

NEW ENGLAND LABORERS'/CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CONSTRUCTION and CAREER ACADEMY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
February 25, 2015
12:30 P.M. Executive Session
Public Session Immediately Following Executive Session
4 Sharpe Drive, Cranston, RI

MINUTES

This meeting of the New England Laborers' and Cranston Public Schools Construction and Career Academy was held on the above date in the conference room and called to order at 12:30 pm with the following members present: Chairman Traficante, Mr. Santangelo, Mr. Jay Sabitoni, Mr. Wall, Mr. Cardi, Ms. Nota-Masse (in place of Dr. Lundsten), Mr. Rampone, Mr. Jacobs arrived at 12:40 p.m., and Dr. Leone arrived at 12:45. Also in attendance was Mrs. Paula McFarland, Mr. Robert Giudici, CPA, and Mr. Ernest Panos, CPA.

Call to Order – Public Session

Roll Call/Quorum – the roll was called; there was a quorum present.

Chairman Traficante stated – with the permission of the Board I am going to take things out of order. I will address under Executive Directors' Communications the Audit Report. You all received a copy about a week and a half ago so we have our two auditors here today to answer any questions you may have. Dennis kindly introduce them.

Mr. Curran stated – yes, we are happy to have our auditors come here today (Mr. Robert Giudici, CPA, and Mr. Ernest Panos, CPA) Bob and Ernie to answer any questions you may have. You would be happy to know that the audit was very thorough and we were given a clean audit which it is always good to hear those words. We did send it to you ahead of time and hopefully you had a chance to take a look at it and if you have any questions they are here to answer those for you today.

Chairman Traficante asked – are there any questions on the audit at all?

Mr. Panos stated – there were no anomalies or situations that we felt we should bring to your attention. We went over the reports thoroughly, as well as transactions, balance sheets and schedule of activities. There was nothing of a consequence, nothing that came to our attention to bring to the Board of significance, kind of boiler-plate as in prior periods. This was a good report to be honest with you. As Mr. Traficante has indicated we went over it with Mr. Curran, we have a clean opinion on it, no significant adjustments to report. I think your staff did a relatively real good job here, very confident, very cooperative.

Mr. Giudici stated – there is always the old calculation that occurs after the fact in there so Joe Balducci was offered, they don't consider that prior to us coming out, there was a write-off of some uncollectable tuition that occurred from two years ago, we talked about that in our meeting between the five of us and we gave a clean opinion. The school

basically ran at a breakeven, small net surplus, a couple of thousand dollars, twenty-five hundred dollars, so revenue basically matched expenses for the year.

Mr. Rampone asked – nothing in our procedures that you thought we should differently or better? Mr. Giudici replied – no, given Joe Balducci's oversight. Mr. Panos stated – he (Joe Balducci) thoroughly reviews all transactions and with his set of experienced eyes we did not find anything of incompetence or of a nature we feel we should bring to your attention.

Chairman Traficante stated – for your information copies were given ahead of time to our sponsoring entities, namely the superintendent of the Cranston School Department, and to Armand Sabitoni. Carol (Corcelli) will send a copy to RIDE and the Auditor General as well so everyone has a copy of it. It is an independent audit. In the past we always had the audit done by the Cranston School Department but since our last reauthorization period it was recommended that we have our own independent audit which we have done for the last three years.

Mr. Panos stated – which I think is a great suggestion – it's just another set of eyes of municipality type, I think you should have it, it is surely needed. It is also good, you are in compliance and you have a good internal control system here and there were no critiques or no qualification to be or obtained which I think is critical. Overall you are doing a very good job. Carol's (Corcelli) oversight is very important. Mrs. Corcelli stated – thank you, it was a pleasure to work with you and the turnaround time on anything requested is satisfied so thank you for assisting us.

Mr. Giudici stated – the second report, the UCOA report, this is also a required report. All the transactions are posted properly, there are some timing differences that occurred because Joe uploads the file to RIDE prior to us getting out there so if you look at the report you will see there are a few adjustments but nothing that is alarming. There were no further questions.

Chairman Traficante stated – next month this will be placed on the docket as a resolution.

At 12:39 p.m. a motion to convene to Executive Session pursuant to:

A. R.I. State Laws PL 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel

1. Teacher layoffs.

B. PL 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation

was made by Mr. Santangelo and seconded by Mr. Sabitoni. All were in favor.

Call to Order – Public Session

At 12:50 p.m. public session reconvened.

Executive Session Minutes Sealed – February 25, 2015

A motion to seal the minutes of executive session was made by Mr. Wall and seconded by Mr. Santangelo. All were in favor. No votes were taken in executive session and all were noticed that were discussed.

Minutes of Previous Meeting Approved – January 20, 2015

A motion to accept the minutes of the January 20, 2015 was made by Mr. Wall and seconded by Mr. Rampone. All were in favor.

Public Acknowledgements/Communications – none.

Chairperson's Communications

Mr. Traficante stated – I may have mentioned this before but some people were not here at the time. Dennis, Carolyn (Ferris) and I met with Armand Sabitoni about a month ago and at that meeting we were discussing the information we received from RIDE regarding FOCUS and things of that nature. In the interim he asked us about the things that we needed here at the charter school and Dennis brought up the fact that our furniture at the charter school is quite old. In fact, when we opened our doors back in 2002 all our furniture was donated by the Cranston School Department. It was secondhand furniture at that time. So Armand told Dennis to go out and buy all new furniture for the charter school; desks, chairs, some whiteboards. Mr. Curran stated – we are actually replacing some of the chairs in this room, teachers' lounge, as well as some chairs in the computer lab as well. Mr. Traficante continued – that furniture should be delivered sometime during the April vacation. In addition to that, we also pointed out to Armand that we would like to add a few more programs to our construction craft curriculum namely welding, the asphalt, plastic pipe fusion, and upgrades to the hoisting and rigging program. Armand asked us about the equipment for those topics. We told him it would be in the price range of \$45-50,000 dollars and he instructed us to purchase it. This list has been submitted to Armand and he has approved the entire list of both furniture and materials and equipment needed for the new programs in our construction craft laborers' curriculum. It comes to about a \$100,000 dollar donation from the Laborers' Union which is a very generous donation by Armand and the Laborers'. Right now, Jay is ordering the equipment for the program and Dennis has already ordered the furniture for the school and we will be in great shape come next September for the opening of our school building.

Mr. Curran stated – we also upgraded our security system as part of that donation and added several more cameras to the outside and the inside of the building which was another \$12,000 expenditure.

Mr. Traficante stated – we also upgraded the bobcat as well. We will be in great shape next year. The furniture that we have here we be returned to the school department, they can use it in other areas as well. The furniture is not in bad shape; it's just wear and tear over the years.

