

APPROVED-1/10/13

There was a regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Thursday, December 13, 2012 at the Cumberland High School Transitional Building Cafetorium, 2602 Mendon Road, Cumberland, Rhode Island.

Members Present: Lisa Beaulieu, Jeff Mutter, Linda Teel, Paul DiModica, Craig Duffy, Mark Fiorillo, Raymond Salvatore

Administration Present: Dr. Phil Thornton, Superintendent, Robert Mitchell, Assistant Superintendent, Atty, Stephen Adams

Agenda Item #1: Chairman Convenes Meeting
Chairman Beaulieu convened the meeting to order at 7:42 p.m.

Agenda Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Item #3: Approval of Agenda
Mr. Mutter made a motion to approve the meeting, 2nd Mrs. Teel, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #4: Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes – 1)Special Meeting: 11/8/2012, Regular Meeting: 11/8/2012
- B. Approval of Minutes – 1)Executive Session: 11/8/2012, Executive Session: 12/11/2012
- C. Enrollment Report – 12/1/2012
- D. School Police Report – 11/1/2012
- E. Truancy Report – 10/15-12/4/2012

Mr. Mutter made a motion to approve all of the above, EXCEPT Executive Session 12/11/2012, 2nd Mrs. Teel, approved 7-0.

Mr. Mutter made a motion to amend the minutes of Executive Session 12/11/12, 2nd Mr. Fiorillo, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #5: Report Out of Executive Session Meetings

- A. Report of Executive Session Meeting on 11/8/2012 – A) Report of Executive Session Vote – Mrs. Beaulieu stated that case #1 had a 7-0 vote and case #2 had a 6-1 vote. B) Vote to seal minutes of Executive Session – Mr. Mutter made a motion to seal the minutes, 2nd Mr. Duffy and Mr. Fiorillo, approved 7-0.
- B. Report of Executive Session Meeting on 12/11/2012 – A) Report of Executive Session Vote – Mrs. Beaulieu stated that case #1 had a 6-1 vote – Mr. Duffy in the negative. Case #2 had a 5-2 vote, Mr. Duffy and Mr. Mutter in the negative. B) Vote to seal minutes of Executive Session – Mr. Mutter made a motion to seal the minutes, 2nd Mr. Salvatore, approved 7-0.
- C. Report of Executive Session Meeting on 12/13/2012 – A) Report of Executive Session Vote – Mrs. Beaulieu stated that there was a 4-2 vote, Mrs. Beaulieu and Mr. Fiorillo in the negative. B) Vote to seal minutes of Executive Session

- Mr. Mutter made a motion to seal the minutes, 2nd Mr. Salvatore, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #6: Student Government Report

Two representatives from student government were on hand and gave the following report: On November 20th 160 turkey baskets were sent to the monastery and 16 were sent to Cumberland High School families. Two hundred and two turkeys were collected along with boxes of baked goods and other types of food. The junior ring ceremony took place on November 15th – juniors either received their rings at the ceremony or the next day at school. December 3 – 21 is the Adopt A Family drive – four families have been chosen – two from CHS and two from BFN – also this year the students have added a wreath of giving, which is a wreath with tags on it and faculty and staff or students can pick a tag and bring in the gift so that it can be distributed. December 18th the student government will have a meeting to discuss Adopt A Family and the winter ball. A coat drive was held and many donations came in from faculty, staff and students – some of the donations have gone to Good Will in Woonsocket. The Teddy Bear Raffle is ongoing and students can purchase tickets to win a giant teddy bear. All the proceeds are given to the Make A Wish Foundation. The Rhode Island Blood Center recognized CHS as the third highest for blood donations in the region – great job CHS!!!!

At this time Mrs. Beaulieu recognized Councilman Schmidt and Rep. Elect Mia Ackermen in the audience.

