

**NARRAGANSETT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD March 18, 2015**

ENCLOSURE April 15, 2015 No. CA-1B
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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 March 18, 2015, at the Narragansett Town Hall, Assembly Area, 25 Fifth Avenue, Narragansett, Rhode Island.

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

OTHER SCHOOL OFFICIALS ATTENDANCE: Ms. Katherine Sipala, Superintendent; Ms. Karen Hagan, Director of Finance and Administration; 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; Mr. David Correia, Director of Transportation; Mr. Gary Minett, Director of Maintenance and Operations; and Mr. Dick Fossa, Athletic Director, NHS.

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

SEAL EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF MARCH 18, 2015 MEETING:

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. deWardener to seal the Executive Session Minutes of March 18, 2015.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

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

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION VOTES. No votes were taken.

OPEN FORUM: No one spoke.

SHOWCASE: NHS Athletics:

Mr. Dick Fossa, NHS Athletic Director, thanked the School Committee for recognizing some very impressive achievements by our student athletes during the winter season. Mr. Fossa informed the Committee that the Boys Hockey team will be playing in the DII Division semi-finals and the Girls Co-op Hockey Team finished 2nd in the State this year losing to LaSalle Academy in the finals. Mr. Fossa recognized Abby McKanna and Dan Doyle for each scoring 1000 points during the current basketball season. They are 2 of 11 players in Narragansett High School history to meet this milestone. The Mariner Boys Basketball team had a very successful season finishing 14-3 and an overall record of 17-6 and qualified for the open state championship. The NHS wrestling team had two State Champions this season: Senior wrestler Alex Millen in the heavy weight division and freshman Cole McGill at 132 lbs. He also recognized coaches Tony Columbo and Mike Millen. Mrs. Vera Koehler, Head coach of the NHS swim team, thanked volunteer coaches Katie Degnan and Kevin Koehler who played a huge part in the team's success this year. The team finished as State co-champions. Ms. Koehler recognized 4 first team all-state swimmers this year: Michaela Degnan, Xia Whittaker, Marissa McPhillips, and Erin Foeri. Michaela Degnan qualified for the All-America team. Ms. Katherine Mahoney, coach of the NHS girls Basketball team, thanked coaches Preston Ingram and Jack Mahoney for their assistance this season. She also recognized Chelsea Sahajian and Abby McKanna for being an integral part of 3 Championship seasons. Mr. Fossa acknowledged the Unified Basketball team and the coaches who made the "Fans in the Stands" video.

ORAL REPORTS

School Committee:

Mr. Ranaldi updated the Committee on the Health and Wellness Committee meeting held on March 9th the Narragansett Prevention Partnership gave a presentation on their initiatives in the school. Gansett Crossfit Training spoke at the meeting as well. The Superintendent added that the 2nd part of the 2 part training on Youth Mental Health First Aid training was completed today. There were 28 Narragansett staff members participating in the 8 hour training program

offered through the Washington Coalition. Representative Teresa Tanzi attended and was very interested in the initiative. Mr. Ranaldi also reported that the start of the Media Relations Committee is underway. They will be reaching out to community members willing to share their expertise in this area.

Ms. McNeiece reported on the March 17th NCAC Committee meeting at which a guest speaker, Mr. Bob Rothenberg, discussed the pros and cons of different track surfaces for the Track and Field renovation project. Mr. Bob Rothenberg was a track coach at Brown University for 20 years and was involved in the track renovation at that stadium. He also volunteered on the Coventry and EWG Building Committees during the renovations of their tracks. Ms. McNeiece reported that the Committee is close to being ready for the bid to go out and are hoping to go before the Planning Board in April and the Zoning Board in May.