Mr. Curran stated – one more footnote to that is we mentioned this briefly as the last Board meeting, and with the hoisting and the rigging piece of it, Mr. Cardi offered to bring a crane here anytime we are doing that part of our curriculum so that we can do the hoisting and rigging right here and we don't have to transport the students to Pomfret. We appreciate that offer. Mr. Cardi stated – we just have to coordinate that. Mr. Traficante stated – these are all certifications that are absolutely necessary for the construction industry. Everything is a win-win situation for us. The way it is going to work is, as soon as we get the furniture and the equipment in, the charter school will

pay the bills and what we will do is submit those bills to the Laborers' Union and they will reimburse us. We did that in order not to pay state tax.

Board Members Communications –

Mr. Santangelo stated – I would like to thank Carol for taking care of that audit. Mrs. Corcelli stated – between myself and Joe Balducci, we work well together and the auditors are very seasoned.

Executive Director's Communications

Mr. Curran stated – I am going to change the order here just a little bit and the reason why will be abundantly clear in a few minutes. I will start with B –

Staffing Update – nothing really new there – we did our layoff talk during executive session. We will be taking a look at that later on in the agenda.

Enrollment – at this time we have between 28-30 applications from 8th grades and we are looking for at least 15 more between now and August and we anticipate we will get that number. RIDE requires charter schools to hold a lottery on March 1st of each year, that's Sunday, so we would be having our lottery on Monday if we had a full enrollment projection at this time. Since we don't then basically all those students that have applied thus far will receive a letter from me next week accepting them into the school. If we were oversubscribed then we would have to hold that lottery. Last year we were close to doing that but we didn't quite get the number so we did not have the lottery last year either. We're pretty much right about where we typically are at this time. Obviously we have more recruiting efforts going on, it's still February. We have created a new poster that we are distributing to middle schools where they let us in and also these have gone to our three middle schools here in Cranston. In addition, Mr. Roberti who is helping us with the recruiting, has gone to shopping centers, Stop and Shop for example, those kind of places where they have community bulletin boards in various towns, not just here in Cranston. He is placing them where they let us do that. This is always a challenge for us outside of Cranston as you know because those school districts do not open their arms to us to come in to talk to their students. Although, I will say for the record, Providence did allow us to do that. We have visited all the middle schools in Providence this year to talk to their students. They graciously let us in to do a presentation, both Mr. Roberti and I, and we have received some interest from Providence schools. We are really pleased with that effort by the Providence Public School system. In addition to that, we had a Rhode Island League of Charter Schools Open House the week before vacation. It was not as well attended as it had been in the past because of the weather of course. Our own open house, we had to reschedule it three times because of the snow. We have just not rescheduled it yet because I think the weather and the snow amount out there is just going to continue to keep people away so we're going to wait and have the open house mid-to-late March. I will let you know when we confirm that date.

We are continuing our efforts to recruit and I suspect we will open up with in the fall with about 150-160 students; the same as we did this year. I will talk in a few moments about some legislation that can impact us in terms of funding.

Demonstration on PARCC- Mr. Curran stated we will be having a demonstration on PARCC; a math teacher will be coming in to do that; in the meantime let's move on to the budget.

Budget

Mrs. Corcelli passed out handout A (attached) and read from her report. *Operating Budget as of 1/21/2015. Revenue: As of January 31, we have received 53% of revenue budget. The month's state aid was received but will be reported in February. To date we are awaiting out of district tuitions from communities. Expenditures: As of January 31, we have expended 54% of budget expenditures. Contractual operating expenses are typical for month end. Monitoring continues in purchased services, programs, and supplies; overall, we have remained within general spending limits.*

Key issues for consideration:

Audit report ending June 30, 2014 prepared and accepted with "clean opinion."

Copies distributed to State Auditor General, RIDE, NEL, CPS, and Board of Directors.

In process – State legislative grant renewal.

Approved – Safety Grant, \$1,000 for purchase of two-way radios.

Approved – RI Foundation Art Grant, Project Jewelry Art, \$700.

Recommendation to the Board:

Continue to support funding formula for charter schools through any means available.

Assist in recruiting efforts through word-of-mouth to various groups.

We will also be looking for a summer grant for \$30,000 that will be put in in about a couple of weeks and that will be our summer grant for under-served population.

We continue to support the funding formula that Dennis mentioned is going before the General Assembly and also as Board members please continue to help recruit the school and campaign for the school.

Mr. Curran stated – Fair funding formula – what we are looking for there in that recommendation to the Board is that in your various organizations and committees and wherever you work and so forth, if you can continue to support the funding formula as it exists right now in Rhode Island because the funding formula is under attack right now. There is a house commission on the funding formula that is looking at possibly making some changes to it. That, of course, would be adversarial to charter schools. The back story on this is that many school districts are really opposing charter schools getting funding from their districts. We talked about this before in various ways. Simply put, school districts typically do not want the money to leave the school district to go to a charter school. There is really a concerted effort right now in the state, I think largely led by Chariho School District and Barry Richards, superintendent of that district, to get the funding formula changed so that they don't have to have those monies leave their school districts to support charter schools. Now, if that were successful in the House and the Senate, then that probably would be the death of the charter school movement in Rhode Island. There are 24 charter schools in Rhode Island and we live and die by

that funding formula. This House commission on the funding formula has already met a few times. A couple of weeks back they heard from the proponents of the changes, the superintendent and other interested parties who would like to see the formula change and this Friday at the House, I am going up there with the League, and we're testifying before them to explain to them why the funding formula should not be changed and what its' ramifications are if it is changed. So this is a very critical moment for charter schools in Rhode Island as you can imagine. We don't know where this is going to go, right now it's just a House commission, of course, and we know the legal process takes many, many months sometimes to get through. We will keep you posted on this but in whatever venues you might be in, if you have a chance to support the charter school funding formula we would certainly appreciate that because you are in high powered positions and you are members of committees and organizations that really do have influence on politics and government. I want you to be aware of that. There are a couple of pieces of legislation that have been proposed of recent that will affect us beyond that funding formula piece and we're going to keep an eye on those as well to make sure that they don't get any traction and go anywhere. My personal opinion is I don't think this will go anywhere because I don't think Rhode Island wants to be the first state in the union to have charter schools die. There are charter schools in every state and as I say we live and die by this funding formula so I am hoping there will be no real traction with this.

Mr. Wall asked – what is they want to do to it? Just completely eliminate school departments sending money to charters or changing the amount? Mr. Curran replied – I think ultimately they would want that but I don't know that would come out as a result of this or they would be permutations to this, I don't really know.

Mr. Cardi asked – if you could, could we get a list of the legislation and what it is and the status, proposed or for. Is that something the Board could get over the course of sometime so we know what is up there, what the number is and then we can look at what the stance is and....

