

**NARRAGANSETT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD December 16, 2015**

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 16, 2015, at the Narragansett Town Hall, Assembly Area, 25 Fifth Avenue, Narragansett, Rhode Island.

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

OTHER SCHOOL OFFICIALS ATTENDANCE: Ms. Katherine Sipala, Superintendent and Ms. Karen Hagan, Director of Finance and Administration; Mr. David Correia, Director of Transportation & Grounds; Ms. Gail Dandurand, Principal, Narragansett Elementary School; Ms. Marianne Kirby, Principal, Narragansett Pier School; Mr. Daniel Warner, Principal, Narragansett High School; Ms. Leslie Brow, Director of Student Services; and Mr. Steven Gormley, Director of Facilities and Maintenance.

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. McNeiece called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

SEAL EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES of December 16, 2015.

MOTION: moved by Dr. Nobles seconded by Mr. Frank White, to seal the minutes of the December 16, 2015 Executive Session.

MOTION PASSED: (5-0).

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION VOTES: There were 4 Homeschool requests approved. (5/0)

OPEN FORUM: No one spoke.

ORAL REPORTS:

School Committee Reports:

Mr. Ranaldi informed the Committee that the next Wellness Committee meeting will be held on January 11, 2016 at 4PM in the Administrative Offices.

Mr. White attended the recent Narragansett Recreation Advisory Board meeting on December 14th from 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM at the Parks & Recreation Facility, 170 Clarke Road. Discussion centered on the cabanas and length of "ownership". Currently, cabanas are utilized through generations of families and the Committee is looking into the fairness of that practice.

School Committee Reports:

Ms. Marianne Kirby, Principal, Narragansett Pier School reported that the NPS winter concert was held last week and was a great success. The 7th and 8th grade chorus performed at the State House on December 1st. Governor Raimondo posted the performance on her twitter account as part of the invitation to the public for the tree lighting. The combined 5th through 8th grade chorus performed at the Providence Bruins Game on Friday, December 4th.

The NPS Food drive resulted in over 1800 items collected in the homeroom competition. (The 5th grade collected the most for the grade level competition with 622 items. Mrs. Galligan's grade 6 homeroom collected the most items at the homeroom level.) Ms. Kirby thanked Karla Flaherty and Peg Fair for organizing this event. Ms. Kirby also thanks the NPS PTO for the wonderful job they did with the Holiday Gift Shop which was well attended by students.

NPS is looking forward to several upcoming events that include: a PTO meeting on Monday, January 25th at 7:00PM in the library; the NPS Spelling Bee, scheduled for Tuesday, January 26th. Students who would like to qualify for the Bee will participate in qualifying rounds the week of January 4th; and the NPS Theatre Breakfast Fundraiser to be held at the Oceanside at the Pier on Saturday, January 23rd from 8:00 - 10:00 a.m..

Ms. Gail Dandurand, Principal, Narragansett Elementary School, gave the Committee an update on GemsNet and Digital Literacy blended learning. GEMS-Net is a partnership among the University of Rhode Island's School of Education, scientists and engineers, and public school districts supporting STEM teaching and learning for Kindergarten through Grade 8. As partners, school districts receive ongoing professional development for all teachers, curricula recommendations that align with the Common Core State Standards, Next Generation Science Standards, and leadership development for teachers and principals. December 22nd is Silly Sock Day! All students who wear silly socks will have 25 cents donated to the Welcome House from the Feinstein Foundation! NES will hold their Winter Concert on Thursday, January 28, 2016, at 7:00pm.

Mr. Daniel Warner, Principal, Narragansett High School, informed the Committee that the Junior Parent Informational night that was planned for January 7th will be rescheduled due to a conflict. The Open House held on December 8th was a success. NHS has invited 8th grade Pier Middle school students, as well as the Jamestown 8th graders, to a short presentation about NHS including music from our band and chorus. The winter sports season has begun. The Mariner Marketplace was a successful event. NHS seniors are starting to get college acceptances. Narragansett High School was awarded Honor Roll Status from the College Board as a result of efforts in Advanced Placement classes. More classes are being offered and more students are scoring 3 or higher on the AP exams.

