

NARRAGANSETT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD April 15, 2015

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 April 15, 2015, 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. Guy deWardener, Mr. Frank White and Mr. Keith Ranaldi. (all present)

OTHER SCHOOL OFFICIALS ATTENDANCE: Ms. Katherine Sipala, Superintendent; Ms. Karen Hagan, Director of Finance and Administration; Mr. Toby Gibbons, Assistant Principal, Narragansett High School; Ms. Marianne Kirby, Principal, Narragansett Pier School; Ms. Gail Dandurand, Principal, Narragansett Elementary School; Ms. Leslie Brow, Director of Student Services; Mr. David Correira, Director of Transportation and Mr. Gary Minett, Director of Maintenance.

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. McNeiece called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

OPEN FORUM: No one spoke.

STUDENT SHOWCASE: Narragansett Pier Middle School National History Day

ORAL REPORTS

1. School Committee:

- Mr. White reported on the recent Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on Monday, April 13, 2015.
- Mr. White and Mr. DeWardener acknowledged that the Superintendent did a fabulous job presenting the School Department's Budget to the Town Council.
- Ms. Sipala thanked them for their support and explained that in the past 6 years, except for 3 years, they have been level funded. Mrs. Sipala wanted to remind the public that the School Department is delivering an exceptional product as evidenced by the students here tonight. Mrs. Sipala informed the Committee that the Town Departments budget is up by 8.15% and the total Town budget is up by 4.32% - which reflects level funding for the School Department.
- Mr. DeWardener noted that while the School Department has been level funded, expenses continue to increase and we have to plug holes with the funds that we have. The costs of health insurance, retirement contributions, supplies, and all of the other costs associated with running the School Department continue to increase and that level funding is essentially a decrease in funding.
- Mr. White also reported on the recent Town Council Meeting regarding the error in the Agenda as well as the Town Council's lack of involvement in the \$2 Million building renovation project of the Narragansett PD, while scrutinizing all aspects of the School Department's NCAC field project.
- Mr. Ranaldi attended the Providence School System's Health and Wellness meeting as a guest Chair at which they discussed a new committee of Health and Wellness Chairs that will be a statewide shadowing program.

2. School Reports:

Student Services/Special Education:

- Ms. Leslie Brow, Director of Student Services, reported that the Narragansett's Special Education teachers and support staff made a presentation at the Pre-Teaching Conference on Saturday, March 14th at Johnston High School. The presentation highlighted Common Core standards and the digital literacy strategies being used in our classrooms to promote access, independence and inclusion.
- On May 22nd they have been asked to do a special presentation regarding Digital Literacy to the Association of Rhode Island Administrators for Special Education (ARIASE). Collaboration is partnership, and so Narragansett is happy to share their knowledge and experience with other districts.

- The Parent Advisory Committee meeting has been rescheduled from May 12th to May 19th at 7PM and NPS. Dr. Randy Kuhlman, author of Parenting Smarter in a Digital World, will give a presentation on how parents can manage their children's use of video games and apps when their kids know more about these technologies than they do.
- There will be a group of students from NHS, on May 20th, attending the Student Leadership Conference "Dare to Dream" at URI. Topics discussed included peer to peer and self-determination and sharing strategies.
- Ms. Brow informed the Committee that she has been invited to speak at the Rhode Island Consortium for Autism Research and Treatment (RI-CART) on April 16th at their conference entitled "Working together: Understanding the Link Between Diagnosis and Special Education Eligibility". Ms. Brow will be joined by: Eileen Crudele from the East Providence School Dept.; Trish Martins of the Bradley School; Viren D'Sa, MD, Memorial Hospital Clinician; Todd Levine, MD, Women & Infants Clinician; and Dana Osowiecki, PhD, from the Center for Psychology & Learning. This panel will also include parents and the group will come together to strengthen the link between clinical community providers and the special education system.
- Ms. McNeiece recognized the High School's Unified Basketball Team who was named the 92 ProFm's "Team of the Week".

