

**NEW ENGLAND LABORERS'/CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CONSTRUCTION CAREER ACADEMY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

February 14, 2012

12:00 P.M. Executive Session

Public Session Immediately Following

4 Sharpe Drive

MINUTES

This meeting of the NEL/CPS Construction Career Academy was held on the above date in the conference room with the following members present: Chairman Traficante, Ms. Larkin, Mrs. McFarland, Mr. Rampone, Dr. Leone, Mr. Nero and Mr. Sabitoni. Absent – Ms. Bedford and Mr. Cardi.

Chairman Traficante called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. A motion was made by Dr. Leone to go into Executive Session pursuant to R.I. State Laws PL 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel and PL 42-46-5 (a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation. This motion was seconded by Mr. Sabitoni. All were in favor.

Chairman Traficante reconvened public session at 12:20 p.m. The roll was called; a quorum was present. There were no votes taken in Executive Session.

A motion to table the minutes of the January 17, 2012 meeting was made by Mrs. McFarland and seconded by Mr. Rampone. All were in favor.

A motion to seal the minutes of Executive Session was made by Mr. Sabitoni and seconded by Mrs. McFarland. All were in favor.

Public Acknowledgements/Communications

There were none.

Public Hearing

- a. Students (Agenda/Non-Agenda Items)**
- b. Members of the Public (Agenda Matters Only)**

There were no speakers.

Personnel

RESOLUTIONS

No. 2-1-12 – Resolved, that at the recommendation of Chairperson Traficante, said certified administrator be appointed as follows:

**Dennis Curran, Executive Director
NEL/CPS Construction Career Academy
Contract Effective Date: July 1, 2012
See Attached Financial Impact Analysis**

Moved by Mrs. McFarland; seconded by Dr. Leone. All were in favor.

No. 2-2-12 – Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Executive Director, the employment of Richard Pecorelli shall be extended for an additional 90 half days.

Moved by Mrs. McFarland; seconded by Mr. Rampone. All were in favor.

No. 2-3-12 – Resolved, Whereas, there may be more qualified individuals who will apply for current positions, and

Whereas, certain positions became available after the teacher selection of July 27, 2011 and more senior teachers may elect to occupy these positions under Article XVI of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, and

Whereas, funding for certain positions is not assured for the 2012-2013 school year, and as a result, more senior teachers could elect to take a current position, and

Whereas, positions occupied by retirees must be posted each year, and

Whereas, there may be changes in student distribution, and as a

result, more senior teachers may take a current position, and

Whereas, positions must now be made available for more senior teachers who are scheduled to return from leave, and

Whereas, because of these concerns, and in accordance with Title 16 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, the Executive Director has recommended that the employment of certain teachers be terminated at the end of the 2012-2013 school year, and

Whereas, the Executive Director has sent prior notice to said teachers informing them of the specific reasons for their termination, and

Whereas, the Board of Directors has provided said teachers with the opportunity to be heard in Executive Session regarding their termination.

Be it RESOLVED that said teachers be terminated at the close of the school year under provisions of Title 16 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, and

Be it further RESOLVED that the Executive Director notify those teachers of the Board's action to terminate their employment.

Moved by Mr. Nero; seconded by Mr. Sabitoni. All were in favor.

No. 2-4-12 – Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Executive Director, the employment of Robert Scaffardi shall not be extended beyond the 90-day probationary period which has ended.

Moved by Mr. Rampone; seconded by Mrs. McFarland. All were in favor.

BUSINESS

No. 2-5-12 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Executive Director, Gayle Dzekevich be approved to attend the Literacy to Work Conference in Norfolk, VA, from April 10 – April 14, 2012. (Grant funded).

Moved by Dr. Leone; seconded by Mrs. McFarland. All were in favor.

Schedule of Board Meetings (See handout A)

This has been updated. Next scheduled meeting is April 3, 2012.

Committee Reports/Reports/Updates

A. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Curran stated – I will mention this date to you in case any of you are interested in attending – there is a public school charter consortium at the CCRI Warwick Campus on March 13th from 3:30 p.m. to about 7 p.m. All the charter schools will be there and public

schools have also been invited. Mr. Nero sent out an email to all the staff in Cranston recommending that they attend this as well. We have participation with one of the workshops there, our World of Work is going to be promoted there and Ms. Coppola will be representing us at that forum and we will also have a construction representative there, either one of our teachers, either Mr. Pecorelli or Mr. Traficante will be going to represent the construction piece as well.

Mostly today I want to share with you, very briefly the NECAP results that have been posted as of last week. As you know in our review by RIDE one of the things they wanted to see was the Board get more involved and active in looking at our data, our assessment data so today I am just going to give you a quick overview because we just got the results last week but we will certainly be doing further analysis and at a future Board meeting will give you much more detail than I am going to give you today. I will also give you a take away (see handout #1). Although you know that our results in NECAP is something that we want to see significant improvement in we at least take comfort in the fact that our students did improve this year over the previous year. You always want to be moving forward and I am glad to report that we did have some modest gains and in one case a very good jump. In the area of reading we had a 1% increase of our students over the previous year in terms of those that are proficient. Now proficient is a score of 3 or 4 on the NECAP test, 2 is partially proficient, and a 1- if a student scores that, is substantially below

proficient. As you probably know, in a couple of years the students will have to be at least partially proficient to graduate in Rhode Island. So all of the schools in the state have a large task ahead of them to be sure that the students who are scoring 1 can at least be brought up to the category 2, partially proficient. That is a very controversial guideline right now. Our current sophomore class would be under that requirement in order to graduate. So we all have a lot of work ahead of us to meet that standard. Discussion ensued regarding learning disabilities, economic disadvantages and ramifications of same.

