

**NARRAGANSETT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD December 17, 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 December 17, 2014, 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.

OTHER SCHOOL OFFICIALS ATTENDANCE: Ms. Katherine Sipala, Superintendent; Ms. Karen Hagen, Director of Finance and Administration; Ms. Leslie Brow, Director of Student Services; Mr. Dan 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 7:00PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

SEAL EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF DECEMBER 17, 2014 MEETING:

MOTION: moved by Ms. McNeiece, seconded by Mr. Ranaldi to seal the Executive Session Minutes of December 17, 2014.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION VOTES. There was a vote to approve a Non-Resident Request for Student Attendance. (Motion Approved 5/0)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi seconded by Mr. White to appoint Ms. McNeiece as Chairperson.

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi seconded by Mr. White to appoint Ms. Nobles as Vice Chairperson.

MOTION: moved by Mr. deWardener, seconded by Mr. Ranaldi to appoint Mr. White as Clerk.

SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

Buildings & Grounds Committee (2) – Ms. McNeiece and Mr. deWardener

Capital Reserve Committee (2) – Ms. McNeiece and Mr. deWardener

Knights of the Rockingham Arch - Mr. White

Negotiations Subcommittee (2) – Mr. White & Mr. Ranaldi (Teachers): Mr. White & Mr. deWardener (Support)

Parliamentarian- Ms. Nobles

Recreation Advisory Board – Mr. White

Policy Review Subcommittee (2) – Ms. Nobles and Mr. Ranaldi

RIASC – Ms. Nobles

Special Education Advisory Committee – Mr. Ranaldi

Wellness Committee – Mr. Ranaldi

Town Council Liaisons (2) – Ms. McNeiece and Mr. Ranaldi

Technology Committee – Mr. deWardener

OPEN FORUM: No one spoke.

ORAL REPORTS:

1. School Committee

Ms. McNeiece reported on the Joint Meeting with the Town Council on December 15, 2014 at which they discussed the Budget Forecast, OPEB, Contract Negotiations, the Tuition agreement with Jamestown, and the Narragansett Community Athletic Complex.

Mr. Ranaldi reported that the last meeting of the Health and Wellness Committee was held on December 8th. New members were present and included, Laurie Stephenson, who is an Advocacy rep. for American Heart Association shared the heart association's new campaign vision, "life is why"; and Mary Hurwitz who represents a company that will distribute information about the state-of-the-art alternative medical advances. Guest speaker C. Karin Wetherill, a consultant for DOH and RIDE talked to the Committee about the mandate from the Federal Government for district Wellness Committees and Wellness policy; and Dr. Dariusz Kostrzewa introduced the importance of strategic structuring of health & wellness by referencing Michelle Obama's 'Let's Move Active School' campaign. Great turn out and interest in the initiatives. The Committee plans to roll out the Shape-Up 'Gansett' program; the next meeting is on January 26th at 4PM.

2. School Reports:

Narragansett Elementary School Ms. Dandurand, Principal of Narragansett Elementary School reported that on Friday, November 21st there was a successful Family Bingo Night. The next Bingo Night will be held on Friday, January 24th from 5:30-8:00. There is new NES gear with a brand new logo. NES has hosted Digital Literacy PD for staff with Renee Hobbs. NES has been selected as a NAPE testing site and PARCC testing will begin in the spring.

Narragansett Pier School Ms. Kirby, Principal of the Narragansett Pier School, reported that NPS grade 8 students will participate in the NAEP National exam in February. For the second year, the Pier School hosted one of four First Lego League Robotics State Qualifiers on Saturday, December 13th. This is the first time that ALL Narragansett Teams have made it from the qualifier round to the State Championship at Roger Williams College to be held on Saturday, January 17th. The Brainstorms won the Research Project Award for their new "Object Characteristics" font invented to help students learn to write cursive. Advancement was based on 3 components: the research Project, the Robot Design, and Core Values (teamwork). The students' hard work led to this success. Robotics is now part of the grade 6 UA curriculum. NPS has invested funds from the PTO's beach blanket bidding to upgrade the Lego Robotics and for this course. As a result, students are now working with the finest technology and materials available. Lego simple robots were also purchased to use in grade five sciences to "prime the well" for grade six.

Under the guidance of grade 5 math teacher Karla Flaherty and school nurse Peg Fair, the Pier School students donated 2282 items for the annual food drive. With a student population of just over 400, that's roughly five items per student. Along with the generous donation of turkeys from the Lions club and canned goods from the Boy Scouts, the team was able to prepare 100 food baskets to distribute to Narragansett families.

The Pier school will field a Unified Basketball team this spring. Under the guidance of Ray DeFalco, the girls' basketball coach and Caitlyn Majeika, a Special Education Teacher as school liaison, the team will join several other South County middle schools in this league. The NPS team will be comprised of up to eight athletes and eight partners. Practices will begin in mid-March and the first game is scheduled for the first Thursday in April.

