

APPROVED – 8/12/2010

CUMBERLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee was held on Thursday, July 15, 2010 at the Cumberland High School Auditorium, 2600 Mendon Road, Cumberland, Rhode Island.

Agenda Item #1: Chairman Convenes Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Costa at 7:34 p.m.

Members Present: Lisa Beaulieu, Donald Costa, Brian Kelly, Jeff Mutter, Ryan Pearson, Dan Pedro, Earl Wood.

Staff Present: Donna A. Morelle, Ed.D., Superintendent, Joseph A. Rotella, Esq., Director of Administration, Alex Prignano, Business Manager.

Agenda Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Item #3: Approval of Agenda

Motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve the agenda, 2nd by Mr. Pearson, approve 7-0.

Agenda Item #4: Chairpersons Report

No report at this time.

Agenda Item #5: Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public at this time.

Agenda Item #6: Reports of Standing Committee

A. Payment of Bills – Mr. Kelly reported that the Finance Committee met earlier in the evening and made two payments with the following breakdown - \$587,409.08 Fiscal 2010 budget, \$20,752 Fiscal 2011 budget, moved with a 2-0 vote to bring to the full committee. Mr. Kelly made a motion to make the payments, 2nd by Mr. Pearson, approved 7-0.

B. Discussion and/or Vote to Award Bid for B.F. Norton Roof – the bid was awarded to R&H Roofing, East Hampton, Massachusetts in the amount of \$30,480.00.

It will take approximately one week to complete the work and it will be completed before the opening of school. Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve the bid to R&H Roofing in the amount of \$30, 480.00, 2nd by Mrs. Beaulieu and Mr. Pearson, approved 7-0.

C. Discussion and/or Vote on Designated Fund Balance Transfer - Still reviewing bids, no action taken, will be on next agenda.

At this time Mr. Costa asked if there were any other committee reports and Mr. Pearson noted that the Personnel Sub Committee met last week and reviewed the administrators salary schedule and will

set up another meeting in a couple of weeks to further review.

Agenda Item #7: Approval of Minutes

A. At the last meeting several meeting minutes were tabled, Mr. Pearson made a motion to take Executive Session of 5/18 and 6/3 and Special Meeting of 6/3 and Regular Meeting of 6/10 minutes off the table, 2nd by Mr. Kelly, approved 7-0. Mr. Pearson made a motion to amend the minutes of Special Meeting 6/3/10, 2nd by Mr. Pedro and Mr. Mutter, approved 7-0. Mr. Pearson made a motion to amend the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 6/10/10, 2nd by Mr. Kelly, approved 7-0. Mr. Pearson made a motion to amend the minutes of Special Meeting of 6/17/10, 2nd by Mr. Mutter, approved 7-0. Please note, amendments will be posted to each respective meeting. Mr. Pearson's motion to approve the minutes of Executive Session 5/18/10, Executive Session 6/3/10, Special Meeting 6/3/10, Regular Meeting 6/10/10, Special Meeting 6/17/10, Special Meeting 6/23/10, Special Meeting 6/24/10, Executive Session 6/23/10, Executive Session 6/24/10 was already on the table, so the vote was to approve the minutes as amended, 2nd by Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0.

B. Approval of Minutes – Executive Session 5/18/10, 6/3/10, 6/10/10, 6/17/10, 6/23/10, 6/24/10 – Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve these minutes, 2nd by Mrs. Beaulieu and Mr. Kelly, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #8: Old Business

A. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Use of School Facilities Policy – Mr. Wood said the policy would be brought forward with only a few

changes to it – they are waiting for some follow-up information to see whether or not our pricing is competitive with other schools in the area and also waiting for info on ICSE pay rates. However, Mr. Wood did make a motion to approve the Use of School Facilities Policy as per the Superintendent, 2nd by Mr. Pearson, approved 7-0.

B. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Contract for District Support Technician – Mr. Pearson noted that the Personnel Sub Committee did vote to move this forward on a 2-1 vote, Mr. Wood did not support the contract. Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve the contract as presented this evening, noting Mr. Wood’s objection, 2nd by Mr. Kelly – Mr. Wood again noted that he does not support the contract. Mr. Kelly noted that the town and school department have supported the dollars for the computers and that we need this support tech to make sure that they are up and running properly. Mr. Mutter is concerned about hiring the tech because there are too many unknown line items in the budget, such as the 75 people that may or may not be coming back, if he knew these people were coming back, he would feel better. Mr. Pearson noted that the length of the contract is only for one year, which means it will expire when other contracts are expiring so that if changes in the contracts occur, all will be taken care of at the same time. Dr. Morelle stated that this has been an ongoing discussion for over one year and that the folks on recall cannot fill this position and there is work to be done prior to the starting of school. Mrs. Beaulieu said that this was a small position with a big interest for the district – there is some software that the staff has never seen and the technician is needed. Mr. Pedro thought that we needed this position.

Mr. Costa wondered about the four weeks of vacation in the contract and Mr. Pearson thought that this contract was competitive with other packages. Mr. Pearson's motion to approve went as follows: Mr. Pedro-yes, Mr. Mutter-no, Mr. Kelly-yes, Mr. Wood-no, Mr. Costa-no, Mr. Pearson-yes, Mrs. Beaulieu-yes, approved 4-3.