School Reports:

Narragansett Pier School: Ms. Marianne Kirby, Principal of the Narragansett Pier School, reported that the first round of PARCC testing took place this week. Ms. Kirby thanked Mr. Roland Lambert, District Technology Director; Ms. Nancy Daley, Director of Curriculum and Professional Development; Assistant Principal Brian Tetreault; and NPS Technology Coordinator Giulio Lugini for their assistance in the smooth role out of the testing. There were minor glitches but overall it went very well. Tomorrow is the official National History Day at the Pier School and the theme this year is “Legends and Legacies”. Tomorrow is the judging day and there will be projects that go to the state finals. The “Beauty and the Beast” Production was presented this past weekend. A survey will go out to parents about the experience to get feedback to continue to deliver a quality product. The spring sports season has begun. Coaches DeFalco and Majeika held their first practice for the Unified Basketball team Tuesday evening with 16 students participating. The Color Guard will be representing NPS in the States in April. March Madness will take place on March 27th at NPS. On March 30th the NPS PTO will meet in the Library and the Spring Book Fair will take place on April 8, 9, and 10th.

Student Services/Special Education: Ms. Leslie Brow, Director of Student Services, reported that the Unified sports continues to be a great success. She also informed the Committee that there are 16 students planning to attend the Unified Ball and will travel in a party bus donated by a parent. There are lots of events happening in the spring: NHS student Chelsea Sahajian will be holding a pasta dinner on March 27th at the Elks Club as part of her senior project and all proceeds to be donated to the Unified Basketball program; Joe Olivo is organizing a walk-a-thon on April 11th at 10AM at the Twin Willows. Proceeds from this event will go to the Autism Project. The 5th Annual Imagine Walk will take place on April 26th at Goddard Park in Warwick. Proceeds come directly back to the Narragansett School District. This past Thursday and Friday 5 staff members attended the Transition Institute at Roger Williams University. The goal is student self-advocacy and student led IEP meetings. Moving forward with alternate assessment, students will participate at the end of March in the areas of Math and Reading. The final Parent Advisory Meeting for this year will be held on May 12th. Dr. Randy Kulman will speak to the Advisory group about “Playing Smarter in the Digital World” and how we can tap into different student learning styles.

Narragansett High School: Mr. Dan Warner, Principal, Narragansett High School, reported that on February 25th RIDE made a site visit at the high school to observe and review in preparation for the initial approval of the request for Career and Technical Application of the proposed Agriculture Program. They were very impressed with the High School and the program and sent a letter indicating that there are some very minor things to report on before officially approving this program. Agriculture I is an elective for 9th graders and 10th graders are eligible to enter this program. There is plenty of time to make provisions to student schedules. Ms. Sipala reminded the Committee that we will be able to accept tuitioned-in students. NHS recently had a Professional Development event with speaker Attorney David Kane who spoke to staff about confidentiality. Recent happenings at NHS include: a Blood Drive; speaker William Bianchi, who has presented NHS with the Financial Literacy Award, will be speaking with the senior class; PARCC testing is well underway at NHS and Mr. Warner thanked Mr. Toby Gibbons, Assistant Principal and Mr. Derek Emery, NHS Technology Coordinator for the smooth roll-out; the sophomore class is hosting a 3-3 Basketball Tournament; and the senior class will be hosting the annual “Mr. Narragansett” contest. Ms. McNeiece also shared that her daughter and a classmate had students from Jamestown shadow once again and were very thankful to have this opportunity.

Narragansett Elementary School: Ms. Gail Dandurand, Principal of the Narragansett Elementary School, reported on the PARCC testing at NES and thanked Ms. Lisa Wilson, Ms. Nancy Daley, Mr. Roland Lambert, and Ms. Karen Early for the hard work on this PARCC testing rollout with the biggest glitch being getting on the laptop and staying on the website. There were several “Good Deeds” projects including Valentines for Veterans, a canned good drive, wearing green for the autism walk, and a clothing drive organized by 4th graders to benefit the Welcome House. Ms. Dandurand is happy to report that these good deeds are generally student generated and a way for them to give back to the community. NES recently received a Feinstein Grant for \$1000 which will be used to purchase additional iPads for the lab. The professional day was a success with GEMSnet, and PARCC training, with NES PTO providing lunch for the day. For next year, NES is looking into increasing the math intervention block to 4 days a week, and also looking to improve grade level planning periods for better collaboration. Ms. Dandurand is using the shadow puppet app using images and voice to deliver her weekly bulletin to staff. The Annual Pizza Pig Out will take place this Friday night. Mr. White asked about the PARCC testing at NES. Ms. Dandurand indicated that the 3rd and 4th grades are being tested in Math and ELA. Ms. Sipala also informed the Committee that participation rate will be recorded but no school will be sanctioned if they are under 95% participation. This year our parent refusal rate is 1.4% so we are fine at this time.

