

NARRAGANSETT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD September 17, 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 September 17, 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. Karen Hagen, Director of Finance and Administration; Ms. Leslie Brow, Director of Student Services; Mr. Dan Warner, Principal, Narragansett High School; Mr. Toby Gibbons, Assistant Principal, Narragansett High School; Ms. Marianne Kirby, Principal, Narragansett Pier School; Ms. Gail Dandurand, Principal, Narragansett Elementary School; Mr. David Correia, Director of Transportation; and Mr. Dick Fossa, NHS Athletic Director.

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. McNeiece called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

SEAL EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2014 MEETING:

MOTION: moved by Mr. deWardener, seconded by Dr. Nobles to seal the Executive Session Minutes of September 17, 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. There were no votes taken.

OPEN FORUM: No one spoke.

ORAL REPORTS:

I. School Reports

Narragansett High School:

Mr. Dan Warner welcomed new and returning faculty. In Special Education: Hope Anderson, Nicole Tavarozzi and Velen Foster; new Chorus Teacher, Sarah Kane; and School Nurse, Marianne Adams who transferred from the Elementary School. NHS will continue to offer Extended School Day, Monday through Thursday, for students to get extra help and support with their work. In addition, we continue to our transition to the new schedule that will provide in-school academic support during advisory (TASC).

NHS Open House will take place on Thursday, September 18th, beginning at 6:30PM. Parents will follow the student's schedule. On September 23rd there will be a Parent Information Night for Freshman and Seniors beginning at 7:00 PM.

Narragansett High School will host a Community Flu Vaccination Clinic on September 30th.

Mr. Fossa gave a brief presentation on the online access to live feed games. The NFHS Network captures the high school experience by delivering live high school sports and events to family members and fans whenever they want, wherever they are. The NFHS showcases the unique accomplishments of students, whether they are a

student-athlete participating in the 27 different sports covered by the Network, or one of the student broadcasters from schools around the country that produce events through the School Broadcast Program. The NFHS Network also features state playoff and championship events for the 34 state members of the NFHS Network. The network events are available online at www.NFHSnetwork.com as well as iPhone and Android mobile apps. Follow the NFHS Network on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram at @NFHSnetwork for the latest news and event information. The NFHS Network is a joint venture among the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), its member state associations and PlayOn! Sports. The NFHS is located in Indianapolis, Indiana and is the national leadership organization for high school sports and performing arts activities. PlayOn! Sports is based in Atlanta, Georgia and is the nation's largest high school sports media company.

Narragansett Pier School: Ms. Kirby, Principal of the Narragansett Pier School, reported on staff changes at the Pier School. New staff includes: Jennifer Brodeur, Grade 7 ELA; Michelle Bush, LEA; and Frederick "Fritz" Lanz, the new Math Interventionist and Enrichment Advisor for the Biking Club. Alexandra Rickoff is the new Theatre Director at NPS and NHS. Ms. Rickoff has a Bachelor of Arts, in Theater Arts, from Elmira College and a Masters in Fine Arts, Theatre Performance and Society, from Providence College. The fall production at NHS will be *Fiddler on the Roof*, and the early spring production at NPS will be *Beauty and the Beast*. There are also plans for an additional spring Production at NHS, yet to be determined.

There were a few staff transfers to the Pier school including: Art Teacher, Terry Burke; Teacher Assistant, Beth Dorich; Physical Education Teacher, David Smith; Grade 8 Special Education Teacher, Lauren Durney; Grade 7/8 Reading Writing Teacher, Sandra Lovejoy; and Grade 8 Math Teacher, Nick Soltysiak. Ms. Kirby also welcomed back Nancy Pesante, who was a Gems Net Teacher in Residence at URI for the 2012 -13 and 2013-14 school years. And who is now back as a Grade 5/6 Reading Writing Teacher at NPS.

Ms. Kirby also introduced Martha LaBelle as the Narragansett representative for the Rhode Island Teacher of the Year. She was honored as a 2014 Narragansett Employee of the Year.

Ms. Kirby informed the Committee of upcoming important dates and events: on September 19th there will be a Welcome Back Dance for Grades 7/8 held in the cafeteria; on September 23rd there will be an opportunity for Instrument Rentals in the Cafeteria; School Pictures will take place on September 24th; the PTO will meet on September 29th at 7:00PM in the Media Center; and there will be a Flu Clinic on September 30th from 3:30 – 6:30 in the Cafeteria.

After School Activities are set to begin and will include: Homework Club, Yearbook, Competitive Robotics, T-Shirt Painting, Biking Club, Newspaper, Flag Football, Golf Club, and Audition Skills. Information is on the available on the school website.

