

CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 2004

HOPE HIGHLANDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

400 HOPE ROAD

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 5:30 P.M.

PUBLIC SESSION: 7:00 P.M.

AGENDA

I. COMMUNICATIONS

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS

III. MINUTES – July 13, 2004; July 19, 2004

IV. SPEAKERS – Agenda items

V. RESOLUTIONS

SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE

NO. 04-8-5 – Whereas, students from the Cranston Area Career & Technical Center have distinguished themselves through competing in the National Skills USA-VICA Competitions in Kansas City, Missouri June 21 to June 27, 2004, and

Whereas, the following students have distinguished themselves on the national level by winning or finishing in the top twenty-fifth percentile in their respective competitions:

Christine Benetti 2nd Place Robotics Workcell Tech
Alexis Collins 2nd Place Robotics Workcell Tech
Sheila Vasquez 3rd Place Community Service
Theresa Soloyna 3rd Place Community Service
Steven Hebner 10th Place Electronics Technology
Merideth Marchetti 11th Place Preschool Teaching Assistant
Ryan Adams 13th Place Prepared Speech
Alicia Yattaw 16th Place Job Skill B – Aquaculture
Dayna Laorenza 19th Place Graphics Communication
Brian Kenny 23rd Place Advertising Design
Gina Pezza 25th Place` Promotional Bulletin Board
Nicholas DeRobbio 25th Place Promotional Bulletin Board

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Be it RESOLVED that the Cranston School Committee extend its congratulations to all of these students and Mrs. Jean Campbell, Principal/Director; faculty and staff of the Cranston Area Career & Technical Center; and Skills USA-VICA Advisors, Martha Sylvestre and Aimee Duarte; and teachers, Elaine Arbor, Albert Difazio, Edd

Spidell, Louis Giglietti, and Leonard Baker.

SPONSORED BY MR. STYCOS

NO. 04-8-6 – RESOLVED, that the School Committee directs the Superintendent of Schools to prepare a proposed schedule for Cranston High School East and Cranston High School West that includes a minimum of a 22- minute lunch period by the November School Committee Work Session. The proposal should include arguments both for and against the proposal.

NO. 04-8-7 – RESOLVED, that the School Committee endorses the Food Service Director's effort to experiment with ideas to increase sales of more nutritious foods and report back to the Nutrition Committee in October 2004.

NO. 04-8-8 – RESOLVED, that the School Committee requests that the Superintendent prepare a proposal on improving nutrition education in the high schools.

NO. 04-8-9 – RESOLVED, that the School Committee shall send a letter to the Rhode Island Congressional delegation members asking that they work to make Rhode Island one of the states participating in the Fruit and Vegetable Program that currently provides free fruit and vegetable snacks to children in eight states, and that they work with Cranston to obtain grants to promote healthy eating and physical activity, including farm-to-school initiatives. The School Committee

also authorizes the School Nutrition Committee to meet with the Congressional delegation on these issues.

NO. 04-8-10 – RESOLVED, that the School Committee adopts a policy that no prepared food, except food prepared by the Food Service Program, the Culinary Arts Program at the Career and Technical Center, or other school supervised food program (such as Panda’s Pantry at Cranston High School East and Family and Consumer Science classes) may be sold in the schools. This policy does not apply to vending machines and exceptions can be made with the approval of the Food Service Director.

NO. 04-8-11 – RESOLVED, that the School Committee requests that the Superintendent of Schools direct the Food Service Director to prepare food preparation and nutrition guidelines to distribute to anyone preparing free food for birthday parties or other school events. The voluntary guidelines should emphasize food safety, awareness of food allergies, and encourage fruits and vegetables for snacks instead of high sugar and high fat items.

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NO. 04-8-12 – RESOLVED, that the School Committee requests that the Superintendent of Schools recommend that secondary principals

form school based committees to improve cafeteria atmosphere and increase educational posting of nutritional information. Results of the committee's work shall be reported to the Nutrition Committee by January 2005.

NO. 04-8-13 – RESOLVED, that the School Committee adopts a policy that vending machines may sell 100 per cent juice, water and milk all day in the middle and high schools, but that other drinks (soda, sports drinks) may be sold only after school.

NO. 04-8-14 – RESOLVED, that the School Committee adopts a policy that elementary school students shall not be permitted access to vending machines.

NO. 04-8-15 – RESOLVED, that the School Committee adopts a policy that at each location where soda, sports drinks and other drinks are offered, water and 100 per cent juice must also be offered.

NO. 04-8-16 – RESOLVED, that the School Committee recommends to principals that vending machines not be placed so that they compete with the School Food Service Program, especially during meal times. The Committee further recommends that 100 per cent juice and water machines be placed in high traffic areas, while soda and candy machines be placed outside or in athletic areas.

NO. 04-8-17 – RESOLVED, that the School Committee continues the

School Nutrition Committee until June 2005.

