

**NARRAGANSETT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD MAY 16, 2012**

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, May 16, 2012, 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, Clerk; Dr. Douglas Pierson & Mr. Guy deWardener.

SCHOOL OFFICIALS ATTENDANCE:

Ms. Katherine E. Sipala, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Karen Hagan, Director of Finance & Administration; Mr. Daniel Warner, Narragansett High School Principal; Dr. Marie Ahern, Narragansett Pier School Principal; Ms. Gail Dandurand, Principal, Narragansett Elementary School; Ms. Elizabeth Pinto, Director of Student Services; Mr. David Correia, Director of Transportation; and Mr. Gary Minett, Director of Maintenance.

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. McNeiece called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

MOTION TO SEAL THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 16, 2012 EXECUTIVE SESSION.

MOTION: to seal the minutes of the May 16, 2012 Executive Session.

D. Nobles/D. Pierson (5-0)

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION VOTES.

The School Committee voted to approve a home school request for the 2012-13 school year.

F. White/G. deWardener / (5-0)

OPEN FORUM

ORAL REPORTS

1. School Committee.

Dr. Nobles reported that she attended the RIASC Annual meeting and a presentation on e-Board Solutions. She specifically learned about policy modules relative to a “green” initiative. e-Board Solutions provides transparency and helps to organize districts and can be used by most government agencies, hospitals and other non profits.

Dr. Pierson reported that he attended the Special Education Advisory Board meeting on May 8, 2012 to review and approve a meeting calendar for the upcoming school year. The next meeting will be in early September.

Mr. White reported that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board met on Monday evening, May 14, 2012, however he did not attend the meeting. He reported that the Board reviewed the fee structures

for beach entry. The Grand opening and Ribbon Cutting ceremony will be held this weekend for the North Pavilion renovations. The Board will meet again on Monday, June 11th.

Ms. McNeiece reported that the Athletic Fields Committee met again on May 15th as a final meeting to plan the "Festival of the Fields" Community Field Day fundraiser and public relations event which will take place on Saturday, June 2, 2012, at Narragansett High School.

2. School Reports.

Gail Dandurand, Principal at the Narragansett Elementary School, reported that this month's strategic goal centers on the use of technology to create exciting learning environments. Kindergarten registration is on going. There will be 5 tickets per family available for the Move-up ceremony. The staff is working on placements for next year which is a precise and time consuming process. Staff looks closely at reading & math levels, learning styles, allergies, personalities of each student as well as the boy/girl ratios.

Dr. Marie Ahern, Principal at the Narragansett Pier School, reported on the purchase of a new mobile lab with 24 laptops. This new mobile lab increases the resources available to the Pier school students. Building-wide wireless has been installed to support all of our wireless devices currently in use and for future devices. Many of the classrooms are now equipped with ceiling mounted projectors that enhance interaction and creativity of students and teachers. NPS has started using ipads with Special Education students which are available in the library for sign out. Some teachers are using interactive responder systems (clickers) that students use to answer questions and teachers receive instant feedback.

On June 1st, the 7th and 8th grade Band and Chorus and the grades 5-8 NarraSing will participate in the Great East Festival along with other schools from around New England. The Festival emphasizes music education. Groups perform three pieces that are adjudicated in a non-competitive environment. Workshops with adjudicators offer suggestions for growth and improvement, and foster a feeling of accomplishment and well-being. Groups will be presented with awards for their level of excellence. NPS has received a top rating of "Excellent" for many years.

On June 6th, 8th grade students will participate in the Annual Poetry Bash at the North Beach Clubhouse. Each student or group is required to select, memorize, and dramatically interpret a poem of his or her own choosing, with teacher approval. Students can earn extra credit for "assists" in other students' performances; using topics studied within school discipline (i.e. World War I); and credit is also given to individual students who have written original poems.