Mr. Rampone interjected – sometimes we accidently find ourselves in a place where you can talk to someone who has some effect on this.

Mr. Curran stated this was something they could pull together for the board.

Dr. Leone asked – I know it is early in her administration but do we have any sense of where Governor Raimondo is on charter schools in general or on this particular issue?

Mr. Curran replied – I don't yet have a feel for that. I think the first bellwether of where she stands on education is going to be who she wants as her next commissioner. Then we will sort of go from there but I don't think she has made any statements. Maybe the mayor would know about charter schools in general. She has been to our charter school, a couple of times, so I think she is a proponent of charter schools. Mr. Rampone stated- we know the Lieutenant Governor is. Mr. Traficante stated – the Lieutenant Governor is pushing mayoral academies which are a different animal. It is considered a charter school but a different animal in terms of their makeup. Mr. Rampone stated – but they all rely on this type of funding, we're in the same bed with that. Mr. Traficante stated – absolutely, all charter schools are public schools.

Mr. Santangelo stated – there are three different kinds of charter schools, the mayoral academies which we all know pretty much what they are now, there are charter schools

that are public charter schools that are not district led, and then there are charter schools like we are that is part of the district. So when you talk about that fair funding formula thing do we get additional money from what comes into the district? No we don't so even if that were to be approved and charter schools started to drop off the face of the earth, how would that impact us since we still would be drawing our money from the district? Mr. Curran replied – because 50% of our kids are not from Cranston. Mr. Santangelo responded – so it would be an enrollment issue, not so much.... Mr. Traficante stated – any changes made to the funding formula, Cranston would have to follow suit so if the money reduced they would pay us that reduced rate.

Ms. Nota-Masse stated – I have been watching the Legislative hearings on TV. Part of the problem is in the northern part of the state, Blackstone Valley Prep and the mayoral academy, mostly Blackstone Valley Prep, they have been siphoning from Cumberland and Lincoln and Central Falls, many, many students. The problem with the funding formula is each child comes with a different price tag. So Cumberland may pay a certain amount, Lincoln pays a different amount, Central Falls pays a different amount although they're all getting access to the same education. Part of Lincoln and part of the superintendent's testimony was she had an issue with her district paying \$15,000 a year in tuition for their children to go to Blackstone Valley Prep where Cumberland pays \$11,000 and yet the children at Blackstone Valley Prep are all getting the same education. It's not as if the Lincoln children are getting extra because their tuition is different so part of the question....Mr. Almond, town administrator, so he and the superintendent had a pretty intense discussion about why that is and it is the funding formula. So, and I don't know how it is going to go either because you're right, people would close but I think most of the issue is with how the formula is figured and you want to make sure you are getting kids that are coming here with tuition but Blackstone Valley Prep is saying well, we just want them all and there is a huge disparity in what they are getting in tuitions but not in what they are putting out.

Mrs. McFarland questioned – you mean their educational outputs, the performance of their kids? Graduation rates? Ms. Nota-Masse replied – yes, what is their rationale to charge \$15,000 from you and \$11,000 from – Mr. Rampone interjected – from me if there is no difference in the education. Mrs. McFarland stated – no there isn't but that is their funding formula. It would be the same thing for the community that had a lesser amount than Cranston and they wanted to come here to this school. You would get less money for that kid from that community and you would get more from another community. Discussion ensued. Ms. Nota-Masse continued – she (the Lincoln superintendent) was trying to explain how 80 children are costing her \$1.2 million. They couldn't understand by not tuitioning these children out, why it would save them \$800,000. There is a disparity in that as well because to educate 25 or 30 kids the cost is the same, one teacher, and one classroom. But when you are putting it out...so I've been watching it and obviously sitting where I sit, you see both sides. You can see us spending \$2 million dollars on students who leave our district but we also want to protect the charter school. Mr. Wall stated – and clearly the smaller school districts are the ones that are most impacted by that because the same number of kids that might leave the district obviously in the Cranston budget is not as impacted...Mr. Rampone stated- it you got a small budget, \$12,000 or \$13,000 is a big hit to you.

Mr. Santangelo asked – do you have any sense if it is strictly just a discussion stage to this point? Ms. Nota-Masse stated – it's Jeremiah O'Grady, he's the rep from Lincoln. It's mostly a northern part of the state issue at this point because of Blackstone Valley Prep and the mayoral academies popping up. Mrs. McFarland stated – but the bill doesn't address the northern issue, it is a statewide issue. I reviewed the bill. The statement was made - previous to this fair funding formula the money followed the student.

Ms. Nota-Masse stated – there are only three schools of this nature in the state where the partnership is with a public district entity. There are two in Providence and one here. If anything maybe they are looking for some parody in the cost and that's probably the best or the worst you can hope for. Mr. Rampone stated – I think that is what their ultimate goal is, no matter what town you are, if you send a child this is what you pay. Ms. Nota-Masse stated – if your child goes to LaSalle you pay \$15,000 a year, or whatever. Mrs. McFarland stated – they are probably looking for the state department to do, \$9,000 and then you have to run off that. Mr. Curran stated – the smaller districts are going to fight that, right now we have some districts that give us \$2,000 a year and others giving us \$12,000. You don't think those \$2,000 districts are going to say let's come to the middle? No. Ms. Nota-Masse stated – but there are winners and losers in the funding formula reform anyway. Mr. Traficante stated – testimony is going to be given on Friday by the League and we will see where that goes.

Proposed Budget for 2015-2016 – (see below)

Mrs. Corcelli stated – What I did was level funded the state aid for next year as we have for this year. It's based on 150 students. We are looking at the same goal at this point, we will get more but this is like the bare minimum. Our only other source of revenue would be the city aid and out of district so that is split about 80/70 based on 150 students so it's just a small increase from last year, 1.55% increase on the revenue. The teachers received a 2% increase in their contract, you might see some higher changes because I am comparing it to the current budget that was approved last year, not the actual budget because when this was prepared we didn't know who was being hired, who came in from the outside so it's based on what was approved last year, not actual. So basically all the teachers received 2%, the art and Phys. Ed. we do share that with AEP but I kept them at full salary because we weren't sure of the worst case scenario where they would be split next year. I reduced somewhat the teacher subs, charter instructors received an increase, clerical support, they received a very small increase, custodians - no increase, benefits were level funded, utilities averaged about 8% increase, lots of things level funded, increased repairs, leveled snow removal -fees, -special programs, -stipends, decreased capital because we outfitted the new computer lab last year and we now own the computers that we leased for the PARCC testing. It is a very lean budget and if we receive more than 150 students we will be in the black. Mr. Traficante stated – all the personnel line items are governed by contract. The school committee has settled all the contracts from the teachers, to the TA's to the secretaries, to the custodians and the bus drivers. Charter instructors are under a separate contract. They also received an increase in their salary by contract. That has been adjusted in this budget; however, this budget is a moving target. The school committee will submit the budget to the mayor by the end of this month. The mayor has exactly one month to

come up with a municipal budget which includes the Cranston School department and that goes before the council before April 1st, then the council has from April 1st to May 10th to formulate a municipal budget which is adopted and that is when we will know exactly what we are going to receive from the city. That impacts the entire school department. It's still a moving target and won't be resolved until sometime in May. We will probably be coming back in May because there may be other contracts involved, certified administrators, non-certified administrators that may change as well so we will come back in May and adopt the final budget. Right now it is a preliminary budget for the next school year.