ADMINISTRATION

PERSONNEL

NO. 04-8-18 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of Special Education Coordinator, be approved.

NO. 04-8-19 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of Special Education Coordinator, be approved.

NO. 04-8-20 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of elementary principal, be approved.

NO. 04-8-21 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of Special Education Department Chair, Bain Middle School, be approved.

NO. 04-8-22 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed for the 2004-2005 school year:

Jennifer O'Rourke, salary to be at the second step of the prevailing salary schedule

Education – University of Rhode Island, B.S.

Experience – Cranston Public Schools, Long-term Substitute

Certification – Early Childhood, (PK-2)

Assignment – Horton School, Kindergarten, .5FTE

Effective Date of Employment – August 31, 2004

Authorization – Replacement

Fiscal Note: 10811012-512100

Jean Fryburg, salary to be at the fourth step of the prevailing salary schedule

Education – Rhode Island College, B.A.

Experience – Providence School Department

Certification – Science (Secondary and Middle School)

Assignment – Park View Middle School, Science, 1.0 FTE

Effective Date of Employment – August 31, 2004

Authorization – Replacement

Fiscal Note: 12311012-512100

Richard J. Iozzi, salary to be at the tenth step of the prevailing salary schedule

Education – Rhode Island College, B.S.

Experience – East Providence School Department

Certification – Vocational Auto Mechanics

Assignment – Cranston Area Career & Technical Center, Auto Mechanics, 1.0 FTE

Effective Date of Employment – August 31, 2004

Authorization – Replacement

Fiscal Note: 12611012-512100

Gail M. DeRobbio, salary to be at the second step of the prevailing salary schedule

Education – University of Rhode Island, B.A.

Experience – Cranston Public Schools, Substitute

Certification – Elementary (1-6)

Assignment – Horton School, Grade 4, 1.0 FTE

Effective Date of Employment – August 31, 2004

Authorization – Replacement

Fiscal Note: 10811012 512100

Christina Carter, salary to be at the tenth step plus Masters of the prevailing salary schedule

Education – Salve Regna University, B.S.; Lesley University, M.A.

Experience – Sharon, Massachusetts School Department

Certification – Special Education/Early Childhood (Severe/Profound)

Assignment – Stone Hill School, Special Education/Early Childhood, 1.0 FTE

Effective Date of Employment – August 31, 2004

Authorization – Replacement

Fiscal Note: 12732031-512100

Mary Crawford, salary to be at the tenth step, Masters plus 30, of the prevailing salary schedule

Education – Salve Regina College, B.A.; Rhode Island College, MA

Experience – Cranston Public Schools' Retiree

Certification – Elementary/Reading

Assignment – Gladstone School, Literacy Coach, .4 FTE

Effective Date: August 31, 2004

Authorization – New

Fiscal Note: 50919121 512100

Marissa Lombardo, salary to be at the first step of the prevailing salary schedule

Education – University of Rhode Island, B.A.

Experience - Student Teacher, East Providence

Certification - Secondary Mathematics

Assignment – Western Hills Middle School, Mathematics, 1.0 FTE

Effective Date - August 31, 2004

Authorization - Replacement

Fiscal Note: 12911012 512100

NO. 04-8-23 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the

Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

Jennie L. Hebert Elementary

Michael Tomasso English, Middle/Secondary

Maria Ciolfi-Abrams General Subject

Kenneth Kirejczk Social Studies, Middle/Secondary

Karen Saccoccia Special Education, Elementary

Kristen Nelson History, Secondary

Christen Ahern Special Education, Elementary

James E. Colbert Physical Education, PK-12

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Kristen D. Tetreault English, Middle/Secondary

Paul E. Nadeau Elementary

Amanda Longano History, Secondary

Jennifer Kesack Elementary

Deborah Trillo-Pine Elementary, PK-2

Luann S. Turilli Business, Secondary

NO. 04-8-24 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified staff member be granted a leave of absence without compensation as provided in Article XIX, Section B of the Master Agreement between the Cranston School committee and the Cranston Teachers' Alliance:

Lisa-Marie Colantonio, Elementary

Effective Dates: September 2004 – September 2005

NO. 04-8-25 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement of the following certified personnel be accepted:

William C. Brannon, Elementary Principal

Peters School

Effective Date: June 30, 2005

Virginia Pasonelli, Reading

Cranston High School East

Effective Date: June 30, 2005

Janet Tobin, Speech Pathologist

Itinerant

Effective Date: August 31, 2004

James E. Howarth, Social Studies

Western Hills Middle School

Effective Date: July 31, 2004

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NO. 04-8-26 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of the following certified personnel be accepted:

Michael Lazzareschi, Elementary Principal

Gladstone School

Effective Date: August 23, 2004

NO. 04-8-27 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified employees be appointed:

