

# **PAWTUCKET SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORK SESSION**

**Tuesday, September 29, 2015 at 6:30 PM**

**School Administration Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room**

**286 Main Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860**

## **Minutes**

### **I. Meeting will come to order**

**The Chairman, Mr. Araujo, called the work session to order at 6:31 PM.**

#### **a. Roll call**

**Mr. Charbonneau-here; Ms. Dube-here; Ms. Grant-here; Mr. Knight-here; Ms. McQuade-here; Mr. Araujo-here**

**Also in attendance were Mrs. Patricia DiCenso, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Kathleen Suriani, Assistant Superintendent and Ms. Melissa Devine, Chief Financial Officer.**

**Ms. Bonollo was not in attendance.**

#### **b. Pledge of Allegiance**

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

## **II. Public Participation**

**Comments from the public are invited at this time. Persons wishing to speak should sign in with the Committee Chair before speaking. The Committee is precluded from discussing or acting on items raised by Public Comment which are not already on the agenda. Public comment will be included in the minutes of the meeting.**

**None.**

## **III. Executive Session**

**The Chairman, Mr. Araujo, commented that the Committee would recess to executive session in accordance with provisions under Rhode Island General Laws, Title 42, Chapter 46, Subsection 5(a) (2) legal advice/litigation:**

- 1. Litigation - Administrator Termination Update**
- 2. Seal Executive Session Minutes**

**Ms. McQuade moved to recess to executive session. Mr. Charbonneau seconded.**

**Roll call**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yes; Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

**The Committee recessed to executive session at 6:33 PM to 6:36 PM.**

#### **IV. Reconvene to open session**

**The Chairman, Mr. Araujo, reconvened the open session at 6:37 PM.**

##### **a. Roll call**

**Mr. Charbonneau-here; Ms. Dube-here; Ms. Grant-here; Mr. Knight-here; Ms. McQuade-here; Mr. Araujo-here**

#### **V. Report out vote(s) of 9/29/15 executive session**

**The clerk reported that the Committee voted unanimously to allow Melissa Devine and Kathleen Suriani in the executive session; voted unanimously on an administrator termination matter; to seal the executive session minutes and to adjourn the executive session with six members present.**

#### **VI. Old Business/Action Item**

##### **a. Approval of School Committee Policies 2nd Passage**

##### **1. BBA—Committee Powers and Responsibilities**

**Ms. Dube: I don't know if you would like to do this as a consent agenda.**

**Mr. Knight: Point of order on that.**

**Ms. Dube: The first line was struck and aligned with other policies.**

**Ms. McQuade moved to approve the second passage of School Committee Policy BBA—Committee Powers and Responsibilities.**

**Ms. Grant seconded.**

**Roll call**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yes; Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

**2. BDD—School Committee Superintendent Relationship**

**Ms. Dube: We modified paragraph three on this policy.**

**Ms. McQuade moved to approve the second passage of School Committee Policy BDD—School Committee Superintendent Relationship. Ms. Grant seconded.**

## **Roll call**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yes;  
Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

## **3. BDG—Legal Counsel**

**Ms. Dube: This policy was modified to include School Committee and we added the last sentence.**

**The Chairman, Mr. Araujo, temporarily adjourned at 6:40 PM to call the Pawtucket Police for a fight in the City Parking Garage across the street.**

**Mr. Knight called the Pawtucket Police.**

**The meeting was reconvened at 6:43 PM.**

## **Roll call**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yes;  
Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

#### **4. BEDB—Committee Calendar and Agenda**

**Ms. Dube: There were some minor changes on agenda.**

**Ms. McQuade moved to approve the second passage of School Committee Policy BEDB—Committee Calendar and Agenda. Ms. Grant seconded.**

**Mr. Charbonneau: Under agenda the first sentence says clerk and his or her designee.**

**Ms. McQuade: You want to be able to put in designee.**

**Mr. Charbonneau: Should it be designee at the Committee's choosing?**

**Mr. Knight: The clerk is currently responsible for the agenda and minutes. You can use a temporary clerk for one meeting but you have to vote for more than that.**

**Mr. Charbonneau: I think we need to be careful if we need to get a meeting together we have to vote to get a designee together. We shouldn't have to round up the full committee to post an agenda.**

**Mr. Araujo: Perhaps it could say and/or Superintendent.**

**Mr. Knight: Per the Secretary of State Office, there has to be a back up to put one on. They have to have an actual communication. You should have a back up but in the event of an emergency that may be Patti.**

