

APPROVED – 7/10/2014

There was a regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Thursday, June 12, 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 7:39 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. Mutter, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #4: Student Government Report
There was no report this evening.

Agenda Item #5: Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting 5/22/14
- B. Enrollment Report – 6/1/14
- C. School Police Report – 5/1/14
- D. Residency/Truancy Report – 6/1/14

Mr. Fiorillo made a motion to approve the consent agenda, 2nd Mrs. Teel, approved 7-0. Mr. DiModica asked if the truancy research continued during the summer and Dr. Thornton said that it did.

Agenda Item #6: Report Out of Executive Session Meeting

- A. Report of Executive Session Meeting on 6/12/14 - 1) Report out of Executive Session Votes – Mrs. Beaulieu stated that there were no votes taken at the meeting. 2) Vote to seal minutes of Executive Session – Mr. Mutter made a motion to seal the minutes, 2nd Mr. Duffy and Mrs. Teel, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #7: Superintendent's Report

- A. Recognition of Achievements – 1) Employee Retirement Recognitions – Dr. Thornton stated that tonight they would be honoring two retirees. JoAnn Arthurs with 20 years of service and Donna Carreiro with 9 years of service. Congratulations to JoAnn and Donna! Nidia Karbonik, Principal of Ashton, recognized two parents, Karen Longest and Jodi Lamagna, they are always volunteering and going above and beyond what has to be done! Thank you to

Karen and Jodi. Donna Carreiro, Principal of JJM Cumberland Hill, recognized four members of the student council – Ryan Naylor, Alexis Hyland, Alli Jakubiak and Michael Gallagher. The student council meets bi-weekly and they are always planning something for the school – they presented a short PowerPoint presentation to show everyone the work that they have accomplished throughout the school year – holiday food drive, toy drive, breakfast food drive, summer lunch food drive, holiday soup in a jar and used book sale – with some of the proceeds the student council was able to purchase a new bike rack for the school. Good job student council!!!

Agenda Item #8: Chairperson's Report

- A. Funding Formula and the BEP – Mrs. Beaulieu said that she wanted to clarify some questions regarding the accuracy related to the charter school tuitions. She said that Dr. Thornton checked the math and it is correct – it is a \$4.5m conversation. Mr. Duffy asked for more details – Mr. Prignano said that they are talking about the dollars per student, which is \$2.9m – state aid follows the child so \$1.66m goes to the school where they are going – lose the state aid when the student is not in the district. Mr. Mutter asked if we would get the \$1.66m if those students were not in the charter school – if they were back in our district the dollars would be added back. The \$2.9m on the expense side includes Davies School and a couple of other schools, not just charter.

Mrs. Beaulieu asked for a two-minute recess at this time.

Agenda Item #9: Reports of Standing Committees

- A. Payment of Bills – Mr. Mutter stated that there was no action taken, so he asked that another SC meeting be scheduled after the Fiscal Management meeting next week.
- B. Fiscal Management Sub-Committee Update – Fiscal Management met after 7 this evening and discussed SC-PR-6-2014-08, the message sign, the business manager contract and the energy savings contract.
- C. Policy & Procedures Sub-Committee Update – Mrs. Teel said they met on 5/27 and discussed proficiency based grading, flag displays, substance abuse policy. Next meeting 6/24 at 5:30 p.m.
- D. Achievement & Communications Sub-Committee Update – Mrs. Beaulieu said they will meet on 6/24 and will be meeting with high school guidance to discuss what their standards of practice are at various levels.

