

UNAPPROVED

There was a regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Thursday, October 23, 2014 at the Cumberland High School Transitional Building Cafetorium, 2602 Mendon Road, Cumberland, Rhode Island.

Members Present: Lisa Beaulieu, Jeff Mutter, William Dennen, Paul DiModica, Mark Fiorillo, Raymond Salvatore. Linda Teel 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 7:32 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. Dennen, approved 6-0.

Agenda Item #4: Consent Agenda
A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting 10/9/14
B. Approval of Minutes – Executive Session 10/7/14 and 10/9/14
Mr. Mutter made a motion to approve, 2nd Mr. Dennen, approved 6-0.

Agenda Item #5: Superintendent's Report
A. R.I. School Counselor Association – OSSCAR Award Recipients – Mr. Mitchell presented certificates to Cynthia Lancaster and Kerry Carlson from McCourt Middle School. Mr. Mitchell noted that this was a very prestigious award and Ms. Lancaster and Ms. Carlson were recognized for their Student Ambassador Program, Conflict Resolution Lessons and HOPS – they received the Lighthouse Award!

Agenda Item #6: Chairperson's Report
A. Funding Formula and the BEP – Mrs. Beaulieu stated that Alex Prignano would have some numbers in early November – they would be audited numbers – summary of non-core and core expenses.

Agenda Item #7: Reports of Standing Committees
A. Payment of Bills – Mr. Mutter stated that there were no payments of bills this evening.
B. Fiscal Management Sub-Committee Update – Mr. Mutter noted that FM met Tuesday and discussed the cargo van, the chimney repairs, the energy project financing and the Sodexo Report.
C. Policy and Procedures Sub-Committee Update – no update at this time.

- D. Achievement and Communication Sub-Committee Update – Mrs. Beaulieu stated that they met on Tuesday with High School Administrators and discussed the redesign models for a grant – alternate pathways for students that need flexibility – there are four models that will be part of the grant. Mr. Costa, Assistant Principal at CHS, will be at the next SC meeting with a presentation.

Agenda Item #8: Public Hearing

- A. Reading of Policy – 1) New Policy – 2nd Reading – B3 School Committee Meeting Procedures and Election of Officers – Mrs. Beaulieu stated that this is the 2nd reading of this policy.
- B. Public Comment – Mrs. Beaulieu asked if anyone had any comments regarding this policy – no one had any comments.

Agenda Item #9: Comments from the Public

No comments at this time.

Agenda Item #10: New Business

- A. School Safety Plan Update – Dr. Masterson gave a short PowerPoint presentation regarding school safety and said that most of it was on the RIDE Website. He noted some changes to the Emergency Management Language – such as Dr. Thornton is known as Emergency Operations Center Director – they also now have forms for a large scale crisis, they have flow charts in the buildings for incidents and procedures, there is a calendar of events that must take place during specific times of the year, there is a lot of training for individuals, there are very specific words when administrators are sending out emergency calls, i.e., All Clear, Lockdown, Evacuation, Shelter in Place, Stand-by (provide instructions). Next, they will meet with principals and re-train faculty and staff, update with Cumberland Safety Committee and communicate with families.
- B. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Alternate Destination for CHS Overnight Student Field Trip Scheduled for June, 2015 – Ashley Proulx and Malinda Borden explained that the company that they had booked the trip through (EF) said that due to the recent situations in Africa that they could cancel the trip and they would re-book another one for them. The trip that they are asking approval for is Ecuador, Riobamba and Galapagos – students and parents have said yes this trip would be better – they are excited about it. The students will learn about history, culture and science. This trip has 4.6 stars out of 5! The students will also see how the people are living, they will make crafts – lots of learning! The trip will cost \$4,160 includes everything but a couple of lunches and their spending money – it is less expensive than the Africa Trip! Mr. Fiorillo made a motion to approve the trip, 2nd Mr. Dennen, approved 6-0.
- C. Discussion and/or Vote to approve 2nd reading of New Policy – B-3 School Committee Meeting Procedures and Election of Officers – Mr. Mutter asked Atty. Adams if under the Election and Duties of School Committee Officers,