**Mr. Araujo: I think that is a valid point. Someone needs to be able to post the meeting.**

**Ms. Dube: I think the Chair being able to appoint make logical sense.**

**Ms. DiCenso: Should we train a back up and say clerk and/or designee and submit backup name to Secretary of State and vote on designee?**

**Mr. Araujo: I think we should vote on designee**

**Ms. Dube moved to amend clerk in his or her absence and/or designee approve by the Committee shall post in two areas. Mr. Charbonneau seconded.**

**Mr. Knight is having technical difficulties with his chromebook.**

**Mr. Knight: Or in the absence of the clerk.**

**Mr. Araujo: We want to make sure we're not circumventing the clerk's duties.**

**Ms. McQuade: I don't understand what you mean.**

**Roll call on amendment**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yes;  
Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

**Roll call on original motion as amended**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yes;  
Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

**5. BEDC—Quorum and Voting**

**Ms. Dube: This one was not really changed.**

**Mr. Charbonneau moved to approve the second passage of School Committee Policy BEDC—Quorum and Voting. Ms. Grant seconded.**

**Mr. Knight: I have some questions. You can end up not having a quorum and pass something and make policy. Any time there is a vote to pass an item there should be a quorum of the whole committee.**

**Ms. McQuade: How does that happen?**

**Mr. Knight: I can recuse and someone can refuse to vote. The majority of the Committee is four people. We can always move it to the next agenda. We have to realize what is best for the Committee as a whole.**

**Mr. Charbonneau: I disagree and I don't disagree if we have a time sensitive issue and there are only four members available by your explanation, we can't meet.**

**Mr. Knight: If it's a disciplinary action, you can't move on it anyway. It has to be heard by the entire Committee.**

**Mr. Charbonneau: In the event of a time sensitive issue and one**

**member recuses or passes according to you we wouldn't be able to take an action on it.**

**Mr. Knight: I understand that but this Committee is going to do what is best for the School Committee.**

**Mr. Araujo: I respect what you're saying. I understand a recusal or to abstain is a choice of a vote. A vote is a choice we make and that is a choice the member is making.**

**Ms. Dube: This policy was contentious. This was the one I went straight to the RIASC manual. I think the majority of the Committee showing up is enough. We have members who are absent. We might have a Committee that doesn't agree. I think the power you give one is too dangerous.**

**Mr. Knight: The City Charter handles voting completely differently. There are many definitions of voting. I think we need to have a clear concise mandate. My biggest contention is when they call a 6:30 AM meeting to get something through. It's bad policy.**

**Mr. Charbonneau moved to refer School Committee Policy BEDC—Quorum and Voting back to the Policy Committee one last time to view the City Charter. Ms. Grant seconded.**

**Mr. Knight: We can pass it temporarily.**

**Mr. Charbonneau withdrew his motion.**

**Roll call**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yes;  
Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

**Mr. Knight: I ask that it be referred back to the Committee.**

## **6. BG—School Committee Policy Development**

**Ms. Dube: This was one that was not modified at all as of our last meeting.**

**Mr. Charbonneau moved to approve the second passage of School Committee Policy BG—School Committee Policy Development. Ms. Grant seconded.**

**Mr. Knight: According to this the School Committee can only exercise authority through written policy.**

**Ms. Dube: It's not the only method.**

**Mr. Knight: I won't support this, it's too vague.**

**Roll call**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-no;  
Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries with one member opposed—Mr. Knight.**

## **7. BHE—Electronic Communication**

**Ms. Dube: This one talks about email and the Open Meeting Law.**

**Mr. Knight: I'd like to amend.**

**Ms. McQuade moved to amend to include email communication to a quorum of the members concerning Committee or School Department Business shall be limited to those purposes. Ms. Grant seconded.**

**Roll call**

**Mr. Knight: Point of order. You need to vote on amendment first.**

**Roll call on amendment**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yes;  
Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

**Roll on original motion as amended**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yes;  
Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

## **VII. New Business/Action Item**

### **a. Approval to extend Superintendent Contract**

**Mr. Charbonneau: I am excited to bring this agenda item forward. I believe we have the best Superintendent in the State leading our schools and your support of this extension will ensure she stays here for the foreseeable future. She has proven over a short period of time that through shared vision, equitable partnerships and common purpose as school systems' transformation can take hold. We have seen new desks arrive, chromebooks are being handed out, a first of its kind no bullying program, all while graduation rates are rising and enrollment is holding. Our district has found its stride under Patti's leadership. She is a leader of unquestionable integrity. She has shown a steady hand. She is fair, she listens, and often provides the**

