

CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2010

HOPE HIGHLANDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

300 HOPE ROAD

EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:00 P.M.

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED BY PUBLIC SESSION

AGENDA

1. Call to order – 6:00 p.m. Convene to Executive Session Pursuant to RI State Laws PL 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel; PL 42-46-5 (a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation (Contract Negotiations' Update – Food Service, Teachers, Teacher Assistants/Bus Aides, Technical Assistants, Secretaries, Custodians) (Cranston Area Career & Technical Center); PL 42-46-5 (8)(a) Student Disciplinary Hearing

2. Executive Session

3. Call to Order – Public Session

4. Roll Call/Quorum

5. Executive Session Minutes Sealed – June 14, 2010

6. Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings – May 13th, May 19th, and May 27th, 2010

7. Public Acknowledgements/Communications

8. Chairperson's Communications

9. Superintendent's Communications

10. School Committee Member Communications

11. Public Hearing

a. Students (Agenda/Non-agenda Items)

b. Members of the Public (Agenda Matters Only)

12. Consent Agenda / Consent Calendar

RESOLUTIONS

ADMINISTRATION

PERSONNEL

NO. 10-6-11 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the

Superintendent, said certified personnel be recalled from layoff, and

Be it further RESOLVED, that the Superintendent notify those individuals of the committee's actions.

NO. 10-6-12- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

Ashley Giansanti, Secondary English

NO. 10-6-13- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified employee(s) be appointed:

Jonathyn Pirolli, PT Custodian

Edgewood Highland

Effective Date...June 15, 2010

Authorization...Replacement

Fiscal Note...1304748 1518200

NO. 10-6-14- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

Beverly Vale, Secretary

NO. 10-6-15- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement(s) of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:

Michaela Geary, Bus Aide

Transportation

Effective Date...July 3, 2010

Lila Dixon, Bus Aide

Transportation

Effective Date...June 29, 2010

POLICY AND PROGRAM

POLICIES

NO. 10-6-16 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, Policy #5124 (a) and #5124 (b) District Grading Policy (as amended), be approved for second and final reading. (Policy attached).

NO. 10-6-17 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, Policy #6165.1 Special Education – Procedural

Safeguards Notice (as amended), be approved for second and final reading. (Policy attached).

NO. 10-6-18- RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, Policy #5131.1(a) School Bus Conduct (as amended), be approved for first reading. (Policy Attached)

BUSINESS

PURCHASES AND PURCHASED SERVICES

NO. 10-6-19 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved. Subscriptions in the amount of \$9,936.09 (Pending the availability of funding 2010-11)

Number of bids issued 4

Number of bids received 4

NO. 10-6-20 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved. Kindergarten supplies in the amount of \$4,114.63. (Pending the availability of funding 2010-11)

Number of bids issued 13

Number of bids received 8

NO. 10-6-21- RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved. Physical Education supplies in the amount of \$5,630.54. (Pending the

availability of funding 2010-11)

Number of bids issued 18

Number of bids received 8

NO. 10-6-22 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved.

Math Manipulatives in the amount of \$9,000.25 (Pending the availability of funding 2010-11)

Number of bids issued 7

Number of bids received 5

NO. 10-6-23 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved.

Athletic supplies in the amount of \$20,445.46.

Number of bids issued 16

Number of bids received 11

NO. 10-6-24 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved.

Photocopy supplies in the amount of \$42,867.45 (Pending the availability of funding 2010-11)

Number of bids issued 6

Number of bids received 4

**NO. 10-6-25 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved.
Computer supplies in the amount of \$54,142.25 (Pending the
availability of funding 2010-11)**

Number of bids issued 9

Number of bids received 3

**NO. 10-6-26 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved.
Science supplies in the amount of \$19,013.47 (Pending the
availability of funding 2010-11)**

Number of bids issued 16

Number of bids received 11

**NO. 10-6-27 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved.
Art supplies in the amount of \$36,932.52 (Pending the availability of
funding 2010-11)**

Number of bids issued 18

Number of bids received 13

12. Action Calendar / Action Agenda

13. New Business

14. Public Hearing on Non-agenda Items

15. Announcement of Future Meetings (July 14th and July 19th, 2010)

16. Adjournment

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

Any changes in the agenda pursuant to RIGL 42-46-6(e) will be posted on the school district's website at www.cpsed.net, Cranston Public Schools' Administration Building, 845 Park Avenue, Cranston, RI; and Cranston City Hall, 869 Park Avenue, Cranston, RI and will be electronically filed with the Secretary of State at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting.

Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Superintendent's Office at 270-8170 72 hours in advance of hearing date.

