

Organizational/Regular Meeting of the Pawtucket School Committee

Tuesday, January 15, 2013 at 6:00 PM

Jenks/JMW Complex for the Performing and Visual Arts Media Center

350 Division Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860

Organizational Meeting Minutes

I The meeting will come to order

Mr. Tenreiro called the organizational meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

a Roll call

**Mr. Araujo-here; Ms. Bonollo-here; Ms. Cano-here; Mr. Coughlin-here;
Ms. Nordquist-here; Mr. Spooner-here; Mr. Tenreiro-here**

Also in attendance were Mrs. Deborah Cylke, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Kimberly Mercer, Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum Instruction and Assessment, Mr. Thomas Conlon, Business Administrator and Mr. Stephen M. Robinson, Legal Counsel for the School Committee.

b Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Tenreiro led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1 Election of Clerk

Mr. Araujo moved to nominate Ms. Dianna Liss as Clerk of the Pawtucket School Committee for 2013. Ms. Bonollo seconded the nomination.

Mr. Coughlin moved to close the nomination for Clerk. Ms. Bonollo seconded.

Voice vote carried all in favor to close the nominations for Clerk.

Roll call for election of clerk:

Mr. Araujo-Dianna Liss, yes; Ms. Bonollo-Dianna Liss, yes; Ms.

Cano-Dianna Liss, yes; Mr. Coughlin, Dianna Liss, yes; Ms. Nordquist, Dianna Liss, yes; Mr. Spooner-recused; Mr. Tenreiro-Dianna Liss, yes.

Motion passes six in favor; one recusal.

2 Election of Chairperson

Mr. Spooner moved to nominate Mr. Alan Tenreiro as Chairperson of the Pawtucket School Committee for 2013. Ms. Bonollo seconded.

Mr. Coughlin moved to close the nominations for Chairperson. Mr. Araujo seconded.

Voice vote carried all in favor to close the nominations for Chairperson.

Roll call for election of chairperson:

Mr. Araujo-Alan Tenreiro, yes; Ms. Bonollo-Alan Tenreiro, yes; Ms. Cano-Alan Tenreiro, yes; Mr. Coughlin-Alan Tenreiro, yes; Ms. Nordquist-abstain; Mr. Spooner-Alan Tenreiro, yes; Mr. Tenreiro-Alan Tenreiro, yes

Motion passes six in favor; one abstention.

3 Election of Deputy Chairperson

Ms. Bonollo moved to nominate Mr. Michael Araujo as Deputy Chairperson of the Pawtucket School Committee for 2013. Ms. Cano seconded.

Mr. Coughlin moved to close the nominations for Deputy Chairperson. Ms. Bonollo seconded.

Voice vote carried all in favor.

Roll call for election of deputy chairperson:

Mr. Araujo-Michael Araujo, yes; Ms. Bonollo-Michael Araujo, yes; Ms.

Cano-Michael Araujo, yes; Mr. Coughlin-Michael Araujo, yes; Ms. Nordquist-abstain; Mr. Spooner-Michael Araujo, yes; Mr. Tenreiro-Michael Araujo, yes

Motion passes six in favor; one abstention.

II Adjournment

Ms. Bonollo moved to adjourn the Organizational Meeting. Mr. Coughlin seconded.

Voice vote carried all in favor.

The Chairperson, Mr. Tenreiro, adjourned the organizational meeting of the Pawtucket School Committee on Tuesday, January 15, 2013 at 6:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Clerk

Approved 3/12/13

Organizational/Regular Meeting of the Pawtucket School Committee

Tuesday, January 15, 2013 at 6:00 PM

Jenks/JMW Complex for the Performing and Visual Arts Media Center

350 Division Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860

Regular Meeting Minutes

I Meeting will come to order

The Chairman, Mr. Tenreiro, called the regular meeting of the Pawtucket School Committee to order at 6:10 PM.

a Roll call

**Mr. Araujo-here; Ms. Bonollo-here; Ms. Cano-here; Mr. Coughlin-here;
Mr. Spooner-here; Mr. Tenreiro-here**

Ms. Nordquist stepped out during the roll call and returned.

