

UNAPPROVED

There was a regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Thursday, September 12, 2013 at the Cumberland High School Transitional Building Cafetorium, 2602 Mendon Road, Cumberland Rhode Island.

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

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

Agenda Item #1: Chairperson Convenes Meeting
Chairwoman Beaulieu convened the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Agenda Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Item #3: Approval of Agenda
Mrs. Teel made a motion to approve the agenda, 2nd Mr. Fiorillo, approved 6-0.

Agenda Item #4: Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting 8/22/13
- B. Approval of Minutes – Executive Session 8/22/13
- C. Enrollment Report 9/1/13
- D. School Police Report 8/1/13
- E. 2013-14 Student Handbooks – All Grades

Mr. DiModica made a motion to approve the consent agenda, 2nd Mr. Fiorillo, approved 6-0.

Agenda Item #5: Report Out of Executive Session Meeting

- A. Report of Executive Session Meeting on 9/12/2013 – 1) Report of Executive Session Vote – Mrs. Beaulieu said there were no votes taken. 2) Vote to seal minutes of executive session – Mrs. Teel made a motion to seal the minutes, 2nd Mr. Mutter, approved 6-0.

Agenda Item #6: Superintendent's Report

Dr. Thornton started off by saying that Principal Tenreiro had an announcement to make – Principal Tenreiro wanted everyone to know that next Friday, September 20th, was going to be Clipper Day at the high school – the National Guard would be on hand, the Cumberland Police Department, there would be a hypnotist show, and lots of other things going on and so he wanted everyone to know about it so they could hopefully come to the high school for this great event.

- A. First Days of School – Dr. Thornton said that this was the best opening of schools in the three years that he has been here. He said everything, including busses, went smoothly. Great job to everyone.

- B. Student Drop-Off Procedure – Dr. Thornton noted that in the past dropping a student at the bus stop and not having anyone to meet him or her had been a problem – but now the bus company has worked out a program with the Boys and Girls Club and they will be keeping the children until the parents can pick them up – parents will be notified that their child is at the Boys Club and that they should pick them up there. There will be an amendment going home to parents with children in grades 4 and 5 – they will be asked if they want the children brought to the Boys Club or dropped off at the bus stop.
- C. RIDE Standards Based Grading Update – meeting held earlier in the day – everyone is learning and it seems like the participants are really into it – they would like to engage at least six colleges in the area. They will be scheduling a kick-off meeting.

Agenda Item #7: Chairperson’s Report

Mrs. Beaulieu said she had no report this evening, but also noted that this year’s school opening was great and that it was a nice way to start off the year!

Agenda Item #8: Public Hearing

- A. 1st Reading of the Following Policy:
 - 1) EFDA – Collection of Payment for School Meals – Mrs. Teel said this was a new policy that deals with outstanding lunch balances. Balances will be carried into the next school year. Mrs. Beaulieu asked if anyone wanted to speak about the policy and no one did.
- B. 2nd Reading of the Following Policy:
 - 1) JBAA – Teen Dating Violence & Sexual Violence Policy Involving Students- Mrs. Teel noted that this policy brought the district into compliance and there were no changes from the first reading. Mrs. Beaulieu asked if anyone wanted to speak about the policy and no one did.

Agenda Item #9: Comments from the Public

Carolyn E. talked about standards based grading – she said some teachers are grading with two different practices. Wanted to know if the standards based grading was going to be delayed or not – why are some teachers using one way to grade and others are using another. She said the teachers are converting standards based grades to a number grade and that is not apples to apples – she said it needs to be fair.

Karen M. said her son goes to Community School and has seen four changes in Math curriculum. She noted that administration has returned her calls and she has met with the teachers, but is still wondering why we are doing this when there will still be gaps and it does not align with common core.

Agenda Item #10: Reports of Standing Committees

- A. Payment of Bills – Mr. Mutter noted that the committee had met on Tuesday and he then made a motion to pay invoices in the amount of \$1,443,882.71, 2nd Mr. Fiorillo, approved 6-0.

- B. Fiscal Management Sub-Committee Update – Mr. Mutter noted that the committee met on Tuesday and had discussed several items, but were leaving the job descriptions in committee once again.
- C. Policy & Procedures Sub-Committee Update – Mrs. Teel noted that the committee met on Tuesday and said that there were several outstanding policies that still needed to be reviewed by the committee.
- D. Achievement & Communications Sub-Committee Update – Mrs. Beaulieu said the committee met with Mr. Mitchell and they will be having another meeting in the next 2-4 weeks.