Ms. Nota-Masse asked – why do you have to pay Interscholastic fees when you don't have any teams? Mr. Curran replied – because our students can participate in sports at any other school; they can go to Cranston East, West or whatever town they came from they can play sports there. Charter Schools have to pay that interscholastic fee for that reason. Ms. Nota-Masse asked – even if they are home-schooled we are paying that fee as well? Mr. Curran replied – yes.

Mrs. Corcelli stated – supplies keep going up because it's not just pencils and paper, its projector bulbs are over \$100 dollars. Bulbs on your ELMO's are over \$100 dollars, battery packs for the laptops are over \$100 dollars. Mr. Traficante stated – and once we get the welding online you are going to see our electrical increase as well.

Student Performance – (See Handout B attached)

Ms. Ferris stated – We are going to go a little bit out of order here because we do have a guest with us today who is going to do a demonstration on PARCC. Mr. Carl Steckert, one of our new math teachers. Last time we talked a little bit about PARCC. We know that the first computer based testing is coming up in mid-March. On your handout you can see this is our schedule, we are going to be testing in Algebra1; Geometry; ELA9; and ELA 10. The only big difference between NECAP and PARCC is that the PARCC test by subject area and not by grade level. Last time we talked about that we would show you an example of what is going to be on the PARCC.

At this point in the meeting Mr. Steckert put an actual example up on the board that the 9th graders would be taking and using his laptop showed the board how this example was done. This one question took approximately 10 minutes.

Ms. Ferris stated – there are two things going on here; the technical aspect and then the math component. ELA is at the same sophisticated level. Right now we are in the mist of giving the students tutorials on the technical piece of it and then the ELA and math teachers are going through the tutorials. Mr. Steckert stated – if you notice, if you make a mistake, say halfway through the problem, you have to go up and delete everything and then retype it again. You cannot go in the middle of the problem and make a correction.

Ms. Ferris stated – where the test may only have 11 questions, there are many steps, now there is whole rubric attached to this that will tell you what will give you a 3 what will give you 2; how many of these you can get partial credits.

Mr. Traficante asked – why can't the students write this information?

Ms. Nota-Masse stated – the State initially gave us two options of paper and pencil and technology. The district initially chose technology because we know it is moving in that direction anyway so we wanted to get our kids on board and used to doing these things online. Then the State backed up a little bit because so many districts said, we don't have the capacity...and this from 3rd grade to 11th grade inclusive; so all students from grades 3 to 11 need to participate in PARCC. So, many districts did not have the hardware to accommodate all these children and the testing windows are rather narrow so you have to make sure you get all your kids in within 20 days of testing. The State backed up and allowed people to choose paper or pencil. What we have done is a mixture. So I think its 3rd grade, 7th grade, and 9th grade, are doing paper for math. We chose the transition years so the 3rd graders could get used to ELA online and math on paper, 7th grade, so again it's those transition years where kids are just coming into their school or their first year of taking the standardized test. K, 1 and 2 do not take them. Part of the concern for districts and parents is, is my child going to be penalized because of the technological piece. We don't teach keyboarding to 3rd graders. A lot of it is done with a mouse but a lot of children, I have a 4th grader, he goes to a screen and touches the screen...he's not even used to using a mouse anymore. So there is that disconnect. There are digital skills and digital natives so there is a bridge there but the content and that is what should be assessed is their content knowledge. We are very concerned that the technological part of it will impact their content fluidly. Everyone in the state is asking that same question. I think that is part of the pushback because you are really incorporating two big things into one.

Ms. Ferris continued – for our school we are going completely computerized because we have the capability here and that's where it is moving towards. You can have instantaneous scoring and you get data and reporting. It's efficient on a whole different level but I wanted you to see this demonstration on what we are talking about and when we are talking about the student population that we have at this school that level of sophistication and steps is an extremely frustrating process so that is something we have our eye on right now as we enter into this.

Ms. Nota-Masse stated- and don't forget all the cost for the hardware. We have had to invest in laptop carts, the state provided us a grant for the wireless but the hardware, the laptops, a pc for every child, again, grades 3 to 11, has been a huge hit to our budget.

Dr. Leone asked – tell me a little bit about the parent having the option of opt-out? Ms. Ferris stated – there isn't an opt-out option. There is some homegrown movements in districts to kind of put together individual opt-out but there isn't an opt-out option for this test. RIDE expects everyone to take this test. This would not be the time for you to step out and not take the test because it's not going to go away but some people have found some sheets on the website that are made up but those are definitely homegrown from whatever wherever district they are coming from. Mr. Curran stated- if a parent has any questions regarding opting-out I am directing my staff to have that parent call me directly and what I am basically telling them is, right now it is not a graduation requirement but I don't know if it will be in the future. It has been in the past and we

know that, do you really want to go through two years not taking the PARCC and then find out that it's a requirement for graduation when your child is a senior and you didn't take it? So, take the test, it's here, this is a baseline year by the way, baseline data this year, nobody is expecting the results of this statewide and then we will kind of grow this over time like we did with NECAP. This is how NECAP started, so it's here, it's not going away, let's just do it, get through it; we're preparing the students as best we can. As Carolyn says, our concern here is with our demographic of kids and their frustration levels. When they see a question like that (referring to the example on the board) I'm afraid they are going to say, what's the next question? You have to go through all those steps and as Carl said, and he has a master's in math, he's been showing the teachers, he's been practicing, and it still took him a good amount of time.

Mr. Santangelo stated – I picked up a lot of what Jeannine said regarding the continuity of the concept. Because if you are continually breaking up your thought process to figure out how to put a fraction in, how to put a square root symbol in, then you have no fluid thought process going through the concept of that problem. You're constantly breaking everything up trying to figure out what comes next and then you really not testing their ability to understand that particular concept.

Ms. Nota-Masse stated – this is just the March version; we also have May.

Mrs. McFarland asked – how long are they given for these 11 questions. Response – 2 hours.

Mr. Santangelo stated – keep in mind the students are missing out on instruction while they are practicing to take this test.