**voice of reason. She is tough as nails and yet she's been known to dance with fourth grade girls in the hallways. She is boots on the ground. She cares about the kids in this district as much as anyone in this room. She is committed to excellence. She is passionate about our schools.**

**In business, professional athletes and even in school districts, when you have the best talent, you should work proactively to retain it. Fellow members we have that talent leading our schools and make no mistake if we aren't proactive some other district will be.**

**I believe we were all elected to make decisions based on what's in the best interest of all our kids. This is one of those decisions.**

**Your vote to approve this extension shows that we share in the vision of making Pawtucket Schools the very best.**

**Patti, I thank you for your leadership and your unwavering support of the children in this district.**

**Members of the Committee I ask for your unanimous support of this item for our schools, our City and most importantly for kids.**

**Ms. McQuade moved to approve to extend Superintendent Patricia DiCenso's contract. Ms. Grant seconded.**

**Mr. Knight: Is this to be done tonight?**

**Mr. Charbonneau: It's just the beginning of negotiating.**

**Mr. Knight: I agree with Jay and support it.**

**Ms. Grant: I agree with Mr. Charbonneau. Also as a parent and taxpayer I support this whole heartedly.**

**Mr. Knight: You would only get an extension of eight months if it is done tonight.**

**Mr. Araujo: I believe the intention was to open up negotiations.**

**Mr. Charbonneau: The intent is we open the contract and re-negotiate to give both the district and contract the security it so deserves.**

**Mr. Knight: I think the fact we had one executive session, what we did not do is develop a rubric evaluation. Her contract requires it.**

**Mr. Araujo: That is something that should be worked on and the Superintendent should have input on it as well.**

**Mr. Knight: I would be happy to work with Patti on this.**

**Mr. Araujo turned the Chair over to the Deputy Chairman, Mr. Charbonneau.**

**Mr. Araujo: One of the first things I wanted to do when elected was work closely with the City and Patti has been a catalyst to meet half way and get things done. What I've seen this district achieve under your leadership is remarkable. Your passion for the children is remarkable.**

**Mr. Araujo resumed the Chair from the Deputy Chairman.**

**Mr. Knight: Could I ask how we're going to do this?**

**Mr. Araujo: Vote to extend and you would have to open up the contract.**

**Mr. Charbonneau moved to amend the motion to approve to open for the purpose of extending the Superintendent's contract. Ms. Grant seconded.**

**Roll call as amended**

**Mr. Charbonneau-absolutely, yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-beyond absolutely, yes; Ms. McQuade-proudly, yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

**Mrs. DiCenso: This is difficult for me. I have difficulty bragging about myself. It's much easier to brag about the students and teachers.**

**I am honored to be here. I am loyal to this district. I welcome having an evaluation tool. I believe as a team we can meet as a team and build into growth goals. It also provides a lot of clarity and student to let people know we plan together. It's hard for me to take this accolade in public. I am humbled.**

**b. Approval of Non Certified Appointments**

**Mrs. DiCenso: We have open positions at Shea that we postponed because we had to wait for applicants. We are requesting your approval of the following:**

**Clerk I-S (9th Grade) – Shea High School**

**Sandra Simoes, 44 Waldo Street, Pawtucket, Rhode Island 02860**

**Associates Degree**

**Lead Secretary – Shea High School**

**Diane L. Vaughn, 10 Knight Street, Cranston, Rhode Island 02920**

**Associates Degree**

**Ms. McQuade moved to approve Ms. Simoes to the Clerk I-S (9th Grade) position at Shea and Diane Vaughn, Lead Secretary at Shea High School as recommended by the Superintendent, Mrs. DiCenso. Mr. Knight seconded.**

**Ms. Devine: Both start at Step One.**

**Roll call**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yes; Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

**c. Approval of School Committee Work Session Dates to be held at 6:30 PM in School Administration Bldg.**

- Tuesday, October 27, 2015**
- Tuesday, November 24, 2015**
- Tuesday, December 22, 2015**
- Tuesday, July 12, 2016**
- Tuesday, August 9, 2016**

**Ms. Dube: With the addition of work sessions, we have two meetings a month and this helps prioritize and move through this project. I think we might finish this project ahead of schedule. I also included summer work sessions as they plan for vacation.**

