crowley was absent.

4 So having said that, on the  
5 personnel matters, there was a 5 to 0 vote. As  
6 I say, myself, Mrs. Beauleiu, Mr. Thibodeau,  
7 Mr. Wagner, Mr. Wood approved on a 5 to 0 vote.  
8 Is that okay, Mr. Kelly?

9 MR. KELLY: Yes.

10 MR. CHAIRMAN: On the Negotiations  
11 and Litigation, Cycle Administration Contracts;  
12 myself, Lisa Beauleiu, Bob Thibodeau, David  
13 Wagner and Earl Wood made a motion to approve on  
14 the 5 to 0 vote.

15 The next was the Noncontractual

16 Salaries that were addressed in the 2007/2008  
17 year which were all in the budget. Once again,  
18 on a 5 to 0 vote was Mr. Costa, Ms. Beaulieu,  
19 Bob Thibodeau, Dave Wagner, and Earl Wood.

20 There was another motion, and that  
21 vote was on a 4 to 1 vote with Mr. Thibodeau  
22 against, and there was another vote,  
23 Mr. Thibodeau was against, and we adjourned the  
24 evening at 9:30 that evening. So those were the  
25 votes that were taken on 11/29 of '07. So we

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1 have a motion to unseal Executive Session  
2 Minutes of 11/29/07?

3 MS. MACBETH: Motion.

4 MR. CHAIRMAN: Mrs. MacBeth made  
5 the motion, and I seconded it. Any further  
6 discussion? All in favor? Against? Roll call  
7 vote?

8 MR. WOOD: No.

9 MS. BEAULEIU: No.

10 MR. WAGNER: No.

11 MS. MACBETH: Yes.

12 MR. CHAIRMAN: The Chair votes yes,  
13 so it fails.

14 The next is the Unsealing of the

15 Executive Session of 3/20/08. Mr. Rotella, I  
16 believe there were no votes taken.

17 MS. MACBETH: There were no votes  
18 taken at the 3/20.

19 MR. ROTELLA: Mr. Costa, I believe  
20 there were no votes taken at that meeting.

21 MR. CHAIRMAN: You are correct.  
22 There were no votes taken on 3/20/08.

23 MS. MACBETH: I make a motion to  
24 unseal those minutes.

25 MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion by

25

1 Mrs. Macbeth.

2 MR. CHAIRMAN: I'll second it. Any  
3 discussion?

4 MRS. MACBETH: I was present at  
5 that meeting and there were no votes taken at  
6 that meeting. I don't believe there was  
7 anything in that meeting that would prevent us  
8 from unsealing that, so I do hope that we can  
9 unseal them just to make sure that we're showing  
10 the public that where not necessary, we're being  
11 as open as possible.

12 MR. WOOD: Mr. Chairman, what was  
13 the topic?

14 MR. CHAIRMAN: The topic was, I

15 believe --

16 MS. MACBETH: Central

17 Administrator's Contracts, and it was then sent  
18 to the subcommittee.

19 MR. CHAIRMAN: I've seen Mr. Wood's  
20 logistics of the Executive Session Meeting. It  
21 was brought upon one of the members who  
22 reallocated down to the Personnel Subcommittee.

23 MR. ROTELLA: Mr. Chairman, I  
24 believe at the last school committee meeting,  
25 Mr. Thibodeau raised the issue that those

26

1 minutes might not have been correct.

2 MRS. MACBETH: They made a motion  
3 at that point to --

4 MR. ROTELLA: To table?

5 MS. MACBETH: No. It was on the  
6 agenda. I have the minutes from there, and that  
7 motion failed. Mr. Thibodeau I don't think  
8 realized how he was voting, and he voted not to  
9 do anything about them, so then at that point, I  
10 asked for them to be put on this agenda to  
11 unseal them, and Mr. Crowley agreed that we put  
12 them on here to unseal.

13           **MR. WAGNER:** I believe that's  
14 correct. What happened was there was a motion  
15 to correct the minutes. That was voted down,  
16 and at that point it was attempted to try to  
17 bring them forward and unseal them. But since  
18 they were incorrect, it's really not a good idea  
19 to go ahead and bring them forward to unseal  
20 them. I don't think you want to bring them out  
21 if they're incorrect. At this point, I would  
22 like to try to correct these minutes.

23           **MS. MACBETH:** They've already been  
24 approved, and there was a motion made to change  
25 them last time, and that failed. There's

27

1 nothing in there that's incorrect.  
2 Mr. Thibodeau wanted a line added that he  
3 stated, and he added that line so there's  
4 nothing in there that is incorrect at this  
5 point, but they were already approved three  
6 meetings ago, so I don't know what was with the  
7 order. It was put on the last agenda. It  
8 failed, so they stand as they are approved.  
9 Whether they get unsealed or not, that's up to  
10 the committee, but they are approved at this  
11 point.

12           **There was the capability at the**  
13 **last meeting to change the vote. Mr. Thibodeau,**  
14 **along with everybody else, I think there was one**  
15 **person that said no at that point.**

16           **MS. BEAULEIU: Two.**

17           **MR. CHAIRMAN: We have a motion on**  
18 **the floor to unseal the Executive Minutes of**  
19 **3/20/08 made by Mrs. Macbeth, seconded by me.**

20           **Any other further discussion?**

21 **Looking for a roll call vote.**

22           **MR. WOOD: Yes.**

23           **MS. BEAULEIU: No.**

24           **MR. WAGNER: No.**

25           **MS. MACBETH: Yes.**

28

1           **MR. CHAIRMAN: The Chair votes yes.**  
2 **Okay. For the interest of the public, I mean --**

3           **MS. BEAULEIU: We don't need to**  
4 **read them. They just need to be available.**

5           **MR. CHAIRMAN: No, they're**  
6 **available. So it passes on a 3 to 2.**

7           **MR. CHAIRMAN: The next is the**  
8 **Personnel Recommendations. Dr. Morelle?**

9           **MS. MORELLE: Thank you. I'll**  
10 **begin with the Athletic Resignations. I**

11 requested from the School Committee on the  
12 resignation of Joseph Sammix, cross-country  
13 coach at Joseph McCourt Middle School, effective  
14 June 12, 2008.

