

FOSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES

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

Tuesday, May 22, 2012
Executive Session – 7:00pm
Open Session – 8:00pm

1. **Convene Meeting** – Kathleen Swanson, Chair, called the meeting of the Foster School Committee (FSC) to order at 7:23 pm.
 - a. *Roll Call* – Kathleen Swanson, Chair, Shelley Pezza, Vice Chair, Davida Irving, Superintendent / Principal, Greg Piccirilli, Legal Counsel, and Helena McCullough, Secretary Foster School Committee were present. Mrs. Fountain, member, arrived at 7:34 pm.
 - b. *Pledge of Allegiance* – was recited.
2. On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC **voted 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(a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation**
 - a. **(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation – Arbitration – Educational Support Personnel**
Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-0.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC reconvened back to Open Session. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC voted to recess until 8:00 pm. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

At 8:00 pm Mrs. Swanson, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Mrs. Swanson reported that the Arbitration with the Essential Support Personnel was discussed during Executive Session.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC voted to seal the minutes of Executives Session for May 22, 2012. Motion passed. Vote = 2-1-0.

Vote as follows:

Mrs. Swanson – yes

Ms. Pezza – yes

Mrs. Fountain - no

3. **Public Comment** – there was no Public Comment.

4. **Staff and/or Student Recognition**

Dr. Irving recognized two students, Grace Dandeneau and Julie Vieira, for their winning posters. The students explained their posters and what they felt they represented for the environment to the FSC.

5. **Building Use Requests**

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC approved the building use requests of SMCT from July 13, 2012 to July 19, 2012 for rehearsal and show time, Sept. 5, 2012 to Oct. 30, 2012 for rehearsals and performances, Nov. 1, 2012 to Dec. 11, 2012 for rehearsals and performances, and Auditions June 4-6, 2012 for Cookoo's Nest and May 29-31, 2012 for Willie Wonka. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

6. **Approval of Minutes**

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC approved the Executive Session Minutes of the April 24, 2012 FSC meeting. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and Mrs. Swanson, the FSC approved the Open Session minutes of April 24, 2012. Discussion followed. No vote taken. On a motion by Mrs. Swanson and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the FSC voted to table the minutes of April 24, 2012. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

7. **Approval of Warrants**

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC voted to approve the Warrant dated April 15, 2012 for \$116,260.86. Motion passed. Vote = 2-1-0.

Vote as follows:

Mrs. Swanson – yes

Ms. Pezza – yes

Mrs. Fountain – no

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC voted to approve the Warrant dated 5/12/2012 for \$234,400.16. Motion passed. Vote = 2-1-0.

Vote as follows:

Mrs. Swanson – yes

Ms. Pezza – yes

Mrs. Fountain – no

a. *Business Manager's Report*

Dr. Irving presented the Business Manager's report. She explained the report is for April Monthly Expenses. If the FSC had any questions or concerns, she would try to answer but if not, she would ask the business manager.

8. **Old Business (for discussion/action)**

a. *Full Day Kindergarten & Pre-School*

Dr. Irving presented an analysis of full day Kindergarten. Discussion followed. Mrs. Fountain made a request of the Superintendent, based on her (Mrs. Fountain's) interpretation of the contract (FTA) up to 44 students does not require a second teacher, so if you (Dr. Irving) would get an opinion in writing from legal counsel regarding the interpretation and put it in our packets for the next meeting.

Dr. Irving had the Pre-School Group of Parents give their opinions and reasons for the possibility of entertaining a pre-school program at the Paine school. Discussion followed.

b. Fuel Oil – Analysis

Joe McGovern, Regional Buildings and Grounds Supervisor, presented the FSC a six year cost sheet for heating fuel. Discussion followed.

9. New Business (for discussion/action)

a. Arbitration – Educational Support Personnel –

Mrs. Swanson reported the FSC reached an agreement with the three members of the Education Support Personnel (ESP), a bus driver and two monitors. The FSC feels it's a reasonable and fair settlement in recognition of the long time service of these employees of the Foster School District and they also wanted to thank the Union leadership in their assistance in reaching this settlement. The cost to the District for this settlement is \$27,350.94. Discussion followed.

b. Technology Grant – Update

Dr. Irving updated the FSC that the School Department did not receive the four hundred thousand dollar Technology Grant. The Grant was awarded to only one school, Pleasant View School located in Providence.

c. Tuition – Charter School

Dr. Irving reported that we will pay \$24,000 for two Foster students to attend Compass Charter School.

d. Bullying Policy #5131.3 – Update

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to table this Policy until they received the state's model policy. Motion passed.
Vote = 3-0-0.

e. School Committee Resolution

1) Layoff Notification – no motion.

2) School Committees and Superintendents –

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC voted to table this item. Motion passed. Vote = 2-1-0.

Vote as follows:

Mrs. Swanson – yes

Ms. Pezza – yes

Mrs. Fountain – no

f. Residency

Dr. Irving reported that there are difficulties determining proper residency. Her thought was to involve the Town as an added verification or go to the Police Department and have them act as a truancy officer and verify residency. Discussion followed.

g. June 2012 Meeting –

Dr. Irving requested moving the June 26, 2012 meeting to June 12, 2012, as school will be closed on the 26th. Executive will begin at 7:00 pm and Open at 7:30 pm.

h. Summer School Programming –

Dr. Irving reported that she is not going forward with Summer School due to the lack of funds available.

10. Communication/Reports

a. Correspondence –

None at this time.

b. Superintendent's Report -

Dr. Irving reported:

Fourth grade finished up the NECAPs.

Learning Celebration scheduled for May 24th.

RTI is coming to a close.

Fifth grade has a number of scheduled events coming up for the month of June.

Sixth grade students are returning to do their hand prints on the wall, which is a tradition for outgoing fifth graders. Theirs was not completed their fifth grade year due to the roof collapse.

Dr. Irving thanked the Teachers and Staff for a fabulous job this year.

c. Building and Grounds Report

There was no report; however, Mr. McGovern had spoken earlier on the Fuel costs.

d. Future Agenda Items –

Arbitration Costs

Interpretation Full Day legal Opinion

Residency – Executive Session

Virtual Backpack

11. Adjournment –

On a motion by Ms/ Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC adjourned at 9:37 pm. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Helena McCullough
Secretary Foster School Committee