Agenda Item #7: Superintendent's Report

- A. Recognition of Achievement – 1) Athletic Achievement – Trevor Crawley, Rhode Island state cross country champion went to the Foot Locker Cross Country Championships National Finals in San Diego, California – Coach Kenwood said that Trevor was among the top 40, nationally, to compete in this event. He went on to say that Trevor is a very humble, hardworking athlete and student. Dr. Thornton congratulated Trevor and also thanked Coach Kenwood for being a great coach! Congratulations Trevor!!!! 2) 2012 Division II Football Super Bowl Champions – CHS Football Team – Dr. Thornton introduced Coach Skurka and Coach Skurka introduced some members of the football team that were present – he thanked and congratulated the entire team and the other coaches – he said this team is one of the greatest teams that has ever played at CHS!!!! Congratulations CHS 2012 Superbowl Champs!!!! 3) Raytheon “Math Hero” Award Recipient – Christine Payson – Dr. Thornton presented a certificate to Christine – she was one of 32 teachers nationwide to receive this award – each Math Hero receives a \$2,500 award and a matching grant for his or her school! Congratulations Christine Payson!!!! 4) Champlin Foundation Grant – Middle School Math Program – Dr. Thornton awarded Chris Scott because Chris wrote and applied for this grant – Dr. Thornton said this grant is very hard to get, but Chris did it! Thank you to Chris Scott!!! 5) 1st Quarter Employee Perfect Attendance Letters – Ms. Fogell noted that these letters are to

promote a positive atmosphere and show employees appreciation. Last year during the first quarter there were 127 employees that had perfect attendance, this year same time there were 147 employees that had perfect attendance – great job so far – thanks to all for their efforts – it makes a difference!!!

At this time Mrs. Beaulieu congratulated Coach Skurka for an excellent job and also Trevor for a great accomplishment. She also congratulated Mr. Scott and Mrs. Payson.

- B. Enrollment Census Update – Dr. Thornton pointed out that the state would be requiring 15 – 20% more data each year from the district for the next few years. They are looking for more information on attendance, conduct, speech therapy, enrollments, course content – right now there are 50 reports a year that are generated and sent to RIDE, there is also a Special Education Census, reports on the private school books, etc., these are in addition to some daily reports. Mike Chandler noted that timeliness and accurateness of these reports are very important because some are linked to funding. Some of the reports that get generated daily are incorrect due to students dropping courses, errors in the information, and lots of moving pieces of information – so it is very difficult to maintain. Dr. Thornton wanted to note that the same number of people are doing this work that have been doing it right along, but more and more information is being requested.
- C. “Great by Choice” Book, discussion of pages 1-38 – Dr. Thornton turned this over to Mr. Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell said that the point of reading this book is to understand it better and also to note some common factors that other schools are using. It will also let us know what other members are saying , it will also bring everyone closer together because they will all be on the same page at one point or another. Mr. Mitchell wanted to know what each SC member got out of the book so far and he asked them what is most compelling in the reading and why? Dr. Thornton responded with review of page 21 – what is true discipline? He said that to him that is what his work and the work of the SC is all about. Linda Teel – page 18 – about successful companies – some things you think about the companies were dispelled, its not what she assumed – most focused and discipline. Mr. Mitchell said that he would build on Mrs. Teel’s – he believes that companies that outperform other companies have tri-ad behavior. Mr. Duffy – page 12 – predicts a future is to create it – also page 25 reminded him of standard based grading. Mr. Mutter – page 14 – talked about discipline, consistency and how students need to know how they are being taught. Mrs. Beaulieu said to admit if there is a problem and then look for a solution. Dr. Thornton gave homework to the SC – pages 39 – 99.
- D. Presentation: Alan Tenreiro, CHS Principal: 1) CHS Programs of Study Consideration - Mr. Tenreiro congratulated the SC on their appointments. He went on to say that he has already presented this to the eighth grade students and their parents. He reviewed the presentation for us and highlighted some goals and visions – prepare the students for career and

college, students and teachers @ CHS have had some small wins and some big wins – lots of accomplishments, he would like to create smaller learning communities, there may be 40 teams of 90 students and he would like to do this for next year, would like to make the transitional building just for 9th grade students, offer open enrollment so that barriers can be removed from the students that want to take challenging courses, expand the fine arts program, increase the number of students enrolling in AP courses, there will be a breakfast in February, 2013 for students and parents regarding AP potential, would like all students to take the SAT's, increase personalization and relevance – connect with colleges, employers and graduation mentors. CHS Pathways – CHS could be a leader, but it depends on what we add to the next level, industry certifications – credentials by OSHA, etc. – he wants the students graduation from CHS with credentials, later start time -8:15 a.m.- would offer 7 courses but still have the building open to accommodate a 7:15 a.m. course if needed/wanted. Some next steps would be – NEASC – Self Study, Data Scorecard, Later Start Time, Budget/Staff Reorganization, diploma system policy, standards based reporting.

Agenda Item #8: Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Beaulieu announced that Rep. McLaughlin and Rep. Elect Mia Ackerman were in attendance to honor the football team.