15 MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion by  
16 Dr. Morelle on the resignation of Joseph Sammix?

17 MR. WAGNER: So moved.

18 MR. WOOD: Second.

19 MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion by  
20 Mr. Wagner, second by Mr. Wood. Any further  
21 discussion? Against? All in favor? Ayes have  
22 it, 5 to 0.

23 MS. MORELLE: The FMLA medical  
24 leave of Marissa Gantin, language teacher at  
25 Joseph L. McCourt Middle School, effective April

29

1 8, 2008 to the end of the 2007/2008 school year.

2 MR. WOOD: So moved.

3 MR. WAGNER: Second.

4 MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion by Mr. Wood  
5 and second by Mr. Wagner. Any further  
6 discussion? Hearing none. All those in favor?  
7 Against? Ayes have it, 5 to 0.

8 MS. MORELLE: The next Personnel  
9 Recommendations are on Addendum Number 1 that

10 you received. The FLMA leave of Candace Ream,  
11 science teacher at Cumberland High School,  
12 effective August 27, 2008, with a return date of  
13 October 14, 2008.

14 MR. WAGNER: So moved.

15 MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion by Mr. Wagner  
16 on the FMLA science teacher at Cumberland High  
17 School.

18 MS. BEAULEIU: Second.

19 MR. CHAIRMAN: Second by  
20 Ms. Beauleiu. Discussion? Dr. Morelle, it says  
21 effective date of 8/27.

22 MS. MORELLE: Correct. That's the  
23 opening day of school.

24 MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Any further  
25 discussion? Hearing none. All those in favor?

30

1 Against? Ayes have it, 5 to 0.

2 MS. MORELLE: The next two  
3 appointments are the one Job Share request. I  
4 have reviewed it with the building principal,  
5 and I am recommending that the School Committee  
6 approve. I requested advice and consent by the  
7 School Committee on the Job Share appointment of  
8 Renee Lapro, grade 3 teacher at Community

9 School, effective for the 2008/2009 school year.

10 MR. WOOD: So moved.

11 MS. BEAULEIU: Second.

12 MR. CHAIRMAN: Discussion?

13 Dr. Morelle, I assume that they agreed upon the  
14 guidelines that we set forth back in --  
15 whatever?

16 MS. MORELLE: Yes. And I'm not  
17 sure if every committee member has seen all  
18 those guidelines, so upon the approval, I will  
19 actually forward a copy of the School  
20 Committee's policy that states all the  
21 conditions so that you'll be familiar with  
22 those.

23 MR. CHAIRMAN: Have they done the  
24 Job Share before?

25 MS. MORELLE: Yes.

31

1 MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Mr. Wood?

2 MR. WOOD: These are not  
3 appointments.

4 MR. ROTELLA: Yes, I remember.

5 MR. CHAIRMAN: It's approved in  
6 there as Job Share status.

7 MS. MORELLE: So do you want to

8 take the appointment out of this though,  
9 approval of the Job Share request?

10 MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay.

11 MR. WAGNER: Yes, we have several  
12 job shares that exist already; correct?

13 MS. MORELLE: They have to request  
14 it on an annual basis.

15 MR. WAGNER: How are we making out  
16 with those?

17 MS. MORELLE: All the others are  
18 looking to return to full-time status.

19 MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. And I  
20 believe, Dr. Morelle, without seeing the  
21 document, that there isn't a deadline.

22 MS. MORELLE: There is an April 1  
23 deadline. They met the deadline.

24 MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Motion  
25 is on the floor and a second to do Job Share of

32

1 Renee Calbro, grade 3 at Community School. All  
2 those in favor?

3 (Silence)

4 MR. CHAIRMAN: Nobody voted.

5 MS. MORELLE: On the Job Share, I  
6 guess we won't use the word approval,

7 appointment of Andrea (inaudible) grade three  
8 teacher at Community School effective for the  
9 2008/2009 school year.

10 MS. BEAULIEU: Motion.

11 MR. WAGNER: Second.

12 MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion by

13 Ms. Beaulieu, second by Mr. Wagner. Discussion?

14 All those in favor? Against? Ayes have it,

15 5 to 0.

16 MS. MORELLE: Thank you. That is  
17 all the Personnel Recommendations this evening.

18 MR. CHAIRMAN: Moving right along.

19 Old Business? Business Building Committee

20 Update. Dr. Morelle or Mr. Wood?

21 MS. MORELLE: I defer to Mr. Wood.

22 MR. WOOD: Thank you, Dr. Morelle.

23 Mr. Chairman, the Building Committee met last

24 night at 5:30 here at the Superintendent's

25 conference room. The report out of the access

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1 school project is complete. Small budgeted  
2 items are being finished throughout the next  
3 couple of weeks, so the school is actually using  
4 their gymnasium and the administrative offices.

5 The John J. McLaughlin Cumberland

6 Hill project is going a little bit slower. The  
7 last concrete slab was put in today for the  
8 handicap lift -- not a lift, a ramp. Windows  
9 are going in. The Town Hall is being put in  
10 now, curbing is alongside the gymnasium. Now  
11 that the windows will be installed, the project  
12 will go a lot faster. Completion date is being  
13 still at the end of this month, moving forward.