Also in attendance were Mrs. Deborah Cylke, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Kimberly Mercer, Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum Instruction and Assessment, Mr. Thomas Conlon, Business Administrator, Mr. Hersh Cristino, Technology and Innovation Officer, Mr. Stephen M. Robinson, Legal Counsel for the School Committee, Dr. Todd Flaherty, President and CEO of The College Crusade of Rhode Island, and Mr. Robert Oberg, The College Crusade of Rhode Island.

The Chairman, Mr. Tenreiro, asked for a moment of silence on behalf of the children, families and staff for the recent tragedy that took place at the Sandy Hook Elementary School.

b Pledge of Allegiance

The Chairman, Mr. Tenreiro, led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II Special Report of Student representatives

Charles E. Shea High School

None

William E. Tolman High School

Sierra: Final exams are coming up the last week in January. We're having mid-terms for the first time in a while. We will be getting out for half days so the teachers can grade them the day of. This is to help seniors prepare for the college classes so we'll get more

experience for mid-terms just like we would in college.

I'm also president of the National Honor Society and we're raising money for the Blackstone Children's Shelter Charity. We had a bake sale to raise money and for other community service we might be cleaning the park and volunteering in the soup kitchen. We will also be having a car wash towards the end of the year to raise money for the charity.

Bola : I want to briefly talk to you about this new program at school called young voices and no we do not sing. It's an organization that's Rhode Island based and a non-profit organization that is partnered with our state's major leaders to create a systematic and politic change to improve Tolman and to ensure that there is a youth voice and the policies making in Rhode Island. We meet every Wednesday after school and our coordinator, Ms. Harris will be having a big recruit party.

This Friday, we're having a senior supper. It's at the Pawtucket Country Club. This is one of our many activities that we will have to help raise money for our prom and our senior class.

Jacqueline M. Walsh School for Performing and Visual Arts

None

III Celebration/Recognition

The Chairman, Mr. Tenreiro, acknowledged and welcomed new Committee Member, Ms. Sandra Cano. Mr. Tenreiro commented that the Committee looks forward to working with Ms. Cano for the next

two years.

IV Public Participation

None

Item X, no. 1 was moved up on the agenda with no objection from the members.

X Informational/Discussion Items

1 College Crusade Presentation

Mrs. Cylke welcomed Dr. Flaherty and commented how fortunate we are to have the College Crusade in the School Department.

Dr. Flaherty: The College Crusade has been around for twenty seven years and supporting 3,700 students for college readiness. The College Crusade assists students at the middle and high school to get them into college.

The services that are provided are worth \$1.5M. Since the inception of the program, more than \$3M has been provided to Pawtucket students to go on to college.

We value our partnership with the school district and must maintain alignment with the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) and the Board of Regents.

We've been reaching out to have family forums to get information to parents to get what it takes to get students into college.

Mr. Oberg presented a video created with students from New England Tech. The video showed students who participated in the College Crusade.

Out of 100 freshmen that enter high school, 21 will earn an associate's degree and even less will earn a bachelor's degree.

Students participate from Pawtucket; Providence; Central Falls; Woonsocket and Cranston. Classes are held on Saturdays for college readiness programs.

Dr. Flaherty: There are three advisors that are currently working in Pawtucket. Jamie Bucknell is here this evening and the other two are still in class.

We enrolled more students this year and more from Pawtucket this year than last year.

Mr. Bucknell: Thank you for having me. I've been working with kids since the fall of 2011. I was previously in Providence and with the Boston Public Schools. I currently have 97 kids in all grades. I've been working closely with fifteen seniors over the last couple of months.

As an advisor, you try to serve in four specific areas: academic, social, college access and financial planning. An advisor tries to counsel in all those areas and works with students in academics; works with social skills and has senior meetings with financial aid and college applications.

Freshmen, sophomores and juniors struggling in math are recruited for Saturday Math Academy.

I've had two students go on college visits, one to Bridgewater State and the other to Boston.

I have one junior who is a hard worker and could be given an eight week internship in Washington D. C.

