

**NARRAGANSETT SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD August 20, 2014**

The form and content of these minutes conform to commonly accepted standards and shall become the official record of the meeting after review and approval by the School Committee. By definition, minutes are not a verbatim record of the proceedings.

The regular meeting of the Narragansett School Committee was held on Wednesday, August 20, 2014, at the Narragansett Town Hall – Assembly Area, 25 Fifth Avenue, Narragansett, Rhode Island.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE:** Ms. Tammy McNeiece, Chairperson; Dr. Diane Nobles, Vice Chairperson, Mr. Frank White, Mr. Guy deWardener, and Mr. Keith Ranaldi.

**OTHER SCHOOL OFFICIALS ATTENDANCE:** Ms. Katherine E. Sipala, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Karen Hagen, Director of Finance and Administration; Ms. Leslie Brow, Director of Student Services; Mr. Dan Warner, Principal, Narragansett High School; and Mr. Toby Gibbons, Assistant Principal, Narragansett High School.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. McNeiece called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

**SEAL EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF AUGUST 20, 2014 MEETING:**

**MOTION:** moved by Mr. DeWardener, seconded by Dr. Nobles to seal the Executive Session Minutes of August 20, 2014.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

Tammy McNeiece-Aye     Diane Nobles-Aye  
Frank White-Aye         Guy deWardener-Aye  
Keith Ranaldi-Aye

**REPORT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION VOTES.** The Committee approved eleven (11) Homeschooling requests (5-0).

**OPEN FORUM:** No one spoke.

**ORAL REPORTS:**

1. **School Committee Reports:**

Mr. Ranaldi reported on the Health and Wellness Committee progress. They have been looking at the school lunch offerings and working on ways to get input and involvement from students. Ms. Ranaldi highlighted our new food services company Aramark. They will be working with the Mariner Foodies and will be paring up with the media center for producing promotions about healthy food and eating. The NES Grab and Go breakfast offerings have been a success and Mr. Ranaldi looks forward to rolling out this program at the Middle and High Schools in the future. He reminds the public that the Committee is looking for more parent, teacher and student involvement.

Ms. McNeiece reported that the NCACF is still going strong and gearing up for the election and representation at the polls advocating for the Bond referendum. Messages will be going out on the list serve. Ms. McNeiece reminded the Committee, and the public, that there will be a 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunset Cruise Fundraiser on September 16<sup>th</sup>, and that the brick paver campaign will continue to run through November 2014.

2. **School Reports:**

Ms. Leslie Brow reported on the recent Special Education School Support System Report. Three teams of four were assigned to one of the focus areas: monitoring, delivery of programs or service for student with exceptionalities. Regulations and effective programing and services were assessed across the following indicators: Free Appropriate Public Education in the Least Restrictive Environment; IDEA Transition; and Evaluation/Individual Education Program.

The District's Highlights in this review include: the Least Restrictive Environment data which shows that 76.2% of Narragansett students are educated in the general education environment, compared with the State average of only

63.12%; and also 3.03% of Narragansett students are educated for less than 40% of their time in the general education setting compared with the State average of 16.60%. Narragansett also achieved 100% compliance that all children referred from Early Intervention and eligible students had IEPs developed and implemented by their 3rd birthday.

Discussion: Mr. Ranaldi asked whether or not a home life report is used as part of the criteria? Ms. Brow replied that yes, there is a report done as part of the evaluation which includes input from the parents.

### NHS School Schedule 2014-15 TASC Scheduling

TASC (Teachers in Academic Support Centers) was developed in response to the essential question: How can we fit RTI -- i.e. opportunities for relearning, extensions and enrichments as well as mentoring and advising -- effectively into the school day? NHS used a version of ConVal High School's model for the RTI intervention block. Teachers from NHS visited ConVal, and those teachers came here. TASC has been a regular part of ConVal's instructional day since the fall of 2011

TASC is a student driven, teacher directed, model geared to additional time for learning. For example, on Mondays during advisory, students will decide where they will go on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Staff is very supportive of this initiative and this year will be a pilot year at NHS for TASC. TASC involves teachers, paraprofessionals, specialists, guidance counselors, and administrators by ensuring that RTI occurs in a personalized and differentiated manner during regular school hours.

