

FOSTER SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
Minutes

Captain Isaac Paine School
160 Foster Center Road
Foster, RI 02825

October 27, 2009
Open Session - 7:00 pm

1. **Convene Meeting** –

Chair, Ron Cervasio, called the meeting of the Foster School Committee to order at 7:00 pm on October 27, 2009.

a. *Roll Call* –

All members were present: Ron Cervasio, Chair, Cindy Bernard, Vice Chair, Dennis Chretien, member, Dr. Davida Irving, Superintendent / Principal, and Mrs. McCullough, School Committee Secretary.

b. *Pledge of Allegiance* –

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. **Requests to Use School Facilities** –

The Superintendent recommended the request of the Foster Recreation Department, which had been tabled on Sept. 21, 2009 meeting due to charges, be approved. The Recreation Department clarified that the charges were for materials and to expose Community members to the services and programs that are available to them. Mr. Chretien so moved the recommendation and Mrs. Bernard seconded. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

The Superintendent recommended the School Committee approve the request from the Swamp Meadow Theater to use the cafeteria and stage from January 2010 through June 2010 for rehearsals and performances with the understanding that if the school or town have need of the school building that they will take precedence over Swamp Meadow Theater. Mr. Chretien so moved the motion with Mrs. Bernard seconding. Mr. Cervasio brought the possibility of a conflict with the school play. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

The Superintendent recommended the School Committee approve the request for Girl Scouts and Brownie meetings for troop 395 and 391. Mr. Chretien moved the motion with Mrs. Bernard seconding. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

3. **Approval of Minutes** –

Mr. Chretien moved to accept the Minutes of September 21, 2009 Open and Executive Session and September 30, 2009 Open and Executive as presented, Mrs. Bernard explained that she had corrected a motion by Mr. Chretien on page 3, “I move to accept this proposal for the cooling as presented” with the secretary. Mrs. Bernard wanted it reflected in tonight’s minutes that in the September 21st minutes a vote was made to change the meetings and it was approved. Since then the meetings have been changed and she was not sure why. She wanted it reflected in these minutes that the School

Committee changed the vote and negated the vote. Mr. Cervasio explained that he Chair changed the meetings because of many conflicts and Dr. Irving's schedule. Mrs. Bernard seconded Mr. Chretien's motion. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

4. Approval of Warrants –

Mrs. Bernard moved to approve the Warrant dated 9-26-2009 in the amount of \$58,529.43, Mr. Chretien seconded. Motion passed. Vote = 2-1-0.

Vote as follows:

Mr. Cervasio – yes

Mrs. Bernard – no

Mr. Chretien - yes

Mrs. Bernard moved to approve the Warrant dated 10-18-2009, in the amount of \$77,512.86, Mr. Chretien seconded. Motion passed. Vote = 2-1-0.

Vote as follows:

Mr. Cervasio – yes

Mrs. Bernard – no

Mr. Chretien – yes

5. Old Business (for discussion/action)

a. Foster and Gloucester Resource Sharing

Mr. Chretien had nothing to report or update the Committee on. Mr. Cervasio shared the probability of resource sharing in the near future and the necessity. Mr. Chretien shared the hope of sharing many of the costs.

b. Student Bus Transportation Policy - 2nd Reading

Mr. Chretien moved to approve the 2nd reading of the 'Student Transportation Policy for Foster Students attending the Regional School District', Mr. Cervasio seconded. Motion passed. Vote – 2-0-1.

Vote as follows:

Mr. Cervasio – yes

Mrs. Bernard – recued

Mr. Chretien – yes

6. New business (for discussion)

a. Student Exiting the Bus / Entering the Classroom

A discussion followed.

b. Amount of Recreation Time

This item was included in the discussion with item 6a. Dr. Irving shared the PE plan for students to have two five minute breaks during the students' day. The next school year will include the 100 minutes of exercise needed for the PE plan.

c. Sodexo - Foster's Share

There was no discussion.

d. Budget Surplus Policy

Mrs. Bernard shared that she had not heard from Legal Counsel as of this meeting. Tabled.

e. *Expanding the F.E.L.T. Program*

f. *Full Day Kindergarten –*

6. e & f were a combined discussion. The Superintendent wanted to open up a conversation in regards to a full day Kindergarten program. She would like to put a committee together combined of Teachers, parents & community members to study the possibilities and issues. Everyone would need to be on board and funding would need to be looked at also. Mrs. Greenleaf, Director of the FELT program, shared the need to expand this program to accommodate the students' transition to a full day kindergarten with longer sessions for pre-kindergarten students. Mr. Cervasio shared the fact that this would need to be expense neutral.

7. **Communication/Reports**

a. *Correspondence –*

There was no correspondence.

b. *Superintendent's Report –*

The Superintendent shared several items:

- 1) New copiers will be leased at a savings of \$119.00 per month.
- 2) The playground will be reopening thanks to the PTG's financial and physical repairs.
- 3) NWEA Training will be held on Nov. 19, 2009 for all teachers.
- 4) The After School Program will run from Oct. 20 – Dec. 17 and is financed through the rural grant. Activities include cooking, theater, yoga, scrap booking, recycling and homework.
- 5) Teachers are setting up their own web pages giving parents and students access to classroom activities and homework.
- 6) The first Faculty meeting was held and RTI, PBIS and Professional Development were all discussed.
- 7) The Superintendent is acquiring estimates through Joe McGovern for painting the interior of the school and have this done over several years.

c. *Public Comment –*

Mrs. Cairone wanted to know the plans for the H1N1 clinic. Dr. Irving shared the scheduled date of Nov. 17, 2009 for the flu vaccination and that there are no identified cases in the school.

Mr. Bellem voiced a concern for the lack of hand washing posters and procedures during the day.

d. *Future Agenda Items –*

8. **Vote to go into Executive Session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business referred to in R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (1)(a) Personnel (2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation.**

There was no Executive Session.

9. **Return to Open Session**

10. Adjournment –

On a motion by Mr. Chretien and seconded by Mrs. Bernard the Foster School Committee adjourned at 8:00 pm. Motion passed. Vote – 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Helena McCullough
Secretary Foster School Committee