There is another senior that looked at all the college web sites and that helped ease some tension on that event coming up on January

29th.

Dr. Flaherty: We wish we had the resources to have even more students involved.

Jennifer Rivera and Kathy Reyes work in the middle school to ensure children get into after school and Saturday programs.

Ms. Rivera: I'm the returning Advisor to Jenks and Slater and have 100 students together. I offer academic help and during school vacations keep kids active all year long. They have programs such as college trips, academic tutoring, team building, career exploration and more. The key drive to keep them going is one goal for parents and I am if a child is failing, the parent signs a contract and the child will boost homework. I want my student to have good grades. Parents can contact us and tell us if the student is saying they do not have homework.

Ms. Reyes is a mobile advisor for students who move out of the district. Ms. Reyes primarily serves all middle school students (6th graders) who do not have a full-time advisor. Ms. Reyes has 200 plus students. Ms. Reyes is trying to establish a book club on Saturdays. Reading is usually a problem.

Ms. Bonollo: Baldwin, Tolman and JMW, do you have representation at those schools?

Ms. Rivera and Ms. Reyes: Yes. There is representation at all schools.

Ms. Cano: What activities do you have for parent engagement?

Dr. Flaherty: James was a crusader and he was a parent liaison and we lost him to Mayor of Central Falls.

We had parents come in to meet their advisors and learn about financial literacy.

Mr. Tenreiro: Thank you.

V Executive Session

The Chairman commented that the Committee would recess to executive session in accordance with provisions under Title 42, Chapter 46, Subsection 5 (a) (2) (legal advice and litigation/collective bargaining) of the General Laws of the State of R. I. for the purpose of discussing and/or acting upon:

- 1 Negotiations—Pawtucket Teachers Alliance**
- 2 Negotiations—Pawtucket Administrators Association**
- 3 Negotiations Local 1352**
- 4 Seal Executive Session Minutes**

Mr. Spooner moved to recess to executive session. Mr. Coughlin seconded.

Roll call

Mr. Araujo-yes; Ms. Bonollo-yes; Ms. Cano-yes; Mr. Coughlin-yes; Ms. Nordquist-yes; Mr. Spooner-yes; Mr. Tenreiro-yes

Motion carried unanimously.

The Committee recessed to executive session at 6:48 PM to 7:30 PM.

VI Reconvene to open session

The Chairman reconvened to open session at 7:35 PM.

a Roll call

Mr. Araujo-here; Ms. Bonollo-here; Ms. Cano-here; Mr. Coughlin-here; Ms. Nordquist-here; Mr. Spooner-here; Mr. Tenreiro-here

VII Report out vote(s) of executive session of 1/15/13, if applicable

The Chairman asked the Clerk if there were any votes to report out. The Clerk reported that the Committee had taken a unanimous vote on non certified negotiations and that the Committee also voted unanimously to seal the executive session minutes and to adjourn the executive session.

VIII Acceptance of previous meeting's minutes 12/11/12

Mr. Coughlin moved to accept and approve the previous meeting's minutes of 12/11/12. Ms. Bonollo seconded.

Voice vote carried all in favor.

IX Action Items

1 Resolution to urge legislators to "Approve a Plan to Accelerate the Allocation of the Proposed Phase-in of the State School Funding Funds"

Mr. Coughlin: I have been working with a task force, the "Institute for Public Leadership" that consists of mayors, school committee members, the chairman of the Rhode Island Association of School Committees, Tim Duffy, superintendents, and Gary Sasse. Together, we have put together a resolution that asks to fully accelerate the funding formula for 2014, identify the need for the money and there is a shortfall, cut to the chase and tell them we need the money now.

Mr. Coughlin moved to approve and accept the Resolution on Acceleration of the Funding Formula. Mr. Spooner seconded.

Voice vote carried all in favor.

2 Approval of 2013 School Committee Meetings

Mr. Tenreiro: The Pawtucket School Committee Regular Meetings are scheduled as follows:

January 15; February 12; March 12; April 9; May 14; June 11; September 10; October 15; November 12 and December 10, 2013.