Agenda Item #11: Old Business

- A. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Resolution SC-R-2013-15: Amended FY 14 School Budget – Mr. Mutter stated that the budget remains the same at \$57,572,848 – he said the resolution passed in sub-committee 3-0. He made a motion to pass SC-R-2013-15, 2nd Mr. DiModica and Fiorillo, Mr. Mutter thanked Mr. Prignano for his help and he said they had asked for all of the master leases and that this should help, the motion was approved 6-0.
- B. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve the Following Job Descriptions: 1) Clerk, Accounts Payable, 2) Clerk, Purchasing, 3) Clerk, Payroll, 4) Statistical Clerk, 5) Senior Accountant, 6) Building Secretary – Mr. Mutter said there would be no action taken tonight.

Agenda Item #12: New Business

- A. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve the 2013-14 School Bus Routes – Mr. Fiorillo stated that this was the smoothest start of school that he has seen in six years (his son is in the fifth grade) and Mr. Mutter agreed and said this was a great job and a great start to the new school year! Mr. Mutter made a motion to approve the bus routes, 2nd Mrs. Teel, approved 6-0.
- B. Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College & Careers (PARCC) Update – Mr. Mitchell started off by saying that the students will be taking the assessments in the Spring of 2014-15. He said it is very rigorous testing – one main concern that Mr. Mitchell pointed out was that 1/3 of the students going to college need remedial courses. College students make more dollars than non-college students. He said the standards are internationally benchmarked – students take them globally – students will definitely be challenged – they will do more problem solving, applied learning, critical thinking. Involved in PARCC means we can learn from other districts in the United States – there are 20 states taking the assessments. The assessments are technology based, which means our results will be back to us quicker. Dr. Thornton noted that we need to make sure that our computers are compatible – the technology has already been changed 3 or 4 times and Mike Chandler said they need to nail it down and pick the technology because he said that some districts are really struggling with this. RIDE has already notified Cumberland that they will be participating in a PARCC field test – Mr. Mitchell hopes that we have the correct technology to do so. He also said that we would be getting some feedback on the field-test results.

- C. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Overnight Student Field Trip: Quebec City, Canada – Leslie Morin, 6th grade teacher at NCMS was on hand to answer any questions. Mr. Salvatore asked if there were any changes from last year? Ms. Morin said yes that they had eliminated one day from the trip two years ago, but this year they are going back to the same old method that they had for many years. This trip is for both middle schools, approximately 100 to 130 students – about 25 from MMS and the balance from NCMS. Mr. Mutter made a motion to approve the field trip, 2nd Mr. Salvatore and Mr. DiModica, approved 6-0.
- D. Home School Instruction Requests 2013-2014 School Year – Dr. Thornton said that he recommended approval. Mr. Mutter made a motion to approve, 2nd Mrs. Teel, approved 6-0.
- E. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Amended Policy: DFG – Student Activity Funds Management Policy – Mrs. Teel noted that this was an existing policy, it just got updated. It was approved in sub-committee with a 2-0 vote. Mrs. Teel made a motion to accept the policy as amended, 2nd Mr. Salvatore, approved 6-0.
- F. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve 2nd Reading and Final Approval of Policy: JBAA – Teen Dating Violence & Sexual Violence Policy Involving Students – Mrs. Teel made a motion to accept the policy, 2nd Mr. Salvatore, approved 6-0.
- G. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve 1st Reading of Policy: EFDA – Collection of Payment for School Meals – Mrs. Teel said this was not necessary – on the agenda wrong.
- H. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Resolution SC-PR-9-2013-04: New Lockers at Cumberland High School – Dr. Thornton said we have the funds in this budget to replace 195 lockers – that should have been replaced years ago. Mr. Mutter made a motion to approve, 2nd Mr. Fiorillo, Mr. Mutter said the cost should be \$31,983.00 from School Specialty of Mansfield – this did not go out for bid because it was on a master list of vendors, motion was approved 6-0.