Agenda Item #9: New Business

A. Discussion and/or Vote to Award Bid for "Elementary and Middle Schools Best Educational Use of Facilities Study" – Mr. Mutter noted that the Special Programs Sub Committee met earlier in the week with four bidders and has since reviewed and graded their proposals with Dr. Morelle, Dr. Carney and Mr. Prignano. They will meet on July 20th with the highest scoring bidder to discuss some matters and Mr. Mutter will advise at a later date.

B. Second Reading and Vote to Approve: 1) Transportation Policy – Mr. Kelly made a motion to dispense with the second reading of the Transportation Policy, 2nd by Mr. Pearson, approved 7-0. Mr. Kelly made a motion for approval of the Transportation Policy, 2nd by Mr. Pearson, approved 7-0. The following discussions took place prior to the final vote. Mr. Mutter noted that he had received several emails from parents concerned about the walking distances and he did not feel comfortable approving this policy if he was not going to get another chance at either amending or changing the policy if it needed to be changed. Dr. Morelle said the distances listed on the policy were the outer limits and that several people will be reviewing these

distances along with the bus routes. She noted to Mr. Mutter that he and the committee will have another chance to confirm the routes and distances 30 days after the start of school. Mr. Costa reiterated that the safety of the children comes first and again stated that several individuals review these distances and routes and the committee will be reviewing this policy again after the beginning of school. 2) **Acceptable Use Policy** – Mr. Pearson made a motion to wave the second reading of this policy, 2nd by Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0. Mr. Pearson then made a motion to approve this policy, 2nd by Mr. Kelly and Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0. 3) **Logon Usage Policy** – Mr. Pearson made a motion to wave the second reading of this policy, 2nd by Mr. Pedro and Mr. Mutter, approved 7-0. Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve the Logon Usage Policy, 2nd by Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0. 4) **Managing Mental Health Emergencies and Serious Problem Behavior**

Policy- Mr. Pearson made a motion to wave the second reading of this policy, 2nd by Mr. Pedro, approved 7-0. Mrs. Beaulieu would like the second bullet on the first page of this policy to read as follows: An assault or battery – (this definition was provided by Mr. Rotella)an assault/battery is committed when one person (1) tries to or does physically strike another, (2) acts in a threatening manner to put another in fear of immediate harm. Mrs. Beaulieu then made the motion to amend the assault/battery as defined, 2nd by Mr. Pearson, approved 7-0. Mr. Pearson then made a motion to approve the policy as amended, 2nd by Mr. Kelly and Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #10: Personnel Recommendations

Dr. Morelle brought forward the following personnel recommendations:

Appointment

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of James O'Brien, District Support Technician, for the Cumberland Public Schools, per Contractual Agreement, effective 7/16/2010. Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve this appointment, 2nd by Mr. Kelly, approved 7-0.

Leaves of Absence

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the FMLA Maternity Leave of Jessica Kamer, Grade 6 Teacher, at North Cumberland Middle School, effective 9/20/2010 with a return date of 11/15/2010. Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve the leave, 2nd by Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the FMLA Medical Leave of Kristine Kinnear, Kindergarten Teacher, at Garvin Memorial School, effective for the 2010-2011 school year. Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve the medical leave, 2nd by Mr. Wood, approved 7-0.

Resignation

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of Erin Hughes, Special Educator, at Ashton School, effective 6/23/2010. Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve this resignation, 2nd by Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0.

Leave of Absence

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the unpaid parental leave of Erin Mahan, Reading Teacher, at Community School, effective for the 2010-2011 school year. Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve this leave, 2nd by Mr. Mutter and Mr. Wood, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #11: Comments from the Public

Mrs. Sanzi asked if the School Committee had received a copy of Dr. Carney's contract and Mr. Pearson said that they had received a copy and the contract was reviewed and approved.

Agenda Item #12: School Committee Comments (School Liaison Reports)

Mr. Kelly reported that there is now legislation that deals with making education regarding lime disease part of the curriculum – house and senate approved this legislation. It is to make students aware on how to avoid getting the disease, early detection, etc. All members of the committee agreed that this was very important and should be added somewhere in our curriculum. Dr. Morelle suggested having a meeting where all members and any other teachers, nurses, etc., that could be involved, would be present and the discussion as to where to place it in our curriculum could be handled. Cumberland has one of the highest rates of lime disease in the state.

Agenda Item #13: Vote to go into Executive Session for Discussion on Items Referred to in R.I.G.L. 42-46-5:

A. Personnel Matters – Exception (1)

1) CTA/ICSE

2) Discussion on Superintendent's Annual Evaluation

B. Negotiations/Litigation – Exception (2)

1) CTA/ICSE

2) Potential Litigation

At 8:50 p.m. Mr. Pearson made a motion to go into Executive Session, 2nd by Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0.

Motion to seal the minutes by Mr. Pearson, 2nd by Mr. Pedro, approved 6-1, Mr. Mutter against.

Mr. Pearson reported there were no votes taken in executive session.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Pearson, 2nd by Mr. Pedro, approved 7-0.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Linda A. Jackvony