Mr. Curran continued – we had a 17% gain in writing which is a significant jump. Keeping in mind this is not the same group of students that was tested last year so we really are not comparing apples to apples here; they are different kids. It's great that we went up but really test results need to be traced over time because we only test in grade 11, the last tests these kids took was in grade 8 so when we do that longitudinal analysis there is really a gap of a couple of years in there. When we do that comparison it will be difficult because more than half of our students are not from Cranston so we will be attempting to get that information from other school districts.

This school was cited by RIDE last week in the current NECAP Report for “significantly increasing reading performance between 2007 and 2011 due to an increase of 33% over that time. Of the 93 schools that were cited by RIDE the Construction Career Academy had the third

highest increase in the State of Rhode Island.” That is good news and certainly something we can build on. (See handout #2)

B. Financial Advisor’s Report – (See handout #3)

Mrs. Corcelli went over her report with the Board and stated we are right on target and playing a conservative roll.

C. Assistant to the Executive Director’s Report

Mr. Pecorelli stated – recruiting is going well. In January I met with Western Hills parents and Park View parents. On February 7th Mr. Curran, Ms. DeGregorio our art teacher, and two seniors and me went to the Charter Open House at the Times 2 Academy and we probably spoke with a dozen parents that were interested in this school. Fifteen charter schools were also represented. W set up a table there. Tomorrow I am going to Park View to speak with the student body there. Mr. Curran already mentioned the consortium on March 13. Mr. Traficante or I will be speaking at that on Saturday, May 5. We will also have a table at the RISCA conference. On Monday night I spoke with the president of RISCA (Rhode Island School Counselors Association. I sent him a letter and a flyer on our credit recovery program that we house downstairs. Mr. Paone, the President, felt it was better if he presented the proposal to the participants. He said he would get more mileage out of it that way.

We also met with Faith and Gina from the Laborers’ to discuss publishing an ad about our school for the Laborers’ newsletter. We

also discussed with Gina and Faith about coming up with a more improved brochure for our school. Something that is more up to date.

Open house will be Tuesday, March 6, 6 p.m.; snow day March 7th and this is for any incoming grade student. Notifications have been sent out. A second open house will be planned for later in the spring.

D. AEP Director's Report – (See handout #4)

Mrs. Dzekevich read from her report.

Virtual Learning Program – Mrs. Dzekevich stated this program is becoming very popular. Mr. Traficante stated – money should be put aside for licenses and modules for it.

A motion to approve these reports was made by Mrs. McFarland; seconded by Dr. Leone. All were in favor.

Old Business/New Business

Mr. Traficante passed out a press release (See handout #5). This press release was developed by the Laborers' Media Department and stated - we are trying to get some good news out there with the Cranston Herald, the Cranston Patch. We also sent it to the Providence Business News.

Mr. Sabitoni suggested that Mr. Curran send a letter to Mr. Scaffardi thanking him for his years' of service.

Construction Career Days – Mr. Sabitoni stated he would be contacting Mr. Curran to set up students and instructors to participate in this program.

ESAC Conference – Mr. Traficante stated this conference will be held in May in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. We generally make a couple of presentations promoting the Charter School and all the other educational affiliates where we have construction craft technology program such at the Tri-County Regional School and the Medford Voc School in Massachusetts as well as Providence PCTA will be coming onboard shortly; and of course our Charter School.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Leone; seconded by Mr. Sabitoni. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Traficante

Chairperson

Administrator's Compensation Schedule

Fiscal Year 2012-2013

NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL	ANN	HEALTH	DENTAL	LIFE PENSION	SURV	BEN OASDI	MEDICARE	TOTAL Fringe Sal & Fringe	SALARY
Curran, Dennis	Director	Charter	101,000.00	0	0	33					14,221
96 0 1465				15,814						116,814	

Administrator's Compensation Schedule

Fiscal Year 2013-2014

NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL	ANN	HEALTH	DENTAL	LIFE PENSION	SURV	BEN OASDI	MEDICARE	TOTAL Fringe Sal & Fringe	SALARY
Curran, Dennis	Director	Charter	101,000.00	0	0	33					15,079
96 0 1465				16,673						117,673	

Administrator's Compensation Schedule

Fiscal Year 2014-2015

NAME POSITION SCHOOL ANN

SALARY HEALTH DENTAL LIFE PENSION SURV

BEN OASDI MEDICARE TOTAL Fringe Sal & Fringe

Curran, Dennis	Director Charter	101,000.00	0	0	33	15,938
96	0	1464.5	17,531.30	118,531		