Discussion: Ms. McNeiece asked about how the students will be accommodated based on grades if a student has a C- or below in more than one subject. Mr. Warner replied that those students would be part of the RTI plan. Teachers will help to make the decisions based on a computer program. The first couple of weeks, students will stay in Advisory, and then once grades start to be generated, the TASC system will be applied. The cap will be at a group of 15 students per teacher in a 41 minute block. Ms. Pelopida explained that there is a rotation and that no student will monopolize a particular teacher. On Fridays it will be scheduled for the following week.

The program is computer based and the students will be entering their preferences electronically. The students, and teachers, will get a printout of the schedules. Mr. Herz explained that there will also be extra help offered after school as well. This program is to target those students either missing work or that need help with their work. There will also be opportunities for enrichment which will be reviewed and thought about as the program rolls out.

Mr. Ranaldi wanted to know about the review process and how we will determine the effectiveness of this new process for all students. Ms. McNeiece asked whether we can generate reports that will tell us where students are spending this time, and how many and what students the teachers are servicing. Mr. Warner explained that Department heads, Principals, RTI etc., will be able to run reports.

Discussion: Mr. Ranaldi asked about more partnering with Middle and Elementary Schools. He also wanted to ask about the "Open House" at the Middle School and High School. He asked where the process is and when the Open Houses are planned for.

Mr. Warner explained that there is an Open House planned for September for NHS students, and that more formal Open Houses are also being planned for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Mr. Toby Gibbons addressed the potential of bringing the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders into the High School – participating in the Homecoming events, and looking to have them participate in other events including band, chorus, and plays.

### 3. Superintendent's Report:

Mrs. Sipala updated the Committee regarding Health & Wellness, and offered that staff Health and Wellness is also important. Ms. Deborah Ranaldi just sent out a notice about a Yoga class being offered. Staff is offered opportunities regularly and there is a local grant in place to help offset the cost for employees.

Ms. Sipala also informed the Committee on recent Legislative action that will affect us, including: the Education Funding formula, which will continue and will give us more in state aid (\$200K in additional funds) to help the

budget; high school graduation requirements; a moratorium on the use of standardized testing as a requirement for graduation (we will have to adjust our policy slightly to reflect this); legislation passed making Teacher Evaluation a cyclical process, based on ratings; and also Legislation passed changing the Teacher Lay off notification date from March 1 to June 1. Unfortunately, there continues to be moratorium on school housing aid reimbursements.

The Narragansett School System will be on the Agenda at RIDE on Monday, August 25, 2014 at 5:30 PM, in room 501, for our Health and Safety Plan approval. There was a full study done by RGB which outlined \$2.8 million dollars worth of projects for which we will be eligible for 40% reimbursement. Targeted areas include ventilation, lighting, roofs, and parking lots.

The Superintendent also noted that the Narragansett Schools opens this year on August 26<sup>th</sup> for all students.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of Minutes:

- A. July 23, 2014 Executive Session-Limited Distribution CA-1A
- B. July 23, 2014 Regular Business Meeting CA-1B

2. Routine Personnel Actions:

Appointments – Other

Behrends, William, Attendance Officer, District, Compensation: \$19,000, effective for the 2014-15 school year.

Appointments – Certified

Gartner, Eric, 0.05 Computer, NHS, Step 10: effective for the 2014-15 school year.

Herz, Christopher, 0.05 Computer, NHS, Step 10: effective for the 2014-15 school year.

Archambault, Priscilla, .3 Family & Consumer Science, NHS, Compensation: Step 10: effective for the 2014-15 school year.

Transfers – Certified

Chartier, Emily, 1.0 Math Coach, NPS/NHS, Step 10 plus Masters: effective August 25, 2014.

Retirements – Certified

Sullivan, Melanie, LEA Rep, NPS, Effective July 31, 2014.