Agenda Item #9: Comments from the Public

No comments at this time.

Agenda Item #10: Reports of Standing Committees

- A. Payment of Bills – Mr. Mutter made a motion to pay invoices totaling \$1,624,499.65, 2nd Mr. DiModica, approved 7-0.
- B. Achievement & Communications Sub-Committee Update – Mrs. Beaulieu noted that the next meeting would be on 12/18 to discuss student enrollment, the January forum – next meeting would be 1/8/13.
- C. Policy & Procedures Sub-Committee Update – next meeting is 1/8/13.

Agenda Item #11: New Business

- A. Home School Instruction Requests 2012-13 School Year – Dr. Thornton recommended approval as presented – Mr. Mutter made a motion to approve, 2nd Mrs. Teel, approved 7-0.
- B. Appointments of Sub-Committee Members & School Liaisons – Policy & Procedures Sub-Committee – Chair: Linda Teel; Jeff Mutter, Ray Salvatore, the Fiscal Management Sub-Committee – Chair: Jeff Mutter; Paul DiModica, Mark Fiorillo, the Achievement & Communications Sub-Committee – Chair: Lisa Beaulieu; Linda Teel, Craig Duffy, the Special Programs Sub-Committee – TBD, Liaisons to Individual Schools – Cumberland Preschool Center & Ashton School – Craig Duffy and Ray Salvatore, B. F. Norton School – Mark Fiorillo, Community School – Linda Teel, Garvin School – Mark Fiorillo, Cumberland Hill School – Ray Salvatore, McCourt Middle – Paul DiModica, North

Cumberland Middle – Linda Teel and Ray Salvatore, Cumberland High – Paul DiModica, Craig Duffy and Ray Salvatore, Democracy Prep Blackstone Valley School – Craig Duffy, Woonsocket Tech – Craig Duffy, Beacon Charter for the Arts – Ray Salvatore, Cumberland Special Education Advisory Council – Mark Fiorillo, Cumberland Business Advisory Board – Ray Salvatore and Paul DiModica, Cumberland Town Council – Jeff Mutter, Health and Wellness Subcommittee – Jeff Mutter

- C. Report Out of Standards Based Grading Visit – Mr. Mitchell stated that on 11/28 and 11/29 eight representatives (including Mr. Mitchell) from the district went to Hallowell, Maine to get feedback on the grading system. He said that they went to learn about feedback that has been received from the students and teachers in this district after switching over to the standards based grading. They wanted to know what the teachers and the students have learned, what they were clear on and what they still needed to know. They wanted to know what they could recommend us to do to make the transition easier and one thing that they learned was that meeting with the parents is a good thing and it should be done often. Also, colleges were invited to the district to discuss the impact on admissions and scholarships. Mr. Mitchell said it was an informative two days for all involved and a lot of information was collected and brought back and will be reviewed and utilized.

Agenda Item #12: Personnel Recommendations

Mrs. Fogell had the following personnel recommendations:

Appointments

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of John Brodeur, Girl's Basketball Coach, at North Cumberland Middle School, effective 11/16/2012. (budgeted)

Leaves of Absence

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the FMLA of Lauren Hammond, Kindergarten, at Community School, effective 11/15/2012 with an expected return date of 2/8/2013. (budgeted)

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the FMLA of Bethany Silva, Grade 4, at B.F. Norton School, effective 2/5/2013 with an expected return date of 5/7/2013. (budgeted)

Mr. Mutter made a motion to approve, 2nd Mr. Salvatore, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #13: Comments from the Public

Mrs. A. talked about the school district in Hallowell, Maine – she said she also spoke to parents in that district and she said the responses were not positive like Mr. Mitchell had received. She said they know they made a mistake by going to 1-4 because it is easily confused with the 4.0 scales – she suggested another variation or name to it so that we do not make the same mistake.

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

Mr. Salvatore asked Dr. Thornton what our situation was with carbon monoxide detectors in all of the school boiler rooms and Dr. Thornton said that last spring some issues were addressed and we have replaced some roof top units and he feels that we are all set with this issue.

Agenda Item #15: Vote to go into Executive Session for Discussion on Items

Referred to in R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 – Mrs. Beaulieu noted there would be no executive session this evening.

Agenda Item #16: Adjournment

Mr. DiModica made a motion to adjourn, 2nd Mrs. Teel, approved 7-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Linda A. Jackvony