Ms. Ferris stated – at this point this is where we are and this is what we have to deal with and I know the next step is just to get the students through this next piece and to make teachers and students as prepared as we can at this point. Keep in mind as we move forward with PARCC we are erasing the chalkboard again. I have a nice longitudinal data sheet attached (handout B1) that shows the progress we have been making in NECAP but we are starting over again and we are not going to be able to compare PARCC to NECAP so we need to get that completely out of our mind because it is a completely different animal. Starting over we are going to see exactly what happened with NECAP where we will be struggling where the baseline is at some point much lower than what we have been seeing. On this status sheet (referring to handout B1) this is really important to kind of grasp for the last four years and the growth that we have made in all of these markers. These markers are what RIDE is looking at and this is what considered that makes a healthy school and we have made gains in every single area. When you compare 2011 to 2014 our graduation rate has gone way up, our dropout rate has been basically cut in half, chronic absenteeism continues to get better; our suspension rate has improved and our NECAP scores in all three areas of testing has improved over the four years.

Mr. Traficante stated – you look at this paper and you say, that is wonderful, but it took a heck of a lot of work on the part of Dennis and Carolyn, and the entire administration and teachers working together to get this accomplished. These are one heck of an accomplishment in three years and believe me it didn't come as an easy situation.

Ms. Ferris continued – these are coming out of Infoworks from RIDE so these are legitimate numbers that they are monitoring for our school. So we are very proud at this point to have our school where it is and that we will continue to see the growth in the markers and we will deal with PARCC as we need to.

Mr. Rampone questioned the level of absenteeism. Ms. Ferris stated – about 75% of our kids come in with chronic absenteeism issues that started in elementary school. When we look at the files, we're talking kindergarten, first grade, this started so when you get someone in the 9th and 10th grade with that embedded...the good news is we are moving in the right direction with those numbers and for students who were chronically absent are now not chronically absent. That's going to be the number that is going to take the longest to make an impact on but we are chipping away at it.

At 1:40 p.m. Mr. Wall left the meeting. A quorum was still present.

Ms. Ferris continued – just a quick overview – I gave you some STAR data last time we were together. We were in the middle of testing so just at the end of our second screening period, which ended January 31st, I just want to show you that for Math our SGP's which is Student Growth Percentile, and that is what we want to look at – student growth over achievement. We are at 55 SGP for math and 69 SGP for reading. The district has a benchmark set at 50 SGP and we are surpassing that and this is the first time we have done that. I think it is really encouraging when you look at the math SGP and the proficiency rate. That's the highest (57%) we have ever been in all the testing. We are hoping to see that Agile Minds is having an impact. These students have been in this program for two years and we are seeing really decent gains.

Ms. Nota-Masse stated – when you talk about the PARCC being an anomaly and that kind of skewing your longitudinal data, I think if you continue to look at STAR that's much more consistent and even and can be compared district-wide too so I would be more comfortable continuing to look at that rather than these kind of outliers.

Ms. Ferris continued – and I agree with you and with STAR – we are testing three times a year where it is not a once a year test like PARCC.

We do want to see growth over proficiency which is the achievement piece. The students that we do service here, we do tend to have them coming into the building with lower achievement so it's just more important that we are moving them all on the continuum. I did just want to point out we were around 92% on testing for this and with all the snow that number has changed. We will shoot for 100% the next time around.

Attendance Rate – Ms. Ferris stated – our attendance games, we introduced that at the last meeting as to how we tied that into the Hunger Games and we have this little competition going. Two weeks in...and then we start that and the snow wipes us out...but we have two weeks in and we have 128 perfect attendance tickets that have been given out in the last two weeks. 62.5% were male and 37.5% were female so we are trying to gear this up to be a male against female and get the females to kick it in a little bit.

A motion to approve the Director's report was made by Mr. Rampone, seconded by Mr. Santangelo. All were in favor.

Public Hearing

- a. Students (agenda/non-agenda matters) – none.
- b. Members of the Public (agenda matters only) – none.

Action Calendar/Action Agenda

RESOLUTIONS

Administration

No. 2-1-15 – Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Executive Director, the appointment of the following board member be accepted:

Paula McFarland, Cranston Community Representative
Effective Date: February 25, 2015

A motion to approve this appointment was made by Mr. Rampone; seconded by Mr. Santangelo. All were in favor.

Personnel

No. 2-2-15 - Resolved, Whereas, the expiration of the teacher's limited employment contract effective at the end of the 2014-2015 school year, and

Whereas, there is uncertainty of sufficient Federal, State and local funding for general and categorical programs for the 2015-2016 school year, program reductions, and/or reorganization, consolidation of classes, realignment and/or reorganization of staff, and elimination of positions to meet student needs and/or to more efficiently and effectively use the school system's resources, and

Whereas, the teacher was hired for a one-year position to fill the position of a teacher who is on leave of absence, and it is anticipated that the teacher will be returning from leave, and

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

Whereas, certain positions became available after the teacher assignment process on August 1, 2014 and as a result, other teachers may elect to occupy these positions under Article XVI C of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, and

Whereas, certain teachers may be terminated based upon their performance, 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 2014-2015 school year.

Whereas, the Executive Director has sent prior notice to said teachers informing them of the specific reasons for 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 School Committee's action to terminate their employment.

A motion to approve this resolution was made by Mr. Cardi; seconded by Mr. Rampone. All were in favor.

Business

No. 2-3-15- Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Executive Director the **FISCAL MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOLS** between the NEL/CPS Construction and Career Academy and the Cranston Public Schools District be accepted. (See attached).

A motion to approve this resolution was made by Mrs. McFarland; seconded by Mr. Sabitoni. Discussion.

Mr. Curran stated – you recall when we were rechartered we were given three conditions to meet; two by December and one by June. This is the second condition. They were looking for us to codify our fiscal procedures although we've been operating for many years with certain protocols they wanted to see it on paper and working with Joe Balducci's office, Carol, I , and Traf worked this out basically a chronologically of how we handle our fiscal responsibilities here at the school. We sent this up to RIDE and they haven't brought it to the Board yet, they have to go back to the Regents with the four charter schools that were up for renewal and pass this by them. We expect that this will be approved by them as meeting the second condition. The first condition was 400 pages, this one is much less in content but it took a long time to work it all out. We wanted to bring it to you for your approval as well and you received this earlier in a packet.

There were no questions or further discussions.

The vote was taken; all were in favor.

No. 2-4-15 - At the recommendation of the Executive Director that the Board of Directors accept the preliminary proposed budget for the school year beginning July 1, 2015, (see attached).

A motion to approve this resolution was made by Mr. Rampone; seconded by Mr. Sabitoni. All were in favor.

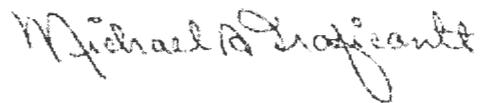
Public Hearings on Non-Agenda Items – none.