Notice Posted: June 10, 2010/Cranston Herald

DISTRICT GRADING POLICY 5124(a)

Students

Reporting to Parents/Guardians and Students

Procedure

- 1. Teachers will be expected to maintain accurate records of student progress and class attendance. These records will be used to determine quarterly grades.**
- 2. Teachers will be expected to use a variety of means to determine and report student progress. Never should the quarterly grade be determined on the basis of just one test or project.**
- 3. Behavior/citizenship will not be considered a factor in the determination of the academic grade. There is a separate code for noting student decorum.**
- 4. The following numerical equivalent for use in the letter grade reporting system will be used by all secondary teachers for the calculation of all marking period and cumulative grades:**

97-100 A+ Superior

93-96 A Excellent

90-92 A- Outstanding

87-89 B+ Very good

83-86 B Good

80-82 B- Above average

77-79 C+ High average

73-76 C Average

70-72 C- Low average

65-69 D Poor

50-64 F Failure (Eligible for summer school)

00-49 F- Low Failure (Eligible for summer school as determined by the principal)

5. The calculation and reporting of each marking period grade will be independent of the grade earned during the preceding marking period(s).

6. The cumulative grade considers each marking period grade as a separate and equal grade, and it will be reported as an average of the equivalent numerical grades.

7. Progress reports will be issued at the approximate midpoint of each marking period to all students with an apparent cumulative or marking period grade average in the failing range. The purpose of the progress report is to provide a warning and to seek grade improvement. Any teacher issuing a failing grade without first having issued a progress warning – for reasons beyond the teachers' control, will do so only with the permission of the principal.

Students 5124(b)

Reporting to Parents/Guardians and Students

Procedure continued:

8. Student grades will be treated as a confidential communication

between the school and the student/home. Grades of individuals will not be publically posted or announced.

9. Nothing in this procedure will exclude a student's right of appeal.

Report Card Comments

In addition to class grades, the report card includes a score for "effort" and "citizenship"

(1-Excellent, 2-Satisfactory, or 3-Unsatisfactory) as well as an area for each teacher to provide up to three comments. These comments are chosen from a list that is approved by the School Committee, which includes both positive feedback and areas of concern. These comments are also used for progress reporting at the midpoint of each quarter.

Progress Reports

Progress reports are an important form of communication between the classroom teacher and the parent. Progress reports do represent an opportunity for the teacher to communicate positive messages to parents. Progress reports also represent an attempt to notify the parent and student of serious academic concerns and, more importantly, to elicit parental involvement so that remediation of the problem(s) can take place prior to the end of the quarter in accordance with the following procedure:

- Progress reports are to be sent to parents when the need becomes**

obvious or at the middle of the first, second, third and fourth marking periods under the following conditions:

- 1. Whenever a student is failing or is in danger of failing on a quarterly and/or cumulative basis.**
- 2. Whenever a student's quarterly grade has dropped two or more letter grades (second, third, fourth marking periods).**
- 3. Whenever a teacher determines that a progress report would be helpful.**
- 4. Whenever a student is in danger of failing, after the progress report and before the end of the quarter, the parent will be notified in writing.**

Present technology provides an opportunity for the teacher to easily convey an expanded number of remarks to the student/parent, both in the form of praise or notes for improvement. In keeping with the intent of The Cranston Public Schools to provide clear, accurate, and timely information, this committee therefore recommends that:

- The available comment option of the progress reporting system be explored and possibly expanded.**

Students 5124(c)

Reporting to Parents/Guardians and Students

Grade Point Average Calculations

In keeping with guidelines of the National Association of Secondary

School Principals, the table below will be used to assign quality points based on final grades in all courses. These quality points will be used to calculate a grade point average. This system utilizes a two level (Honors-AP, College Prep-General) system to encourage and reward students to participate in as vigorous an academic program as is reasonable. The grade point average is used to determine eligibility for the high school honor roll, membership in the several honor societies, and the student's rank in class.

CORE COURSES

MARK HONORS C.P. GENERAL

A+ 5.3 4.3 4.3

A 5.0 4.0 4.0

A- 4.7 3.7 3.7

B+ 4.3 3.3 3.3

B 4.0 3.0 3.0

B- 3.7 2.7 2.7

C+ 3.3 2.3 2.3

C 3.0 2.0 2.0

C- 2.7 1.7 1.7

D 1.0 1.0 1.0

F 0 0 0

F- 0 0 0

M not included in calculations

N not included in calculations

S not included in calculations

W not included in calculations

U not included in calculations

A Core Course is one which is at least 75% academically oriented and has course objectives designed to prepare the student for matriculation at a four year college.