**Ms. McQuade moved to approve School Committee Work Session Dates: October 27, 2015; November 24, 2015; December 22, 2015, July 12, 2016 and August 9, 2016 to be held at the School Administration Building at 6:30 PM. Ms. Grant seconded.**

**Ms. Grant: I like the idea of work sessions and have no problem with the dates other than November and December and the reason is to help from people getting overwhelmed during the holidays. November 24 is the week of Thanksgiving and December 22 is the week of Christmas.**

**Ms. Dube: I did move them closer so they were two weeks away. I do believe putting it all on the same agenda is too much. I think by having two additional meetings, they will be shorter.**

**Ms. Grant: Can we move them back to January or February?**

**Ms. Dube: I plan on having them then as well. The policy work will end up backlogged.**

**Mr. Knight: I agree with Ms. Grant. November and December are the absolute worse for anyone with family. I would ask that the policy committee can meet and if sent out in advance, we don't have to have as much time to get these passed. Changes can be better communicated. We have to realize we have an obligation to do this**

fairly. There is nothing stopping us from moving them to January. I cannot see doing that to people with children. We're going to have emergency type things anyway.

**Ms. McQuade:** I would be hesitant to have anything back and forth. I would suggest to invite anyone to attend the policy meetings.

**Mrs. DiCenso:** I think Ms. Dube's plan is to bring more meetings forward. Even though we've had longer meetings I don't remember having meetings later than 10:00 PM. Those are not regular weeks for us either. Make those other two meetings so they're not too heavy.

**Mr. Araujo:** I'm hearing what Ms. Grant says. I'm hearing what you're saying but I don't want to shuffle the policy committee but I see these months as being challenging.

**Ms. Dube:** I agree. We'll just put them on the regular agenda and not overload January.

**Ms. Dube** moved to amend the motion to remove November 24, 2015 and December 22, 2015 dates as School Committee Work Sessions.

**Ms. Grant** seconded.

**Mr. Charbonneau:** Should we limit the number of policies for November and December? I don't want to have things iffy on our agenda.

**Ms. Dube: We already do limit the number of policies. We have a time limit. If we can't get to within one hour we don't include them. Some are easier than others.**

**Mr. Knight: You're having a policy meeting the day before.**

**Ms. Dube: No, the policy meeting last night is for October.**

**Mr. Knight: We're not getting policies in a timely manner.**

**Ms. Dube: Point of order. This is not work session material.**

**Roll call on amendment**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yes;  
Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

**Roll call on original motion as amended**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yes;  
Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

**Ms. Dube moved to put the next item D, Repeal School Committee Policy BE—Standards of Professional Practice after item E, 1st Passage Policies. Mr. Charbonneau seconded.**

**Roll call**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yes; Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

**d. Approval to Repeal School Committee Policy**

**1. BE—Standards of Professional Practice**

**e. Approval of School Committee Policies 1st Passage**

**1. BBAA-A Concerns and Complaints**

**Ms. Dube: The Standards of Professional Practice has been dismantled. We have passed parts individually. This has been taken verbatim out of that policy.**

**Mr. Knight moved to take this policy last. No one seconded.**

**Ms. Dube: It's not something I am one hundred percent on board with.**

**Mr. Knight: The motion to repeal BBAA-A, it's unenforceable.**

**Mr. Knight moved to repeal School Committee Policy BBAA-A—Concerns and Complaints. Ms. Dube seconded.**

**Ms. Dube: I agree it's unenforceable. It's advisory at best. There is no way you can enforce it.**

**Mr. Knight withdrew his motion.**

**Mr. Charbonneau moved to approve School Committee Policy BBAA-A. Ms. Dube seconded.**

**Roll call**

**Mr. Charbonneau-no; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-no; Mr. Knight-no; Ms. McQuade-no; Mr. Araujo-no**

**Motion fails.**

**2. BEE-R—Employee Grievances**

**Ms. Dube: We took some language out.**

**Mr. Charbonneau moved to approve the first passage of School Committee Policy BEE-R- Employees Grievances. Ms. Grant**

**seconded.**

**Mr. Knight: Don't we have to include that all members must be in attendance?**

**Ms. McQuade: It's got to be in policy that all members must be present in all meetings.**

**Mr. Araujo: Would it satisfy to say must be held in strictest confidence and attended by every member?**

**Mr. Knight: Attended and voted on by all members.**

**Ms. Dube moved to amend to include hearings or appeals regarding employee grievances must be attended and voted on by all member of the Committee. Mr. Charbonneau seconded.**