Announcement of Future Meeting – March 17, 2015.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 1:50 p.m. was made by Mr. Santangelo, seconded by Mr. Rampone. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael A. Traficante".

**Michael A. Traficante
Chairperson**



FISCAL MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOLS

Daily/Weekly:

- Review accounts assigned to budget by accessing MUNIS, password controlled accounting package. Review additional accounts assigned to school grants as a means on monitoring grant monies and timelines.
- Prepare requisitions for new invoices generated or incoming invoices (purchased services, office supplies, classroom materials, capital improvements, technology upgrades, and transportation).
- Requisitions will be approved by Executive Director, or in his/her absence Assistant Principal or Chairperson of Board of Directors, with a second signature from the Financial Development Officer.
- Requisitions will be sent to the district Grant Fiscal Manager, to enter into MUNIS, the general ledger accounting package, which is password controlled. Once entered, the system will print a 4-part Purchase Order (PO) and distribute the purchase order to the Vendor, School, and Accounts Payable.
- The school secretary is responsible for counting and receiving goods, obtaining two signatures from any combination of the following: Executive Director, Assistant Principal, Financial Development Officer or Secretary on the PO and sending the PO copy back to Accounts Payable for payment. PO's are logged in manually on pre-numbered sheets; numbering is generated by MUNIS.
- Invoices are posted to the general ledger and when ready for payment an Accounts Payable warrant is prepared for signature of Vice Chairperson or Chairperson of the Board of Directors, typically on the 15th and 30th of each month.
- Verify weekly timecards completed by employees for hourly work, substitutes, professional development, Title II grant work, and stipend hours. Executive Director or Assistant Principal will also verify information and provide appropriate account number.
- Administrative signature by the Executive Director or Assistant Principal is required for all time cards. Copies are kept at school and original timecard is sent interoffice to district Payroll Supervisor on Friday mornings.
- Payroll is calculated on a bi-weekly basis for the entire district and most pays are direct deposited. Salaried employees do not require timecards and are paid thru the previous Friday. Hourly employees such as custodians use a (punched) timesheet and are paid one week behind.
- For teachers and union employees, step changes are confirmed with HR as of July 1. Non-union employees require Executive Director approval and paperwork is submitted to Human Resources to go through employee hiring process.

MONTHLY

- Ensure timely posting of end-of-month state aid revenue via RIPAY. State aid electronically posted to the NEL/CPS C&CA account. Fiscal Development Officer for the school monitors timely transfer of funding.
- Verify statewide transportation enrollments using RIDE's spreadsheet against our student enrollment. Notify RIDE of any changes and compare to district invoice for accuracy upon receipt.
- Maintain student activity checking account via Quicken, prepare checks requiring two signatures obtained from any combination of the following: Executive Director, Assistant Principal, Financial Development Officer or School Social Worker, prepare deposits, and reconcile against month end bank statement. This information is shared with the district in-house auditor each year.
- Executive Director and Fiscal Development Officer prepare monthly Year-to-Date Budget Report for Board of Director's meeting based on MUNIS reporting.

QUARTERLY

- Verify total school enrollments in Aspen against Excel spreadsheet by student name, address, and admit/demit date then calculate appropriate quarterly tuition amount. Submit to district business office whereby tuition billing is generated and mailed. Receipts are maintained on a spreadsheet, incoming checks are deposited into the school account. Posting in MUNIS is completed by district Business Office with oversight by the Fiscal Development Officer.
- Provide follow-up calls to those districts past 30 days due date as outlined per RIDE; issue warning letter if deemed appropriate.
- Prepare Quarterly Fiscal Report using quarterly year to date budget and submit to Office of Municipal Affairs.

Annually

- Finalize outstanding accounts receivable/accounts payable and seek collection efforts
- Executive Director and Fiscal Development Officer will prepare year-end budget report for Board of Directors and seek Board approval of proposed new fiscal year budget based on contractual obligations, enrollment numbers, annual order costs, and overhead projections.
- The Executive Director develops and discusses the staffing plan in the third quarter with District Central Administration in anticipation of budgetary needs for upcoming fiscal year.
- Executive Director and Financial Development Officer propose budget adjustments prior to year-end report during third quarter to include line item transfers.

IEL/CPS CONSTRUCTION & CAREER ACADEMY

PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET 2015 - 2016

	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	CURREN	PROPOS	\$	%
REVENUE	2012-	2013-	T	ED	VARIANCE	VARIANC
	2013	2014	2014-	2015-		E
			2015	2016		
STATE AID	1,255,888	1,230,541	1,194,388	1,194,388	0	0.00%
CRANSTON CITY AID	623,426	621,516	669,395	724,673	55,278	8.26%
AD REGULAR EDUCATION	579,210	576,602	690,640	691,200	560	0.08%
AD SPECIAL EDUCATION	115,114	0	0	0	0	0.00%
ADULT ED REVENUE	164,399	0	0	0	0	0.00%
CREDIT RECOVERY	0	21,110	16,000	0	-16,000	-100.00%
CONTRIBUTION RESERVE/OPEB	0	23,713	0	0	0	0.00%
REIMBURSED EXPENSES	138,836	45,126	0	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL REVENUES	2,876,873	2,518,608	2,570,423	2,610,261	39,838	1.55%

	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	CURREN	PROPOSED	\$	%
EXPENDITURES	2012-	2013-	T	2015-	VARIANCE	VARIANC
	2013	2014	2014-	2016		E
			2015			
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	101,000	103,020	103,020	103,020	0	0.00%
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	75,644	87,411	87,411	87,411	0	0.00%
RECR/ASST TO EXEC DIR	40,000	35,000	0	0	0	0.00%
PROGRAM COORDINATOR	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
FISCAL MANAGER	60,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	0	0.00%
JOB PLACEMENT SPECIALIST	73,710	73,710	73,710	75,378 1.0	1,668	2.26%
READING	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
SCIENCE	110,473	94,207	108,522	116,720 2.0	8,198	7.55%
MATH	183,718	192,141	144,650	163,702 3.0	19,052	13.17%
SOC STUDIES	130,554	136,789	146,190	152,001 2.0	5,811	3.97%
NURSE	0	0	0	0 0.4	0	0.00%
ENGLISH	138,089	164,305	176,300	186,046 3.0	9,746	5.53%
ART	41,650	44,358	59,642	64,147 1.0	4,505	7.55%
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	99,304	61,756	64,906	71,106 1.4	6,200	9.55%
GUIDANCE/SCHEDULING	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
TECHNOLOGY	75,698	75,698	78,543	79,243 1.0	700	0.89%
REIMBURSED TRANS/GUID	83,369	64,741	0	0	0	0.00%
INSTRUCTORS AM/PM	25,575	5,520	7,200	0	-7,200	-100.00%
PORTFOLIO PREP COORDINATOR	26,250	21,870	8,800	0	-8,800	-100.00%
PROGRAM COORDINATOR	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
JOB PLACEMENT SPECIALIST	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
SCHOOL PARENT LIAISON	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
VIRTUAL LEARNING FACILITATOR	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
SAES	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
TEACHER SUBSTITUTES	15,964	15,317	18,000	17,000	-1,000	-5.56%
CHARTER INSTRUCTORS	235,135	241,150	248,347	255,797	7,450	3.00%
TRANSFORMATION SERVICES		53,750	53,750	53,750	0	0.00%

