

APPROVED - 9/11/2014

There was a regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Thursday, August 28, 2014 at the Cumberland High School Transitional Building Cafetorium, 2602 Mendon Road, Cumberland, Rhode Island.

Members Present

Lisa Beaulieu, Jeff Mutter, Linda Teel, William Dennen, Paul DiModica, 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 7:38 p.m.

Agenda Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Item #3: Approval of Agenda

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

Agenda Item #4: Student Government Report

There was no report given this evening.

Agenda Item #5: Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting 8/14/14.
- B. Approval of Minutes – Executive Session 8/14/14
- C. Student Handbooks – All Grades

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

Agenda Item #6: Report Out of Executive Session Meeting

- A. Report of Executive Session Meeting on 8/28/14 – 1) Report Out of Executive Session Votes – Mrs. Beaulieu noted 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 Mrs. Teel, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #7: Superintendent's Report

- A. Opening of School – Dr. Thornton showed everyone some pictures of the opening day around the district – landscaping was completed, shrubs replaced, he showed some children going in to the different schools, Garvin playground (which has had the French drain repaired so the water will no longer build up), bussing was pretty much right on schedule. Dr. Thornton went on to say that some of the carpeting was replaced around the district, kids at the middle schools were really excited about the Chrome books, lots of painting has been going on, some trees were trimmed at NCMS, brick work is continuing at CHS – overall lots of good things going on and the first day was a nice opening – smooth. Mr. DiModica asked if Durham got the new busses in and Dr. Thornton said that he would check on that and get back to him.

Agenda Item #8: Chairperson's Report

- A. Funding Formula and the BEP – Mrs. Beaulieu stated that it is important for the SC to know why the per pupil expenditure dropped when we are getting more money from the state. She said that the district is doing cost savings diligence but cannot control the costs/spending. They will be looking into this further. Mr. Mutter suggested contacting the Board of Regents for Elementary to see what the funding would be to support the BEP. Mr. Dennen asked Mrs. Beaulieu why the decline in the dollars and she thought maybe it could be the funds that go out of the district – she is going to look more into this so she can understand where the dollars are going.

Agenda Item #9: Reports of Standing Committees

- A. Payment of Bills – Mr. Mutter noted that there were no payments this evening.
- B. Fiscal Management Sub-Committee Update – Mr. Mutter noted that there was no report this evening.
- C. Policy & Procedures Sub-Committee Update – Mrs. Teel stated that the next meeting would be on 9/23/14 at 6:30 p.m.
- D. Achievement & Communications Sub-Committee Update – Mrs. Beaulieu noted that they met earlier this evening and discussed the High School Guidance Program/Action Plan – global opportunities through social media – Mrs. Beaulieu was happy with the details and is anxious for the roll-out – she noted that Guidance has even adjusted their work hours to accommodate working families. There will be a College Fair on October 10th – about 50 colleges will be at the fair. They also discussed Project Lead the Way – Melinda Borden will be teaching a hands on course to Freshmen that will be a different type of class with lab experiments, etc, - there will be an update on this in the winter.

Agenda Item #10: Public Hearing

- A. Reading of Policy – 1) New Policy – 2nd Reading – 1) B2 Basic Management Principles and Ethical School Standards – Mrs. Teel noted that this is the second reading, no changes, no comments, brings the district into compliance, was approved in sub-committee with a 3-0 vote.
- B. Public Comment – Mrs. Beaulieu asked if anyone wanted to speak about the policy and no one did.

Agenda Item #11: Comments from the Public

There were no comments at this time.

Agenda Item #12: Old Business

- A. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Resolution SC-R-2014-05: 2014-15 Employee Compensation – Mr. Mutter stated that this was not in Fiscal Management but that this is a resolution that provides the public with the pay scales of anyone that works in the district – this is done every year. Mr. Mutter made a motion to approve, 2nd Mr. Fiorillo, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #13: New Business

- A. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Overnight Student Field Trip – Quebec City, Canada – January 2015 – Ms. Morin and Ms. Emery explained that the itinerary is basically the same as last year except they have eliminated the ferry ride – it is being replaced with a cultural event – circus event. The costs have remained almost the same and the fundraising will be the same. Mr. DiModica made a motion to approve, 2nd Mr. Dennen and Mr. Mutter, approved 7-0.

- B. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Home School Instruction Requests 2014-2015 School Year – Mr. Mitchell stated that there were several requests and he recommended approval. Mr. Salvatore asked Mr. Mitchell if there were more requests this year than any other year and Mr. Mitchell said there were not. Mr. Mutter made a motion to approve, 2nd Mrs. Teel, approved 7-0.
- C. Discussion of Legal Summary of Reporting Requirements for Mayoral Academies to the Sending District per 16-77.4-2 – this agenda item was requested by Mr. DiModica. Atty. Adams noted that the information he will be giving is for informational use only. He started off by stating that the Charter School Act is divided into three sections, as is the law divided into three sections. Atty. Adams reviewed the procedures for creating a Mayoral Academy and said they are supposed to provide performance criteria, annual reports, and transparency in finances, operation and administration. He discussed general reporting requirements and variances to various provisions of Title 16 – he also listed some provisions that are not waivable. Mr. Salvatore asked if he found the Mayoral Academy to not be in compliance and Atty. Adams said that he was not looking for that but did say that reporting is not being sent to the district. Mr. DiModica asked if we could look at the way they were spending the dollars that we send them. Atty. Adams said that we should be able to do that. Mr. DiModica said that RIDE tells us how much to send to the academy so he believes that we should have a say on how much we send or they spend. Mr. DiModica went on to say that the dollars come right off the top of our budget. Atty. Adams said that oversight by local SC is not part of the law right now. Mr. Mutter asked if we have asked them for reports in the past. Mrs. Beaulieu stated that now that the SC knows what the reporting requirements are, we need to reach out and find out when and where we will get some reporting information. Mr. Mutter stated that we need to be right before accusing them of not having the information.
- D. Discussion of Verification of Tuition Payments – Mrs. Beaulieu asked Dr. Thornton if RIDE provides us with anything to help when we are doing the budget for tuitions and Dr. Thornton said they do – it is a worksheet, and we do this twice a year.
- E. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve 2nd Reading of New Policy: 1) B2 Basic Management Principles and Ethical School Standards – Mrs. Teel made a motion to accept, 2nd Mr. Salvatore, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #14: Personnel Recommendations