Agenda Item #10: Public Hearing

- A. Reading of Policies: Amended Policies a) I-12 (IKA) K-8 Proficiency Based Reporting Policy, b) I-13 (IKFC) High School Proficiency Based Grading Policy, c) C-1 – Flag Display, Flag Salute and Treatment, d) G-10 – FERPA Policy for Students Who Have Reached the Age of Majority – Mrs. Teel noted that I-12 did not change significantly and in sub-committee it was approved as amended with a 3-0 vote. She asked that this be read into the record – 1st reading and vote because it did not have significant changes. Mrs. Beaulieu

asked if anyone wanted to speak about the policy and no one did. Mrs. Teel noted that I-13 did change – it is how numerical grades will be calculated – major change that took place – 1st reading. Mrs. Beaulieu asked if anyone had any questions for Mr. Tenreiro and no one did. Mrs. Teel noted that the C-1 policies were out of date – 1st reading combination of two policies. Mr. Mutter told Mrs. Beaulieu that this was approved in sub-committee with a 2-0 vote. Mrs. Beaulieu asked if anyone wanted to speak about the policies and no one did. Mrs. Teel noted that G-10 is a new policy that will allow parents to know if their child is having academic or behavioral issues even if the child is 18 years old. Because it is a new policy it requires two readings. Mrs. Beaulieu asked if anyone wanted to speak about the policy and no one did. Mrs. Beaulieu closed the hearing.

Agenda Item #11: Comments from the Public

Bill asked what the status of e-verify was in the district and Mrs. Fogell commented that during the summer the H.R. employees will be trained and certified and by the end of August e-verify will be part of the hiring process.

Scott commented about what a wonderful kindergarten teacher Nicole Salaun is at Community School and how it is such a shame that administration has laid her off and is not recalling her. He said that she is the type of teacher that complies with the rules and does a great job and he wonders what the administrations priority is because he does not think it is the students. Atty. Adams commented that the SC cannot discuss personnel – they are not permitted to speak about it – the SC acts on the recommendations of administration, by central administration.

Melissa also spoke about Nicole Salaun – she said that children have many changes coming into kindergarten and she makes them feel very comfortable. Her children could not wait to go to school; she helped them learn how to read and really taught inventive lessons. She asked that the SC rescind their decision and hire her back.

Lynn spoke about Nicole Salaun also – said she was a standout from the rest – she is dedicated to her students, she makes them feel special – she said the children perform for Ms. Salaun and cannot wait to show her what they have learned!

Karen spoke on Ms. Salaun's behalf and read a letter that her daughter had written to Ms. Salaun. She said her daughter could read books, count by two's, volunteers in the classroom. She also noted that Ms. Salaun has enthusiasm with the common core, she is respectful and accommodating. She also asked the SC to reconsider their decision and hire Ms. Salaun back.

Erin stated that Ms. Salaun is a positive teacher and is moving in the right direction. She said she hopes the SC is focused on the right things – she hopes the SC will reconsider their decision because she said her son had a great year in Ms. Salaun's class – he is reading chapter books. By renewing Ms. Salaun's contract Erin said that it would give 20 parents peace of mind for this coming school year and each year after.

Agenda Item #12: New Business

- A. 2014 School Accountability Report – Mr. Mitchell stated that this is a process – in May RIDE classifies each school with a formula – there are six categories.