14 Our next meeting will be on  
15 July 9th here at 5:30 at the conference room  
16 cafeteria. The project is going along.  
17 Actually, we had an emergency meeting of the  
18 2010 Building Committee to talk about the panels  
19 on the bridge as you drive up and we've created  
20 here which we've all have part of you still see  
21 these turquoise panels that kind of stand out  
22 now.

23 We have received Town Council  
24 approval to change those panels, and that will  
25 be happening during the summer. DIMEO has been

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1 pulled out, they'll be supervisor here for a  
2 couple of more days, maybe even another week or  
3 two. We still have some things to do, some  
4 cabinets that need to be installed. So cabinets

5 in the cafeteria, display cases in the cafeteria  
6 will soon be done. This will all be done  
7 throughout the summer months.

8 The other thing we did talk briefly  
9 about was the lockers in the pool wing. It was  
10 submitted to the Town Council but it was never  
11 put on their agenda, so right now that's still  
12 in limbo. I know that is something we really  
13 need. I hope we can look for some money  
14 somewhere in our budget, but right now the money  
15 for 2010 are being spent on the projects.

16 A small discussion was about the  
17 FFE, and I believe, Dr. Morelle, at our next  
18 meeting we're going to be discussing that in  
19 time to open up the building. That's all for  
20 2010. That's all.

21 MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Wood, how is the  
22 punch list at the high school coming along? Are  
23 they still working on that?

24 MR. WOOD: We didn't really discuss  
25 the punch list. I imagine it's going along.

35

1 DIMEO is very thorough in their punch list. A  
2 lot of subcontractors have actually been pulled  
3 out so, I'm assuming, which I shouldn't, that

4 the punch list is being completed as they're  
5 being pointed out through DIMEO through our  
6 architects.

7 MR. CHAIRMAN: The other thing is,  
8 it's great to see that we're going to change  
9 those panels over the walkway from the transit  
10 to the main building. But is there any chance  
11 of using those curtain walls that -- can they  
12 use those?

13 MR. WOOD: It wouldn't support it.  
14 It was talked about in our meeting, and I  
15 believe we no longer have a curtain wall left.  
16 If they do, they are pieces that are not large  
17 enough to support the buildings.

18 MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. That's good.  
19 Ms. Beauleiu?

20 MS. BEAULEIU: I was talking with  
21 Mr. Carpenter who is the PED teacher at Ashton,  
22 and he was just so enthusiastic about how much  
23 the PE program there is changing and will be  
24 changing next year just because of the  
25 availability of space and how the noise based on

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1 how they used to be grouped with the cafeteria.  
2 And he said that one of the interesting things

3 was that usually the kids are so bunched  
4 together because there was such a small space  
5 but now they're so far apart, they're having to  
6 learn to adjust to that, but he was very excited  
7 about that. So thank you to the Building  
8 Committee for all their efforts.

9 MR. CHAIRMAN: Does that conclude,  
10 Mr. Wood?

11 MS. MORELLE: We want everyone to  
12 put the 27th and 28th on your calendar, because  
13 we have a Rededication Committee that's working  
14 and getting ready for a two-day celebration at  
15 the high school, actually Principal Gould and  
16 former Principal Lynch, who many of you know in  
17 the community have been co-chairing this  
18 committee with a number of people from  
19 Cumberland that are very excited about working  
20 together on this project. Dee is working with  
21 the students at the high school and the faculty  
22 to organize classroom activities on Saturdays of  
23 the weekends over the summer. We're putting a  
24 save-the-date in the newsletter that we're  
25 publishing right now at the end of the year, and

1 actually we were very excited that the Valley

2 Breeze has picked up on this and will help us  
3 publicize this. And on the 21st publication  
4 when school starts we're going to promote the  
5 construction updates that have happened at the  
6 high school, so we really hope that that weekend  
7 will be a turning point in the community to help  
8 us celebrate the work that they have done.

9 MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. The next  
10 is New Business, Recalls. Dr. Morelle, do we  
11 have any recalls?

12 MS. MORELLE: Can we discuss that  
13 item for just a moment? It was put on the  
14 agenda this evening out of the possibility that  
15 we would be able to make recalls this evening.  
16 I believe I sent you a memo with a list of those  
17 faculty members that have nonrenewal notices.  
18 Given the delay in the budget and the fact that  
19 the first vote on the town budget did not take  
20 place on the original scheduled evening; in fact  
21 the town budget was just approved with the  
22 second vote last night.

23 Mr. Rotella and I felt that it  
24 would not be responsible to bring Recalls this  
25 evening. I met with Mr. McGarrahy and discussed

1 that with him. He's fully aware of the work  
2 that we're doing to make sound recommendations  
3 and to recall as many staff members as is  
4 possible, and he's aware that my recommendation  
5 was, to you, would be that I would make those  
6 recalls at the June 26th school committee. And  
7 I really feel that at that time we'll have  
8 better information about the state budget and  
9 what the reconciliation will look like. We will  
10 be able to have a better analysis of the  
11 enrollment, the work that's going on in guidance  
12 at the high school will likely result in a very  
13 sound first draft of the schedule for students  
14 for next year and we'll be able to have the  
15 analysis of staffing needs that is very  
16 realistic, and the same thing at the middle  
17 schools.

18 So I would appreciate it if you  
19 will indulge the Administration and allow us not  
20 to make recall recommendations this evening. If  
21 that is the case, then I will also go around the  
22 district before the end of the year and let  
23 faculty members who are on that list know that  
24 so they know we'll be addressing that as best as  
25 we possibly can on June 26th.