Mrs. Fogell requested the following personnel recommendations:

Resignations

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of **Michelle Lamothe, School Nurse Teacher/Coordinator of Nursing Services at Cumberland School Department, effective 8/22/2014.**

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of **Edward Packhem, Technology Education Teacher at Cumberland High School, effective 8/20/2014.**

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of **Karen Robinson, Science Teacher at Cumberland High School, effective 8/20/2014.**

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of **Glen Whitfield, Social Studies Teacher at North Cumberland Middle School**, effective **8/22/2014**.

Mr. Fiorillo made a motion to approve, 2nd Mr. Dennen, approved 7-0.

Retirement

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the retirement of **Sandra Shaw, French Teacher at North Cumberland Middle School**, effective **6/30/2014** after 24 years of service.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the retirement of **Eleanor Teal, Grade 1 Teacher at John J. McLaughlin Cumberland Hill Elementary School**, effective **6/30/2014** after 42 years of service.

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

Leave of Absence

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the leave of absence of **Sandra Lynn White, Science Teacher at Cumberland High School** for the 2014-2015 school year.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the leave of absence of **Betsey Lachapelle, Math Teacher at Cumberland High School** for the 2014-2015 school year.

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

At this point Mrs. Teel asked why there were resignations just days before the opening of school and Dr. Thornton answered by saying that administration cannot help what these people do – they have their reasons for resigning and administration has no control over it. There is basically nothing they can do about it.

Appointments

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of **Erika Mutter, English Language Arts Teacher at North Cumberland Middle School**, effective **8/25/2014**. **(FTE: 0.6; Step 1; Lane n/a; Co-pay: 22.0%; budgeted)**.

Mr. DiModica made a motion to approve, 2nd Mr. Salvatore, approved 6-0. Mr. Mutter recused himself from this vote.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of **Diana Anderson, Social Studies Teacher at North Cumberland Middle School**, effective **8/25/2014**. **(FTE: 0.6; Step 6; Lane Masters; Co-pay: 22.0%; budgeted)**.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of **Sean Connolly, Social Studies Teacher at North Cumberland Middle School**, effective 8/25/2014. (FTE: 1.0; Step 1; Lane n/a; Co-pay: 22.0%; budgeted).

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of **Bernadette Durkin, Grade 1 Teacher (One Year Position) at John J. McLaughlin Cumberland Hill Elementary School**, effective 8/21/2014. (FTE: 1.0; Step 1; Lane n/a; Co-pay: 22.0%; budgeted).

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of **Joshua Lima, Technology Education Teacher at Cumberland High School**, effective 8/25/2014. (FTE: 0.5; Step 2; Lane n/a; Co-pay: 22.0%; budgeted).

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of **Rachel Medeiros, Social Studies Teacher (One Year Position) at Cumberland High School**, effective 8/25/2014. (FTE: 1.0; Step 1; Lane n/a; Co-pay: 22.0%; budgeted).

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of **David Moniz, Elementary Music Teacher at Cumberland School Department**, effective 8/25/2014. (FTE: 1.0; Step 1; Lane n/a; Co-pay: 22.0%; budgeted).

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of **Katelyn Oller, PE/APE/Health Teacher, at Systemwide**, effective 8/28/2014. (FTE: 0.5; Step 1; Lane n/a; Co-pay: 22.0%; budgeted).

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of **Dean Palmer, Jr., Technology Education Teacher at North Cumberland Middle School**, effective 8/25/2014. (FTE: 1.0; Step 1; Lane n/a; Co-pay: 22.0%; budgeted).

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of **Akash Shah, Chemistry Education Teacher at Cumberland High School**, effective 8/28/2014. (FTE: 1.0; Step 1; Lane n/a; Co-pay: 22.0%; budgeted).

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of **Kevin Sutherland, PE/APE/Health Teacher at Systemwide**, effective 8/28/2014. (FTE: 0.6; Step 1; Lane n/a; Co-pay: 22.0%; budgeted).

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of **Tara Villanova, Elementary Art Teacher at Cumberland School Department**, effective 8/25/2014. (FTE: 0.6; Step 5; Lane Masters; Co-pay: 22.0%; budgeted).

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

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

Mr. Fiorillo stated that some of the Up with People volunteers were painting B.F. Norton and it looks great! He also said that the Garvin playground looks great and wanted to thank everyone involved and also wanted to thank Administration!

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 stated that there would be no Executive Session this evening.

Agenda Item #17: Adjournment

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

Meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Linda A. Jackvony