

APPROVED – 4.10.14

There was a regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Thursday, March 27, 2014 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, Ray Salvatore

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 7:30 p.m.

Agenda Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Item #3: Approval of Agenda
Mr. DiModica made a motion to approve the agenda, 2nd Mr. Salvatore, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #4: Student Government Report

- A. Student Activities – March 7th and 8th was the Variety Show with over 30 students participating. Pennies for Patients to benefit the Leukemia Society is ongoing and the goal is to beat last year's total of \$3,500. The Spring Fling will be held on April 11th for the Freshmen and Sophomores. The event will be held in the CHS cafeteria from 6 to 10 p.m. There will be a blood drive on April 8th – goal is to surpass the last blood drive total of 201 donations!

Agenda Item #5: Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes – 1) School Committee/Town Council Workshop 2/4/14, 2) School Committee/Town Council Pre-Budget Meeting 3/12/14, 3) Regular Meeting 3/13/14, 4) Special Meeting 3/17/14 and B) Approval of Minutes – 1) Executive Session 3/13/14, 2) Executive Session 3/17/14, 3) Executive Session 3/25/14 – Mr. Mutter made a motion to approve all of the minutes listed, 2nd Mr. DiModica, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #6: Report Out of Executive Session Meeting

- A. Report of Executive Session Meeting on 3/25/14 – 1) Student Hearing Decision – Mrs. Beaulieu stated that with a 6-0 vote the SC upheld the Superintendent's recommendation. 2) Vote to Seal Minutes of Executive Session – Mr. Fiorillo made a motion to seal the minutes, 2nd Mr. Duffy, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #7: Superintendent's Report

- A. Recognition of Achievements – 1) Student and Parent Recognitions – Mr. Mitchell introduced Mrs. Karbonik, Principal of Ashton, to do the first presentation. Spelling Bee Winners – Fifth Grade – 1st place- Alexis Medeiros, Runner up-Branden Scoufos. Fourth Grade – 1st Place- Nicholas Cormier, Runner up-Seth Anderson. Mrs. Karbonik also announced the winners for B.F. Norton because Mr. DiManna was unable to attend. Fifth Grade – 1st place-Mario Abelha, Runner up-Yara Yassine. Fourth Grade – 1st place-Shania Leon, Runner up-Konnor Klucznik. Jennifer Bernardo, PTO President, received the parent acknowledgement for outstanding service

to the school community. Mrs. Bassignani, Principal of Garvin, announced the winners for her school. Fifth Grade – 1st place-Darcy Demay, Runner up-Andrew Yankee. Fourth Grade – 1st place-Tracey Ho, Runner up-Connor Dixon. Christine Hobin received the parent acknowledgement for all of the volunteer work that she does at the school. Mrs. Carreiro, Principal of Cumberland Hill, announced the winners for her school. Fifth Grade – 1st place-Isabella Vo, Runner up-Melissa Tian. Fourth Grade – 1st place-Karla Evangelista, Runner up-Estella DelMoro. Bob Shaw, PTO President, received the parent acknowledgement for all of his hard work for Cumberland Hill School. 2) Sodexo Future Chef Competition Recognition – Sodexo Representative Mark Tucker presented Future Chefs Awards to the 10 students in the district – two students from each elementary school - that were finalists in the 4th Annual National Challenge Future Chefs Competition. The winners were as follows: Vedanshi Puri, Samantha Bernardo, Andrew McGinn, Joe Thurman, James Melfi, Victoria Petzold, Allison Grieve, Hannah Ennis, Grace Iannuzzi, Kaitlynn McPherson. The SC members congratulated all of the students and parents for an excellent accomplishment! Mrs. Beaulieu asked for a two-minute recess so that the students and their parents could take their leave.