- where it states “the majority of the full committee at the “Organizational” meeting...” what the word “full” meant – was it the full committee – all members – and Atty. Adams stated that it did mean all members so with that Mr. Mutter made a motion to remove the word “full” from the second line under Election and Duties of School Committee Officers and amend B-3, 2nd Mr. Salvatore, approved 6-0. Then Mr. Mutter made a motion to approve B-3 as amended, 2nd Mr. Salvatore, approved 6-0.
- D. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Amended Resolution SC-R-2014-11A: Energy Projects Financing – Mr. Mutter said they did not receive any communication from the Bond Council – they had asked for their input at last SC meeting – Mr. Mutter noted that this was the second question that they had asked and had not received an answer for – he went on to say that there was enough time to get an answer and he believes that when you ask a question, you should get an answer. Per Mr. Mutter’s request to briefly go over the program for some new players - Mr. Prignano spoke about the project – last year they were looking at a Master Lease but then found out about the RIDE program – he explained what needs to be done and how much we could save and how much we would need to spend – the plan was to do tax exempt, but the town has a cap on tax exempt dollars and so we looked into taxable. He said they would like to get the program going – wants to get the boilers in place. Mr. Mutter made a motion to approve SC-R-2014-11A, 2nd Mr. Fiorillo, approved 6-0.
- E. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Awarding of Bids: 1) SC-PR-10-2014-16 –Facilities Cargo Van – Mr. Mutter explained that this was bogged down in FM on Tuesday because this had no prior discussions. Mr. Prignano noted that last year they spent \$1,866 on repairs for the old van and then earlier this year they took it off the road – it is the plumbers vehicle and right now he had to use his own vehicle part of the time and sometimes he borrows a vehicle from another department. Mr. Prignano said the dollars are available for this van because there is a line item with \$30,000 in it – he recommends that we buy a van/truck every other year so that we are not replacing or repairing them all at once. Mr. Fiorillo made a motion to approve, 2nd Mr. Salvatore for discussion – he asked if they could use a smaller, less expensive van. Mr. Fiorillo showed Mr. Salvatore a picture of the van in question and they realized it was not that large. Mr. DiModica said that he was approached by the DPW manager and he said that he would take the old van. Mr. Fiorillo said they are not bound to giving the old van to DPW. Mr. Dennen asked about insurance costs and Mr. Prignano said he would add this to the policy. Mr. Fiorillo’s motion was approved 5-1, Mr. DiModica in the negative. 2) SC-PR-10-2014-17: Gutter Repair/Install Retention System at JJM Cumberland Hill Elementary School – Mr. Prignano suggested that the SC table this item. Mr. Mutter made a motion to table SC-PR-10-2014-17, 2nd Mr. Fiorillo, approved 6-0. 3) SC-PR-10-2014-18: Chimney Repairs at B.F. Norton School and JJM Cumberland Hill Elementary School – Mr. Mutter asked Atty. Adams if they could change the agenda item to just include Cumberland Hill? Atty. Adams stated that as long as they amend the resolution they could. With that

Mr. Mutter made a motion to accept the resolution that the SC received in their email and it will be SCPR-10-2014-18A – amend as presented, 2nd Mr. DiModica, approved 6-0. Mr. Mutter then made a motion to approve SC-PR-10-2014-18A as amended, 2nd Mr. Fiorillo, approved 6-0.

- F. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Home School Instruction Requests 2014-15 School Year – no home school requests this evening, per Mr. Mitchell.

Agenda Item #11: Personnel Recommendations

Mrs. Fogell had the following personnel recommendations:

Resignations

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of Suzette Blais, Grade 1 Teacher at Community Elementary School, effective September 10, 2014.

Mr. DiModica made a motion to approve, 2nd Mr. Dennen, approved 6-0. Congratulations to Ms. Blais after 25 years of service – thank you!!!

Appointments

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of David Gawron, Library Media Specialist at Cumberland School Department, effective 10/15/2014. (FTE: 1.0; Step 1; Lane Masters; Co-pay: 22.0%; budgeted).

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of Sharon McMahon-Joyal, ELL Educator at Cumberland School Department, effective 10/20/2014. (FTE: 1.0; Step 4; Lane Masters; Co-pay: 22.0; budgeted).

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

Agenda Item #12: School Committee Comments (School Liaison Reports)

Mrs. Beaulieu recognized Mr. Duffy, Mr. Schmitt, Rep. Ackerman, Mrs. Sanzi and former T.C. member Mr. Kirkpatrick – all in the audience. Mr. Fiorillo thanked Mr. Mutter for his service and noted that he learned a lot from Mr. Mutter and he thought he was very enlightening. Mr. Mutter gave Mrs. Beaulieu a binder with all kinds of old T.C. and SC budget proposals and other paperwork – similar to what he gave Mrs. Teel at the last SC meeting. Some of the articles dated back to 1996! Mrs. Beaulieu said she appreciated the thought and presented him with an old picture of some renovations from when they first met. She also read some quotes from Mr. Mutter from the Valley Breeze from years past! Everyone thanked Mr. Mutter for his leadership and hard work. Mr. Mutter said he was fortunate to serve with strong members – he thanked everyone for giving him the benefit of the doubt and said they always had fun. He recognized Dr. Thornton and Mr. Mitchell and said that things are a lot better now. He told Atty. Adams that it was always interesting and fun and thanked him for some great work! Mr. Mutter also thanked Mr. Duffy and said he was a big upgrade – he will be returning in November.

Agenda Item #13: 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 #14: Adjournment
Mr. Mutter made a motion to adjourn, 2nd Mr. DiModica, approved 5-1!

Meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Linda A. Jackvony