**Roll call on amendment**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yes; Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

**Roll call on original motion as amended**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yes;  
Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

### **3. BIA—New Member Orientation**

**Ms. Dube: This was taken from the Standards of Professional Practice.**

**Ms. McQuade moved to approve the first passage of School Committee Policy BIA—New Member Orientation. Mr. Knight seconded.**

**Mr. Knight moved to amend to the third paragraph to before “Committee Chair” and add “and that RIASC training can count as Committee Member orientation.”**

**Mr. Araujo: I don’t want it to be in place of.**

**Mr. Knight: I meant for it to say; “Committee members training in order to fulfill the six hours training per year.”**

**Ms. Dube: What if they change it?**

**Mr. Araujo: This orientation does not coincide.**

**Mr. Knight: The point is you go through RIASC training before you are even sworn in.**

**Mr. Araujo: It's sitting together with current members and key players. I don't think a change should be made. This is for our district.**

**Mr. Knight: Things said in our orientation are in conflict with the RIASC orientation.**

**Ms. McQuade: Call the vote.**

**Mr. Araujo: Not everyone has had the floor.**

**Ms. Grant: I don't see a problem with the way this is set up to move it around as a group. We can encourage them or make them aware of the six hours.**

**Ms. McQuade: One item to be covered is board training which is State required six hours of RIASC training.**

**Ms. Dube: You think the flow of it is wrong?**

**Mr. Knight: I want to point out that it is not our responsibility. There**

**isn't anyone here qualified to train on ethics, including Mr. Anderson.**

**Mr. Knight withdrew his motion.**

**Mr. Knight moved to amend the original motion to say; "members are encouraged to attend the RIASC training offered by the State."**

**Mr. Charbonneau seconded.**

**Ms. McQuade: Point of clarification. Are we talking about orientation or training and do we need to add every bit of training?**

**Mr. Araujo: I went to the RIASC training when first elected to this Committee. It's just an overview to meet those people you are going to work with. I didn't have that and feel it took me longer to learn more at the Pawtucket level.**

**Mr. Knight: It should say overview then.**

**Roll call on amendment**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-no; Mr. Knight-no;  
Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries with two opposed; Ms. Grant and Mr. Knight.**

**Roll call on original motion as amended**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yes;  
Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

#### **4. BID—School Committee Member Compensation and Expenses**

**Ms. Dube: This is the one line we couldn't include anywhere else.**

**Mr. Charbonneau moved to approve the first passage of School Committee Policy BID—School Committee Member Compensation and Expenses. Ms. Grant seconded.**

**Mr. Knight: The conference has to be approved by the School Committee. All conferences have to have prior approval.**

**Ms. Dube: This is for compensation. This is just for reimbursement, period.**

**Mr. Knight moved to amend to exclude specifications of mileage fees.  
Mr. Charbonneau seconded.**

**Roll call on amendment**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-no; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yes;**

**Ms. McQuade-No. Mr. Araujo-No**

**Motion to amend fails.**

**Mr. Knight moved to table the first passage of School Committee Policy BID—School Committee Member Compensation and Expenses. No one seconded.**

**Roll call on original motion**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yea okay, yes; Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

## **5. GA—Personnel Goals**

**Ms. Dube: Personnel goals would be language in the first paragraph remaining bold was taken from Standards of Professional Practice and other decided in the first paragraph Committee can't advise, but can assist.**

**Mr. Charbonneau moved to approve the first passage of School Committee Policy GA—Personnel Goals. Ms. McQuade seconded.**

**Mr. Charbonneau: Members may not advise on hiring but may**

**identify applicants that are qualified?**

**Ms. Dube: If you don't think it's confusing.**

**Mrs. DiCenso: I think it's very specific and dangerous when someone recognizes or forwards as a request someone to interview. I think this first part should say "Members should not lobby." I think taking out what you took out is that you are just forwarding a name, nothing committing. I think you shouldn't be too specific. I have never been lobbied or pressured to give someone a job. I think you should strike those and leave those that are more general.**

**Mr. Knight: The Committee only approves or rejects candidates brought forward by the Superintendent. State law is specific, we can only approve or reject candidates brought forward by the Committee. I think we need to be very strong "may" is too vague.**