1           **MR. CHAIRMAN:** Ms. Macbeth?

2           **MS. MACBETH:** What does that mean  
3 for teachers that have a notice right now for  
4 unemployment?

5           **MS. MORELLE:** As long as --

6           **MR. ROTELLA:** The teachers at this  
7 point in time will be exiting school at the end  
8 of the day on the 23rd. If we meet on the 26th  
9 and do recalls, those letters will go  
10 immediately after the meeting on the 27th and  
11 that will eliminate any individuals who were on  
12 a recall and recalled by the system from  
13 collecting during the summer.

14           **MS. MACBETH:** Thank you.

15           **MR. CHAIRMAN:** I believe we have  
16 until the 30th of June. That's when the fiscal  
17 year ends.

18           **MR. ROTELLA:** The fiscal year ends  
19 on the 30th, but I believe that we'll have  
20 everyone, number one, pick out the last five  
21 checks by the 23rd, and, unemployment  
22 unfortunately goes by their own schedule, and if  
23 they turn around and say, well, as of a  
24 particular date, you know, you are still  
25 unemployed, because remember, everyone that goes

1 down there must put a weeks' waiting time in,  
2 and that 23rd through the 30th will give us the  
3 time we need.

4 MS. MORELLE: If I could just add  
5 another comment to Mrs. Macbeth's question. I  
6 don't want to create any kind of appearance that  
7 I think there's maybe 51 names on that list or  
8 close to it, that we're going to recall 51  
9 people, but if I brought it tonight I probably  
10 could have only, with some certainty, you know,  
11 brought half a dozen names, and I think that  
12 would be unfair to the large number of names  
13 that are on that list, because I don't want to,  
14 you know, create an appearance that I'm not  
15 going to be able to go much deeper into the  
16 list.

17 So if we wait the two weeks, I  
18 think we'll have a fairer, stronger set of  
19 recommendations for recalls, and those people  
20 leaving and going into the summer will have a  
21 better sense of what the actual status of their  
22 employment is with the district.

23 MR. CHAIRMAN: Any other questions  
24 of Dr. Morelle on recalls?

1 Dr. Morelle?

2 MS. MORELLE: Thank you. First of  
3 all, I want to thank anyone that's in the  
4 audience, we have a dwindling audience right now  
5 but I certainly recognize the number of faces  
6 that have spent the last couple of months with  
7 us at budget meetings, to include school  
8 committee members. We had a very favorable  
9 outcome with regard to the appropriation from  
10 the Town and our school budget. The work that  
11 was done by many people, including school  
12 committee members, department administrators and  
13 school administrators, school improvement team  
14 members, over the meetings that were held with  
15 the Finance Subcommittee of the Town Council I  
16 believe definitely influenced the Town Council  
17 members to be perhaps more generous than what we  
18 thought was going to be able to occur on behalf  
19 of the students in the district, and that's  
20 really what our efforts were all about, to  
21 ensure that whatever investments the Town made  
22 in the school department this year would improve  
23 learning for the students that are in the

24 Cumberland Public Schools.

25 That being said, what I want to

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1 hand out to you, and I know this is a little out  
2 of order to give you materials during the  
3 meeting, but I'd like to just have Mr. Bernado  
4 go to the podium and walk through briefly with  
5 you the worksheet that we've prepared that  
6 demonstrates the solutions that we created with  
7 the Town Council so that you have a sense of  
8 where we believe the budget is right now.

9 Again, I said this at many Town  
10 Council meetings and I'll say it again tonight,  
11 and obviously the swimmers are not here, but any  
12 time you say anything out loud like it is  
13 possible I'll make a recommendation that impacts  
14 the high school pool, you can say it include all  
15 of the young people tonight who were very  
16 alarmed. So by the same token, anything we say  
17 tonight about recommendations that might occur  
18 or solutions, I want you to understand it all in  
19 the context of brainstorming, the responsibility  
20 that we have to bring a reconciled budget that  
21 will not result in a deficit. We do hope we can  
22 do that on June 26th and not repeat what we had

23 in the last couple of summers. That being said,  
24 Mr. Bernado, if you can walk us through the list  
25 of solutions we came up with.

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1 MR. BERNADO: Thank you. If you  
2 have the worksheet in front of you that  
3 Dr. Morelle just passed out, you'll see the top  
4 number, the million 251, that was the value of  
5 the three-and-a-half percent that we had  
6 requested of the Town in our budget last year.  
7 If you recall, we had a three-and-a-half percent  
8 increase on the request from the Town, zero at  
9 the state aid, because of the state budget this  
10 year.

11 What we ended up getting, you see  
12 the next few numbers underneath, the Town  
13 Finance Committee Chair, Councilman Mutter,  
14 working with the Finance Director took a look at  
15 their collection rate and felt that they could  
16 take a collection rate that had been originally  
17 proposed in the Mayor's budget of 43.4 percent  
18 and they moved their collection rate to 44  
19 percent, which would net an amount on that  
20 \$585,000 in that collection rate and which the  
21 Town Council on a vote actually 7 to 0 voted on

22 moving that \$585,000 to us.

23 The second item on there, also at  
24 the request of Council, was that I go back in  
25 and look at our budget. As you recall, we had

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1 put in a mass relief request of about \$200,000  
2 of the budget last year. It was for most of our  
3 capital items that would be traditional mass  
4 relief items, you know, classroom furniture,  
5 those types of things. What we did include in  
6 the list was the \$100,000 that we had budgeted  
7 in the facilities budget for repairs to  
8 facilities. The Council said that if we wanted  
9 to, we could increase our mass relief request  
10 and put that \$100,000 in there which would have  
11 a net effect of allowing us to have the money  
12 for those capital items paid for through the  
13 mass relief rather than the school department  
14 budget.