All of our schools were typical or leading with the exception of the high school, which was classified as a warning. The scores were based on the most recent NECAP scores (previous testing year) and he said that the high school showed improvement in all categories except for one – we hit 14 out of 15 targets but because we missed the one target the school was classified warning. Mr. Mitchell went on to say that the high school has done an excellent job and has developed several sophisticated systems to point out where the problems are so that intervention for students can be identified. At this point Mr. Tenreiro, CHS Principal, came to the podium with a quick PowerPoint presentation but first he thanked the SC for attending the graduation – which was a great success! Mr. Tenreiro reiterated what Mr. Mitchell mentioned and noted that graduation rate is up 4.2%; math scores are up, reading scores are up, lots of intervention for students and lots of good things happening at the high school. Mr. Tenreiro reviewed some figures from other districts and noted that these comparison schools (based on enrollment) may have even had lower scores than we did, but because they met the specific criteria they were not listed as warning schools. Interventions are in place so that we can get where we need to be next year. Mr. Tenreiro went on to say that there are about 18 students out of the 85 student group in the Mathematics Economically Disadvantaged category that had a major issue with attendance – and so this is one big factor that prevented us from hitting the target – but he and his team are working with these students and are trying various things such as family input, support systems, etc., to get these students in school. The continual improvement includes Summer Math Academy at RIC, summer Math sessions at the high school, Saturday prep tests – and they will be putting in place some new attendance incentives and consequences, tutors may also be going out to the community instead of just being at the school – they are looking at some different locations to make it easier for students to get the help. Mr. Tenreiro noted that CHS did receive NEASC accreditation, has an increased graduation rate, have 89% students proficient in reading, - just a few improvements mentioned, but they will continue to improve in every category. Dr. Thornton stated that some schools only had 5 targets to meet, but because of our size we had 15 to meet and he went on to say that the ranking system would be reviewed very shortly due to the PARCC testing. Mr. Tenreiro finished by saying that CHS is really a leading school with a warning label. Mr. Mutter noted that – Mathematics Economically Disadvantaged – does not think that it is a bad thing to be on warning - he commended Mr. Tenreiro for all of the hard work that is going on at the high school. Mr. Mutter did note that there is a line item of \$100,000 in the town's budget that could possibly be used for some tutors at outside venues and wanted to mention it so that it could be looked at. Mr. Duffy commented that the Chromebooks should help the students that are out a lot because they can work from home. Mr. DiModica asked how the students were getting to school this summer and Mr. Tenreiro said they provide transportation for the students. He also noted that letters are sent to the parents so that they are made aware of all details

- and also the teachers know exactly what they are supposed to be working on with these students. Mr. DiModica asked what the participation rate was and Mr. Tenreiro stated that last year they invited 102 students and 57 participated. Mrs. Beaulieu thanked Mr. Tenreiro and asked that his analysis be put on the website. She also commented to Mr. Tenreiro that the speeches at the graduation were different than in the past years – they were very positive – the students know that we are there for them! Mr. Murray then commented on Mr. Mutter’s comment about the \$100,000 in the town’s budget – the Mayor wants it to be used in under achieving areas - he said there is a direction that we are going with the \$100,000 – in the school system you would need to let the Mayor know and discuss.
- B. ESCO-ENE Energy Update – Mr. Mutter made a motion to table this item, 2nd Mr. Fiorillo, approved 7-0.
 - C. Chromebook Deployment at the Middle Schools and Teacher Training – Mrs. Coughlin – Principal at NCMS – professional development workshops scheduled next week – scheduled distribution will be 8/19, 8/20 and 8/21 at each of the middle schools – students will be able to “play” with them in little groups at that time.
 - D. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Resolution SC-PR-6-2014-08: Electronic Message Sign at CHS – Mr. Mutter stated that this resolution was passed in Fiscal Management and he made a motion to approve resolution SC-PR-6-2014-08, 2nd Mr. Fiorillo, Dr. Thornton noted that the sign should be up and running by the end of June. Motion was approved 7-0.
 - E. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Resolution SC-R-2014-09: Energy Savings Contract – Mr. Mutter made a motion to table this resolution, 2nd Mr. DiModica, approved 7-0.
 - F. Discussion and/or Vote to Rescind Teacher Non-Renewals for the 2014-15 School Year – Mrs. Fogell stated that there were 22 names discussed in Executive Session to be rescinded – Mr. Fiorillo made a motion to accept to rescind the non-renewals, 2nd Mrs. Teel, approved 7-0.
 - G. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Employment Contract: Business Manager – Mr. Mutter noted that this contract extends the current contract for two years and it was approved in Fiscal Management. Mr. Mutter made a motion to approve the employment contract for the Business Manager, 2nd Mr. Fiorillo and Mr. DiModica, approved 7-0.
 - H. Discussion and/or Vote to Delete the Following Policy: I-2 (IGAG) Student Substance Abuse Policy – Mrs. Teel stated that this deletion was approved in sub-committee with a 2-0 vote and that this policy is covered under Federal and State requirements. Mrs. Teel made a motion to delete I-2, 2nd Mr. Salvatore, approved 7-0.
 - I. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve the Following Amended Policies: I-12 – Proficiency Based Grading Policy – Grades K-8, I-13 – Proficiency Based Grading Policy – High School, C-1 – Flag Display, Flag Salute and Treatment, G-10 – FERPA Policy for Students Who Have Reached the Age of Majority – Mrs. Teel made a motion to approve I-12 as amended, 2nd Mr. Salvatore, approved 7-0. Mrs. Teel made a motion to approve I-13 as amended, 2nd Mr.

