

FOSTER SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
MINUTES

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

April 27, 2010
Executive Session - 6:00 pm
Open Session - 7:00 pm

1. Convene Meeting –

Chair, Ron Cervasio, called the meeting of the Foster School Committee to order at 6:00 pm.

a. Roll Call –

All members were present: Chair, Ron Cervasio, Vice-Chair, Cindy Bernard, member, Dennis Chretien (arrived shortly after motion to go into Executive Session), Superintendent, Davida Irving, and FSC secretary, Mrs. McCullough.

b. Pledge of Allegiance –

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Vote to go into Executive Session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business referred to in R.I.G.L. 42-46-5a (5) Lease of Public Property (7) Investment of Public Funds, Foster Recreation Committee was made by Mrs. Bernard and seconded by Mr. Cervasio. Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-0.

3. Return to Open Session

A motion by Mr. Chretien and seconded by Mrs. Bernard the School Committee voted to go back into Open Session at 7:00pm with no votes taken. Motion passed. Vote – 3-0-0.

4. Requests to Use School Facilities –

There were no requests for ‘Use of Building’.

5. Approval of Minutes –

On a motion by Mrs. Bernard and seconded by Mr. Cervasio to approved the Executive Minutes for March 23, 2010 as amended. Motion passed. Vote – 2-0-1.

Mr. Cervasio – yes

Mrs. Bernard – yes

Mr. Chretien – abstained

On a motion by Mrs. Bernard and seconded by Mr. Chretien the Open Session Minutes from March 23, 2010 were approved as amended (Co-Chair to Vice –Chair). Motion passed.

Vote – 3-0-0.

6. Approval of Warrants

On a motion by Mr. Chretien and seconded by Mr. Cervasio the School Committee approved the Warrant dated March 25, 2010 in the amount of \$161,944.71 and the Warrant dated

April 20, 2010 in the amount of \$189, 762.07. Motion passed. Vote – 2-0-1.

Vote as follows:

Mr. Cervasio – yes

Mrs. Bernard – recuse
Mr. Chretien - yes

7. Old Business (for discussion and /or action)

a. Building Use Policy – Review / Update

Mr. Cervasio shared the section of Policy #1330, item #5a- 5d, and stated that the Foster Recreation, being a ‘Town of Foster organization’ would not be charged a fee for use of the building. Discussion followed. No votes were taken.

b. Full Day Kindergarten

Mr. Cervasio explained that this item was for action only but allowed discussion as there were new parents present with possible new input that they wanted to express. Discussion followed. Mr. Chretien made a motion as recommended by the Superintendent who is the educational leader and the person responsible for making sure we remain within budget, who is not authorized to go beyond budget and if she implements it if it’s approved she can chose to implement it in anyway within budget, with Mrs. Bernard seconding. Discussion followed after the motion. Motion to approve a Full-day Kindergarten failed. Vote – 1-2-0.

Vote as follows:

Mr. Cervasio – no
Mrs. Bernard – no
Mr. Chretien – yes

c. Budget 2010-2011

Mrs. Bernard asked Malcolm Moore, Business Manager, for an update concerning the \$84,000 deficit and if there was a corrective action plan. Mr. Moore spoke to the Auditor General’s office and they agreed for the School Department to make up the deficit using the surplus. Mr. Cervasio asked Mr. Moore for a report for the next meeting on the percentage of spending and where the School Department will make up for the possible \$150,000 that the Town Council can take if the pending legislation at the state level passes.

8. New business (for discussion and /or action)

a. Foster Recreation Committee – Building Use

This was addressed immediately after Executive Session.

9. Communication/Reports

a. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

b. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Irving reported on the continued efforts with the State on ‘Race to the Top’ grant. The State did not make the early cut even though they placed 8th out of 40 applicants. The next round will take place in June and we will need to apply again in order to qualify. Dr. Irving and two co-chairs of the FTA have been attending meetings and are working toward winning the dollars for Foster and have a voice at the table as well as be part of the change. A special meeting will be posted in May for a ‘MOU’ (memorandum of understanding) for the “Race to the Top – 2”.

Mr. Cervasio commented that the Superintendent and teachers have been working very hard for the state of RI in this effort and this is a change to make improvement.

c. Public Comment

None.

d. Future Agenda Items

Building Use – PTG request to hold a Technology & Engineering Expo in October 2010.

Budget for 2009-2010

Budget for 2010-2011

Painting Bid for the building

Physical Education Requirements

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Bernard and seconded by Mr. Chretien the School Committee voted to adjourn at 7:55pm. Motion passed. Vote – 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Helena McCullough
Secretary Foster School Committee