15 The last item on the capital  
16 improvements, and I think everyone knows that  
17 last year when we did a mass relief the Town  
18 Council did a couple of things. They put  
19 \$111,000 in their '08 budget for a principle and  
20 interest payment on that first mass relief that

21 we did that was \$397,000 in the only budget, and  
22 they also at that time put \$100,00 in their  
23 budget for a capital improvement, you know, they  
24 have a concern I think on the B.F. Norton roof  
25 is kind of where the money was always earmarked

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1 and they wanted to make sure that we had enough  
2 funds to do that roof.

3 We also through last year, Richard  
4 and I, through the \$400,000 that we had budgeted  
5 for capital improvements had put some money  
6 aside for that, for the B.F. Norton, not knowing  
7 what it would come in at, and actually because  
8 of maybe lack of work or the economy or whatever  
9 but we were very, very successful in getting a  
10 high number of people to bid on that roof and  
11 actually got a very, very favorable price that  
12 met all the specifications of \$149,000.

13 What the Council recommended we do  
14 is since that money is there, since they had put  
15 money aside for us, it was suggested by  
16 Councilman Mutter and I sent a letter to the  
17 Finance Director with copies to the Mayor, the  
18 Council President, the Finance Committee Chair,  
19 had requested that the Town free up the \$211,000

20 they had in the '08 budget and make the payment  
21 for that B.F. Norton roof for us, as well as  
22 some \$60,000 of repairs were made this year --  
23 not repairs, but capital improvements we made in  
24 our schools by installing sonitrol (sic) in five  
25 of the schools that didn't have any. Actually,

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1 we had six schools that didn't have security in  
2 them, and the high school we did through the  
3 bond issue. Cumberland Hill and McCourt had  
4 Sonitrol already in the schools and the other  
5 five schools we installed Sonitrol and it cost  
6 about \$60,000.

7 So our letter to the Town is  
8 actually asking them to either pay for the roof  
9 or reimburse us for the roof, depending on how  
10 they want to go, if we do the repairs and they  
11 reimburse us or we send the paperwork to them,  
12 the low bidder, and they pay the vendor  
13 directly, and also reimburse us for those  
14 security systems that we put in.

15 That would come up to about  
16 \$210,000 that fits within that \$211,000 item  
17 they have, so I have made that request of the  
18 Finance Director, if he can try to get that on

19 their June 18th meeting so that as we move  
20 forward to reconcile the budget, we'll have a  
21 sense of whether the Town is going to approve it  
22 or not. I'm not sure it'll be on for the 18th,  
23 but we'll have to at least talk with Council  
24 leadership or whatever to get a sense of when  
25 they will go forward with that. I think I will.

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1 The other thing they also gave us  
2 and I think it was out of recognition for all  
3 the various meetings we had and the many people,  
4 school teams, et cetera, et cetera, that  
5 participated in those Council meetings, I think  
6 the Council wanted to show that they thought it  
7 was a very worthwhile session, they actually  
8 gave us an additional \$50,000 outside the three  
9 items that I mentioned that could be used for --  
10 in two or three different areas, could be used  
11 for a communication system or possibly somewhere  
12 in the area of a measuring of --

13 MS. MORELLE: An assessment  
14 database?

15 MR. BERNADO: An assessment  
16 database. That's another way of putting it, or  
17 also, depending on what those things might cost,

18 they kind of gave it a broad term of school  
19 improvements funds which we could use it for,  
20 you know, anything else. If there was 10,  
21 \$15,000 left, it wouldn't have any strings  
22 attached to it, we could use it in our budget as  
23 we saw fit. That actually wasn't included in  
24 the reconciliation on the side. And so you'll  
25 see that the next shortfall, the million 251, if

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1 we're successful with the capital improvement  
2 piece will be \$355,000.

3 I've also listed some other items  
4 on here that have surfaced probably over the  
5 last couple of months, certainly since the  
6 budget was submitted to the school committee.  
7 We all know we have a retirement incentive  
8 package this year which was somewhere in the  
9 area of about a \$900,000 in retirement  
10 incentives we were looking for, and we achieved  
11 71 percent of it, all but \$273,000, and I know  
12 it's open until June 30th, and there may be some  
13 other resignations that come in, and we maybe  
14 making some other adjustments down on that  
15 number, but at this point it is \$273,000.

16 A couple of other items on there.

17 The Sherlock Center. The Sherlock Center is, in  
18 the past the State paid 65 percent of the cost  
19 to send the students to The Sherlock Center and  
20 we paid 35 percent. We got a letter and the  
21 State just says those rules are going to change  
22 and we're going to pay 65 percent and they're  
23 paying 35 percent so that's a net \$37,000 that  
24 will have to go back into the Special Ed budget.  
25 Medicaid revenues, we continue to get news of

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1 the different things that aren't going to be  
2 allowable to be reimbursed anymore.

3 Administrative costs, that runs in  
4 the area of 50, \$60,000 for the district, other  
5 items, and I feel that the Medicaid revenues  
6 based on what we're going to collect this year  
7 and what I know about next year is probably  
8 overstated somewhere 75 to \$100,000 and I'd  
9 recommend we take that number down.