Salvatore, approved 7-0. Mrs. Teel made a motion to approve C-1, 2nd Mr. Salvatore, approved 7-0. Mrs. Teel made a motion to table G-10 until the next SC meeting, 2nd Mr. Salvatore, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #13: Personnel Recommendations

Mrs. Fogell requested the following personnel recommendations:

Resignations

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of William Skitt, Assistant Principal, at Community School, effective 6/30/2014.

(budgeted) resigning after 9 years

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of Robert Crozier, Girls Head Basketball Coach, at Joseph L. McCourt Middle School, effective 5/30/2014. (budgeted)

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of Linda Deacon, Girls & Boys Assistant Tennis Coach, at Cumberland High School, effective 5/30/2014. (budgeted) resigning after 17 years

Mr. DiModica made a motion to approve the resignations as presented by Mrs. Fogell, 2nd Mrs. Teel, approved 7-0.

Leave of Absence

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the unpaid leave of absence of Tina Lemay, Grade 2 Teacher at Garvin Elementary School for the 2014-2015 school year, effective 08/21/2014.

Mr. DiModica made a motion to approve the leave of absence as presented by Mrs. Fogell, 2nd Mrs. Teel, approved 7-0.

Appointments

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of Scott Carpenter, Dean of Students & School Culture, at Cumberland High School, effective 8/19/2014. (budgeted) stipend \$7,000

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of Christopher Skurka, Dean of Students & School Culture, at Cumberland High School, effective 8/19/2014. (budgeted) stipend \$7,000

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of Malinda DeWaele, Interdisciplinary Coordinator for STEM, at Cumberland High School, effective 8/14/2014. (budgeted) stipend \$7,000

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of Carolyn Dooley, Interdisciplinary Coordinator for Unified Arts, at Cumberland High School, effective 8/14/2014. (budgeted) stipend \$7,000

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of Rhonda Dion, Director of Guidance, at Cumberland High School, effective 8/14/2014. (budgeted) stipend \$7,000

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of Tammy Lemieux, Coordinator of Special Education, at Cumberland High School, effective 8/14/2014. (budgeted) stipend \$7,000

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of Amanda Letoile, Interdisciplinary Coordinator for Humanities, at Cumberland High School, effective 8/14/2014. (budgeted) stipend \$7,000

Mr. DiModica made a motion to approve the appointments as presented by Mrs. Fogell, 2nd Mr. Fiorillo, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #14: School Committee Comments (School Liaison Reports) – Mr. DiModica thanked Mike Chandler for looking into his suggestion regarding putting the website into different languages – which Mike has now completed - he said this will help a lot of families in our district. Mr. Mutter thanked everyone that spoke during public comment this evening. Mrs. Beaulieu commented on the graduation once again and said that it was very nicely done! Mrs. Teel commented about how nice the music program was at the graduation also!

Agenda Item #15: Vote to go into Executive Session for Discussion 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. Fiorillo made a motion to adjourn, 2nd Mrs. Teel and Mr. Salvatore, motion was approved 7-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Linda A. Jackvony