

FOSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES

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

Tuesday, August 20, 2013
Open Session – 7:00pm

1. **Convene Meeting** – the meeting of the Foster School Committee (FSC) was called to order at 7:00 pm, by Chair, Kathleen Swanson.
 - a. *Roll Call* – present at the time of roll call was Chair, Kathleen Swanson, member, Ron Cervasio, Legal Counsel, Greg Piccirilli, Interim-Principal, Lorraine Bowen, and secretary, Helena McCullough. Ms. Pezza arrived during Executive Session.
 - b. *Pledge of Allegiance* – was recited.

2. **Public Comment** – none.

3. On a motion by Mrs. Swanson and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, 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) (1) Personnel, Job Performance / Character of an Individual – Superintendent / Principal, (2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation – Educational Support Personnel and Foster Teachers’ Association.** Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-0.

Mrs. Swanson reported that Personnel, Job Performance / Character of an Individual – Superintendent / Principal and Collective Bargaining with the Educational Support Personnel and Foster Teachers’ Association were discussed and no votes were taken.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC voted to “Seal” the minutes of Executive Session. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

4. **Old Business (for discussion/action)**
 - a. *2013-2014 Budget* – no discussion.

 - b. *Facilities Update* – Mr. McGovern provided the FSC with a written report. As of August 20, 2013 the following Capital Projects are near completion:
 - Parking Area – lines still need to be painted.
 - Kindergarten Fencing – more mulch needed, a couple of pickets need replacing – waiting to review work with the vendor.

Cameras – installation complete and waiting for installation of the new monitor.

Mc300, switches & speakers – work complete.

Classroom door locks – work complete – waiting for keys for teacher issuance.

State Fire Marshall Information – As of August 20th, Mr. McGovern had not been able to meet with the local Fire Chief. Other concerns are the exterior door obstruction – this has been corrected, painted and weather stripping needs to be installed. Self-closer doors have not been completed but should be before the opening of school. The stuffed animals in the library have not been addressed. The FSC had discussion on this topic. Mr. Cervasio made a motion that the stuffed animals be given back to the folks who donated or be given to the PTG for raffle. There was no second, the motion failed.

Mr. McGovern provided a report from the vendor that completed the existing chimney repairs. Mr. Cervasio asked if Dr. Irving had sent the letter to the Town Council in regards to no rot near the chimney.

5. New Business (for discussion/action)

a. Personnel – Resignations – Reading Specialist, Appointments – Reading Specialist, Kindergarten Teacher

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC accepted the resignation of Mackenzie Flores as Reading Specialist. Motion passed.

Vote = 3-0-0.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC voted to appoint Erin Quinlan as Reading Specialist, 1.0 FTE as per the FTA contract. Discussion. Motion passed. Vote = 2-1-0.

Vote as follows:

Mrs. Swanson – yes

Ms. Pezza – yes

Mr. Cervasio – no (based on budget)

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC voted to appoint Miss Abbie Salvadore as Kindergarten Teacher, 1.0 FTE as per the FTA contract. Discussion. Motion passed. Vote = 2-1-0.

Vote as follows:

Mrs. Swanson – yes

Ms. Pezza – yes

Mr. Cervasio – no

Mr. Cervasio based his no vote on unknown budget dollar availability and calling the specialists back to four days. Mrs. Swanson stated that there are 48 registered students and the Memorandum of Agreement with the FTS was for a max of 23 students per class and FSC is contractually bound.

- b. *Letter to the Superintendent / Principal* – a motion by Mrs. Swanson and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the FSC voted to send a letter of appreciation to Dr. Davida Irving for her time in the Foster School Department and the enhancements she made. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

6. Communication/Reports

- a. *Correspondence* – none.
- b. *Interim-Principal's Report* – Dr. Bowen gave a quick report:
 - 282 registered students to date
 - 48 registered Kindergarten students
 - Schedule is ready to go
 - Science Kits will be delivered 8/21/2013
 - There are four candidates for Principal and two candidates for Superintendent
- c. *Future Agenda Items* –
 - Technology – robotics
 - Telephone upgrade
 - “Peanut Free” allergy issues – School Nurse to present – School Nurse Report

7. **Adjournment** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC voted to adjourn at 8:23 pm. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Helena McCullough
Secretary Foster School Committee