Mr. Spooner moved to accept and approve the School Committee Meetings. Mr. Araujo seconded.

Voice vote carried all in favor.

3 Approval of Subcommittee Appointments for 2013

Mrs. Cylke: Mr. Noonan expressed his interest to remain on the Facilities Committee as a community member.

Mr. Araujo expressed his continued service on the Facilities Committee. Ms. Bonollo also expressed her interest to serve on this committee.

Ms. Cano expressed an interest in the Wellness Committee.

Ms. Nordquist expressed an interest in the Labor Committee, as well as Mr. Spooner.

Mr. Coughlin moved to appoint the following members to subcommittees for 2013:

Mr. Araujo and Ms. Bonollo to the Facilities Subcommittee for 2013

Mr. Araujo and Mr. Spooner to continue to the Consolidation Committee for 2013

Ms. Bonollo and Ms. Cano to the Wellness Subcommittee for 2013

Ms. Nordquist, Mr. Spooner and Mr. Tenreiro to the Labor Subcommittee for 2013

Ms. Bonollo seconded.

Voice vote carried all in favor.

4 Approval of FY12 Budget reconciliation Utilizing the FY13 Surplus

The Superintendent, Mrs. Cylke provided the following historical

budget data:

- **3% cut in State Aid in FY10**
- **3.8% cut in State Aid in FY11**
- **5% reduction in Maintenance of Effort in FY11 by the City**
- **Reduction in the City's appropriation due to student declining population**

All of this led to a structural deficit and the School Department had to address a \$7M deficit in FY12.

Employees conceded to a pay raise and took furlough days. Many out placed special education students were returned to the district. There were layoffs in both the certified and non-certified staff.

Structural deficits stay with us. There are the normal contractual inflationary increases. Having identified cuts and made decisions, we had certain discussions about medical reserves and unidentified cuts and relied on those and they didn't come to fruition.

Mr. Conlon: The Governor restored the Federal Jobs Funds and extended the Accelerated Funding Formula. Due to the high number of retirements; step 10 teachers with family coverage were replaced with lower-stepped teachers usually with a single plan. We had more retirees dropping off the rolls.

All of that resulted in a \$1.85M FY13 budget surplus.

Mrs. Cylke: With the FY12 deficit and the FY13 surplus, the suggestion is Tom has had conversations with Joanne in the City Finance Department to waive the City charge backs in FY13 totaling \$176,890 and restore the Maintenance of Effort that the District agreed to a reduced Deficit Reduction Plan payment made by the City

in the prior fiscal year, an additional \$278,825.

We have a \$2.3M deficit. We have a \$1.8M surplus for FY13. We could balance this with \$455,715 assistance from the city.

The possible action to take would be to approve to take the surplus to address the difference or to wait until mid year when we know where we stand with the budget or take no action.

Mr. Tenreiro: Explain the charge backs. We're asking to wait until the budget is?

Mr. Conlon: Until it's more solid.

Mr. Tenreiro: The charge backs, our funding is from the state based on two years prior. The City decided to charge us for certain things and every year they charged us and gave us back the revenue and then stopped and we took them to Court and the judge decided they can only charge for things we would have to normally pay for such as snow removal, trash pickup and lot sweeping.

Mr. Coughlin: We vote option two the way it is there and we are agreeing the surplus apply to FY12?

Mr. Conlon: The action the auditor general said should be done by schools. We suggest #3 and wait until February meeting. That's why we do projections.

Mr. Tenreiro: Can we add that we are asking for the \$455,715 and the way I want the City to feel that this is part of Maintenance of Effort.

Mr. Conlon: The law now says Maintenance of Effort no longer has to be part of it. \$1.8M is really \$1.5M. The City reduced our revenue by \$1.6M based on student enrollment when it didn't really go down.

Mr. Coughlin moved to approve balancing the FY12 budget utilizing

the FY13 surplus and by requesting the city eliminate charge backs for FY13 and restores \$278K Maintenance of Effort. Mr. Spooner seconded.