Agenda Item #13: Personnel Recommendations

Mrs. Fogell requested the following recommendations:

REVISED 9.11.13

Resignations

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of Cheryl Hamel, Special Education Teacher, Cumberland High School, effective 6/30/2013.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of [Desiree Hewey](#), Teacher Assistant, Cumberland Hill Elementary School, effective 8/23/2013.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of [Heidi Josephson](#), Swim Coach, Cumberland High School, effective 8/26/2013.

Mr. DiModica made a motion to approve the resignations, 2nd Mr. Mutter and Mrs. Teel, approved 6-0.

Leaves of Absence

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the Unpaid Leave of [Megan Black](#), Special Educator, Cumberland Hill Elementary School, beginning October 21, 2013 for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the Unpaid Leave of [Lauren Caliri](#), Social Studies Teacher, Cumberland High School, for the 2013-2014 school year.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the Unpaid Leave of [Gina D'Aguanno](#), School Nurse Teacher, Cumberland Hill Elementary School, for the 2013-2014 school year.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the Unpaid Leave of [Patricia D. Garrahy](#), Speech, System-wide, for the 2013-2014 school year.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the Unpaid Leave of [Claire Restivo](#), Grade 1 Teacher, BF Norton Elementary School, for the 2013-2014 school year.

Mr. Mutter made a motion to approve the leaves of absence as presented, 2nd Mrs. Teel, approved 6-0.

Appointments

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of [Thomas Alger](#), Music, System-wide, effective 8/26/2013. **(FTE: 0.9; Step 1; Lane: n/a; Co-pay: 21.0%; budgeted)**

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of [David DeJesus](#), Special Educator, North Cumberland Middle School, effective 8/28/2013. **(FTE: 1.0; Step 1; Lane: n/a; Co-pay: 21.0%; budgeted)**

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of [Rhonda Dion](#), Director of Guidance, at Cumberland High School, effective 9/30/2013. **(FTE: 1.0; Step 10; Lane: Masters; Stipend: \$7,000.00; Co-pay: 21.0%; budgeted)**

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of [Travis Drappi](#), PE/APE/Health, System-wide, effective 8/26/2013. **(FTE: 0.7; Step 1; Lane: n/a; Co-pay: 21.0%; budgeted)**

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of [Elizabeth Fillo](#), PE/APE/Health, System-wide, effective 8/26/2013. **(FTE: 1.0; Step 2; Lane: n/a; Co-pay: 21.0%; budgeted)**

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of [Kerri Fletcher](#), Art, System-wide, effective 8/26/2013. **(FTE: 0.5; Step 1; Lane: n/a; Co-pay: 21.0%; budgeted)**

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of [Gabriel Gonzalez](#), PE/APE/Health, System-wide, effective 8/26/2013. **(FTE: 0.5; Step 1; Lane: n/a; Co-pay: 21.0%; budgeted)**

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of [Kristen Larson](#), PE/APE/Health, System-wide, effective 8/26/2013. **(FTE: 1.0; Step 3; Lane: n/a; Co-pay: 21.0%; budgeted)**

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of [Joshua Merlino](#), PE/APE/Health, System-wide, effective 8/26/2013. **(FTE: 1.0; Step 1; Lane: n/a; Co-pay: 21.0%; budgeted)**

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of [Loriann Santopietro](#), Art Teacher, System-wide, effective 9/23/2013. **(FTE: 1.0; Step 1; Lane: n/a; Co-pay: 21.0%; budgeted)**

Mrs. Teel made a motion to approve the appointments as presented, 2nd Mr. Salvatore, approved 6-0.

Agenda Item #14: Comments from the Public

Rep. McLaughlin wanted the SC to know what a great job MMS PTO is doing – he was at the school the night before and said they had done a wonderful job.

Agenda Item #15: School Committee Comments (School Liaison Reports)

Mr. Fiorillo wanted to thank Sovereign Bank on Broad Street for repairing the fence so quickly near B.F. Norton. Mr. Mutter said that resolution 2013-16 would be on the next agenda – he has asked Mr. Prignano for information regarding the public relations stipend – they need to look at it to clarify a few things.

Agenda Item #16: Vote to go into Executive Session for Discussion on Items

Referred to In R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 – Dr. Thornton said there would not be any Executive Session tonight.

Agenda Item 17: Adjournment

Mr. Mutter made a motion to adjourn, 2nd Mr. Fiorillo, approved 6-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Linda A. Jackvony