Narragansett High School Mr. Warner reported that NHS has been moving towards using Google Docs. Joanne Gongoleski and Derek Emery work with teachers at "Tuesday Tech Bites". Mr. Warner informed the Committee of important upcoming parent nights. On January 8th, there will be a Jr. Parent College information night beginning at 7PM and on January 20th, there will be an 8th Grade Parent Night beginning at 7PM.

Special Education Ms. Brow, Director of Student Services, reported that Special Education teachers have been preparing for PARCC testing, identifying allowable accessibility features and accommodations for individual students. Professional development will soon take place with Narragansett's current Adaptive PE teachers. Work continues with Dr. Renee Hobbs from the Harrington School, to assess the needs of staff and the students with unique learning styles and begin to explore how digital literacy can help support all students. On January 13th the Local Advisory Committee will host a Transition Panel. The Panel of students will discuss their transition to college and supports available to students. Eight Narragansett High School students will attend the Transition Fair held at CCRI on January 8th.

3. Superintendent's Report: Ms. Sipala pointed out that she has added additional items to her 2014-15 Annual

Goals which have been included in the packets as requested by Mr. Ranaldi. The RIDE Strategic Planning initiative has begun statewide. Melissa O'Neil is our representative. NECAP Science test results came out yesterday which will be reported in depth at a future meeting.

There was a concern several years ago with regard to traffic not stopping for the flashing lights of busses on Point Judith Road. We may look at putting cameras on a particular bus for this reason. There is a concern for students on the bus while cars continue to drive by while lights are flashing and the arm is down.

- A. Narragansett Prevention Partnership representatives Nancy DeNuccio & Renae Martin presented information to the Committee about the Partnership. They explained that the Mission of NPP is to create a healthy and safe environment by implementing and supporting prevention strategies for the Narragansett community. It includes representation from a broad base of constituencies and partners in prevention to create an infrastructure for the community. A Drug Free Communities Grant was recently received. This Five year ONDCP grant totals \$625,000. The target audience is 12-17 year olds. There will be an NPP Meeting at Simon's, 2 Sand Hill Cove Road (above Charlie O's) on January 12th with a presentation "When Does Experimenting With Marijuana Put Your Teen At Risk?"
- B. Discussion of 2015-16 School Calendar & Survey: Ms. Kirby explained the results of the Survey. The Committee is looking at several aspects of the calendar and school vacations. The results of the survey were reviewed and will be further discussed at a future meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of Minutes:

- A. November 19, 2014 - Executive Session-Limited Distribution CA-1A
- B. November 19, 2014 - Regular Business Meeting CA-1B

2. Routine Personnel Actions:

Increase – Certified

Tavarozzi, Nicole, 0.25 Resource, NPS, Compensation: Step 10 plus M: effective November 17, 2014

Appointments – Other

Kane, Sarah, Music Director, NPS Theatre, Compensation: \$3,500, effective for the 2014-15 school year.

Appointments – Winter Coaches NHS

Ingram, Preston	Girls JV Basketball Coach	Stipend: \$2460.80
Bolster, Elise	Assistant Indoor Track & Field	Stipend: \$2338.41
Reels, Brett	Assistant Boys Basketball	Stipend: N/A
Franklin, Chris	Assistant Boys Basketball	Stipend: N/A
Degnan, Kathleen	Volunteer Swim Coach	Stipend: N/A

3. Reports:

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

MOTION: moved by Dr. Nobles, seconded by Mr. Ranaldi, 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.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

BUDGET REPORT Mr. White reported that as of November 30, 2014, \$8,412,743.88 (30.33%) of the FY14 Budget of \$27,738,098.00 has been expended, and \$25,120,851.59 (90.56%) has been expended and encumbered. As always, Mr. White asked that Ms. Hagan please try to squirrel away some of the money for the future.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. 1st Reading – Narragansett High School Program of Studies for 2015-16 School Year

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Dr. Nobles to approve the to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the 1st Reading of the Narragansett High School Program of Studies for 2015-16 School Year.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

2. Approval of NHS Spain Trip - April 2016

MOTION: moved by Mr. deWardener, seconded by Mr. Ranaldi, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the April 2016 Narragansett High School student trip to Spain.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

3. Bid Award: Narragansett Community Athletic Complex Design & Construction Services

MOTION: TABLED

Discussion: Ms. McNeiece wanted it noted in the Minutes that her vote will not change, and that she intends to vote to approve the recommendation for the Superintendent and Director of Finance, to select Gale Associates as the Bid to be presented to the Town Council. The Committee agreed to reconvene at a Special Meeting on December 23, 2014, to further discuss and vote on this item.

COMMUNICATIONS

FUTURE MEETINGS/BUSINESS

- January 5, 2015 Town Council Meeting–7:30 PM, Approval of Architectural Services and Appointment of Building Committee, Narragansett Town Hall, Assembly Area.
- January 21, 2014 Regular Business Meeting –7:00 PM, Narragansett Town Hall, Assembly Area.

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. deWardener, to adjourn at 10:47PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank White, Clerk