Roll call

Mr. Araujo-yes; Ms. Bonollo-yes; Ms. Cano-yes; Mr. Coughlin-yes; Ms. Nordquist-yes; Mr. Spooner-yes; Mr. Tenreiro-yes

Motion passed unanimously.

X Informational/Discussion Items

1 College Crusade Presentation-Moved up to beginning of meeting.

2 Committee Accomplishments

Mr. Tenreiro: I'd like to briefly highlight some of the Committee's accomplishments.

- Balanced FY11 Budget**
- Addressed a \$7M plus deficit with teacher sacrifices**
- Approval of Facilities Assessment**
- Approval of Stage I Plan**
- The passage of the health and safety bond**
- Established a code of ethics with CRSS**
- Pawtucket School Department recognized as one of the best in New England for healthy school meals**
- School Committee representation in Bryant Leadership and RIASC work sessions**

I want to thank the committee as we reflect on these accomplishments.

IX 5 Approval of Coaching Appointment

Mrs. Cylke: I'd like to recommend for your approval the following

coaching appointment, Manuel Silva, Slater Junior High Head Girls' Basketball Coach.

Mr. Spooner moved to approve Manuel Silva as Slater Junior High Head Girls' Basketball Coach. Ms. Bonollo seconded.

Ms. Nordquist: Why are we just appointing this coach now when the season has already started?

Ms. Ash: The coach we had became coach at Tolman. He is just starting.

Voice vote carried all in favor.

X Informational/Discussion Items

3 Review of School Committee Member Handbook

Mr. Tenreiro: I just believe as a new Committee as we come together again we provide you with a copy of our Core Beliefs, values and guidelines that we together organized for professional meetings and Standards of Practice for how we operate. As we move into this new Committee I ask that you please review those. I think those rules have served us very well and we have had very productive meetings as a result of those rules.

4 Superintendent's 2013 community and Parent Focus Group Meetings

Mrs. Cylke: Items numbers four through nine I will be emailing to you and at the next meeting will present the NECAP results.

PowerPoint Presentation

I will be visiting with all the schools for Community Focus Group Meetings and some of the topics will be:

- Safety**

- **Academics**
- **School Uniforms and by uniforms we mean khakis and the same colored shirt.**
- **Parent University**

This is where teachers, social workers will spend time to community outreach and ask parents what they want information on i.e. access to college financial aid.

Strategic Planning 2013

- **People (work force)**
- **Achievement**
- **Community and Families**
- **Environment**
- **Business Stewardship**
- **Governance and Leadership**

People

Recruit, retain and develop high quality staff.

Recruit and support highly effective personnel.

Recruit, hire, induct, support and retain high-performing staff to promote organizational effectiveness.

Recruit, employ, develop, and retain a workforce that achieves the mission and goals of the organization.

Support and retain highly qualified teachers.

Achievement

- **Support Excellence in Student Performance**
- **Provide Continuous Academic Success for every Student**
- **Accelerate Learning and reduce Achievement Gaps**

- **Ensure a world-class education for all students by focusing on teaching and learning the Academic Knowledge and Skills (AKS) curriculum.**

- **Lead the focus on Learning and Achievement**

Families and Community

- **Fully Engage Parents and Community**

- **Engage Families and community Partners**

- **Strengthen collaboration with parents to enhance student learning**

- **Incorporate successful school, family and community partnerships to foster shared responsibility for our students**

- **Engage Families and Community**

Facilities

- **Improve and maintain School Facilities**

- **Provide equitable environments that optimize learning and maximize personal potential**

- **Ensure a safe, secure, and orderly environment for all. Provide and manage the system's facilities and operations in an exemplary manner as determined by programmatic needs and best management practices.**

- **Safe, Healthy and Supportive Environments**

Financial Stewardship

- **Develop and implement a comprehensive financial strategy**

- **Optimize student achievement through responsible stewardship of its financial resources**

- **Equity and adequacy of human and fiscal resources**

Continuous Improvement Systems

- **Value and Strengthen a Positive, Self-Renewing Culture**
- **Enhance a professional and high-performing culture based on trust, teamwork and transparency.**
- **Apply continuous quality improvement strategies and principles as the way organization does business.**
- **Building self-renewal process**

Information and Technology

- **Align Performance Management Systems**
- **Meet the continuing and changing demand for essential information through technological systems and processes that support effective performance and desired results**
- **Use information for planning and accountability**

The current plan needs updating. Plan on setting specific smart goals, action steps and set targets; timelines in that plan that are thorough in the process to create data and put it into dashboards and report back that is simple for you to read.

