

# NARRAGANSETT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD September 18, 2013

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, September 18, 2013, at the Narragansett Town Hall – Assembly Area, 25 Fifth Avenue, Narragansett, Rhode Island.

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

**OTHER SCHOOL OFFICIALS ATTENDANCE:** Ms. Katherine E. Sipala, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Karen Hagan, Director of Finance & Administration; Mr. Daniel Warner, 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; and Mr. David Correia, Director of Transportation.

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

### **SEAL THE MINUTES OF THE September 18, 2013 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION:** to seal the minutes of the September 18, 2013 Executive Session.

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

**REPORT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION VOTES.** The Committee voted to approve four (4) homeschool requests (5-0).

**OPEN FORUM:** No one spoke.

### **ORAL REPORTS:**

1. **Showcase:** Introduction of New Staff & 2013 Narragansett Teacher of the Year  
Ms. Dandurand introduced new teachers David Smith, Physical Education; Laurie Fortier, Math Interventionist Coach; and Lindsay Phillips, Special Educator.

Ms. Kirby acknowledged new teachers Nicole Tavarozzi, Special Education; Kristin Provost, Special Educator; Robin Murray, Grade 8 Mathematics; & Allison Thomas, Behavior Specialist . Ms. Kirby also acknowledged the transfers Hope Anderson from NHS; Caitlyn Majiaka from NES; and Diana Whalen, a Teaching Assistant from NES.

Ms. Brow welcomed Rebecca Koczan, our new part-time Social Worker.

Mrs. Sipala introduced Susan Sabella as the Narragansett School Systems' *Teacher of the Year*. If she chooses to, she may apply to be the State 2014 RI Teacher of the Year.

#### 2. **School Committee Reports:**

Mr. Ranaldi apologized for his absence from the School Committee meeting last month and reported on the mission he participated in with the St. Thomas More/St. Veronica's parish. Many Narragansett families participated and he was happy to get to know them all on a deeper level.

Mr. White informed the Committee about an upcoming event related to the continuing 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in Narragansett. There will be an Opera about Governor Sprague on October 6<sup>th</sup> at the Towers followed by a dance in the evening. Mr. White also reported on attending the "State of Education in Rhode

Island" presentation at URI. It was the 1<sup>st</sup> of 14 topics on Education being offered at URI. There was panel discussion including Commissioner Gist.

Ms. McNeiece acknowledged Mr. White's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Mrs. Sipala thanked Mr. White for his time, energy and contributions to Narragansett Schools and community.

Ms. McNeiece reminded the Committee and public about the *Back on Track* event at 10 a.m. this Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Proceeds from the event will go to the indoor/outdoor track teams. Ms. McNeiece was excited about the smart boards that were rolled out to the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade parents at the Narragansett Pier School's Open House. The smart boards were incorporated into each teachers' presentations. Parents were very impressed and excited. Ms. McNeiece reminded the Committee will have a Joint Session with the Town Council next Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, at 6 p.m. at the High School to view the grounds

#### School Reports:

Ms. Dandurand, Principal of the Narragansett Elementary School reported that the Elementary School opened to a smooth start. She reminded the Committee that there were multiple promethean boards installed and training took place over the summer. Ms. Dandurand thanked the PTO for the purchase of new playground equipment which was also installed over the summer.

Ms. Kirby was happy to report that the Pier School opening went very smoothly. They welcomed 22 new students at the Pier School with a total enrollment of 420 students. There are 100 of those students participating in soccer and cross country. The use of SMART Boards impressed parents and the teacher driven professional development for the boards is ongoing. In other news: the grade 7/8 Welcome Back Dance will be held on Friday September 20<sup>th</sup> from 7- 9pm; Shrek the Musical auditions begin Monday September 23rd; PTO Meeting will take place on Monday, September 23rd at 7:00 pm in library; the late Bus starts September 23rd; the School Improvement Team Meeting is scheduled for September 30th at NPS; NECAP testing will be in October; and finally the RI Flu Clinic October 17th 4:00 – 6:30 for students and families in the NPS cafeteria

Mr. Warner, Principal of the Narragansett High School, announced that the High School Open House will be on September 26<sup>th</sup>. The NHS PTO will hold their first meeting tomorrow evening. Fall sports are in full swing. The *Welcome Back Dance* sponsored by the Senior class will take place in the cafeteria due to the installation of the new flooring in the gymnasium. Mr. Warner thanked Mr. Minett and his staff who did a great job getting the school ready for opening. This year marks the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the ALP Program. Ms. McNeiece reminded Mr. Warner that they would be taking a look at the Green House during their meeting and tour on September 26<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Brow gave the Committee an update on the Extended School Year program this summer, which was very successful. The Parent Advisory met on September 10<sup>th</sup> and topic was the use of technology in the classroom, and to assist with homework. The meeting was well attended. The School Support 5 year annual review will take place in December. The final report following the review will be available sometime in February. Ms. Brow was happy to let the Committee know that Narragansett will have a unified basketball team participating this year, along with 24 other schools in the state. The team will include 6 player athletes and 6 partner "helpers". Junior and Seniors will take precedence and practices will begin in March. The Special Olympics motto is *Respect, Acceptance and Inclusion*.

**3. Superintendent's Report:** The Superintendent informed the Committee that she contacted and had a discussion with the Jamestown School District regarding the High School students coming to Narragansett. They have a commitment through the 2014-15 School Year with North Kingstown. The next election is in November 2104 when 2 of their 5 School Committee seats will be filled. Ms. McNeiece shared her thoughts as she would like to prepare a letter outlining the accolades of Narragansett to send to the Jamestown School Committee members and let them know that there are a lot of exciting things happening in Narragansett including the graduation of Merit Scholars, and acceptances to Ivy League Schools, and that Capital Funds are being spent on improvements at the schools.

