

# NARRAGANSETT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD January 15, 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, January 15, 2014, 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; Ms. Nancy Daley, Director of Curriculum and Professional Development; & David Correira, Director of Transportation and Grounds.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. McNeiece called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

**OPEN FORUM:** No one spoke.

### **ORAL REPORTS:**

#### **I. School Reports**

Ms. Dandurand, Principal of the Narragansett Elementary School, reported that they received a *Fuel Up to Play 60 Grant* for \$2,900. This will be used to help increase participation in the breakfast program. There will be a press release to follow. NES will be participating in Interim Assessments in math for grades 3 & 4 as well as participating in the PARCC Pilot to field test the process. Scores will not be available as it is field testing. In other news at NES: Bingo Night will be held on January 24<sup>th</sup>; Ladies Choice on January 31<sup>st</sup>; and there will be a Common Core State Standards Presentation on January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7PM.

Nancy Daley gave a brief description on the PARCC pilot testing and the interim assessments that some students will take online. She explained that this will ultimately help students to prepare for the PARCC testing. NECAP science testing will continue.

Ms. Marianne Kirby, Principal of the Narragansett Pier School, gave an overview of the ELA and the PARCC testing to take place at the Pier Schools. Ms. Kirby also reported that the Pier School hosted a middle school wrestling tournament this weekend with over 100 wrestlers participating. The team is in its second season. Nate Williams, John Myers, Cole McGill, and Alex Duquette were undefeated in the tournament. The NPS boys' basketball team is currently undefeated in their season. On Saturday, 3 robotics teams from the Pier School competed against 40 other teams at the State Championship at Roger Williams University in Bristol. One team, *Mariner's Fury* (Nick Niles, Alex Boutin, William Corson, and Aidan Saulnier) was awarded the "Strategy and Innovation Award" for their use of solid engineering practices and a well-developed strategy to design and build an innovative, high performing robot, and another team, *Storm Watchers* (Izzy Abilheira, Matt Rei, David Catanzaro, Ben Hoxsie, Andrew Simone, and Alyssa Whitworth) was awarded the "Gracious Professionalism Award" for showing each other and other teams respect at all times and their recognition that both friendly competition and mutual gain are possible, on and off the playing field. Ms. Kirby informed the Committee that 50 students at NPS have qualified for the annual Spelling Bee to be held on January 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the cafeteria. The second quarter is coming to closure and report cards will be distributed by the end of the month.

Ground Hog Shadow Day for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will take place on February 4<sup>th</sup> and they will shadow professionals in various community experiences such as offices, service & food industries, manufacturing, education, and technology it's a great opportunity for them to begin to consider life after school. Lastly, on Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup> will be the opening night for *Shrek the Musical*. Students have been working hard since October for this production and more will join as the stage and lighting crew begin their work. Shows are Friday at 7PM, Saturday at 5PM and Sunday at 1PM. Tickets are on sale now on our website.

Mr. Daniel Warner, Principal of the Narragansett High School, announced that the first semester will end as exams begin on January 21<sup>st</sup>. On Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 7PM NHS will hold the Parents night for incoming Freshman. The new gymnasium was dedicated on January 4, 2014. Mr. Warner also reported that the Girls Cross Country team was honored with the RIIL Sportsmanship Award. The PTO meeting will host a meeting to include the Department heads from NHS on January 16<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Leslie Brow, Director of Student Services, reported that there is also a pilot for the Alternate Assessments that are given. At this time, she cannot confirm whether or not Narragansett will be participating in this part of the pilot testing program. The next Special Education Parent Advisory Committee meeting in March will include a college panel of recent NHS graduates that had I.E.P.'s (Individualized Education Plans).

## 2. School Committee Reports:

Mr. White inquired about the assessments and whether or not the School Committee could actually see the interim assessment. Ms. Daley said that she would have a copy available in the main office for them to peruse.

Mr. White recapped the joint School Committee /Town Council meeting held in December in which there was a presentation from the Westerly Finance Department on the process they went through in combining the Town and School Finance Departments. Mr. White indicated that he is very satisfied with the School Finance Department and would prefer to leave things just as they are.

Ms. Ranaldi reported on the Health & Wellness meeting that took place on Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup>. He plans to incorporate aspects of a healthy life style in to the meetings. There will be a "walking" meeting to come.

Ms. McNeiece inquired about the portion of the donated money from O'B Surf group and what the plans are for that money earmarked for mental health. She asked if there would be a sub committee to oversee what will do with that money. Mr. Ranaldi replied that "things are in the works".

## 3. Superintendent's Report:

The Superintendent reported on the upcoming NECAP score release and how that will impact the graduating seniors as it applies to requirements for graduation.

The Superintendent reminded the Committee that there will be budget workshops on March 5<sup>th</sup> and March 12<sup>th</sup> and asked the Committee about their preference on location and time. The Committee polled and preferred holding the meetings in the Administrative offices, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, at 5:30 PM on both dates.

An additional Joint meeting of the School Committee and Town Council will take place on March 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 PM This meeting was added at the request of Ms. McNeiece, Committee Chair, to apprise the Town Council about the budget and to highlight the requests and needs.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### 1. Approval of Minutes:

- A. December 16, 2013 Joint Meeting with Town Council & Finance
- B. December 18, 2013 Regular Business Meeting

2. Routine Personnel Actions: CA-2

Appointments – Classified

Shea, Brittany, Teacher Assistant, NPS, Compensation: \$16.88/hr., 32.5hrs/wk., 36 wks/yr., effective 2/24/14, temporarily until end of school year.

Falcone, Andrianna, Cafeteria Assistant, NPS, Compensation: \$10.00/hr., 10hrs/wk., 36 wks/yr., effective 1/13/14.

Increase – Classified

Smith, Cynthia, Bus Driver, Transportation, Compensation: \$19.84/hr., 5hrs/wk., 36wks/yr., effective 1/2/14, temporarily until end of school year.

Retirement – Classified

Woodmansee, Jay, Custodian, NPS, effective January 08, 2014.

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-2, CA-3A, CA-3B, CA-3C).

D. Nobles /G. deWardener (5-0)

**BUDGET REPORT** Mr. White reported that as of December 30, 2013, \$10,550,847.01 (38.53%) of the FY14 Budget of \$27,380,216.00 has been expended. \$24,812,529.20 (90.62%) has been expended and encumbered.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

1. Narragansett High School Program of Studies – First Draft

**MOTION:** to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the first draft of the Narragansett High School Program of Studies.  
D. Nobles/G. deWardener (5/0)

2. Discussion of School Committee Goals

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**FUTURE MEETINGS/BUSINESS**

January 22, 2014 NES will host a Presentation on the Common Core Standards at 7PM in the NES Cafeteria

February 26, 2014 Regular Business Meeting - 7:00 PM, Narragansett Town Hall, Assembly Area.  
Presentation of proposed FY 15 Budget

March 5, 2014 Budget Workshop, 5:30 PM, Administrative Offices, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Town Hall

March 12, 2014 Budget Workshop, 5:30 PM, Administrative Offices, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Town Hall

**ADJOURNMENT:** **MOTION:** To adjourn the meeting at 9:27 PM G. deWardener / F. White (5/0)

Respectfully submitted,

Frank White, Clerk