Forming Communities

It is important for the public to be informed.

6 Graduation Requirements for Class of 2014 and Intervention Plans

Mrs. Cylke: Rhode Island students must complete 20 courses in order to graduate starting in 2014. These courses include four math; four English language arts; three science and three social studies. Students must score a two on both the reading and math state assessments.

We had meetings to discuss math interventions and parents will be notified and students will be set up for success.

Ms. Bonollo: What is the financial impact to pay for the NECAPS?

Mrs. Cylke: The cost is covered for re-takes.

Mr. Tenreiro: The student has to be proficient and take the NECAP to graduate. A student cannot take it more than twice.

How are our English Language Learners doing?

Mrs. Cylke: Ms. Motta is doing really well on this. You must be partially proficient. We need to comply and move students forward.

Mr. Tenreiro: What cost do you envision to remediate students over the summer?

Mrs. Cylke: We want to keep costs as low as possible. We have a software program called “Think Through Math.” It’s based on a per student fee.

Ms. Nordquist: They need the teacher instead of putting a student in front of a computer. The computer is not going to talk back to them.

Mrs. Cylke: We’re envisioning this. What they do to help the teacher is we are seeking software to make it diagnostic to check if it’s helping you but the instruction is individualized and teachers will be present. Patti is working with teachers to change schedules.

Mr. Tenreiro: Rubber will really hit the road when the results come out.

We’ll have something behind it that has interventions when students in the summer do not participate?

Mrs. Cylke: Parents legitimately complain that students passed with a “C” but then can’t pass a test. The Rhode Island Disability Law Center asked Pawtucket and other districts for some information and may be gearing up for a lawsuit.

Mr. Tenreiro: RIDE said in 2003, districts had to formalize how graduation rates were to be written and did at a time when written had to be. What exactly is your progress plan?

Mrs. Cylke: I can't exactly answer that without Patti here. She is currently working on that with the teachers. We have to get on it and be relentless and have great communication. We understand kids are more motivated when they know there is a consequence down the road.

Mr. Spooner: My main concern comes next year. I'd be very concerned if students were doing very well and the NECAP test is keeping them back. Do they go after the teacher or administrator because someone is trying to make a point? We were able to get the reading scores up but math seems to be very concerning.

Mrs. Cylke: What we lack and we're moving to are common core standards. We're not ignoring the basics. This is a systems issue. By third grade and fifth grade we peek.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the many teachers who have taken this training. Math is a huge issue.

Sue Lucci and I often talk about similar issues. We have a limited window with ninth graders.

Mr. Tenreiro: Focus is not stepping into the arena of what Central Office is doing in Math and hearing from teachers and administrators and what's working. We're spending money in those areas. I think a focus like that is important as well.

Ms. Bonollo: The decrease in the graduation rate is focus on math, science and English.

My kid got stuck at a certain grade level. Had she received more intervention at a lower level she wouldn't have had to make up four years in just one year. What intervention are we going to put into place so this doesn't happen? We need the interventions. I would rather have someone say your daughter needs to go to class on Saturday.

Mr. Tenreiro: One area to talk about is the diagnostic and screenings and interventions we have in place at the high schools. I think there is a hole at the high schools in diagnosing some universal screening and I know there are some gaps. That's our responsibility. We can't say fill all the gaps but we're not going to give you anything to do it. It's not about accountability. It's also about hey this isn't working and we need this. We as a Committee want to be able to provide those things.

Ms. Cano: We do recommend that if you are talking to the Superintendent in Providence. They do have a program in science and math that are implemented with the middle schools and what they do is receive funding from STEM so they can learn science and math in the middle school just in those courses so maybe we could look at that model in Providence. That it would be great.