Narragansett Pier School

- Ms. Marianne Kirby, Principal, Narragansett Pier School, announced that the NPS unified basketball team had their first victory against Portsmouth Middle School last week. They will take on Jamestown tomorrow at 3:30 at the Pier School. Four URI players came to guest coach the team.
- Grade 7/8 NPS Chorus received a rating of excellent, the second highest rating, for their performance on Tuesday for the Rhode Island Music Educators Association and grade 5/6 chorus will perform on May 1st for the same group.
- Five grade 8 NPS students are finalists (Owen McCadden, Grace St. Jean, Isabel Chamberlain, Maia Jensen and Atticus Duncan) in the URI Gandhi Essay Writing Contest, an annual writing contest for statewide sponsored by the URI Center for Nonviolence and Peace Studies. The winners will be announced at an award ceremony at URI on April 30th.
- Upcoming Dates: NPS Annual spring concert is Thursday, April 30 7PM in the Pier School Gym; Career Day is Friday, May 8th; Honor Roll Breakfast is scheduled for Thursday, May 7th; and the NPS Health Fair, where students will have the opportunity to visit a variety informational booth related to healthy habits and living, will take place on May 14th.

Narragansett High School

- Mr. Toby Gibbons, Assistant Principal, Narragansett High School, reported that on April 8th NHS hosted a Night of the Arts; on May 9th the Guidance Department hosted a Career Day; and on April 10th and 11th the Class of 2016 and their Advisor, Adam Reis, presented 3 performances of the NHS Variety Show. Yesterday the Science Department hosted a "DNA Day" at which a Brown University professor and a State Police Forensics specialist were presenters; and today, NHS observed a day of silence to raise awareness for bullying which was overseen by our GSA and had 60 students participating.
- Tomorrow 33 students and 4 teachers will be traveling to Italy.
- Senior Projects are well underway. This years' Senior Class has been very driven to "causes".
- Spring sports season is off and running. Mr. Gibbons recognized Mr. Correira, Director of Transportation and Maintenance, and his crew for having the fields ready to go. NHS has not had to cancel any events.
- For the first time in NHS history NHS student, Brooke McGreen, was selected as a First Team All-State Selection by the Providence Journal, in D-I Ice Hockey.
- Ms. McNeiece commented for the record that there will be no polo played on the new athletic field.
- NHS held a portfolio informational night Tuesday evening, hosted by John O'Brien, the Graduation by Proficiency Coordinator.

Narragansett Elementary School

- Ms. Gail Dandurand, Principal of the Narragansett Elementary School informed the Committee that the first formal week of Kindergarten Registration for 15-16 was last week and there are already over 20 students registered. She encouraged families to register as soon as possible.

- Ms. Dandurand & Mrs. Brow have had regular teacher planning meetings to discuss special education and regular education student progress and work on planning for next year. PARCC testing is completed and they are getting ready for PARCC again, as well as the NECAP science testing for grade 4 in May.
- The NHS Boys & Girls Basketball Team played NES staff as a PBIS reward assembly. Abilities were equal as the score was tied.
- Based on site visits from Barrington and Chariho, some ideas were generated to build next year's schedule by increasing intervention blocks in math and by providing increased collaborative planning times for teachers.
- Upcoming Dates: Plans are underway to install a new swing set at NES based on a student request. On May 28th, NES Evening of the Arts will take place.

Superintendent:

- Ms. Sipala is proud to recognize six of its finest employees as recipients of the Fifth Annual Employee of the Year Award for 2015, and they are: Roland Lambert, District, Director of Technology; Donna Burgess, NES Teacher Assistant; Carol Prest, NES Teacher; Joan Mouradjian, NPS, Library/Media; Krystal Cagnon, NHS, Teacher; and Derek Emery, NHS, Technology
- Ms. Sipala asked the School Committee to consider an Executive Session to discuss an ongoing legal matter as well as the current contract negotiations. She asked that they please review the dates and confirm with her office after looking at their calendars.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of Minutes:

- A. March 18, 2015 Executive Session-Limited Distribution
- B. March 18, 2015 Regular Business Meeting
- C. March 25, 2015 Special Meeting

2. Routine Personnel Actions:

Resignation – Certified

Majeika, Caitlyn, Resource Teacher, NPS, effective June 22, 2015.