With funding from the Fuel Up to Play 60 we will be rolling out our Grab and Go breakfast program on October 1, 2014 and beginning our before school physical activity program on Tuesday, October 7th. Students will be able to purchase a breakfast from a cart in the foyer as they enter each school day. Additionally, Tuesday and Thursday mornings before school students can access fitness stations and fun in the school gym. Thank you to Peg Fair and Deb Ranaldi for leading this initiative. Tomorrow and Friday there will be tastings of breakfast items in the cafeteria during each lunch period. Thursday's samples will be Mini French toast vs. Mini Pancakes and Friday's is a Cinnamon Toast Crunch breakfast bar vs. a blueberry muffin.

Student Services and Special Education: Ms. Leslie Brow, Director of Student Services, reported that the department is off to a great start. They are in the 3rd day of Professional Development with Ann Marie Dubuc regarding the Educational Benefit Review Process, which provides a structured reflective process to assess whether an IEP is reasonably calculated to provide educational benefit. This process assists educators and families in examining the characteristics of IEPs that increase student access, participation, and progress in general education by providing an appropriate education.

The new Unified Volleyball Team is off to a good start. There will be a game against faculty on Friday, September 19th at 9AM. The Gansett Café will run during the task block. Students will be using various technology devices for processing purchases and sales transactions.

Parent Advisory meeting was held on Tuesday, September 16th at 7PM at NPS. There was an introduction of the Narragansett School Social Worker and School Psychologists, and a review to familiarize parents and staff with student supports in the Narragansett schools and within the community.

Narragansett Elementary School: Ms. Gail Dandurand, Principal of the Narragansett Elementary School, reported that NES welcomed students from all of the country, Arizona, New Jersey, Ohio, and Massachusetts. There have been a few staff transfers into NES including: Art Teacher Kristen Bryce; and Physical Education Teacher Sean Capizzo. Carrie Silvia is the new Nurse Teacher at NES, taking over for Marianne Manzi, who is now at NHS. Aramark and NES are off to a great start this year with the Grab and Go breakfast averaging 100 breakfasts per day. Plans are in the works for outlining a walking path at NES with mile markers so students can record their distance. NES now has a beautifully refinished gymnasium floor and Principal Dandurand welcomes the Committee to stop by and take a look. There will be 2 open houses at NES due to the large turnouts. On October 2nd there will be an Open House for Grades PK-2, and another on October 7th for Grades 3-4.

The popular Sundaes on Sunday will take place this Sunday at NES with Brickley's Ice Cream, and fun things to do like Face painting, and temporary tattoo art. On October 25th a group of NES teachers will participate in a Technology Conference about Digital Literacy, at the Providence Convention Center, from 9-5PM. Susan Sabella will be a speaker at this conference.

2. School Committee

Mr. deWardner reported on the recent NHS PTO Meeting held on Monday, September 8th with information for parents regarding the new TASC block schedules and updates about the Mariner Marketplace to be held on November 22 at NHS. He noted that they still had room for additional vendors. On Saturday, September 13th, the Friends of Mariner Football held a Bar-B-Q after the Tiverton game. Mr. DeWardener was happy to report that the theme centered on communication and cooperation.

Mr. White was unable to attend the last Recreation Advisory Board meeting that was held on September 8th at 5:30 PM at Narragansett Town Hall. Town Manager Pam Nolan attended the meeting and congratulated everyone on a very well-run and profitable beach season.

Mr. Ranaldi acknowledged the passing of Janice Causey, a retired Art Teacher- donations being accepted for the art dept at NES. He encourages people to discuss how we can keep her inspiration alive forever,

Ms. McNeiece reported that the NCACF had a 2nd Sunset Cruise Tuesday night, September 16th, and it was free and open to the public on a first come first served basis and that an additional \$19,000.00 was raised in pledges and donations. The NCACF Committee is gearing up for the election and will have representation at the polls advocating for the Bond referendum. Reminders will be going out on the list serve. Ms. McNeiece also reported that the brick paver campaign is up and running and will continue through November 2014.

3. Special Presentation: Digital Literacy Partnership, Professor Renee Hobbs became the Founding Director in January, 2012. Professor Hobbs is an expert in digital and literacy at URI and came from Temple University.

Digital and Media presentation, creates multi media. Online reading comprehension. Digitally literate students are curious, inquisitive learners. Teachers foster digitally literate, lifelong learners, with a focus on Common Core connected projects. Project-based inquiry and curriculum is designed to explore how to integrate digital literacy into existing academic programs in both formal and informal learning environments. At the Harrington School of Communication and Media, the strategies help to prepare students for success in careers, life and citizenship in a rapidly changing global economy. There is a six-day institute that focuses on how literacy is evolving as a result of emerging media and technologies. The

course focuses on the implications of the cultural and technological shift for teaching and learning at all levels and exploring innovative approaches used by K-12 educators, librarians, and college and university faculty, both in and out of the classroom.

