

APPROVED-5.26.16

There was a regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Thursday, May 12, 2016 at the Cumberland High School Auditorium, 2600 Mendon Road, Cumberland, Rhode Island.

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

Administration Present: Superintendent Robert Mitchell, Assistant Superintendent Antonio DiManna, Atty. Stephen Adams

Agenda Item #1: Chairperson Convenes Meeting
Chairwoman Beaulieu convened the meeting to order at 7:46 p.m.

Agenda Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance

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

Agenda Item #4: Student Government Report
Some past activities included the teacher and staff appreciation week – great success, CHS 5K – 3rd year and raised over \$3,000 for charity, the junior prom was held at Kirkbrae Country Club. Upcoming include a college fair on May 17th, National Honor Society Induction on May 19th, Senior Reception on May 27th and June 9th is graduation!

Agenda Item #5: Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting 4/28/16
- B. Approval of Minutes – Executive Session 4/28/16
- C. Enrollment Report – 5/1/16
- D. School Police Report – 4/1/16
- E. Residency/Truancy Report – 5/1/16

Mr. Fiorillo made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, 2nd Mr. Dennen, approved 6-0.

Agenda Item #6: Report Out of Executive Session Meeting

- A. Report Out of Executive Session Meeting on 5/12/2016 – 1) Report Out of Executive Session Votes – Mrs. Beaulieu stated that there were no votes taken. 2) Vote to Seal Minutes of Executive Session – Mr. Dennen made a motion to seal the minutes, 2nd Mr. Fiorillo and Mrs. Teel, approved 6-0.

Agenda Item #7: Superintendent's Report

- A. Recognitions –1) Senator Pearson to Present Legislative Grant Awards – CHS Student Safety Account & Middle Schools After School Program – three grants were presented - \$10,000 to CHS Robotics Program, \$500 for CHS Athletics and \$1,500 to Middle School After School Programs. 2) Rhode Island Interscholastic League Award Recipients – Sean Laverty – Male Student Athlete of the Month – March, Virginia Ann Cafferky – Heart of the Arts Award, Andrew Tuetken – 2016 Coach of the Year. Matt Campanella introduced each of the recipients and Supt. Mitchell and Mrs. Beaulieu gave each one of them a certificate. Congratulations to All!!! 3) Dr. Jason Masterson – 2016 RIASP Secondary Principal of the Year – Supt. Mitchell acknowledged Dr. Masterson and he was congratulated by the SC.

Agenda Item #8: Chairperson's Report

Mrs. Beaulieu stated that the SC would be meeting with the town during budget discussions this month.

Agenda Item #9: Reports of Standing Committees

- A. Payment of Bills – Mr. Dennen stated that the committee met earlier this evening and with that made a motion to pay invoices in the amount of \$1,706,075.18, 2nd Mr. Fiorillo, approved 6-0.
- B. Fiscal Management Sub-Committee Update – Mr. Dennen stated that the committee reviewed the monthly business report and should be ending the year in the black - \$590,000 as of right now, they also discussed the repairs that need to be done to the upper field behind the high school – community involvement is needed! Also discussed was a request for a 2017 CHS Carnival on the last day of school and the Sodexo Report were also reviewed. Mr. Dennen also noted that there is an \$800,000 gap between the Mayor's proposed budget and the budget that the SC proposed – so they talked about some things that may have to be cut from the budget if it gets to that point.
- C. Policy & Procedures Sub-Committee Update – Mr. Fiorillo stated that the committee had met this week. He also noted that the Upper Field repairs and the CHS 2017 Carnival were Mr. Carpenter's ideas! Policy I-6 had some slight changes made to it and the draft was approved, the student suspension policy was tabled – streamlining the suspension process, and the service animal policy was discussed and the one difference to it now was that they added what the ADA considers their definition of a service animal.
- D. Achievement & Communications Sub-Committee Update – Mrs. Teel stated that the committee met on Tuesday and began discussions on early start times. It appears that all research indicates that students need more sleep time – so the possibility is to move all the start times until after 8 a.m. Starting the school day too early just means that students are sleepy and are not learning anything for the first two periods of the day. More discussions to follow.
- E. Budget Task Force Update – Mr. Duffy noted that the presentation will be downloaded to the website in the next couple of days and he does not have a date for the task force to come and visit the SC again – he will advise when he does get one!

Agenda Item #10: Comments from the Public

A member of the Cub Scout Troop that attended tonight's meeting asked if the 1-2-3-4 grading system could be changed back to the 1-100 grading system – he said it doesn't seem fair and was wondering if there were any discussions going on? Supt. Mitchell said that we need to continue our conversation on Std. Based Grading – we will take into consideration what parents and students have to say and he does not know if we will go back but that there is more work to be done.

Agenda Item #11: Public Hearing

- A. Reading of Policies – 1) Amended Policy – I-6 School Sponsored Overnight Field Trips – Mr. Fiorillo noted that this is a reading of I-6 and a vote will be taken later on the agenda-changes were lead chaperone needs to be tenured, proof of immunizations, only enrolled students can go, and there will be mandatory meetings before the trip with parents and students. J-7 Student Suspension - no

action this evening. 2) New Policy – 1st Reading – I-10 Extracurricular School Sponsored Overnight Field Trips – this policy has the same language as I-6 but the big change is that all the chaperones do not need to be teachers – the persons will have to do a BCI check though. J-24 Service Animals in Schools/Cross Reference G-16 – remained the same except that this policy now lays out the definition of what the service animals are – this policy puts us in compliance.

- B. Public Comment – Mrs. Beaulieu opened up the hearing at 8:25 p.m. for public comments but there were none – hearing closed.

Agenda Item #12: New Business

- A. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Amended Policy: I-6 School Sponsored Overnight Field Trips – Mr. Fiorillo stated that this policy was approved in sub-committee with a 2-0 vote and with that made a motion to pass I-6, 2nd Mr. Salvatore – who asked if anything was brought up about insurance – Mr. Fiorillo stated yes, procedural for administration, motion was then approved 6-0. J-7 Student Suspension was tabled.
- B. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve New Policy – 1st Reading – I-10 Extracurricular School Sponsored Overnight Field Trips – Mr. Fiorillo made a motion to pass I-10, 2nd Mr. Dennen, approved 6-0. J-24 Service Animals in Schools/Cross Reference G-16 – initially Mr. Fiorillo made a motion for passage, but withdrew it – read into the record – no vote taken.
- C. Discussion of School Construction Timeline for McCourt MS, North Cumberland MS and Ashton School – Supt. Mitchell stated that he plans on having the project manager speak before the fiscal and full committee before any of this work begins. He said there is lots of work to be done – asbestos abatement, new univents in classrooms and a new roof – work will begin 6/17/16 and end on 8/26/16 – very tight timeline. These schools will be off limits to everyone because of asbestos abatement – some of the staff in those schools will be moved to the high school. There is a lot of coordination taking place and everything should go as planned.

Agenda Item #13: Personnel Recommendations

There were no personnel recommendations this evening.

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

Mrs. Teel thanked Sen. Pearson for his participation in some of the senate discussions. Mr. Fiorillo thanked all of the volunteers for Teacher Appreciation Week – lots of hard work and lots of donations too! Mrs. Beaulieu noted that RIDE has approved the waiver request for B.F. Norton – due to a power outage in the fall BFN had no school and the district asked RIDE for a waiver for that day so that BFN could finish the year on 6/17 like all of our other schools in the district.

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

No Executive Session this evening.

Agenda Item #16: Adjournment

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

Meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Linda A. Jackvony