Mrs. Sipala announced that we will be hosting the Board of Education Meeting on April 10, 2014 at the Town Hall.

Also, she reminded the public about the warnings surrounding the West Nile virus, and to avoid shady and wet areas as mosquitos are out.

Ms. Sipala announced that On September 19<sup>th</sup> the McNeieces will be honored as nominees for the Independent Spirit award. This is an honor that celebrates special people in the community who work to improve our way of life. Our Chair, Tammy, and her husband Brian, are the founders of the Narragansett Youth Track Series, offering free weekly track meets with close to 500 participants, helping to keep children physically active.

## CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes:
  - A. August 21, 2013 Executive Session
  - B. August 21, 2013 Regular Business Meeting
  - C. September 11, 2013 Workshop

### 2. Routine Personnel Actions: CA-2

#### Appointments – Certified

Phillips, Lindsay, 1.0 Special Ed Intensive Resource, NES, compensation: Step 10 plus M: effective August 27, 2013.

#### Transfers – Certified

Mitchell, Leah, 1.0 Grade 2, NES, effective August 27, 2013

Carter, Peggy, 1.0 Special Ed Resource, NES, effective August 27, 2013

#### Increase – Certified

Patty, Mary, .25 Speech & Language, NES, effective August 27, 2013.

#### Decrease – Certified

Flood, Jane, .25 Speech & Language, NES, effective August 27, 2013.

#### Appointments – Classified

Ouimette, Kathleen, Bus Monitor, Transportation, Compensation: \$10.20/hr, 20hrs/wk, 36 wks/yr, effective August 28, 2013.

Gibbs, Erica, Bus Monitor, Transp., Compensation: \$10.20/hr, 20hrs/wk, 36 wks/yr, effective Sept. 9, 2013.

Zuercher, Melissa, Teacher Assistant, NES, Compensation: \$16.02/hr, 16hrs/wk, 36 wks/yr, effective September 03, 2013

#### Resignation – Classified

Brodeur, Christine, Teacher Assistant, NES, effective August 30, 2013.

#### Increase – Classified

Pucci, Alicia, Teacher Assistant, NES, 2 hrs/wk temporarily, effective August 27, 2013.

#### Appointments - Teacher Leaders/Extra Curr. Positions - NPS - School Year 2013-14

Craven, Susan	Teacher	Leader Grade 5	Stipend: \$3000.00
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
Mellors, Carolyn		7/8 Gr Homework Club	Stipend: \$39.00/hr
Holden, Kevin		Detention Supervisor	Stipend: \$25.00/hr
Boynton, Patricia		Detention Supervisor	Stipend: \$25.00/hr

#### Resignation - Teacher Leader Position - NPS - School Year 2013-14

Appointments—Dept Heads/Extra Curricular Positions – NHS - School Year 2013-14

Zaborski, Ann Marie	Social Studies Department Chair	Stipend: \$5000.00
Maynard, Judith	Freshman Class Advisor	Stipend: \$1304.00
Goudreau, Michael	Ping Pong	Stipend: \$326.00
Gongoleski, Joanne	National Honor Society	Stipend: \$652.00
McNamara, Gabriela	After School Detention	Stipend: \$25.00/hr
Davia, Amanda	Academic Hours - English	Stipend: \$39.00/hr
Couchon, Kathleen	Academic Hours - Science	Stipend: \$39.00/hr
Herz, Chris	Academic Hours - Math	Stipend: \$39.00/hr
Hughes, Brian	Academic Hours - Resource	Stipend: \$39.00/hr
Joubert, Matthew	Academic Hours – Social Studies	Stipend: \$39.00/hr
Hayes, Kristen	Extended School Day	Stipend: \$39.00/hr
Shields, Robert	Extended School Day	Stipend: \$39.00/hr

Appointments – Coaches NPS

Lubic, Mark	Girls Soccer Coach	Stipend: \$1831.45
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Appointments – Coaches NHS

Forte, Mario	Assistant Football Coach	Stipend: \$1527.68
Maynard, Scott	Volunteer Assistant Soccer Coach	Stipend: N/A

Resignation – Coach NHS

Sayles, Jennifer, JV Girls Basketball Coach, effective August 27, 2013  
Smith, David, Assistant Football Coach, effective August 27, 2013

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

**MOTION:** 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).

K. Ranaldi/F. White (5-0)

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

**BUDGET REPORT** Mr. White reported that as of August 31, 2013, \$1,867,752.18 of the FY14 Budget of \$27,380,216.00 has been expended. \$123,379,256.62 (85.39%) has been expended and encumbered

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

- I. Purchase of School Bus

**MOTION:** to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Director of Finance and Administration to approve the purchase of school bus from Anderson Blue Bird Bus Sales of New England in the amount of \$97,377.00.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Sipala pointed out that the 2013-14 School Calendar was included in the packets. She also let the Committee know that the Federal funding has been cut significantly for the Narragansett Prevention Partnership, which has been spearheaded by Nancy Devaney for many years.

FUTURE MEETINGS/BUSINESS

September 25, 2013      Joint Workshop with Town Council –6:00PM Narragansett High School

October 16, 2013      Regular Business Meeting –7:00PM Narragansett Town Hall, Assembly Area

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Frank White  
Clerk