SECRETARY	39,067	35,442	37,204	38,181	977	2.63%
CLERICAL SUPPORT	0	9,665	13,300	13,300	0	0.00%
CUSTODIANS	25,744	34,007	37,671	38,426	755	2.00%
BENEFITS/PAYROLL TAXES	382,347	416,603	477,460	484,026	6,566	1.38%
RETIREE HEALTH BENEFITS	0	0	3,000	3,000	0	0.00%
EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	160	160	160	160	0	0.00%
RENT	219,454	218,654	218,734	218,734	0	0.00%
PURCHASED SERVICES - UBIO	22,685	25,381	27,250	27,250	0	0.00%
PURCHASED SERVICES	21,120	41,909	55,100	55,000	-100	-0.18%
FIELD TRIPS	704	3,134	3,300	3,300	0	0.00%
VIRTUAL LEARNING	4,000	0	0	0	0	0.00%
UTILITIES: ELECTRICITY	33,394	32,363	33,750	35,654	1,904	5.64%
HEAT	15,935	15,531	14,025	15,500	1,475	10.52%
TELEPHONE	4,279	1,175	2,125	4,125	2,000	94.12%
PROP & SEWER TAXES	61,511	57,566	57,691	62,625	4,934	8.55%
TAXES: PROPERTY	3,600	4,800	4,800	5,300	500	10.42%
E & O	5,050	5,530	6,000	6,500	500	8.33%
WORKERS COMPENSATION	7,500	8,000	8,000	8,500	500	6.25%
UNEMPLOY COMPENSATION	6,792	0	14,000	10,000	-4,000	-28.57%
LEGAL	15,054	3,698	8,000	8,000	0	0.00%
ANNUAL AUDIT	10,000	10,300	10,300	11,000	700	6.80%
SPECIAL ED SERV REIMBURSEMENT	115,114	0	0	0	0	0.00%
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	0	2,733	3,320	3,500	180	5.42%
EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	657	930	1,200	1,200	0	0.00%
SNOW REMOVAL	530	1,295	2,000	2,000	0	0.00%
FEES & DUES (INTERSCHOLASTIC)	1,585	2,559	2,800	2,800	0	0.00%
SPECIAL PROGRAMS	21,721	3,961	9,250	9,250	0	0.00%
STUDENT ACTIVITY	15,400	8,508	5,600	5,600	0	0.00%
STIPENDS						
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	4,011	2,186	5,500	4,500	-1,000	-18.18%
CLASSROOM SUPPLIES	3,000	6,573	6,950	8,500	1,550	22.30%
LIBRARY ADOPTION (Arlington Elem)	0	0		0	0	0.00%
P.E. SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
ADULT ED SUPPLIES & GED Testing	16,612	0	0	0	0	0.00%
CHARTER OFFICE SUPPLIES	8,478	4,863	8,500	8,000	-500	-5.88%
CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES	723	581	1,000	900	-100	-10.00%
CAPITAL OUTLAY	22,518	10,950	34,442	11,109	-23,333	-67.75%
WEBSITE UPGRADES	100	0	0	0	0	0.00%
CLASSROOM IMPROVEMENTS	10,560	8,808	9,000	9,000	0	0.00%
ASSET INVENTORY PROTECTION	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
CONTRIBUTION TO RESERVE	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	2,615,538	2,518,608	2,570,423	2,610,261	39,838	1.55%
BUDGET VARIANCE	261,335	0	0	0	0	



Board of Directors Meeting Report Out

Date of Board of Directors Meeting:	February 25, 2015
Department/Committee Reporting:	Financial Development
Author:	C. Corcelli
Approved By (Executive Director):	<i>Dennis Maluan</i>

Background/ Context:

Operating Budget as of 1/31/2015

Revenue:

As of January 31, we have received 53% of revenue budget. The month's state aid was received but will be reported in February. To date we are awaiting out of district tuitions from two communities.

Expenditures:

As of January 31, we have expended 54% of budget expenditures. Contractual operating expenses are typical for month end. Monitoring continues in purchased services, programs, and supplies; overall, we have remained within general spending limits.

Key issues for consideration:

- Audit Report ending June 30, 2014 prepared and accepted with "clean opinion".
- Copies distributed to State Auditor General, RIDE, NEL, CPS, and Board of Directors.
- In process — State legislative grant renewal
- Approved — Safety Grant, \$1000, for purchase of two-way radios
- Approved — RI Foundation Art grant, Project Jewelry Art, \$700

Recommendation to the Board:

- Continue to support funding formula for charter schools through any means available
- Assist in recruiting efforts through word-of-mouth to various groups

NEL/CPS CONSTRUCTION & CAREER ACADEMY
 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET 2014 - 2015
 AS OF 1/31/15

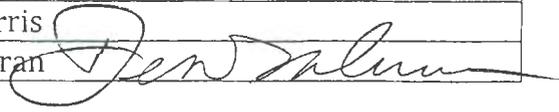
REVENUE	APPROVED 2014-2015	2014-2015		2013-2014	
		January YTD	% USED	January YTD	% USED
STATE AID	1,194,388	597,196	50%	615,270	50%
CRANSTON CITY AID	669,395	439,542	66%	477,236	78%
OD REGULAR EDUCATION	690,640	332,793	48%	392,240	60%
OD SPECIAL EDUCATION	0	0	0%	0	0%
ADULT ED REVENUE	0	0	0%	53,134	43%
CREDIT RECOVERY	16,000	1,800	11%	15,750	0%
CONTRIBUTION RESERVE	0	0	0%	0	0%
REIMBURSED EXPENSES	0	0	0%	28,942	0%
TOTAL REVENUES	2,570,423	1,371,331	53%	1,582,572	60%