Resignation – Classified

Martel, Donna, Bus Driver, Trans, effective March 12, 2015.

Appointments – Classified

Leonard, Robert, Bus Driver, Transportation, Comp.: \$17.56/hr, 30 hrs/wk, 36 wks/yr, effective 3/30/15.

Hull, Lisa, Bus Driver, Transportation, Compensation: \$20.63/hr, 30 hrs/wk, 36 wks/yr, effective 3/30/15.

Appointments – Coaches NHS

Brodeur, Jennifer, Volunteer Tennis Coach, N/A

Appointments – Coaches NPS

Landy, Linda, Track Coach Stipend: \$929.46

Garris, Amelia, Volunteer Track Coach, N/A

Smith, John, Volunteer Softball Coach, N/A

Bean, William, Volunteer Softball Coach N/A

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. White, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the Consent Agenda items CA-1A, CA-1B, CA-1C CA-2, CA-3A, CA-3B, CA-3C.

BUDGET REPORT Mr. White reported that as of March 31, 2015 \$27,738,098.00 has been expended, and \$25,847,370.13 (93.28%) has counting on Ms. Hagan to work on saving some of that.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Approval of 2015-16 School Committee Meeting Schedule

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. deWardener to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the 2015-16 School Committee Meeting Schedule.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Ms. Sipala informed that Committee that Ms. McKnight was able confirm television coverage for August 26th therefore the meeting will be held on that date.

2. Approval of Bid Award for NHS Hall Locker Renovations

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. deWardener to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Director of Finance and Administration to award the Bid for the NHS Hall Locker Renovations to G.J. Sales Company in the amount of \$20,898.00.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

3. Approval of Bid Award for Agricultural Sciences Extension Design & Construction Services

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. deWardener to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Director of Finance and Administration to award the Bid for the Agricultural Sciences Extension Design & Construction Services to Torrado Architects in the amount of \$71,430.00.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Ms. McNeiece asked when the project would begin and when it is anticipated to be completed. Mr. Minett replied that they would like to have the plans ready and got out to bid for a general contractor within 30 days and hope to have the project completed by the end of October 2015.

4. Approval of the Purchase of a Shredder

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi seconded Dr. Nobles, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Director of Finance and Administration to approve the purchase of a shredder from WB Mason in the amount of \$2,899.99.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

5. Approval of a Resolution Promoting Enhanced State Aid for School Construction and Maintenance

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded Mr. DeWardener, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the Resolution Promoting Enhanced State Aid for School Construction and Maintenance.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

6. First Reading of Policy V.C.1.a. Bullying/Cyberbullying

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. deWardener to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the First Reading of Revised Policy V.C.1.a. Bullying/Cyberbullying.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Dr. Nobles informed that Committee that it has been six years since this policy was last updated and that with the fast advances in technology, it was necessary to make some revisions, specifically at the top of page 3 regarding responsibility of student and victims. Mr. Ranaldi asked about data and reporting on the effectiveness of policy. Ms. Sipala and Ms. Brow explained that the data is reported to RIDE. Mr. deWardener asked about cyber stalking and if that should be covered in this policy. The Policy will be edited and brought back to the Committee in May.

7. First Reading of Policy IV.B 2 b Internet Safety Policy

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. White to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the First Reading of Revised Policy IV.B 2 b Internet Safety Policy.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Dr. Nobles indicated that there is a slight change here and it involves cyberbullying and social media.

COMMUNICATIONS

FUTURE MEETINGS/BUSINESS

April 27, 2015 4:00PM Health & Wellness Meeting, Administrative Offices, 3rd Floor.
April 27, 2015 6:30PM School Committee/Town Council Workshop, Town Hall.
May 20, 2015 7:00PM Regular School Committee Meeting, 25 Fifth Avenue, Town Hall.

MOTION: to Adjourn at 8:40 PM, moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded Mr. DeWardener. (5/0)

Respectfully submitted

Frank White, Clerk