

UNAPPROVED

There was regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee on Thursday, June 9, 2011 at the Cumberland High School Transitional Building Cafetorium, 2602 Mendon Road, Cumberland, Rhode Island.

Members Present: Jeff Mutter, Lisa Beaulieu, Linda Teel, John Gibbons, Daniel Pedro, Erika Sanzi, Earl Wood

Administration Present: Donna A. Morelle, EdD., Superintendent, Joseph A. Rotella, Director of Administration, Dr. Susan Carney, Asst. Superintendent, Alex Prignano, Business Manager

Agenda Item #1: Chairman Convenes Meeting

Chairman Mutter convened the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Agenda Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Item #3: Approval of Agenda

Mr. Wood made a motion to approve the agenda, 2nd Mrs. Teel, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #4: Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes – 1) Health and Wellness: 5/4/2011 – Chairman Mutter did not have these minutes ready, so he asked that they be removed from the agenda. 2) Regular Meeting: 5/26/2011 – Mr.

Gibbons made a motion to approve the minutes, 2nd Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #5: Student Government Report

There was no report at this time.

Agenda Item #6: Student Achievement

A. Employee Retirement Recognition – Dr. Morelle mentioned the following employees that were retiring or have recently retired: Carol Hoyle, Edoarda Hilton, Richard Hilton, Catherine Smith, Patricia Dias, Linda Bogdan, Cathy Kron – they were all getting certificates, however, only Linda Bogdon and Richard Hilton were at the meeting to accept them in person.

B. Presentation: CHS Profile 2011 – Mr. Mutter introduced Principal Gould and said that she would be talking about some positive things that are happening at the high school. He went on to say that eventually all of the schools will have an opportunity to come and share their highlights with everyone. Principal Gould began with the seniors and listed some of the colleges that they will be attending in the fall. She also said that earlier in the week they had a Senior Award Assembly – over \$75,000 in scholarship money was given out! In 2003 the high school was put on warning status for some deficiencies regarding accreditation – by 2008 they had regained their accreditation! One of the first schools in the state to be involved with PBGR – Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements. SAT data in Reading and Writing are going in the right direction – average score

at CHS was 1543, National average was 1509. NECAP data for the past four years has been increasing each year – there is actually a competition between CHS and Lincoln High School to see who makes the greatest improvements in NECAP scores – Cumberland won in 2008, almost in 2009, and won again in 2010 – so the Lincoln High School principal will come to CHS and congratulate CHS over the PA system and then he will be given a t-shirt or sweatshirt that has the CHS logo on it and he will have to wear it at Lincoln High School all day!

CHS has 13 Advance Placement courses – lots of students take them – last year 106 exams were taken – you could get a score from 1 to 5, if you get 3, 4 or 5 some colleges will give you credit for them or waive the introductory course – 75 students from CHS received a score of 3 or higher! Early enrollment program with Rhode Island College – teachers teach the same curriculum as RIC – there are 20 courses – they actually start a RIC transcript when you take one of these courses and the credit that you receive is even transferrable to other colleges – over 200 students took these courses. In the past 82% of the students in the 9th grade were passing all subjects, this year 87% were passing all subjects – again moving in the right direction. The graduation rate is also going in the right direction – in 2010 83% graduated, with another 7% taking 5 years – so this number would have been at 90%. This number is above the Rhode Island average. Lots of positive things happening at CHS everyday!!

Agenda Item #7: Comments from the Public

One member of the audience got up and asked about the status of the middle school librarians. Mr. Mutter explained that the dollars were not in the FY12 budget – considered after the SC made additions to the budget. The woman went on to say that Cumberland would be the only middle school in the state that would have a part time media specialist. She said that students learn a lot in the library – they use the computers and printers, get assistance for looking up material/information. She asked how the school would limit the hours of operation at the library.

Agenda Item #8: Chairperson's Report

There was no report at this time.

Agenda Item #9: Reports of Standing Committees

A. Payment of Bills – Mr. Wood said that the Fiscal Management Sub Committee had met earlier and with that he made a motion to approve payments in the amount of \$1,017,376.77, 2nd Mr. Gibbons, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #10: Old Business

A. Discussion and/or vote to approve Cumberland Use of School Facilities Packet – Rental Period July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012 – this was tabled at the last meeting – some names had to be changed on the document – Dr. Morelle had the changes made and brought the corrected document back to the SC tonight. Mr. Wood made a motion to take the Facilities Packet off the table, 2nd Mrs. Beaulieu, approved

7-0. Then Mr. Wood made a motion to approve the Use of Facilities Packet, 2nd Mrs. Teel and Mr. Gibbons, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #11: New Business

A. Discussion and/or vote to approve FY 12 Budget - The Town Council took action last Monday; the SC needs to reconcile the budget. The \$362,000 funding request – maintenance of effort – was approved, all others were denied – so Mr. Mutter noted that things like math coaches, music teachers, high end learning initiative, etc., would have to be removed. Mr. Mutter said he would check to see if there could be a little collaboration on the capital improvements. Mr. Mutter said that the SC would not have voted for this budget, but they have to, they wanted to add, but without the funding – they cannot. They will not be restoring the Media Specialist at the Middle Schools and Dr. Morelle noted that this was strictly budgetary, nothing to do with their performance. At this point a member of the audience asked what a Master Lease was and Mr. Prignano explained that the School Department could buy technology and pay for it over five years – it is through the town and the town gets it at a tax exempt rate – so this really helps the school department. Each SC member reiterated their disappointment in this budget – they all said that they really tried to put together a budget that they thought was good – it was a tight budget – but the budget that got approved is not what they had hoped for. Mr. Mutter said they would continue to advocate for what they want. Mr. Mutter said that the changes to the budget will be put on the website. The SC will amend the budget and post the changes to

the website. The original budget was for \$53,160,979 and the amended is \$52,438,821, difference of \$722,158 – original reduction was \$369,247, need to increase by \$352,911 for a total of \$722,158. Mr. Gibbons made a motion to amend the budget, 2nd Mrs. Teel, approved 7-0. Mrs. Beaulieu made a motion to approve the budget as amended, 2nd Mr. Gibbons, approved 7-0.