10 Then the last item on the list with  
11 our IDEA Part B grant this year, there were -- I  
12 think most of the districts throughout the state  
13 were faced with this disproportion. What it  
14 means is we had a certain number of students,  
15 too many students of a certain area, and I think

16 the area in Cumberland was other health  
17 impairments. Which I'm not exactly sure what it  
18 means, but what it means is we have to do some  
19 early intervention programs to try to eliminate  
20 having the numbers, reduce those numbers going  
21 forward.

22 Now, in Cumberland we take our  
23 million 100,000 dollars in IDEA Part B and  
24 almost all of it is spent on salaries and fringe  
25 benefits. So if we have to implement new

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1 programs there's going to be a certain number of  
2 salaries that will total about \$78,000 that are  
3 going to have to come out of the grant, and if  
4 we need at the services which at this point we  
5 clearly do, we're going to have to put that in  
6 the General Fund portion of budget.

7 So those are four kind of major  
8 areas in the budget and you see when you add  
9 that to the \$355,000 you end up with just over  
10 \$900,000 of items. There are a couple of things  
11 that we've been talking about, Dr. Morelle and  
12 I, and the Title 1 this year, we actually  
13 received a significant increase in Title 1.  
14 Most of our other Titles were either level or

15 slightly reduced.

16 Title 1 was one area that we did  
17 receive a significant increase and what we're  
18 going to try to do is put additional reading  
19 teachers into that Title 1. We had this year  
20 Ashton and Garvin Title 1 schools, we'll be able  
21 to include B.F. Norton next year and some of  
22 those reading teachers. We feel that we're  
23 going to be able to pick up reading teachers  
24 there which you can see the total of \$227,000  
25 and that will allow us to offset what we're

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1 going to lose on the IDEA Part B Grant so that  
2 will be kind of a wash.

3 And then the other item, I'm hoping  
4 to run a surplus this year, we're really looking  
5 at everything we can to try to balance the '08  
6 budget. With my goal being that the retirement  
7 incentive, because you recall that three percent  
8 of the teachers were going to get that sick days  
9 and that's if they file by a certain time, would  
10 be paid out of the '08 budget and the 10 percent  
11 on their salaries is going to be budgeted in  
12 this year's budget. I'm hoping that we can find  
13 the money to pay all of the incentive out of

14 last year's budget and take that and that would  
15 be -- that 119 would reduce our 273 by at least  
16 that amount because we have the savings in the  
17 '09 budget. Those are two of the things we  
18 think we can do which brings us to just under  
19 600,000, \$572,000 at this point that over the  
20 next two weeks we're going to be trying to  
21 reconcile so we can come to you people on June  
22 26th with some kind of balanced budget.

23 MS. MORELLE: Mr. Costa, that does  
24 not include the funds that you just referenced  
25 earlier in the evening, and that is a discussion

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1 we'll have to have in terms of how you want us  
2 to include that. I think the total amount of  
3 the increase -- potential increase in state aid  
4 is about \$260,000. It is indicated that it's  
5 based on gambling receipts and it would come to  
6 districts on a month-by-month basis and it would  
7 be greatly reduced if the receipts are not what  
8 the state expects.

9 So the question will be how do we  
10 incorporate that into balancing the budget.  
11 What I would want you to think about is there's  
12 about \$575,000 between the place that we are and

13 sort of the end game. Do we include some or all  
14 of that, or are we looking at \$575,000 in  
15 reductions, because certainly any part of that  
16 that we did not have to go into programming or  
17 staffing, or so on and so forth, would have a  
18 positive consequence, and I will be talking to  
19 each of you over the next few days to get your  
20 input on that.

21 MR. WAGNER: Alex, obviously the  
22 one number that I keep getting stuck on is the  
23 health care number. How are we doing with that  
24 and are we on target for where you would have  
25 budgeted for next year?

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1 MR. BERNADO: Well, in the '08  
2 budget and I think we had a recent May report  
3 that I sent out, I think Dr. Morelle's office  
4 mailed out yesterday or whatever to be  
5 delivered.

6 If you notice, it shows us  
7 overspending in health care by 500,000 plus  
8 dollars, which was up quite a bit from April.  
9 We had a significant claims process in May which  
10 threw our number back into that \$500,000 range.  
11 What we did in '09 is we had projected where our

12 health care would be, made up a gap for that  
13 shortfall and then took a percentage increase on  
14 what we feel health care claims would go up next  
15 year so that the health care budget is, on the  
16 claim side I think is in okay shape next year.

17 On the administrative side, we had  
18 been -- we had thought we'd be able to do better  
19 on stop loss insurance but with some of the  
20 claims that we had in the district, that  
21 actually is proving to be a little more  
22 difficult than -- well, not difficult, just the  
23 way the insurance underwriters are writing it,  
24 we won't be able to achieve all those things.  
25 It is probably over \$200,000 that we estimated

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1 we'd save. Probably, if I had to guess it would  
2 be about \$75,000 short but we still have a month  
3 and the next few weeks to see where claims was  
4 and trending and stuff like that. It's  
5 certainly -- the lion's share of the \$200,000  
6 I'm pretty comfortable that we won't have to add  
7 back into the budget and I haven't shown it on  
8 here yet as a number that we'd have to address  
9 yet, but in the next couple weeks we'll let you  
10 know where we are on that.

11 MR. WAGNER: Was there any change  
12 in the contribution to pensions?

13 MR. ROTELLA: I heard about that  
14 tonight actually. Mr. Kelly mentioned he read  
15 it in the paper today. I did not see that in  
16 the paper and I'm going to look into that  
17 tomorrow. I'd heard about the \$261,000 of  
18 gaming receipts that they talked about and I'm  
19 going to look into seeing if there's something  
20 with pensions. I actually didn't see it but I'm  
21 going to look into it. But it was mentioned to  
22 me tonight and I'm going to check on it first  
23 thing in the morning and if the state did relax  
24 the amounts that, you know, can be contributed  
25 into the pension system. I don't know if they

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1 worked on that or not.

