

FOSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES

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

Thursday, August 23, 2012
Executive Session – 8:00pm
Open Session – 8:30pm

1. **Convene Meeting** – Kathleen Swanson, Chair, called the meeting of the Foster School Committee (FSC) to order on Thursday, August 23, 2012 at 8:00 pm.
 - a. *Roll Call* – Mrs. Swanson called for a roll call for Ms. Pezza, present, Mrs. Fountain, absent, Dr. Irving, present and herself present.
 - 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 – Essential Support Personnel.** Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-0.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC voted to reconvene Open Session. Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-0.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC voted to take a twenty minute recess. Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-0.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC voted to “seal” the minutes from Executive Session. Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-0.
3. **Public Comment** – there was no public comment.
4. **Business Manager’s Report** – was supplied for discussion on item 5a.
5. **Old Business (for discussion/action)**
 - a. *Awarding a Bid for Heating Pipes* – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC awarded the “heating Upgrades for Isaac Paine Elementary School” to Automatic Temperature Control in the amount of \$56,100.00 on the recommendation of the Superintendent. Discussion followed. Dr. Irving presented to the FSC where the dollars will be made up to cover the overage from the Capital Budget award at the Foster Financial Meeting of \$39,000.00. Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-0.
 - b. *Reduction of Hours* – Dr. Irving reported that the part-time custodian, whose work schedule was reduced to twenty hours per week, exercised his right to bump the

least senior custodian, whose was forty hours per week. This change will start on the first day of school.

6. New Business (for discussion/action)

- a. *Resignations, Appointments, Leave of Absence, Reduction of Hours* – Dr. Irving reported that a sub was hired for the two month leave of absence for Music. Laura Ducharme, who is also a Foster resident, is certified in RI to teach music. The FSC was supplied with her resume.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC voted to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to hire Lisa-Marie Ricci as the Reading Specialist at third step for one year. Discussion followed. Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-0. The FSC was supplied with her resume.

- b. *Bullying Policy* – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC voted to adopt the RI Department of Education's state-wide "Bullying Policy" as Foster School Department's "Bullying Policy". Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-0.
- c. *Home Schooling Request(s)* – on a motion by Mrs. Swanson and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the FSC voted to accept the request of Mrs. Weeks to home school her daughter Madison. Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-0.
- d. *Spending Freeze* – on a motion by Mrs. Swanson and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the FSC voted a spending freeze on all non-essential purchases of \$1000.00 or more, and approval by the FSC before purchasing. Discussion followed. Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-0.

7. Communication/Reports

- a. *Correspondence* – the FSC was supplied a letter from the ESP Union president.
- b. *Superintendent's Report* –
Dr. Irving reported to the FSC that the Open House for Kindergarten parents and students was well attended and accepted and lasted just over an hour. The K parents were also invited to the open house scheduled for the 30th of September.
Dr. Irving reported that the school has been painted by parent volunteers and that the custodians have worked hard to have all the cleaning done for the opening of school. The FSC wished to thank the custodians for a job well done.
The teachers return on the 28th of September for orientation and professional development.
- c. *Future Agenda Items* –
Bullying Policy – continuation – Ms. Pezza
Nurse appointment

8. **Adjournment** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC voted to adjourn. Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Helena McCullough
Secretary Foster School Committee