Mr. Daniel Warner, Principal Narragansett High School, reported that "Go Local Prov" reported Narragansett High School 2nd and "US News and World Report" ranked Narragansett High School 4th in RI. Mr. Warner recognized 3 of the best and the brightest at Narragansett High School, they are National Merit Scholar Finalists: Jaclyn Ianucci, Alexander McLeod and Madelyn McCadden. Ms. McNeiece asked that the each candidate indicate where they will be attending college in the Fall; what they liked the best about NHS; and if they could change, if anything, at NHS. Jaclyn Ianucci will be attending Fordham University in the Fall. She served as President of the Honor Society and the Spanish and Italian Honor Societies. She will always carry with her the community feel of the high school, and her wish if she could change anything would be to reestablish senior privileges, i.e. leaving for lunch 2 Fridays each month. Alex McLeod will be attending Yale University. He serves as Treasurer of the Class of 2012 and National Honor Society. He appreciated the close knit community feel at the high school and the encouraging atmosphere permiated by the staff. If he could change

something, he would like to see more independent project options. Maddy McCadden will be attending USC in the Fall, majoring in global health. She was the Vice President of the National Honor Society and was in the Foreign Language Club. She liked the close knit community feel in Narragansett as well and treasures the good relationships she had with teachers. The thing that she would change would be to have more support from Guidance as college advisors to help with complicated application process. Mr. Warner informed the Committee that NHS students had also been accepted to Brown, Tufts, Holy Cross, U. of Chicago, Fordham, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Wentworth Institute of Technology, Drew University, Drexel University, Sacred Heart University, James Madison University, Quinnipiac University, Providence College, University of Vermont, Tulane University, Northeastern University, University of Chicago, Haverford College, Carleton College, Wesleyan University, Penn State, Virginia Tech.

Mr. Warner also mentioned upcoming important dates including: Thursday, May 31st at 7:45AM at NHS- Top10 Breakfast, honoring the Top 10 Seniors; Friday, June 1st-Senior Project Presentation day; Sunday, June 10th -Athletic Awards Banquet; Monday, June 11th -Senior Prom, and Thursday, June 14th graduation will be held at the Ryan Center at 6PM.

3. Superintendent's Report.

A. The presentation by Nancy Devaney, Coordinator, Narragansett Prevention Partnership "Preventing Underage Drinking in Narragansett" was postponed to June 20th due to technical difficulties.

B. Theater Program Budgets, which were anticipated to be discussed at this meeting, will be deferred for discussion at the June 20th Regular Business School Committee. There was a production, *Once Upon a Mattress*, held on May 2nd, consequently, a full reporting of the years' fiscal information was not available to present to the Committee at this meeting. Ms. Nobles reported that she attended the *Once Upon a Mattress* production and thought it was a wonderful performance.

In other news, Ms. Sipala reported that, based on information from Mary Ellen Butkey of RICANT, there may be a chance that the lay-off date may change. There is a plan in the works to contact districts and renew the effort. There is also a proposal to change wording in RIGL §16-21-1. to *may* provide transportation instead of *shall*, sponsored by our Representative, Teresa Tanzi.

Jeff Broadhead of the Washington County Regional Planning Council, was in attendance at this meeting to answer questions about information regarding energy savings. Mr. Broadhead apologized for any confusion about the email he sent. The Energy Savings Study generates a 300 page report. He explained that the R.I. Department of Education dropped Housing Aid and towns had grant deadlines. He further explained that there is no cost to this study until the School Department chooses not to invest in a project. Ms. Sipala said there is a boiler needed at the Pier School, and she feels that there will be a project that meets our Capital Plan needs. There are definitely reasonable possibilities. Ms. McNeiece inquired about the timeline and deadline to make this decision. Mr. Broadhead indicated the deadline is September 13, 2012 and the projects do not need to go out to bid because they are covered under the state contract. Ms. McNeiece had concerns about the short time frame for analyzing the report and making a decision about what work might be targeted. Ms. Sipala indicated that there will be an opportunity to look at answering questions with regard to the projects that have been identified. The Town Manager understands the process and has earmarked money for this purpose.