2 MR. KELLY: We reflected the added  
3 increase in the budget.

4 MR. CHAIRMAN: We already did it.

5 Any other questions of Alex or  
6 Dr. Morelle?

7 (SILENCE)

8 MR. CHAIRMAN: The next is the  
9 Strategic Planning Update. Dr. Morelle?

10 MS. MORELLE: I would like to  
11 report to the committee that we have  
12 successfully initiated the strategic planning  
13 process. In fact, we have held two of the four  
14 sessions so we're halfway through. The first  
15 session was held on June 2nd here at the high  
16 school between the foyer and the auditorium, it  
17 was the Showcase Session that I had described to  
18 you.

19 We had every school in the district  
20 represented with student work. People enjoyed  
21 the evening very much and I was very pleased,  
22 although we had a small turnout from the  
23 community, we did have a number of parents come  
24 in throughout the two hours that we were here.  
25 We did end up changing the time of the meeting

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1 to earlier in the evening, it was actually at  
2 5:00 I think, because that was one of the Town  
3 Council meetings that night so we've been  
4 juggling a lot in the past few weeks. But all  
5 very worthy activities.

6 The first work session was held on  
7 Monday June 9th, 5:30 to 9:00. There are about  
8 25 people on the committee and I believe you

9 received the list in your packets? Am I correct  
10 on that? And they have worked through the first  
11 three activities which are the What Matters, in  
12 other words, setting a context on priorities.

13 From there, they worked through  
14 Examining the Vision Statement in the District  
15 Strategic Plan currently and looking for  
16 patterns and themes and then clarifying that  
17 with a focus on the student learning section of  
18 the vision statement so they could really get  
19 detailed information about how they image or  
20 vision ways to move the student achievement  
21 forward in the district.

22 So we're using the work of previous  
23 strategic planning committees as a cornerstone  
24 at this point and in the next two sessions we're  
25 going to build on the homework that we've given

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1 the strategic planning committee and we're going  
2 to spend the next two sessions taking the themes  
3 and patterns that have emerged and start the  
4 action planning.

5 So I hope that you're pleased that  
6 we've gotten as far as we have and it looks to  
7 me like we will be close to having a deliverable

8 that was promised to you which was a revised  
9 plan after the 21st.

10 MR. CHAIRMAN: Any questions of  
11 Dr. Morelle? Just going over this list quickly,  
12 why wasn't there any representation from Ashton  
13 School District?

14 MS. MORELLE: The representation  
15 was not school-by-school if you go back and look  
16 at the various previous strategic planning  
17 committees.

18 The list of criteria were things  
19 such as literacy, mathematics, some of the  
20 initiatives that are going on in the district.  
21 We wanted to make sure there were special  
22 educators, elementary rather than individual  
23 schools, elementary, middle, high school  
24 administration, community and business partners,  
25 and we typically do a matrix and take all the

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1 people who either were either self-nominated or  
2 were nominated to participate and then build  
3 that matrix to make sure all the criteria was  
4 filled and try to get to a working group that is  
5 no more than about 20 to 25 because beyond that  
6 you really can't go into say four work groups

7 during the session. So that's pretty much how  
8 the process went.

9 MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Next on the  
10 agenda is the Superintendent's Report.  
11 Dr. Morelle?

12 MS. MORELLE: I wanted to just  
13 point out, probably as you already know, like  
14 many of the communities in the area, we had an  
15 early dismissal this week due to the heat.

16 I think that it was a decision made  
17 out of an abundance of caution primarily because  
18 the buildings were really holding onto that heat  
19 and the weather reports were such that, you  
20 know, that they were saying that the real feel  
21 of the temperature was going to be well over  
22 100, 102. On Monday we had had reports that we  
23 had at least one bus driver late in the day that  
24 was affected by the heat, certainly not in any  
25 way that impacted the students, but having

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1 consulted with all the various principals, my  
2 input was that it was a cautious decision to  
3 make, and I really got mostly positive feedback  
4 from parents.

5 Interestingly enough, the decision

6 that the Town Council made to provide us with  
7 funds to purchase a communication system like  
8 Alert or ConnectEd would have been very valuable  
9 on Tuesday morning because as it was, what I had  
10 available to me were the listservs that are in  
11 place for the schools. So I used the Rhode  
12 Island Broadcasters System which gets it on the  
13 news, but I did avail myself of the high school  
14 and middle school listservs so we were able to  
15 get it out to anyone who's on those e-mail  
16 lists. I have some limited availability at the  
17 elementary level, but I was quite surprised that  
18 within a matter of minutes after sending those  
19 out I was getting e-mail feedback from parents  
20 saying they were glad to get that direct  
21 contact.

22 I think if we do go forward with a  
23 purchase of a system like ConnectEd which we've  
24 seen actually presentations twice now, the  
25 administrators have seen a presentation and the

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1 business managers saw a presentation recently.  
2 You can make 30,000 contacts in less than 10  
3 minutes so with our 5,000 students you could  
4 have six points of contact, and when we have

5 days like that it would be very, very valuable.  
6 We were appreciative of Durham, they helped  
7 coordinate a very unusual dismissal, and faculty  
8 said coming back in the building on Wednesday,  
9 there was much relief in the building. So  
10 that's one, probably an issue that I sent you an  
11 e-mail so you would be aware of.

