

**CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2006**

**WESTERN HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**400 PHENIX AVENUE**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: 6:00 P.M.**

**PUBLIC SESSION: 7:00 P.M.**

**AGENDA**

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Executive Session – Personnel pursuant to RI State Law 42-46-5(a)(1) Contract and Litigation pursuant to RI State Law 42-46-5(a)(2); and Student Disciplinary Hearing pursuant to RI State Law 42-46-5(a)(8)**

**III. Call to Order – Open Session**

**IV. Roll Call/Quorum**

**V. Executive Session Minutes Sealed – January 9, 2006**

**VI. Minutes of Previous Meetings – December 7, 2005; December 12, 2005;**

**December 20, 2005**

## **VII. Public Acknowledgements/Communications**

## **VIII. Chairperson Communications**

## **IX. Superintendent Communications**

## **X. School Committee Member Communications**

## **XI. Public Hearing**

### **a. Students (Agenda/Non-agenda Items)**

### **b. Members of the Public (Agenda Matters Only)**

## **XII. Consent Calendar/Consent Agenda**

## **RESOLUTIONS**

### **SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE**

**06-1-1 – Whereas, Cranston High School West students Colette Bazirgan, Melanie Chiv, Adrienne Gerard, Stacy Greenberg, Timothy Howarth, Jennifer McElroy, Sara Petronio, and Erica Salk joined together during the holiday season to create and administer a charitable activity in order to benefit several needy Cranston families, and**

**Whereas, Adrienne Gerard, leader of this group, offered Ferns & Flowers Tea House and Gardens to host a series of fundraising**

events to benefit Cranston Comprehensive Action Program (CCAP),  
and

Whereas, the two events sponsored by the students were called  
“Chari-Tea’s”, and

Whereas, these students not only prepared all the food but also  
served it to those in attendance; raising approximately \$1,100.00 to  
include donating all their tips,

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Be it **RESOLVED** that these students be commended and  
congratulated by the Cranston School Committee for their  
thoughtfulness, charitable and generous actions to those less  
fortunate families in our community, and

Be it further **RESOLVED** that they receive a copy of this Resolution  
signed by the members of the committee.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **PERSONNEL**

**NO. 06-1-2 – RESOLVED**, that at the recommendation of the  
Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed for the  
2005-2006 school year:

**Stephanie Rogers, salary to be at the fourth step of the prevailing salary schedule**

**Education – Quinnipiac University, BS**

**Experience – Children’s Friends and Service**

**License – Occupational Therapy**

**Assignment – Itinerant, Occupational Therapist, 1.0 FTE**

**Effective Date of Employment – February 1, 2006**

**Authorization – Replacement**

**Fiscal Note: 14732010 511440**

**NO. 06-1-3 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:**

**Claudia Cunniff Elementary/Middle Special Education**

**Jessica Mathias Music, K-12**

**Angelo Pizzi General Subject Matter, K-12**

**Frank Notarianni General Subject Matter, K-12**

**Nancy Keeley Elementary/Middle Special Education**

**Elaine Sardella Elementary**

**Christine Ferranti Early Childhood Elementary, PK-2**

**NO. 06-1-4 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement of the following certified personnel be accepted:**

**Arlene E. Daley, Teacher**

**Glen Hills School**

**Effective Date: June 30, 2006**

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**NO. 06-1-5 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of the following certified personnel be accepted:**

**Jean Delaney, Teacher**

**Cranston High School West**

**Effective Date: December 13, 2005**

**NO. 06-1-6 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified employees be appointed:**

**Diane Wedge, Three-hour Food Service Worker**

**Food Service**

**Effective Date of Employment – December 7, 2005**

**Fiscal Note: 31347179 511000**

**Karen Walsh, Teacher Assistant**

**Oak Lawn School DLP**

**Effective Date of Employment – January 10, 2006**

**Fiscal Note: 10332119 519500**

**Kimberly Lettieri, Bus Driver**

**Transportation**

**Effective Date of Employment – January 10, 2006**

**Fiscal Note: 14347543 517200**

**NO. 06-1-7 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:**

**William Kuski, Custodian**

**Plant**

**Effective Date: January 2, 2006**

**POLICY AND PROGRAM**

**NO. 06-1-8 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, Policy No. 5123, Proficiency Based Diploma Policy,**

**be amended for second and final reading.**

**NO. 06-1-9 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following field trips/conferences of long duration be authorized:**

**Norma Cole, Principal of Garden City School, to travel to San Antonio, Texas, to attend the National Association of Elementary and Secondary Principals Conference from March 30, 2006 to April 4, 2006.**

#### **TABLED RESOLUTION**

#### **SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE**

**NO. 05-12-27 – Whereas, the City of Cranston FY '06 Budget is inconsistent with the needs of the Cranston Public Schools;**

**Whereas, the Municipal Executive has suggested litigation as the means of resolving differences between the Cranston Public Schools and the City relating to the FY '06 Budget;**

**Whereas, litigation only promises the expenditure of unnecessary funds that can be utilized in support of Cranston Schools;**

**Be it RESOLVED that the School Committee assigns the Superintendent, with the assistance of any and all internal staff, with the following tasks:**

