

NARRAGANSETT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD March 19, 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, March 19, 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; Mr. David Correira, Director of Transportation and Grounds & Mr. Gary Minett, Director of Maintenance.

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. McNeiece called the meeting to order at 7:10PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

SEAL EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF THE MARCH 19, 2014 MEETING. de Wardener/Nobles (5-0)

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION VOTES. No votes were taken.

OPEN FORUM: No one spoke.

ORAL REPORTS:

I. School Committee Reports:

Mr. Warner, Mr. Adham, and Coach Colombo recognized State Wrestling Champion at 182 pounds, Mike Gallagher. Coach Brian McNeiece and Coach Keith Ranaldi recognized State Track Champions. Carly Timpson was the URI Invitational High Jump, State Champion High Jump, and is 25th in the Country in the High Jump. Leia Mistowski was the Division & State Champion in Weight Throw, Shot Put All Division and is a three time All American, twice in the Weight Throw and once in the Shot Put. Vincent Santos was also recognized for his accomplishment as All Division in the 55 hurdles, and the only athlete at this level to not have an indoor facility to practice in.

Ms. Marianne Kirby introduced Ms. Vanessa Miller who reported on the results following the First Lego League Rhode Island Robotics Qualifying Tournament that was hosted by the Narragansett Pier School on November 16th. The Mariner's Fury won an Award for Robot Design for their original and unique design of their robot. Teams who qualified then advanced to the State Championships at Roger Williams University on January 11, 2014, where the Mariner's Fury won the Strategy and Innovation Award for their unique approach to solving the missions on the game board. Ms. Miller introduced the Mariner's Fury team of Alex Boutin, Nicholas Niles and William Corson who demonstrated their Robotic Design and mission.

Mr. Ranaldi reported on that the recent Health & Wellness Committee meeting which he reports is going strong and gaining ground. They are currently working with the State to review the policy. The RFP for the Food Services contract is currently open. The Committee wants to ensure that our students are getting a variety of healthy, affordable and good tasting choices. Mr. Ranaldi also reported that they have formed a subcommittee to look into Grants for fitness, health and wellness.

Health & Wellness Committee members will be participating in PTO meetings to give updates on the Committee's progress. The Committee will soon be launching the Mental Health Awareness aspect of their charge. Mr. Ranaldi noted that the next Health and Wellness meeting will take place on May 19th.

Ms. McNeiece reported on RIASC workshop she recently attended on the high school graduation waiver process. They presented flow charts from RIDE and information on alternative options for graduation for students who have not met the required 2 on the NECAP. The Superintendent indicated that this option has not been exercised by Narragansett Students as they have passed the NECAP retest and/or passed an acceptable alternative test. Ms. McNeiece also reported that the Special Events Committee of the NCACF met and has plans for a Sunset Lighthouse Cruise fundraiser to be held in June and which has been generously donated by a local family. The Committee is also in the planning stages of a Festival of Fields Day.

Dr. Nobles also reported on a RIASC Legislative workshop that she recently attended at RIC. The workshop reported on bills and proposed legislation that RIASC will, or will not be, supporting. One of the proposed bills that RIASC supports is the changing of Teacher Notification for Nonrenewal from March 1st to June 1st. RIASC will not be supporting a bill which would ask for the Continuance of Contractual Provisions in a collective bargaining agreement until a new contract is agreed upon. Other key legislation which has been introduced includes the Delaying the Implementation of Standardized testing based on the Common Core until an appointed Commission has time to study the assessments and report out to the Governor. One other proposed piece of legislation regards Modifying the frequency of Teacher Evaluations based on their most recent ratings, higher the rating the less frequent the evaluation. Ms. Nobles also reported that while Rhode Island is 7th in the nation in terms of per pupil spending, the state is 43rd in terms of State support.

Mr. White reported that he went to West Kingstown Elementary School where he enjoyed a performance by a violinist Gene Hahn from the Philadelphia Orchestra and Ms. Lee of the pianist from the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore. Mr. White informed the Committee that they would be performing at NES on Friday at 2:15 for the 3rd grade students.

