

FOSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
CAPTAIN ISAAC PAINE SCHOOL CAFETERIA

SEPTEMBER 27, 2005
7:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE:

Chairwoman Donna Mansolillo, Vice Chair Patricia Fountain, Member Paul Darcy, Superintendent Robert Wallace, Principal Gary Moore.

OPENING:

School Committee reconvened to open session from executive session at 7:10 p.m. Chairwoman Mansolillo reported there were no votes taken in executive session. The "Pledge of Allegiance" was recited. The floor was opened for public comment. There was no public comment.

CURRICULUM COORDINATOR PRESENTATION:

Presentation by Dr. Michael Barnes, the K-12 curriculum coordinator for the Foster-Glocester School District.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Superintendent Wallace had one communication from the National Education Association of RI asking to be contacted for a date to begin negotiating a successor agreement.
- Chairwoman Mansolillo reported on a letter from Ms. Dottie Whitelaw praising the committee for its work.

USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES:

- The Recreation Committee requested use of the cafeteria on October 28. Mr. Darcy made a motion to approve. Mrs. Fountain seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-0.
- The Temporary Budget Committee requested the use of the facilities on a date passed, September 19. Mr. Darcy made a motion to confirm. Mrs. Fountain seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-0.
- Girl Scout Troop 103 requested use of the teachers' room September through June on Tuesdays. Mr. Darcy made a motion to approve. Mrs. Fountain seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-0.
- Cub Scout Pack 101 requested the use of the school hallways on a date passed, September 15. Mrs. Fountain made a motion to confirm. Mr. Darcy seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-0.
- Girl Scouts requested to use the cafeteria on Wednesdays from September through June, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Mr. Darcy made a motion to approve. Mrs. Fountain seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-0.
- Swamp Meadow Community Theater requested the use of the library or staff lounge on October 18 & December 8. Mrs. Fountain made a motion to approve. Mr. Darcy seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-0.
- PTG requested use of the cafeteria on October 28. Mrs. Fountain made a motion to approve. Mr. Darcy seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-0.

HOME SCHOOLING REQUESTS:

-Joan Parenteau requested to home school Nathaniel and Amanda. Mr. Darcy made a motion to approve. Mrs. Fountain seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-0.

-Mr. Pelletier requested to home school Georgia. Mrs. Fountain made a motion to approve. Mr. Darcy seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-0.

-Mr. & Mrs. Earl Bagley requested to home school Jessica. Mrs. Fountain made a motion to approve. Mr. Darcy seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-0.

-Robert Thurber requested to home school Erica. Mrs. Fountain made a motion to approve. Mr. Darcy seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-0.

POSTING OF MINUTES:

Superintendent Wallace reviewed RIGL 42-46-7. Mrs. Fountain asked if we were going to write a policy. Superintendent Wallace indicated he could formalize what he indicated to see what it looks like in policy form.

BUILDING SECURITY:

Superintendent Wallace reported in the September 18 edition of the Providence Journal an RFP was placed. September 27 was the bid deadline. Sonitrol submitted a bid of \$17,683 for the basic system. There are also two options with the bid, the first is to wire the central office for \$1,578, and a second option to wire the computer lab for \$630. The superintendent will have a recommendation at the October meeting regarding the Sonitrol bid. The amount of money initially put aside for this project is \$17,695.

BUSINESS MANAGER:

In response to questions asked at the last Public Comment session: Was the position advertised? If not, how did we secure the current business manager? Is he certified? What are the terms of his contract?

Superintendent Wallace responded that the position was not advertised. Mrs. Fountain responded that we did not advertise because he was initially brought on as a consultant. Superintendent Wallace answered the third question no, however this is not a condition of initial employment. Mr. Malcolm Moore has begun the process of becoming certified. The terms of his contract are standard, the contract runs from July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006. He will administer the health insurance program, payroll preparation, administration of accounts payable, monitoring of accounts receivable, monitoring and distribution of use of state and federal grants, unemployment claims, overseeing the annual audit, assisting the superintendent in budget preparation, and various other duties. Compensation is \$18,500. Mrs. Fountain noted that the reason she approached Mr. Moore is, as the vice chairperson she is the financial liaison to check the warrants and recommend passage or not to the committee.

PUBLIC ACCESS TO RECORDS NUMBER:

Superintendent Wallace reported that the number for this policy is 5125.5.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

Chairwoman Mansolillo offered to get a copy of the region's strategic plan and maybe look to form a committee. Mr. Darcy stated we do have a strategic plan at the Paine school already.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT:

Mr. Darcy noted that the Paine school has a mission statement, and this one should not conflict with that one. He believes that it should look three years down the road and in terms that are measurable. Mrs. Fountain suggested it should only be three or four lines. Further discussion followed.

POLICY #1403.2 :

Superintendent Wallace reported there is no adoption date for this policy, but is dated on correspondence Nov. 12, 1998. Discussion followed. No vote was taken.

GRANT POLICY:

Chairwoman Mansolillo would like to see a better policy concerning grants. Superintendent Wallace said he could draft something for review. No vote was taken.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Principal Moore reported on parent orientation on September 14. State testing is October 3 to 24. He thanked the Foster Recreation Department for improvements to the school grounds and Mr. Izzi for swings and the Playground Committee for their work through the years. Principal Moore also reported that the Student Council raised money for the Red Cross and the School Improvement Team had a meeting on September 8. The next SIT meeting is October 11, 1:00 - 4:30 and 6:00 - 7:30.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Superintendent Wallace recommended the appointment of William Barney as a .2 school social worker. He gave a brief overview of Mr. Barney's accomplishments. Mrs. Fountain made a motion to accept the recommendation of a .2 school social worker. Mr. Darcy seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

-Mrs. Mansolillo made a motion to seal and approve the executive session minutes of 9/7, 9/15 and 9/22. Mr. Darcy seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-0.
-Mrs. Fountain made a motion to accept the minutes of 6/15, 8/23 and 9/1 executive and open session. Mr. Darcy seconded. Mrs. Fountain would like reflected in the minutes of 8/23, under Mission Policy, that she agreed with Mr. Darcy that the school committee should write their own mission and vision statement. Motion passed, 3-0-0.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS:

Mrs. Fountain made a motion to accept the check register dated 9/15/05, and check register dated 9/9/05. Mr. Darcy seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-0.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Mission statement.
- Strategic plan
- Grant policy
- Posting of minutes policy
- Late bus schedule
- Superintendent evaluation (executive session)
- Computer technology update
- 5th grade exit testing

EXECUTIVE SESSION & ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Fountain made a motion to recess into executive session at 8:24 p.m. Mr. Darcy seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-0.

Submitted by Melanie M. Chace