Superintendent: Ms. Sipala reported that March is Youth Art Month and that RI Alliance for Arts Education has selected Narragansett to be the “Gift of Art” school department for the month of May, which means that the student pieces will be on permanent display at RIDE. The art will be professionally framed and on display at a special statewide exhibit from May 4th - May 29th. These students will be honored on May 21st at 7PM at the URI Providence campus. Ms. Sipala wanted to clarify some comments made at a recent Town Council meeting. After watching the Town Council meeting, she wanted to respond to a comment relative to the School Committee’s selection of a Fundraiser for the field renovation project. She explained that the District put out an RFP, followed proper procedures, and awarded an initial bid in May of 2012. For each new phase of the fundraising campaign, the renewal came before the Committee for their approval of an extension to complete the project. This process was properly vetted and that the School Committee followed proper procedure for awarding this bid and for approving the extensions. Ms. Sipala will make sure that the Town Council has the correct information. The Superintendent also shared four additional Resolutions of interest that she received from Representative Teresa Tanzi in addition to the Housing Aid Resolution.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of Minutes:
 - A. February 11, 2015 Executive Session-Limited Distribution
 - B. February 11, 2015 Regular Business Meeting
 - C. February 25, 2015 Budget Workshop
 - D. March 4, 2015 Budget Workshop
 - E. March 11, 2015 Budget Workshop
2. Routine Personnel Actions:
 - Resignation – Certified
Sylvia, Carrie, Nurse, NES, effective February 27, 2015.
 - Resignation – Classified
Reeder, Alice, Teacher Assistant, NES, effective February 20, 2015.
 - Lay Off – Classified
Taylor, Cheryl, Teacher Assistant, NPS, effective February 13, 2015.
 - Appointments – Classified
MacDonald, Jacqueline, Teacher Assistant, NES, Comp: \$16.66/hr, 10.4 hrs/wk, 36 wks/yr, effective February 23, 2015.
Gannek, Pamela, Teacher Assistant, NES, Compensation: \$17.56/hr, 15.32 hrs/wk, 36 wks/yr, effective February 26, 2015.
Tudino, Carolyn, Secretary, NES, Compensation: \$22.30/hr, 35 hrs/wk, 40 wks/yr, effective February 26, 2015.
 - Appointments – Coaches NPS

Lapham, Mark	Softball Coach	Stipend: \$2680.67
Ranaldi, Deborah	Track Coach	Stipend: \$2680.67
Crespo, Bruce	Baseball Coach	Stipend: \$1531.06
Ranaldi, Keith	Volunteer Track Coach	N/A

Appointments – Coaches NHS

Vellone, Keith	Varsity Baseball Coach	Stipend: \$4940.96
Smith, David	JV Baseball Coach	Stipend: \$2803.25
Salomone, Michael	Varsity Softball Coach	Stipend: \$4672.08
Lindsley, Frederick	Assistant Softball Coach	Stipend: \$2471.30
Behrends, William	Golf Coach	Stipend: \$4093.09
Stroup, Paul	Volunteer Golf Coach	N/A
Chafee, Mark	Varsity Boys Lacrosse	Stipend: \$4940.96
Scott, Glenn	JV Boys Lacrosse	Stipend: \$2964.58
Lubic, Mark	Varsity Girls Lacrosse	Stipend: \$4940.96
Bolster, Elise	JV Girls Lacrosse	Stipend: \$2338.41
Wyatt, Russell	Varsity Tennis Coach	Stipend: \$3451.25
Shields, Robert	Varsity Track	Stipend: \$5472.56
Lopes, Jennalee	Assistant Track Coach	Stipend: \$2338.41
Hickey, Kristen	Assistant Track Coach	Stipend: \$1902.01
Ingram, Preston	Assistant Track Coach	Stipend: \$1902.01
Cagnon, Krystal	Unified Basketball	N/A
Hummel, Abby	Unified Basketball	N/A
Stroup, Paul	Unified Basketball	N/A