Agenda Item #8: Chairperson’s Report

- A. Funding Formula and the BEP – Mrs. Beaulieu wanted to explain a little bit more about the funding formula and the BEP. Her first slide showed 68% town allocation in 2009 – in 2014 it is down to 63.5% - it is declining every year. The RI funding formula for a basic education plan is composed of state and local shares – it serves as a funding source. Mrs. Beaulieu talked about some facts that RIDE had provided – how the BEP is calculated, state share ratio – reviewed the general law. State share ratio – we are in year 4 of 7 and Cumberland is \$2.8m underfunded, the Mayoral Academy is fully funded. She also showed accumulated gaps (state and town) FY12, 13 & 14 – 2014 estimated four year state share loss is \$14.9m. Fiscal impact of underfunded local school funding on Cumberland is a three-year loss of \$22m – this is negatively impacting the district schools and the charter schools – Mrs. Beaulieu said that the district needs to find solutions and make informed decisions. She went on to say that as a district we continue to struggle with not being able to provide such things as the updated books that we should be buying, STEM, comprehensive K-12 World Language, music programs, gifted programs, improvements to supports for struggling students, full roll out of technology to support a 21st century learning environment. She said we need to have a plan – we need to be compliant. Mrs. Teel thanked Mrs. Beaulieu for her presentation and went on to say that she is very disappointed with Mayor McKee for allowing this district to be in the position that we are currently in – she went on to say that this did not happen a little at a time and that the bill is now coming due and unfortunately that could mean a raise in taxes, etc., because she said that the district is required to fund the BEP – it is a general law – there will have to be a conversation because this needs to happen.

Agenda Item #9: Reports of Standing Committees

- A. Payment of Bills – Mr. Mutter stated that there were no payments this evening.
- B. Fiscal Management Sub-Committee Update – Mr. Mutter stated that the sub-committee met earlier this evening and discussed SC-R-2014-03 – this is on tonight’s agenda, they also discussed SC-R-2014-04 – voted 3-0 to pass. Mr. Mutter also noted the there would be a Budget Hearing on April 1st at 6:30 and he asked the SC members to keep April 3rd and April 4th open on their calendars in case they needed to meet. Monday, April 7th due to Mayor’s office.
- C. Policy & Procedures Sub-Committee Update – Mrs. Teel noted that the next meeting would be April 8th at 6:30 p.m.

- D. Achievement & Communications Sub-Committee Update – Mrs. Beaulieu noted that the next meeting would be April 8th.

Agenda Item #10: Public Hearing

- A. Second Reading of the Following New Policy: a) GCBD/BDBD – Leaves and Absences for Professional/Support Staff – Mrs. Teel noted that this is the second reading and there are no changes – she would like it read into the record for the second reading as is. b) Public Comment – there was no public comment. Mrs. Beaulieu closed the public hearing.

Agenda Item #11: Comments from the Public

Sherri M. and Cheryl S. asked that the girls hockey athletes be considered in next year's budget – the demand is increasing – Mrs. Beaulieu asked them to get in contact with the Superintendent's office and provide costs, team membership figures, etc., any information that they could provide so that the SC could review the figures.

Agenda Item #12: New Business

- A. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Resolution SC-R-2014-03: Food Service Management Agreement – Mr. Mutter stated that this was approved in FM with a 3-0 vote. He then made a motion to approve SC-R-2014-03, 2nd Mr. Fiorillo, approved 7-0.
- B. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Resolution SC-R-2014-04: Opposition of Contract Continuation – Mr. Mutter made a motion to approve SC-R-2014-04, 2nd Mr. Fiorillo, approved 6-1 – Mr. Duffy in the negative.
- C. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Resolution SC-R-2014-05: Employee Compensation 2014-15 – Mr. Mutter would like this to remain in FM until the budget is voted upon. Mr. Mutter made a motion to table SC-R-2014-05, 2nd Mrs. Teel, approved 7-0.
- D. Schedule for FY15 School Budget Meetings – Mr. Mutter stated that the meetings would be April 1st and April 3rd.
- E. Discussion of FY15 School Budget – Mrs. Beaulieu said this would be deferred to the workshop on Tuesday.
- F. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Second Reading of New Policy: a) GCBD/BDBD – Leaves and Absences for Professional/Support Staff – Mrs. Teel stated that this was read twice, no changes, approved in sub-committee with a 3-0 vote, she made a motion to approve GCBD/BDBD, 2nd Mr. Salvatore, approved 7-0.
- G. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Home School Instruction Requests for the 2013-14 School Year – Mr. Mitchell stated that there were no requests this evening.

Agenda Item #13: Personnel Recommendations

No personnel recommendations this evening.

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

Mr. Duffy congratulated the CHS Boy's Hockey Team – State Champions!!!! Mr. DiModica asked if he could get a listing of the number of athletes at CHS, boys and girls, what sport they play – Mrs. Beaulieu said yes that would be possible.

Agenda Item 15: Vote to go into Executive Session on Items Referred to in R.I.G.L. 42-46-5

Dr. Thornton stated that there would not be any executive session this evening.

Agenda Item #16: Adjournment

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

Meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Linda A. Jackvony