

**FOSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

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

Tuesday, April 29, 2014
Open Session – 7:15 PM

1. **Convene Meeting** – Kathleen Swanson, Chair, called the meeting of the Foster School Committee (FSC) to order at 7:15 PM.
 - a. *Roll Call* – all members were present: Kathleen Swanson, Chair, Shelly Pezza, Vice Chair, member, Ron Cervasio, Legal Counsel, Greg Piccirilli, Superintendent, Caroline Caswell, and FSC secretary, Helena McCullough.
 - b. *Pledge of Allegiance* – was recited by all present.
2. **Public Comment** – Mr. Cervasio commented about the stuffed animals that still exist in the Library. Mrs. O’Hare commented about the new banners in the halls.

At this point Mrs. Swanson, Chair, moved item 7B Well Flow Test to this point on the agenda. Mr. Obiurka, Maintenance Supervisor F/G, reported on the Flow Test for the Existing well registered at twenty seven (27) gallons per minute for thirty (30) minutes and fourteen (14) gallons per minute for thirty (30) to one hundred and twenty (120) minutes. The PH is a little high. Mr. Obiurka recommended having two (2) wells; one for back up should something happen to the current well. Permits can take up to a year to acquire through the Department of Health and are good for two (2) years and can be extended. Most schools have two wells. He also reported that leaks in the roof have been repaired. Ms. Pezza inquired about the amount of fuel oil remaining in the tank and Mr. Obiurka said he would check.

Agenda item 8B – Town Sponsored Activities was discussed at this point and the Policy #1313, Student Distributed Materials was discussed with the FSC. Notices have been attached to the Principal email for parents but the Recreation Committee would like to have paper notifications go home with the students.

3. On a motion by Ms. Pezza 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) (2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation – Educational Support Personnel and Foster Teachers’ Association, Superintendent contract, Business Manager contract, Technology contract, and Secretary contract** at 7:37 PM. Motion passed.
Vote = 3-0-0.

The FSC reconvened Open Session on a Pezza / Swanson motion at 8:10 PM. Motion passed.
Vote = 3-0-0.

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. **Building Use Requests** – there were no requests.

5. **Approval of Minutes** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC approved the Open and Executive Session Minutes for March 25, 2014. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
6. **Approval of Warrants** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC approved the Warrant dated April 7, 2014 Run # 20 for \$131,013.94. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
On a motion by Ms. Pezza seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC approved the Warrant dated April 16, 2014 Run #21 for \$18,700.18. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC approved the Warrant dated April 16, 2014 Run #22 for \$22,181.20. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
 - a. *Business Manager's Report* – Mike Petraca, Business Manager, supplied the FSC with a Fiscal Impact Statement for the contract between the FSC and the Educational Support Personnel/NEARI for the period 7/1/2013 through 6/30/2016. He also supplied a year to date financial statement as of 4/16/2014. Discussion.

7. Old Business (for discussion/action)

- a. *2014-2015 Budget* – at the Financial Town Meeting, Dr. Caswell will present.
- b. *Facilities Update*
 - 1) *Well Flow Test* – this item was discussed earlier on the agenda.
- c. *Foster / Gloucester Regionalization* – Mrs. Swanson reported that a forum was held here at the Paine School and there was dialogue about Regionalization.

8. New Business (for discussion/action)

- a. *Personnel – Leave of Absence, Retirement* – on a motion by Mr. Cervasio and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the FSC granted the request for a Personal Leave of Absence without pay. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0. On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC approved the letter of intent to retirement for Patricia Lessard at the end of June 2014 with regret. Mr. Cervasio stated that Mrs. Lessard is a wonderful person and a pleasure to deal with. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0. On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC approved the letter of intent to retirement for Rebecca Howarth in June 2014 with regret. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0. FSC asked the Superintendent to please send letters to all three individuals.
- b. *Town Sponsored Activities* – discussed earlier on the Agenda.
- c. *Educational Support Personnel (ESP) Contract*
 - 1) *Fiscal Impact Statement* – reviewed by the FSC and Business manager. On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC approved the Educational Support Personnel contract as presented with the Fiscal Impact Statement which is to be included with the Minutes of this meeting. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

9. Communication/Reports

- a. *Correspondence* – was included in the packets for the FSC review.
- b. *Principal's Report* – there was no report.
- c. *Superintendent's Report* – reported that she and Mrs. Danusis have been discussing reevaluating RtI with the specials involved. This has been a concern area for the FSC. Gloucester is planning on piloting LAUNCH. Discussions of new curriculum during this (RtI) time frame and how to put into effect will continue.

10. Future Agenda Items

- a. 2014-2015 School Calendar
- b. Letter to the FTA & ESP concerning the calendar

- 11. Adjournment** – on a motion by Mrs. Swanson and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the FSC adjourned at 8:30 PM. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Helena McCullough
Secretary Foster School Committee