**Mrs. DiCenso: I think you should take out lobby.**

**Ms. Dube moved to amend to change may to shall.**

**Mr. Knight: It should be shall or will not.**

**Ms. Dube withdrew her amendment and moved to amend to change can to shall and strike the last sentence of the second paragraph; Members may not lobby for specific hiring decisions. Ms. McQuade**

**seconded.**

**Roll call on amendment**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yea okay, yes; Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

**Mr. Knight: Conflict of interest is defined by State and put R. I. G. L. number in it.**

**Mr. Knight moved to amend motion to include in the last line, “as defined by R. I. G. L. law.” Mr. Charbonneau seconded.**

**Roll call on Mr. Knight’s amendment**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yea okay, yes; Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

**Roll call on original motion as amended twice**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yea okay, yes; Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

## **6. JICIB—Bullying Policy**

**Ms. Dube: We struck the end to better improve this, otherwise, the policy remains intact.**

**Mr. Charbonneau moved to approve the first passage of School Committee Policy JICIB—Bullying Policy. Mr. Knight seconded.**

**Roll call**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yea okay, yes; Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

**Ms. Dube: We reached the end of the bylaws.**

**Approval to Repeal School Committee Policy**

**BE—Standards of Professional Practice**

**Ms. McQuade moved to repeal School Committee Policy BE—Standards of Professional Practice. Ms. Grant seconded.**

**Roll call**

**Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-give me a second, I think it's the one-yes; Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes**

**Motion carries unanimously with six members present.**

### **VIII. Superintendent's Report**

**Mrs. DiCenso: We have a wonderful report. Varieur was chosen as a National Blue Ribbon School. Kathy began her journey at Varieur and contributed to empower teachers to identify the needs of every child and turning it over to someone strong like Dr. Edna Coia and we put a new principal there. The kids got to see the Department of Education video and students held up pictures of all the National winners. In my thirty years of education in four districts I've never had a Blue Ribbon school. Kaydi and the Mayor stopped by and I think we should honor the team of professionals who have been working continuously and consistently and honor them.**

**We planned it yesterday that we would release it and the Commissioner already put it out. Only three communities in the State received recognition; Barrington, East Providence and Pawtucket. We have a group of five going to Washington and Kathy Suriani I thought should probably go. I got the call yesterday morning that we could start planning.**

## **IX. Special Reports of School Committee Members**

**Mr. Charbonneau: It's a good day for Pawtucket Schools. Congratulations Patti and to the staff and students at Varieur. It's often challenging and I'm proud to be part of this School Committee. Good night.**

**Ms. Dube: I'm proud to be part of this Policy Committee. We are systematically upgrading this manual and are on schedule. The bylaws were the hardest to tackle.**

**I was able to get to Baldwin and while there, they were doing the "No Bully Program." The kids were so proud. The classes are amazing.**

**At Cunningham I saw the one to one initiative. Kids are reading novels on the computer. I saw kids magnifying to read. The math intervention is amazing. Great things are happening in all of our schools.**

**Ms. Grant: I want to share that last Tuesday night I saw amazing changes in the community. They held their quarterly SEAC meeting. Interim Special Education Director, Rosanne Badway and two special education teachers grabbed the reins and brought in two parents working with RIPAN to help this group. I want to thank Mr. Charbonneau who was there. I've been involved for a few years and**

there were about sixteen parents there and I think it's going to grow and I'm very proud to be a part of it. It was so positive. You could see the passion in the parents. That was my "aha moment." Congratulations to Varieur and to you, Patti. I think we all feel what Mr. Charbonneau said.

Mr. Knight: I have two things. I applaud Mr. Charbonneau on the Superintendent contract. We need to do something for Melissa Devine and also need to look at the clerk and put it on executive session and make sure the employees are noticed that we will be discussing them. We will be discussing the employees' performance.

Ms. McQuade: It's been a great day and this is a great district.

Mr. Araujo: I am proud to be a member of this Committee and proud of what you've done. Mr. Charbonneau, thank you for bringing that forward. I look forward to you working many, many years in this district. Good luck tomorrow. I will step back with Ms. McQuade in a reserve role. I was a member of the Labor Subcommittee within a week of being sworn in. Good luck. Thank you.

## **X. Adjournment**

Ms. Grant moved to adjourn. Ms. McQuade seconded.

Voice vote carries with six members present.

**The Chairman, Mr. Araujo, adjourned the work session of the Pawtucket School Committee on September 29, 2015 at 8:48 PM.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Clerk**

**Approved 11/10/15**