Mr. Spooner: The CRSS seminars, I recall talking about taking Algebra I in seventh grade and now they are not taking it until grade 10? That's a big change.

Mrs. Cylke: In our junior highs we have a pre-algebra course for the seventh graders who are at grade level. But first we have to focus on a rigorous, well sequenced and well resourced curriculum in math

with lots of professional development. In other urban districts first and second graders are having math specialists go into the classrooms. Kindergarten, first and second grades have basic numeracy and accounting.

Providence is resourced at \$3,000 more than Pawtucket.

We will be notifying families and students after receiving scores.

7 Consolidation Committee Update

Mr. Cristino: We have made a lot of progress and have had good discussion and at our next meeting we will have a proposal of what we're moving on delivering a better service as one big product. The Committee members included Tom Conlon; myself; Deputy Superintendent, Kim Mercer; Dylan Zelazo from RIPEC; Dave Clemente from the City and Mr. Araujo and Mr. Spooner. We feel we have a very good proposal. So we have another meeting next week with a good proposal to bring forward.

8 Key Policies to Review for 2013

Mrs. Cylke: We will be bringing to the Committee the following policies for review for 2013:

- **Grading Policy**
- **Promotion Policy/Summer School—Social promotion just doesn't work.**
- **Bring Your Own Device Policy (That's currently under review)**
- **Attendance Policy—It's not uncommon for School Committees to say you're not getting credit for classes you're not attending.**

Mr. Araujo: The Bring Your Own Device Policy, even if controlled, if we're looking at what it's supposed to be, not everyone has their own

device. We must be cautious of that.

9 Safety Updates

Mrs. Cylke: We asked everyone to bring forward all of their concerns.

We checked all cameras and will be replacing those. Dennis will be checking and changing locks. We are reviewing our Preparedness Plan with Bob Howe and the Commissioner asked for a copy and you don't want to advertise what you have in place or changes you've made. We've set up a meeting with Police Chief, Paul King. In Texas, they are arming their teachers.

Kudos to our school secretaries who have the job of buzzing people in. They are now asking everyone to please state their name.

Mr. Araujo: Are you keeping the logs of all the fire drills you have conducted?

Mrs. Cylke: They have a log. RIDE keeps a record. There is a requirement that so many be done through the year. I think at the beginning of the year.

Mr. Tenreiro: Exterior doors that open into the classrooms. It's a concern and should be looked into.

Mrs. Cylke: Sometimes rocks are left in doors to get around more quickly.

Ms. Bonollo: Windows opened on the first floor—no one can access an office to hurt our children?

Mrs. Cylke: These were designed to be schools not prisons. If we do everything right—that school had a buzzer. We will have a serious plan that is not advertised.

XI Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Cylke: I want to thank Mr. Beaupre for two things. One is he asked to meet with me about the student learning objectives the teachers were having to write. They have been problematic. The training hasn't been as thorough as we would like there have been complaints from the PTA and the Pawtucket Administrators Association. Ron brought forth a solution and it was brought to the district evaluation committee and that will be we will comply with RIDE and we will submit the student learning objectives that are required. Let's say you set a student learning objective that says your students are going to achieve at a certain level, for this school year, we are not using those student learning objectives to make employment decisions. That is the intent down the road, if you don't meet those evaluations, you don't get a positive evaluation and you don't get re-employed. I think everyone felt those students learning objectives were critically important, but it's something we are all learning. It's a process, there are lots of questions, but that level of accountability this early in this process is inappropriate. That decision has been made.

I also want to say thanks for the invitation through the AFT through Ron to send a Superintendent and PTA member to the Gates Foundation and Conference. It was in Phoenix. So thank you very, very much for three days of the warm weather. Jodie Olivo went on behalf of the PTA. I personally was able to go on a number of sessions and got some really good information from other districts that have been down this path. I just wanted to express my gratitude for the collaboration and problem solving.

XII Special Reports of School Committee Members

Mr. Araujo: Thank you and have a good night.