Appointments – Coaches NHS

Healey, Dean	Assistant Football Coach	Stipend: \$4653.32
Paliotti, Mark	CO-Assistant Football Coach	Stipend: \$1635.59
Wnuk, Ed	CO-Assistant Football Coach	Stipend: \$1965.05
Millen Jr, Michael	Volunteer Assistant Football Coach	Stipend: N/A
Paliotti, Kristen	Co-Head Cheerleading Coach	Stipend: \$1441.29
Budaj, Kristina	Volunteer Assistant Unified Volleyball Coach	Stipend: N/A
Stroup, Paul	Volunteer Unified Volleyball Coach	Stipend: N/A

Appointments - Teacher Leaders/Extra Curr. Positions - NES - School Year 2014-15

Moniz, Suzanne	Teacher Leader Grade 2	Stipend: \$3000.0
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Appointments—Dept Heads/Extra Curricular Positions – NHS - School Year 2014-15

McNamara, Gabriela	World Language Department Chair	Stipend: \$5000.00
Pinch, Steven	Guidance Department Chair	Stipend: \$5000.00
Gabrilowitz, Lauren	Unified Arts Department Chair	Stipend: \$5000.00
Pelopida, Agnes	English Department Chair	Stipend: \$5000.00
Manchette, Andrea	Math Department Chair	Stipend: \$5000.00
Krous, Sarah	Science Department Chair	Stipend: \$5000.00
Zaborski, Ann Marie	Social Studies Department Chair	Stipend: \$5000.00
Morgan, Carol	SPED Department Chair	Stipend: \$5000.00

3. Reports:

- A. Enrollment Report CA-3A
- B. Budget Transfers CA-3B
- C. Maintenance Report CA-3C

**MOTION:** moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. deWardener, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the Consent Agenda items CA-1A, CA-1B, CA-2, CA-2 Addendum, CA-3A, CA-3B, CA-3C).

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

Tammy McNeiece-Aye Diane Nobles-Aye  
Frank White-Aye Guy deWardener- Aye  
Keith Ranaldi-Aye

Discussion: Mr. White wanted to acknowledge that there was tremendous help from Lyn Budaj and Karen Hagan with regard to the contract negotiations. Mr. White asked about the low Kindergarten enrollment numbers.

**BUDGET REPORT** Mr. White reported that as of July 31, 2014, \$797,446.98 (2.87%) of the FY14 Budget of \$27,738,098.00 has been expended, and \$23,398,643.97 (84.36%) has been expended and encumbered.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

1. Approval of Daniel R. Barry & Associates Contract Extension

**MOTION:** moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. deWardener to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the Contract Extension for the period beginning August 1, 2014 and ending November 15, 2014 for the Narragansett Community Athletic Complex Fundraising Daniel R. Barry & Associates Contract Extension \$13,125.00.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

Tammy McNeiece-Aye Diane Nobles-Aye  
Frank White-Aye Guy deWardener- Aye  
Keith Ranaldi-Aye

Discussion: Mr. Dan Barry spoke to the Committee “Vote yes on #9” will be the message through to the election. There will be a letter to the editor and a “Red Tide Weekend”– all red lawn signs in support of Bond Referendum, as well as supporters at the polls. The Murray Challenge Postcard Campaign will be mailing postcards to Vote Yes on #9. There will be a reception on October 2<sup>nd</sup> hosted by the Durkins. This will be a fundraiser as well as a rally.

2. Approval of Tuition Rate for the 2014-15 SY

**MOTION:** moved by Dr. Nobles, seconded by Mr. deWardener to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, and the Director of Finance & Administration, to approve the Tuition Rates for the 2014-15 school year.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

Tammy McNeiece-Aye Diane Nobles-Aye  
Frank White-Aye Guy deWardener- Aye  
Keith Ranaldi-Aye

3. Approval of Substitute Pay and Part-time Work Pay Schedule 2014-15

**MOTION:** moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. deWardener to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, and the Director of Finance & Administration, to approve the Substitute Pay and Part-time Work Pay Schedule for the 2014-15 school year.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

Tammy McNeiece-Aye Diane Nobles-Aye  
Frank White-Aye Guy deWardener- Aye  
Keith Ranaldi-Aye