EXPENDITURES	APPROVED 2014-2015	2014-2015		2013-2014	
		January YTD	% USED	January YTD	% USED
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	104,050	63,397	61%	62,154	62%
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	88,285	53,791	61%	53,791	62%
RECR/ASST TO EXEC DIR	0	0	0%	20,000	57%
FINANCIAL DEV DIRECTOR	70,700	43,077	61%	43,077	62%
JOB PLACEMENT SPECIALIST	74,447	42,120	57%	42,120	57%
SCIENCE	108,522	61,398	57%	50,969	43%
MATH	144,650	85,386	59%	102,933	53%
SOC STUDIES	146,190	74,701	51%	63,133	46%
NURSE & READING	0	0	0%	0	0%
ENGLISH	176,300	99,745	57%	93,888	56%
ART	59,642	26,995	45%	25,347	57%
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	64,906	32,153	50%	35,357	48%
TECHNOLOGY	78,543	44,437	57%	43,256	55%
REIMBURSED TRANS/GUID	0	0	0%	59,827	0%
CREDIT RECOVERY TEACHERS	7,200	0	0%	0	0%
INSTRUCTORS AN/PM	0	0	0%	5,475	19%
PORTFOLIO PREP COORDINATOR	8,800	8,167	93%	21,870	100%
VIRTUAL LEARNING FACILITATOR	0	0	0%	0	0%
TEACHER SUBSTITUTES	18,000	4,528	25%	5,075	28%
CHARTER INSTRUCTORS	248,347	99,339	40%	96,460	40%
TRANSFORMATION SERVICES	53,750	29,318	55%	29,318	55%
SECRETARY	37,204	22,668	61%	22,267	60%
CLERICAL SUPPORT	13,300	5,373	40%	6,869	37%
CUSTODIANS	37,671	22,193	59%	21,374	63%
BENEFITS/PAYROLL TAXES	474,119	250,305	53%	250,050	52%
RETIREE HEALTH BENEFITS	3,000	0	0%	0	0%
EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	166	0	0%	0	0%
RENT	218,734	151,898	69%	121,439	55%
PURCHASED SERVICES - UBIO	27,250	11,500	42%	11,823	41%
PURCHASED SERVICES	55,100	16,455	30%	22,856	81%
FIELD TRIPS	3,300	536	16%	2,844	190%
VIRTUAL LEARNING	0	0	0%	0	0%
UTILITIES: ELECTRICITY	33,750	18,207	54%	20,348	66%
HEAT	14,025	3,767	27%	6,533	53%
TELEPHONE	2,125	924	43%	926	16%
PROP & SEWER TAXES	57,691	57,691	100%	57,566	100%
INS: PROPERTY	4,800	0	0%	390	8%
E & O	6,000	0	0%	0	0%
WORKERS COMPENSATION	8,000	0	0%	0	0%
UNEMPLOY COMPENSATION	14,000	10,800	77%	0	0%

LEGAL	8,000	2,161	27%	1,806	30%
ANNUAL AUDIT	10,300	0	0%	0	0%
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	3,320	497	15%	1,479	99%
EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	1,200	885	74%	1,162	155%
SNOW REMOVAL	2,000	0	0%	585	59%
FEES & DUES (INTERSCHOLASTIC)	2,800	985	35%	2,160	114%
SPECIAL PROGRAMS	9,250	2,650	29%	1,602	17%
STUDENT ACTIVITY STIPENDS	5,600	210	4%	215	3%
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	5,500	250	5%	1,316	22%
CLASSROOM SUPPLIES	6,950	7,156	103%	7,916	85%
ADULT ED SUPPLIES & GED Testing	0	0	0%	9,697	97%
CHARTER OFFICE SUPPLIES	8,500	3,020	36%	3,723	44%
CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES	1,000	514	51%	671	75%
CAPITAL OUTLAY	34,442	15,263	44%	21,815	121%
WEBSITE UPGRADES	0	0	0%	0	0%
CLASSROOM IMPROVEMENTS	9,000	9,720	108%	14,040	117%
CONTRIBUTION TO RESERVE	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0%</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0%</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	2,570,423	1,384,185	54%	1,467,522	56%
BUDGET VARIANCE	<u>0</u>	<u>(12,854)</u>		<u>115,050</u>	



Board of Directors Meeting Report Out

Date of Board of Directors Meeting:	February 25, 2015
Department/Committee Reporting:	Student Performance
Author:	Carolyn Ferris
Approved By (Executive Director):	Dennis Curran 

Key Topics for Consideration

STAR Reading and Math Assessments:

There are three screening periods each year, Fall, Winter and Spring for STAR Assessments. We are currently in the midst of the 2nd screening. The window officially closes January 30th. We tested 91% of students taking ELA classes and 92% of students taking Math classes. This left an average of 2.5 students not tested per grade in both subject areas. Inclement weather during the last week of the testing window negatively impacted testing.

STAR Student Growth Percentile Data:

Student Growth Percentile (SGP) is analyzed after two screening periods have been concluded. Students' growth is measured and progress monitored by appropriate staff, administration and the consultant throughout the year. Students are assessed looking at Growth and Achievement.

Preliminary growth scores in January show:

- School-wide Math: 55 SGP with 57% Proficient
- School-wide Reading: 69 SGP with 33% Proficient

The district has established a benchmark of 50 Student Growth Percentile (SGP)

*Data for this screening period is currently being analyzed by teachers and used to inform instruction where gaps are evident. Once all students have been assessed for the winter screening we will analyze data by grade level, class and student.

PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness of College and Careers):

PARCC testing window is March 16- April 27th.

The testing schedule for our school is as follows:

Algebra 1: March 16th and 17th
ELA9: March 18th, 19th, and 20th
Geometry: March 23rd and 24th
ELA10: March 25th, 26th and 27th

We are currently conducting technical tutorials with all students who will be tested in PARCC.

Attendance:

We are in our third week of "Attendance Games" perfect attendance initiative.

Two weeks of data shows:

128 perfect attendance tickets were given out to date. 62.5% male and 37.5% female.

Four Year School Data Analysis:

We are very pleased to share with you longitudinal data of the last four years for the school.

We are proud to report that we have improved in all data points!

This includes: Graduation Rate, Drop Out Rate, Chronic Absenteeism Rate, Suspensions, and NECAP Scores

Please see Attachment A

Recommendation to the Board:

STAR:

Continue to monitor student performance looking at Student Growth Percentile after the January screening period for STAR.

Monitor student data for increase/decrease of intervention support needed as we move forward.

PARCC:

Since PARCC testing will be occurring at the time of the March board meeting, monitoring of testing facilitation will be shared at that time.



Four Years of Longitudinal Data for NEL/CPS Construction & Career Academy

School Data Points	2011	2012	2013	2014
Graduation Rate	46%	61%	56%	71%
Drop Out Rate	18.4%	32.8%	15.1%	9.8%
Chronic Absenteeism Rate	65%	53%	56%	49%
# of Suspensions	189	374	150	48 (as of 2/15/15)
NECAP Scores:				
Math:	3%	6%	12%	12%
Reading:	56%	55%	63%	79%
Writing:	8%	22%	17%	41%