12 Other than that, we're working our  
13 way towards the end of the year with a lot of  
14 the very celebratory activities, award nights,  
15 proms and graduations and promotional exercises,  
16 field days, and so forth, and if you don't have  
17 a copy of the end-of-the-year calendar, let me  
18 know. You are welcome at every event, and I  
19 know that everyone's scheduled is very  
20 complicated, but please know that the  
21 administration and families and students would  
22 be very grateful to see you at any point in time  
23 that you were able to make it to any of the  
24 school events. Like I said, if you need an  
25 additional school calendar of those events I can

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1 certainly have my secretary provide it to you.

2 Since it is the last probably  
3 school committee meeting of the school year, I

4 simply want to wish families a pleasant summer,  
5 and I want to thank the faculty for their hard  
6 work and want to thank you everyone to make this  
7 a successful school year.

8 MR. CHAIRMAN: The next is the  
9 comments from the public. Anybody sign up, Joe?

10 MR. ROTELLA: No.

11 MR. CHAIRMAN: Next is the School  
12 Committee comments from liaison reports?

13 MR. WOOD: No.

14 MS. BEAULEIU: I just wanted to  
15 thank the Town Council for their unanimous  
16 support of the additional funds to the school.  
17 I know it's great, we appreciate it and I think  
18 the efforts of the school department certainly  
19 were noticed, and I appreciate all the time and  
20 effort that everyone put into that. Thank you.

21 MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

22 Mrs. Macbeth?

23 MS. MACBETH: All set.

24 MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Wagner?

25 MR. WAGNER: All set. Thank you.

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1 MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one question,  
2 Dr. Morelle. We keep talking about a June 26,

3 28 meeting? Is it possible to get information  
4 -- are we getting that information on a Friday  
5 like we do on a normal packet or are we going to  
6 get it that night of the meeting?

7 MS. MORELLE: What information are  
8 you asking about?

9 MR. CHAIRMAN: About the budget.  
10 What's the plan?

11 MS. MORELLE: The plan would be  
12 that if it's a school committee meeting you  
13 would get a packet the Friday before, and if  
14 there was some pieces of information that were  
15 not ready then I would provide it to you no  
16 later than the -- usually it is on a Tuesday  
17 that you get a follow-up packet. But generally  
18 you can get most of your information on the  
19 Friday before.

20 MR. CHAIRMAN: So that night we  
21 will be making some recalls, if necessary,  
22 right? And also I would like to see some budget  
23 information because I'm sure at the last budget  
24 process that the school committee had, we had  
25 some concerns from some of the members about

1 some of the things that were taken out that we

2 would like to see back in, if possible. So if  
3 it's possible to have an opportunity to have  
4 that discussion prior to.

5 MS. MORELLE: Well, I would ask  
6 from the committee members, if there is a  
7 particular item from the previous budget,  
8 because at this point my plan is to go forward  
9 with the budget they approved.

10 MR. CHAIRMAN: But I had a  
11 discussion with Alex today pertaining to this  
12 State of the State thing or what the -- where  
13 the monies are coming from the revenue side.  
14 You know, I've been an advocate of, until I see  
15 the money in my hand, I don't believe these  
16 guys. They said they've had -- wished to  
17 generate \$14 million from the Twin Rivers, now  
18 it is down to 12.8, and when they said that is  
19 predicated on once a month looking at the  
20 revenues. Okay. That's no guarantee for us.  
21 So in speaking to Alex today, I gave him my  
22 thoughts, what we should do, don't put the whole  
23 thing in there. We can discuss this at the 26th  
24 meeting, right?

25 MS. MORELLE: I'm sure you'd want

1 to discuss that publicly but by the same token,  
2 if you want us to come in, if you want me to  
3 come in with recommendations that are going to  
4 bring us from 573,000 to zero that night, I  
5 would want to have that discussion with you  
6 prior to the night that we're sitting here.

7 MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. What I'm  
8 trying to say is that if we get that information  
9 let's say on a Friday and the meeting's not  
10 until Thursday, it gives us five days to have  
11 that conversation instead of getting that  
12 conversation that night. That's all I'm asking.

13 MS. MORELLE: The one thing I would  
14 ask is that if you know that you have something  
15 that concerned you in the previous budget and  
16 you are asking the question will it be a  
17 reconsideration of that item, I need you to let  
18 me know so that I can at least have the  
19 conversation with the administrative team about  
20 whether there are possibilities of revisiting an  
21 item and so I can legitimately have that  
22 conversation with you individually and then  
23 secondly present it. Is that fair? I see a  
24 couple of you nodding your heads.

25 MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, it is. Okay.

1 Like I said, I have my feeling on that money  
2 from the State.

3 Any other? That's it. Next is I  
4 guess executive session.

5 MS. MACBETH: Will we be having an  
6 executive session during our 26th meeting? I  
7 thought there were some issues that I thought  
8 were going to be put on this agenda.

9 MR. ROTELLA: We have been having  
10 conversation with ICSI and CTA about resolving  
11 issues that are out there. We are in the  
12 process of discussing those. I have met several  
13 times with Mrs. Richards and Mr. Egan from ICSI,  
14 and I requested that we hold off putting  
15 anything on the agenda until such time as the  
16 26th or some date prior to that, that I spoke  
17 with the Chairperson about if in fact it could  
18 be done. But more likely than not it will be  
19 the 26th if in fact anything needs to come  
20 before the school committee.

21 MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you.  
22 Then next is the adjournment.

23 MR. WAGNER: So moved.

24 MR. WOOD: Second.

25 MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion by Mr.

1 Wagner, second by Mr. Wood. All those in favor?

2 Against? The ayes have it. Meeting adjourned.

3 (HEARING ADJOURNED AT 9:15 P.M.)

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