2. Superintendent's Report:

The Superintendent referred the Committee to the Annual Financial Audit and Letter. Ms. Hagan provided a brief overview and explained that this was a Town audit with some specific focus on the school department and includes the schedule assets liabilities and fund balance, which is approximately \$4 million dollars.

CONSENT AGENDA

I. Approval of Minutes:

- A. February 26, 2014 Executive Session-Limited Distribution
- B. February 26, 2014 Regular Business Meeting
- C. March 3, 2014 Budget Workshop
- D. March 12, 2014 Budget Workshop

2. Routine Personnel Actions: CA-2

Appointments-Coaches NPS

Millen, Jr., Michael	Assistant Track & Field	Stipend: \$1,400.76
Crespo, Bruce	Baseball Coach	Stipend: \$700.38

Appointments-Coaches NHS

Hickey, Kristen	Assistant Boys Track	Stipend: \$1,873.89
-----------------	----------------------	---------------------

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-1D, CA-2, CA-3A, CA-3B, CA-3C). Nobles/White (5-0)

BUDGET REPORT Mr. White reported that as of March 1, 2014, \$15,484,780.75 (56.55%) of the FY14 Budget of \$27,380,216.00 has been expended. \$25,213,094.52 (92.09%) has been expended and encumbered.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Approval of FY 2015 Budget

MOTION: to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Director of Finance and Administration to approve the FY 2015 Budget in the amount of \$27,738,098. Nobles/ deWardener (5-0)

2. Approval of School Calendar for 2014-15 SY

MOTION: to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the School Calendar for the 2014-15 SY **MOTION TABLED:** Nobles/ Ranaldi (5-0)

Discussion followed before vote was taken. The Superintendent discussed possible changes in the calendar that the Committee was given to consider. The Superintendent would like the Committee to consider Union comments on Professional Development and start date. She informed the Committee that there may be a statewide movement to make changes in the 2016-17 school year in the February vacation week to a long weekend. This is being experimented with among schools in Connecticut with success. The Committee decided to table a Motion for a future meeting.

3. Approval of School Committee Meeting Schedule for the 2014-15 SY

MOTION: to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the School Committee Meeting Schedule for the 2014-15 SY, as amended. Ranaldi/White (5-0)

Discussion followed before vote was taken. The Superintendent explained proposed changes in the School Committee Meeting Schedule, and agreed to shift the Budget schedule to an earlier date and have the 2015-16 Budget ready for Committee consideration on February 11th.

4. Approval of FFA National Convention Trip in October 2014

MOTION: to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the FFA National Convention Trip in October 2014. Nobles/ deWardener (5-0)

5. Approve Purchase of Auto Scrubber

MOTION: to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Director of Finance and Administration, to approve the purchase of an Auto Scrubber from Beacon Distributors in the amount of \$3,824.00. Ranaldi/White (5-0)

6. Approve Letter in Support of School Housing Aid

MOTION: to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the Letter in Support of School Housing Aid Nobles/ Ranaldi (5-0)

7. Discussion of Daniel R. Barry & Associates Contract Extension from April 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014 for the Narragansett Community Athletic Complex Fundraising. This agenda item will be voted on at the April meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

Written school reports were included in the packet. Ms. McNeiece had questions for Mr. Warner about re-inserting the Family Consumer Science (FCS) courses in the Handbook and notifying the students about the availability of these course selections.

The Superintendent referred to the School Report System in their packet. The findings will be discussed at a future meeting.

FUTURE MEETINGS/BUSINESS

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| March 26, 2014 | Common Core State Standards Presentation NES Cafeteria- 7:00 PM |
| March 31, 2014 | Joint Budget Workshop with Town Council 6:30 PM, Narragansett Town Hall School, Large Board Room. |
| April 14, 2014 | RIDE Board of Education Meeting, 4PM in Town Hall Assembly room. |
| April 16, 2014 | Regular Business Meeting –7:00 PM, Narragansett Town Hall, Assembly Area. |
| April 28, 2014 | Budget Presentation to Town Council, 7:30 PM, Narragansett Town Hall, Assembly Area. |

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:00PM. Ranaldi/Nobles (5/0)

Respectfully submitted,

Frank White, Clerk