B. Update from Durham School Services on Implementation of Transportation Policy Effective July 1, 2011 – Paul Neves – representative from Durham noted that the policy will be in effect on July 1, 2011, but most of the runs in the summer are door to door, so these students will really not be effected by this new policy. The local Durham staff is doing the routes and they will be completed and given to the SC by 8/2/11. The Police Department is validating the safety hazards and all will be completed by September – Durham is sending one school at a time to the Police Department for these safety issue reviews – this should work better than past years when all was sent at one time. Mr. Neves believes that the routes will be completed before the 8/2/11 promise date. Mr. Mutter asked Mr. Neves to make sure that there is a Durham representative at the August SC meeting to review the policy and the routes with everyone.

C. Recalls – Dr. Morelle said that because of the uncertainty of the budget, there would be no recalls at this time. She went on to say that Administration has reviewed and prepared possibilities, but they will wait until the town appropriation and then final decisions will be made.

D. Discussion and/or vote to approve Updated Affirmative Action

Policy – Mr. Rotella noted that annually the office of Civil Rights and the state of Rhode Island requires updated Affirmative Action Policy – it has been renewed the past 8 years – it meets all requirements with Civil Rights and Rhode Island so he suggested that the SC could approve this policy. Mr. Gibbons then made a motion to approve the updated Affirmative Action Policy, 2nd Mrs. Teel, approved 7-0.

E. Discussion and/or vote to approve contracts for: a)Assistant Superintendent, b)Director of Administration, c)Business Manager, d)Director of Special Education, e) Deputy Director of Special Education, f)High School Principal, g)Middle School Principals, h)Elementary Principals, i)High School Assistant Principals, J)Middle School Assistant Principals, k)Director of Information Technology, l) Network Manager, m)District Support Technician, n)Child Outreach Coordinator – Mrs. Beaulieu made a motion to take a-m off the table (leave n on the table), 2nd Mr. Pedro, approved 7-0. At this point Mr. Mutter asked for Dr. Morelle’s presentation. Dr. Morelle said her presentation was pretty straightforward. The contracts are for administrators that have been working in the district – each of the contracts – with the exception of one of the middle school principals that was working as an interim principal – the contract will formally make this individual the principal at McCourt Middle School – are identical in the positions that the individuals hold – the assistant superintendent – all of the contracts are based on ongoing performances and evaluations and there are evaluations on file in each instance. Then Dr. Morelle read the following– a)Assistant Superintendent - .6 FTE, recommended a 3 year contract, b)Director

of Administration - .6 FTE, recommended a 2 year contract, c)Business Manager – F/T, recommended a 3 year contract, d)Director of Special Education – F/T, recommended a 3 year contract, e)Deputy Director of Special Education – F/T, recommended a 3 year contract, f)High School Principal – F/T, recommended a 3 year contract, g)Middle School Principals –(one principal was interim, now F/T), F/T, recommended a 3 year contract, h)Elementary Principals – F/T, recommended a 3 year contract, i)High School Assistant Principals – F/T, recommended a 3 year contract, j)Middle School Assistant Principals – F/T, recommended a 3 year contract, k)Director of Information Technology – F/T, if you consider a 3 year contract then it is recommended to restart 7/1 through 6/30/12, l)Network Manager – F/T, recommended a 3 year contract, m)District Support Technician – F/T, recommended a 3 year contract, and n)Child Outreach Coordinator is still on the table and will be referred to the Fiscal Management Committee. At this point Mr. Mutter asked Mr. Wood to comment. Mr. Wood said that back in May the committee met with Dr. Morelle to discuss the contracts as presented for each of the individuals. At that time the committee had recommended a one year contract extension on all individuals based upon our unknown of the superintendent and what his/her expectations would be of their team going forward. The recommendation of the Finance Sub Committee was for a one-year extension to all of the contracts. Mr. Wood then made a motion to extend the contracts for a-m (a)Assistant Superintendent thru m)District Support Technician)for a period of one year, 2nd Mr. Gibbons, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #12: Personnel Recommendations

Dr. Morelle had the following personnel recommendations:

Resignation

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of Mark Primiano, Girls' Soccer Head Coach, at Cumberland High School, effective 5/6/2011.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of Mary Barriere, Girls' Cheerleading Coach, at Cumberland High School, effective 5/7/2011.

Mr. Wood made a motion to approve the resignations, 2nd Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #13: Comments from the Public

Rep. McLaughlin stated that some of the Governor's budget has been rejected, numbers will be changing and the House has their own budget – he will keep the SC posted. He also noted that Durham buses could be getting video cameras installed on them – these cameras will video vehicles that pass the buses when the stop sign is out – more details to come.

Agenda Item #14: School Committee Comments (School Liaison Reports)

Mr. Pedro hopes that the Curriculum Sub Committee will think about substituting some General classes with Music classes, maybe reinstate some programs.

Mr. Wood thanked all of the parents at Cumberland Hill and NCMS for all of their hard work throughout the year!

Agenda Item #15: 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

B. Negotiations/Litigation – Exception (2)

1)CTA/ICSE

2) Potential Litigation

3) Contract Negotiations

Mr. Wood made a motion to go into Executive Session, 2nd Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #16: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Linda A. Jackvony