1. AP and Honor* courses will be weighted the equivalent of one letter grades. These courses will not be weighted if the final grade is below “C”.

2. Non-core courses will be treated as general courses unless specifically approved otherwise by the Director of Curriculum or Assistant Superintendent.

3. Grade point average will be calculated using the final cumulative grade.

Students 5124(d)

Reporting to Parents/Guardians and Students

Grade Point Average Calculations Continued

4. A cumulative grade point average will be calculated at the end of grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 for all students.

***Early Enrollment courses are considered Honor Courses.**

POLICY AMENDED: July 20, 2009 CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

RES. NO. 09-7-19 CRANSTON, RHODE ISLAND

POLICY AMENDED: June 14, 2010

Resolution No. 10-6-16

CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS POLICY #5131.1(a)

SCHOOL BUS CONDUCT

Regulations For Transporting School Children

1. The driver is in full charge of the bus and pupils. Pupils must obey the driver promptly and willingly.

2. Pupils shall ride their regularly assigned bus at all times, unless permission has been granted by the school authorities. School authorities should verify with the driver the availability of extra seating space and issue bus passes for non-regular riders if it will cause standees on the bus.

3. Unless by written permission of school authorities, no pupil shall be permitted to leave the bus except at his or her regular stop.

4. Each pupil must be assigned a seat in which he will be seated at all times unless permission to change is given by the school principal and/or driver.

5. Outside of ordinary conversation, classroom conduct must be observed.

6. Pupils are to assist in keeping the bus clean by keeping their waste paper off the floor. Pupils must also refrain from throwing refuse out of the windows. To help keep the bus clean, eating is not allowed.

7. No pupil will smoke or light matches on a school bus.

8. No pupil shall at any time extend his or her head, hands or arms out of the windows, whether the school bus is in motion or standing still.

9. No pupil shall open a window on the school bus without first getting permission from the school bus driver.

10. Pupils must see that they have nothing in their possession that may cause injury to another, such as sticks, breakable containers, any type of firearms, straps or pins extending from their clothing.

11. No animal is permitted on the bus, with the exception of service animals. Service animals must be accompanied by pupil(s).

12. Each pupil must see that his books and personal belongings are kept out of the aisle. Special permission must be granted by school authorities to transport any large items.

13. No pupil will be allowed to talk to the driver more than is necessary.

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14. No pupil shall sit in the driver's seat, nor shall any pupil be located to the immediate left or right of the driver.

15. Pupils are to remain seated while the bus is in motion, and they are not to get on or off the bus until it has come to a full stop.

16. Pupils must leave the bus in an orderly manner and must obey the orders of the school bus driver. They must not cross the highway until given consent by the school bus driver. When boarding or

leaving the bus, pupils should be in view of the driver at all times.

17. Pupils must cross the highway at least 10 feet in front of the school bus and never behind it.

18. Pupils must not stand or play in the roadway while waiting for the bus. Pupils should leave home early enough to arrive at the bus stop before the bus is due. When the bus approaches the stop, student(s) shall remain over to the right until the bus makes a complete stop. There shall be no pushing or shoving on boarding the bus.

19. Self-discipline should be exercised by pupils at the bus loading area. Students should refrain from pushing and shoving other students.

20. Pupils who have to walk some distance along the highway to the bus loading zone, where practicable, must walk on the left hand side facing the on-coming traffic. This will also apply to pupils leaving the bus loading zone in the evening.

21. Students' misconduct on a bus will be sufficient reason to discontinue providing bus transportation to those students involved.

22. In the event of an actual emergency, emergency exit procedures, as established by the emergency exit drills, will be followed.

23. Parents of students damaging school buses will be responsible for proper reimbursement to the school district.

24. Pupils are not to run errands between the bus stop and their home.

DISCIPLINE ON SCHOOL BUSES IS PROBABLY ONE OF THE BIGGEST PROBLEMS CONFRONTING SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS TODAY. MUCH EMPHASIS HAS RIGHTLY BEEN PLACED ON IT BY THE PUBLIC. WHERE ONCE THE BURDEN OF RESPONSIBILITY WAS PLACED ONLY WITH THE BUS DRIVER, IT HAS BECOME A COMMUNITY EFFORT OF COOPERATION WITH PARENTS, SCHOOL BOARDS, ADMINISTRATORS AND BUS DRIVERS.

SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION IS AN EXTENSION OF A SCHOOL SYSTEM AND SHOULD BE CARRIED OVER INTO THE SCHOOL BUS.

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Policy Adopted: 11/26/73 Policy Amended: 8/16/76

CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Policy Amended: Resolution No. 10- CRANSTON,
RHODE ISLAND**