- 1. To adopt a hiring freeze for all new personnel and non-essential replacements;**
- 2. To adopt a spending freeze for all non-essential materials;**
- 3. To confer with representatives of the Executive and Legislative branches of the Municipal Government to recommend solutions to the existing differences between the Cranston School Committee and the City relating to the FY '06 budget;**
- 4. To recommend suggested courses of action to the Cranston School Committee in order to resolve said differences;**
- 5. To report achieved progress and status of the above to the School Committee by January 5, 2006.**

### **XIII. Action Calendar/Action Agenda**

### **XIV. New Business**

### **XV. Public Hearing on Non-agenda Items**

### **XVI. Announcement of Future Meetings**

## **XVII. Adjournment**

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

**Notice Posted: January 5, 2006**

**PROFICIENCY BASED DIPLOMA POLICY 5123**

### **Students**

#### **Promotion/Retention**

##### **Promotion**

##### **Elementary / Middle School**

**In general, students will be placed at the grade level to which they are best adjusted academically, socially and emotionally. Students will usually progress annually from grade to grade, spending one year in each grade. However, some students will profit by staying another year in the same grade. In such cases, the parent will be contacted in advance, although the final decision will rest with the school authorities.**

**Following sound principles of child guidance, it will be the Cranston Public Schools' policy not to advocate the skipping of grades.**

### **High School**

**On the high school level (Grades 9 through 12), this policy recognizes uniform graduation requirements to ensure that Cranston high school graduates leave with an educational experience that prepares them to demonstrate proficiency in a common core of studies. This enables students to produce evidence and reach proficiency that supports the following: that they are an inquisitive, literate, culturally aware, life-long learner, with positive self-esteem, who is able to think creatively and to analyze information critically. The student is a resourceful, technologically proficient worker, who contributes to team efforts. As a responsible citizen, the student is an ethical, self-reliant, and socially responsible member of the global community.**

**A student must complete the four components of the Rhode Island Department of Education's Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements to be eligible to receive a high school diploma from the Cranston Public Schools. The four components are as follows:**

- Completion of 20 Carnegie Units in designated course work (Six Core Areas)**

- **Participation in end of course assessments**
- **Participation in the Rhode Island Department of Education's Assessment Program**
- **Completion of the Digital Proficiency Portfolio yearly artifact requirements at the proficiency level**

**The number of subjects passed and credits earned as well as completing the above-noted Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements will determine a student's progress towards graduation. When it has been determined that students have successfully completed the work prescribed for their grade level, they shall be promoted to the next grade level.**

**Cranston Public Schools, in compliance with the Rhode Island Department of Education's High School Regulations, will implement the New High School Diploma System commencing with the Graduating Class of 2008. High school students will be required to pass and earn a minimum of 20 credits in specific content areas, as one measure, to earn a high school diploma from the Cranston Public Schools.**

**Indicated below are the minimum 20 credits required as part of the Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements that must be met by all students commencing with the Class of 2008.**

#### **CONTENT AREA CREDITS**

**English 4 credits**

**Mathematics 4 credits (3 credits in mathematics classes; 1 credit in a math related content course.\*)**

**Science 2 credits**

**Social Studies 2 credits—(1 credit must be in US History)**

**Physical Education**

**Health 1 credit--.25 credits each year in Physical Education.**

**1 credit--.25 credits each year in Health. Students excused from physical education due to medical reasons must complete the health portion of the curriculum.**

**Digital Proficiency Portfolio 1 credit--.25 credits each year.**

**Fine Arts .5 Credits**

**Computer Technology .5 Credits**

**Electives The remaining 4 credits should be selected in conjunction with the student's guidance counselor and parent/guardian, while considering the student's goals and personal objectives to meet graduation requirements.**

**TOTAL MINIMUM CREDITS 20**

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**\*Cranston Public Schools will publish a list of acceptable courses from which students may select to meet the 4th credit in mathematics. This course credit will count towards mathematics and cannot be used to meet the minimum graduation requirement of 20 credits in any other content area.**

**Proficiency Based Diploma Policy 5123 (Continued)**

**Students will be required to demonstrate their proficiency in six core-content areas: English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, The Arts, Technology as well as the Applied Learning Skills. Students will be required to use multiple measures of performance that are consistent with the Rhode Island Common Core of Learning adopted by the Rhode Island Board of Regents. Student proficiency will be demonstrated by a minimum of two measures**

**chosen by the Cranston Public Schools. These measures are end-of-course assessments and the digital proficiency portfolio.**

**Grade placement shall be the responsibility of the principal following consultation with professional staff. This placement shall be based on general achievement in relationship to the above-noted Rhode Island Department of Education's Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements with consideration being provided to the psychological, physical, social and emotional maturity of the student.**

**Grade placement is based on course credits earned and digital proficiency artifacts as follows:**

- Grade 10 at least 5 credits and 10 digital proficiency artifacts and 10 reflections**
- Grade 11 at least 10 credits and 20 digital proficiency artifacts and 20 reflections**
- Grade 12 at least 15 credits and 30 digital proficiency artifacts and 30 reflections**

**Policy adopted: March 20, 1972**

**Policy amended: CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Resolution No.: CRANSTON, RI**