3. Reports:

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

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. White, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the Consent Agenda items CA-1A, CA-1B, CA-1C, CA-1D, CA-1E, CA-2, CA-3A, CA-3B, CA-3C.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

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

BUDGET REPORT Mr. White reported that as of February 28, 2015, \$15,732,323.22 (56.72%) of the FY15 Budget of \$27,738,098.00 has been expended, and \$25,786,981.13 (92.97%) has been expended and encumbered. Mr. White informed the Committee that we have finished 8 months of the fiscal year. Mr. White asked that Ms. Hagan, once again, to please try and save some of the money for the future.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Approval of FY 2016 Budget

MOTION: TABLED-moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. deWardener to table this action until the March 25, 2015 meeting.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

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

Ms. Sipala gave a power point presentation and overview of the proposed FY2016 Budget. Ms. McNeiece wanted to make sure that we are maintaining a healthy balance and indicated that she intends to ask the School Committee to approve the use of some of the Capital Reserve to subsidize the field renovation project. She is trying to do it in the best, safest and most cost effective way to complete this project. Ms. McNeiece explained that while she prefers to have an adequate fund balance she does not think we should maintain an excessive fund balance. She felt like \$3 Million would be an adequate fund balance while also being considerate and of the tax payers. She would implore the Committee to please consider increasing the School Departments contribution to the project. Ms. Sipala wanted to make it very clear that the current commitment right now is \$700,000. Ms. Sipala also explained that there are additional considerations to be explored that are not currently in the plan, including parking and other items. Mr.

deWardener asked for clarification on the current commitments and asked about the figures. Mr. deWardener asked about the original request which was \$3.2 million and is

now at \$3.7 million. Mr. Ranaldi commented that the project is already over budget and that the Committee has to work within the budget and make decisions based on that budget. He offered that there may be companies out there that would be willing to donate additional funds. Mr. White indicated that the Town Council was adamant that they will not approve a penny more than \$3.4 million. The Superintendent reminded the Committee that this was a fabulous project and that it is the Committee's responsibility to be good stewards of the taxpayer dollars. Ms. McNeiece is concerned about delivering a quality product and in particular the track service and the upkeep and maintenance of the track. Ms. McNeiece is in support of the additional \$200,000 to the project.

2. Approval of School Committee Meeting Schedule for the 2015-16 SY

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. deWardener to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the School Committee Meeting schedule for the 2015-16 SY.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

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

The 2015-16 School Committee calendar is approved with a suggested change to the August meeting date to move it to August 26th with confirmation from PEG Access that these dates are available for broadcast.

3. Approval of FFA National Convention Trip in October 2015

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. deWardener to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the FFA National Convention Trip in October 2015.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

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

4. Approval of a Media/Public Relations Committee

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. White to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the formation of a Media/Public Relations Committee.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

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

COMMUNICATIONS

FUTURE MEETINGS/BUSINESS

March 25, 2015	7:00PM Special Meeting, Budget Vote, Town Hall, Assembly Room, 25 Fifth Avenue.
April 13, 2015	7:30PM Public Hearing on FY16 Budget with the Town Council Assembly Room, 25 Fifth Ave.
April 15, 2015	7PM Regular School Committee Meeting, Town Hall, Assembly Room, 25 Fifth Avenue.
April 27, 2015	4PM Health & Wellness Meeting, Administrative Offices, 3rd Floor
April 27, 2015	6:30PM School Committee/Town Council Workshop

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. White adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank White, Clerk