Ms. Bonollo: The Wellness Committee has started up again. This year we are fortunate to have assistance from the COZ, Ms. Cano, Administration, Food Service Management, the Liaisons, people from the community—including a woman without kids that are coming in to be part of the Wellness Committee and I'm glad we have Sandra. This year we have four objectives. We put in an application for the Wellness Collaborative which is through RIDE but they have specific requirements of wellness policies now and we somewhat fail at that as far as our policy goes. So the Collaborative will work with certain districts to work with certain districts to re-structure their policies. We are starting a backpack program that will identify our at risk students that wouldn't have anything to eat over the weekend. So we need people on that as far as soliciting donations and workers and we hope to have that up and running in the next month or two. We will be looking at teen pregnancy and obesity and poverty. Those are our objectives for the next school year.

Ms. Cano: I would like to thank everyone for the welcome that I received today. It was my first meeting and I think it was very significant for me to be at my first meeting and it is (my thirtieth) Martin Luther King's (MLK's) birthday today so for me it is very significant and I look forward to working with all of you collaborating any initiatives that we'll have as a School Committee. I also want to take this opportunity to thank the voters for giving me the trust to represent this Committee. I will do what is best for the kids of

Pawtucket. Thank you and have a good night.

Mr. Coughlin: I'd just like to congratulate our new officer and good night.

Ms. Nordquist: As it often goes, perception isn't often always reality. Before I read about any reaction that may or may not have been perceived with the organizational meeting tonight, I'd like to take a minute to state whatever anyone may have perceived.

First I want to make it clear that I did not seek re-election to the position of Deputy Chair. I did not contact one person on this committee to ask for their vote. I do not begrudge anyone for wanting the position. As a history teacher and certified to teach American Government and Civics, I wanted to go into that field because I want to encourage young people who want a change to stand up and go for a position that they believe they could do better or if they just had a need or a want to serve. With that being said, I think it would have been nice to have been contacted by the Chairman who I served under for the past year filling in for him several times when his current employment conflicted with his obligation to this School Committee and I was here even if it meant that I had to cancel other obligations that I had because I did not know until the last minute. Also as a matter of respect I have served in this position three different times over the last nine years, but I am currently the longest serving consecutive member of this Committee and I feel that if someone had wanted to run or if the current Chair wanted a different Deputy Chair in that position I would have been happy to have listened to that request and would have probably, no actually would

have lent my support to the majority of what this Committee wanted. I have not always agreed with Alan as serving as Deputy Chair while he was Chair but I don't think my being able to stand up on my own opinion and not conforming to his would be any reason not to have me. But again, I support the majority of this Committee. I've never been a person to be one with regrets so I did not want my abstention on those votes were because I always vote the way that I feel is right and I have to be able to look at myself in the mirror and the way that I felt disrespected tonight by these two gentlemen who I will be able to work with going forward, but the way that I felt disrespected at that time could not offer my support. It does mean that I am not willing to move forward from this after tonight and work collaboratively with the rest of the Committee. I've done a good job, I know that. I can look myself in the mirror and feel confident of every position that I have taken and every vote that I have taken. I feel that the voters of Pawtucket feel the same way as for a fifth term I was once again voted towards to the top of the outcome of this election, not that it matters coming in only second only to a political newcomer and in a City where the School Department often takes the blame I am quite proud of that accomplishment.

I did not seek the position and I did abstain from voting because I did feel a sense of disrespect. Even in the highest level of Congress that person seeking the seat would have the courtesy of offering the phone call of saying they have the majority of the votes. I will promise you over the next two years whether I am with you or stand by my own opinion, I will vote the way that I feel because that is me,

Nicole Nordquist, the person the voters of this City elected.

Thank you. Have a good night.

Mr. Spooner: To all a happy and healthy 2013.

Mr. Tenreiro: Pass

XIII Adjournment

Mr. Coughlin moved to adjourn. Ms. Bonollo seconded.

Voice vote carried all in favor.

The Chairman, Mr. Tenreiro, adjourned the regular meeting of the Pawtucket School Committee on Tuesday, January 15, 2013 at 9:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Clerk

Approved 3/12/13 with amendment by Committee Member Ms. Cano noted at the bottom of page 13 in italics.