Tina Carter, Site Manager

Assignment – Gladstone School, 21st Century Learning Grant

Effective Date of Employment – September 1, 2004

Fiscal Note: 19643146-514600

Valerie Salinas, Site Manager

Assignment – Bain Middle School, 21st Century Learning Grant

Effective Date of Employment – September 1, 2004

Fiscal Note: 12247418-518200

Meagan Sharkey, Outreach Worker

Assignment – Bain Middle School, 21st Century Learning Grant

Effective Date of Employment – September 1, 2004

Fiscal Note: 12247418-518200

NO. 04-8-28 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

TEACHER ASSISTANTS

Lori Lake

Lori A. Johnson

Mary J. Fontaine

BUS DRIVER

Carole A. Manzi

CUSTODIAN

Frank DiMascio

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NO. 04-8-29 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:

Ann DeCesare, Teacher Assistant

Effective Date: October 15, 2004

NO. 04-8-30 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, named non-certified staff members be laid off from their respective positions due to budgetary reasons.

BUSINESS

NO. 04-8-31 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved:

Photocopier Maintenance for the period from September 1, 2004 to August 31, 2005 in the amount of \$83,057.50

Number of bids issued 6

Number of bids received 5

Science Supplies in the amount of \$18,376.56

Number of bids issued 31

Number of bids received 17

POLICY AND PROGRAM

NO. 04-8-32 - RESOLVED, that Policy No.'s 411.7 and 5141.32, Anti-bullying Policy for students and personnel, be approved for second and final reading. (Policy is attached.)

NO. 04-8-33 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2004-2005 Meeting and Work Session Schedule of the Cranston School Committee be approved.

VI. SPEAKERS – Non-agenda Items

School Committee members who are unable to attend this meeting are asked to notify the Chairwoman in advance.

Notice Posted: August 12, 2004

Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying

(Cranston Public Schools Policy #'s 411.7 and 5141.32)

Policy

The Cranston Public Schools recognizes that each student, staff member, teacher, and administrator has a right to attend and/or work in schools that are safe and secure and are conducive to learning, free from threat of physical or emotional harm, actual or implied.

It is the policy of the Cranston Public Schools that harassment and/or bullying of students by other students, personnel, or the public will not be tolerated. This policy, developed in accordance with R.I.G.L. 16-21-26 which defines "harassment, intimidation or bullying" as:

an intentional written or physical act or threat of a physical act or threat of a physical act that, under the totality of circumstances: (i) A reasonable person should know will have the effect of: physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to his or her person, or placing a student in reasonable fear of damage to his or her property; or (ii) Is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for a student. R.I.G.L. 16-21-26(a)(2).

is in effect while students are on school grounds or property

immediately adjacent, using school transportation, at bus stops, or attending school-sponsored activities, and while away from school grounds if the misconduct directly affects the good order, efficient management, and welfare of the school district.

Definition of Bullying:

Bullying occurs when an individual or group, while at school, intentionally assaults, batters, threatens, harasses, stalks, menaces, intimidates, extorts, humiliates, taunts, shuns or maliciously spreads rumors about others or participates in the organizing of others to engage in any of the aforementioned.

Bullying is most often, but need not be, a repeated pattern of verbal, written or physical behavior of some duration. Bullying can include, but need not be limited to:

- Social/Emotional being intentionally unfriendly, name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumors, taunting, deliberately excluding, treating with disrespect ("dissing"), tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures)**
- Physical pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence**
- Racial racial taunts, graffiti, gestures**
- Sexual unwanted physical attention or contact, sexually abusive**

Comments

· Homophobic because of, or focusing on the issue of sexuality or sexual preference

Any incidences of abusive behavior (verbal, written or physical) including, but not limited to, bullying, harassment, (including sexual harassment as defined by CPS policy #5141.31), blackmail, extortion, intimidation, threats, unwanted physical contact of any kind or fighting will be addressed in accordance with the language regarding such contained in both the secondary and elementary editions of the Cranston Public Schools Disciplinary Policy and Procedure Handbook.

Procedure

- 1. Any student or employee who believes s/he is being harassed, intimidated or bullied should report such circumstances to the appropriate staff member, teacher or administrator immediately.**
- 2. Any student or employee who has information or knowledge of harassing, intimidating or bullying behavior occurring is obligated to report the information to the appropriate staff member, teacher or**

administrator. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.

3. Upon receipt of information describing harassing, intimidating or bullying behavior, the building level administrator, or his/her designee, shall investigate all accusations. If the allegation is found to be credible, appropriate disciplinary sanctions subject to any appropriate due process procedures, and in accordance with available remedies described in the Cranston Public Schools Disciplinary Policy and Procedure Handbook shall be applied.

The anti-bullying policy detailed here has, with the necessary revisions to language contained in both the elementary and secondary Disciplinary Policy and Procedure Handbooks, been developed to produce policy documents that are mutually supportive.

It is the intention of the task force responsible for the development of this policy that ongoing and comprehensive in-service training on the policy and its attendant procedures be provided to all Cranston Public Schools professional staff.