Gail Dandurand informed the Committee about how this partnership started. Brien Jennings attended the conference offered by URI and came back excited about the possibilities. Susan Sabella, Literacy Coach at NES; Joan Mouradjian, NPS Library/Media also from NPS; as well as NPS Teachers Vanessa Miller, Michelle Holmes, Lauren Tedeschi, all participated in the training. At the High School, Krystal Cagnon NHS Life skills teacher prepared a project that focused on transitions, she called a “self-discovery project” in collaboration with Mary Ellen Keiser, the School to Career teacher. Daniella Johnson who teaches Spanish and Italian at NHS used the information in foreign language conversation in a student experience while blogging with her and family in Italy. “A whole new way of teaching.”

Discussion:

Ms. McNeiece asked if Narragansett was the only partnership. Professor Hobbs answered that she is currently consulting in Newport and Narragansett. “We are all on a journey” and Professor Hobbs is very impressed by the faculty driven initiative, and the response of the staff (30 teachers participated)

Ms. Ranaldi asked if this is a partnership that can also be an opportunity for staff to join in on, to which Hobson replied “Absolutely”. Staff can establish their own expertise and create products that have a lot of value; 3 year program.

Ms. Nobles asked whether other schools make as much progress. Professor Hobson hasn’t had enough interaction with staff at those schools, so she reserved judgement.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of Minutes:

- | | |
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| A. August 20, 2014 | Executive Session-Limited Distribution CA-1A |
| B. August 20, 2014 | Regular Business Meeting CA-1B |
| C. August 26, 2014 | Special Meeting |

2. Routine Personnel Actions:

Resignations – Classified

Zuchowski, Patricia, Teacher Assistant, NES, effective August 23, 2014.

Increase – Classified

Marcello, Rebecca, Teacher Assistant, NHS, Comp: \$18.73/hr, 2.50 hrs/wk, 36 wks/yr effective August 25, 2014.

Appointments – Classified

Ansaldi, Rebecca, Teacher Assistant, NES, Compensation: \$17.56/hr, 18.75 hrs/wk, 36 wks/yr, eff. August 26, 2014.

Reeder, Alice, Teacher Assistant, NES, Compensation: \$21.15/hr, 8.75 hrs/wk, 36 wks/yr, effective August 26, 2014.

Appointments - Extra Curr. Positions - NPS - School Year 2014-15

Loomis, DalE	Ground Hog Shadow Advisor	Stipend: \$652.00
Simeone, Michael	Chorus	Stipend: \$1304.00
Healey, Daniel	Band	Stipend: \$1304.00
Hoxsie, Laura	Co-Yearbook Advisor	Stipend: \$1141.00
Miller, Vanessa	Co-Yearbook Advisor	Stipend: \$1141.00
Benson, Jennifer	Pier Peers	Stipend: \$897.00
Millen, Michael	Athletic Director	Stipend: \$4249.68
Campbell, Joyce	Color Guard	Stipend: \$652.00
Turnbull, Jaclyn	Student Mentor Coordinator	Stipend: \$897.00
Butler, Cheryl	Newspaper	Stipend: \$652.00

Increase – Certified

Afonso, Elizabeth, 0.1 Guidance, NHS, Compensation: Step 10 plus M30: effective August 25, 2014.

Appointments – Coaches NPS

Ingram, Preston Boys Soccer Coach Stipend: \$1421.77
Spaulding, Sarah Assistant Cross Country Coach Stipend: \$710.89

Appointments – Other

Dr. Donna Haggerty, School Dentist, \$1.00 per student examined, effective September 2014.
Dr. Robert D. Maltz, School Physician \$5000.00 per year plus \$2.00 for every physical exam administered, effective September 2014.

3. Reports:

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

MOTION: moved by Dr. Nobles, 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

BUDGET REPORT Mr. White reported that as of August 31, 2014, \$2,050,805.80 (7.39%) of the FY14 Budget of \$27,738,098.00 has been expended, and \$24,247,969.90 (87.42%) has been expended and encumbered.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Approval of Software Purchase

MOTION: moved by Dr. Nobles, seconded by Mr. deWardener to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Director of Finance and Administration, to approve the purchase of software to support the new high school TASC schedule, from FocusPoint Web Solutions, in the amount of \$5,500.00.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Discussion:

Mr. DeWardener was happy to hear that there is some integration with power school and that parents will know whether students are utilizing this program and whether the child is there and participating.

COMMUNICATIONS

October 20, 2014 4PM Next Health and Wellness Meeting, Narragansett Town Hall, 3rd floor.

FUTURE MEETINGS/BUSINESS

October 15, 2014 Regular Business Meeting –7:00 pm, Narragansett Town Hall, Assembly Area

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. deWardener to adjourn at 8: 45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank White, Clerk