Ms. McNeiece asked Gary Minett about the report and the price quote that he was given based on the bid award 2 years ago – 6 /10% increase would not be surprising. Mr. Minett indicated that should we choose to do none of projects the worst case scenario is that we are getting the completed professional study.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes:
 - A. April 11, 2012 – Executive Session Meeting CA-1A
 - B. April 11, 2012 Regular Business Meeting CA-1B

2. Routine Personnel Actions:

Appointments – Spring Coaches, NHS:

Degidio, Jamie	Volunteer Baseball Coach	Stipend: -0-
Castrovillari, Leah	Co-Head Girls' Varsity Softball Coach	Stipend: \$1,891.50

Leave Request:

Franco, Kristen, 1.0 Grade 5 Teacher, Narragansett Pier School, for the 2012-13 school year.

Retirements – Teachers – Effective last day of school:

Ward-Bowen, Kathleen, 1.0 Grade 4 Teacher, NES
Westkott, Pamela, 1.0 Grade 3 Teacher, NES

Retirement – Classified:

Jennings, Lorraine, Bus Driver, Transportation Department, Effective August 27, 2012.

Resignations-Classified:

Sell, James, Bus Aide, Transportation Department, Effective May 1, 2012.
Mignanelli, Andrew, Bus Driver, Transportation Department, Effective May 2, 2012.

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

MOTION: to the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve Consent Agenda items [CA-1A, CA-1B, CA-2, CA-3A, CA-3B, CA-3C]

F.White/D.Nobles (5-0)

BUDGET REPORT

Mr. White reported that for April 30, 2012 \$19,288,092.66 (72.84%) of the FY12 Budget of \$26,478,944.00 has been expended. \$25,162,685.79 (95.03%) has been expended and encumbered.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Revision of 2012-2013 School Committee Meeting Schedule

MOTION: to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the Revision of 2012-2013 School Committee Meeting Schedule.

D.Nobles/ D. Pierson (5/0)

2. Approval of the purchase of a floor machine

MOTION: to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the purchase of a floor machine from Beacon Distributors in the amount of \$3,524.00

D.Pierson/F.White (5-0)

3. Bid Award: Planning Consulting Services, Narragansett Athletic Fields Committee

MOTION: to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the Bid Award for Planning Consulting Services for the Narragansett Athletic Fields Committee to Daniel R. Barry & Associates in the amount of \$10,500.00.

D.Nobles/ D.Pierson (5-0)

4. Bid Award: NHS Gym Heat & Vent Retrofit

MOTION: to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to withdraw the Bid Award for NHS Gym Heat & Vent Retrofit.

D.Pierson/ D.Nobles (5-0)

5. Bid Award: NHS Cafeteria Floor Asbestos Abatement

MOTION: to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the Bid Award for the NHS Cafeteria Floor Asbestos Abatement to General Environmental Services in the amount of \$16,560.00

D. Pierson/F. White (5-0)

COMMUNICATIONS

Thank you letter from John Sanders, Holocaust Survivor Speaker. Ms. Nobles asked to see the recording.

FUTURE MEETINGS/BUSINESS: These upcoming meetings were announced:

- Sat., June 2nd Festival for the Mariner Bowl 9:00AM – 3:00PM at Narragansett High School -Rain Date: Sunday, June 3rd
- Wed., June 6th Tentative-School Committee Meeting, 4:00PM, Narragansett Town Hall, 3rd Floor
- Wed. June 15th Tentative-School Committee Meeting, 4:00PM, Narragansett Town Hall, 3rd Floor
- Wed., June 20th Regular School Committee Meeting, 7:00PM, Narragansett Town Hall, Assembly Room

AJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 8:54 PM.

D.Nobles/ D.Pierson (5-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Frank White
Clerk