Ms. Leslie Brow, Director of Student Services informed the Committee about the goals at NHS for self-advocacy. The goal is for students to gain enough confidence to participate and actually facilitate their own meetings. Teachers will prepare students to work toward leading the meeting. This is a great way to practice the self-advocacy skills that they will use after they leave high school.

On Tuesday, January 12, 2016, from 6:30-8:00 pm, the Student Services Department will host a Transition Night and Resource Fair for Students, Parents, and Professionals, in the Narragansett High School Cafeteria. Students, parents, and professionals from all South County schools are invited to attend this free event that will provide information for students with disabilities ages 14-21. This transition event will offer resources and open opportunities to visit with several agencies and organizations that support students through high school and beyond. Transition Resource Fair Representatives will include: BHDDH; Disability Law Center; Office of Rehabilitation Services; Benefits Counselor Local College Disability Services (CCRI, URI); College Panel; RI Governor's Commission on Disabilities; Transition Academy; Rhode Island Parent Information Network; Sherlock Center; Southern Transition Center; and Perspectives.

Superintendent's Report:

The Superintendent informed the Committee of a recent change in regulations regarding the school calendar. It was approved last week by the Board of Education and allows for longer than a one hour delay. A 2- hour delay is now permissible simply by clarity in the regulations. This doesn't happen very often, but if we need it we can use it as long as there are 3 hours of instructional time.

For the last two years, a goal and priority in the District has been the advancement and understanding of Digital Literacy tools and technologies for our teachers. In a recent School Committee meeting, the system goals and priorities were reviewed. Ms. Sipala read the Digital Literacy goal aloud Item #5 "To develop the knowledge and skills of staff with Digital Literacy tools and technologies, and learn more about blended learning and google platforms in order to enhance teaching and learning; To develop policies and strategies to guide these new approaches particularly focused on digital citizenship and BYOD (Bring your own Devices)." This is one of our focuses for this year. Last year staff had the good fortune to work with Renee Hobbs at URI. One of the best things that came from that arrangement is our "catalyst teachers". These teachers are given time needed to work together. The Narragansett School System has been invited by Highlander Institute to be one of 17 FUSE RI school districts. Work started this week and there is no cost to the District. Staff will work with several FUSE Fellows. It was noted that NSS is one of the first district leadership teams

that Highlander has met that have teachers on it. The Superintendent felt that the teachers are what “make it go”. You will hear more as we become more of a blended learning environment and bring the best to our students.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Approval of Minutes:
 - A. November 18, 2015, Regular Session
 - B. December 7, 2015 Joint Budget Workshop

2. Routine Personnel Actions:

Resignation – Classified

Lavallee, Maryjane, Bus Aide, Transportation, effective December 02, 2015

Appointments – Winter Coaches NPS

Lavoie, Robert Volunteer Assistant Girls Basketball N/A

Appointments – Winter Coaches NHS

Simonelli, Ralph Boys JV Hockey Coach Stipend: \$2497.71

Hummel, Abby Girls JV Basketball Coach Stipend: \$2756.20

Appointment - Administrator

DePalo, Derek, Supervisor of Transportation, Transportation, Compensation \$55,000 effective January 04, 2016.

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. White, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the Consent Agenda items CA-1A, CA-1B, CA-2, CA-2 Addendum, CA-3A, CA-3B, CA-3C.

Mr. Ranaldi asked for a correction on vote in the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on November 18th to reflect his vote as a “nay” School Committee Business item SCB-1 regarding the School Calendar.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

BUDGET REPORT Mr. White reported that as of November 31, 2015, \$10,093,885.19 (34.10%) of the FY16 Budget of \$29,596,917.00 was been expended, and \$27,041,438.61 (91.37%) has been expended and encumbered.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- 1. Approval of RI Student Survey

MOTION: moved by Mr. deWardener seconded by Dr. Nobles, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the RI Student Survey.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

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

2. Purchase of ELA Materials for NPS

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Dr. Nobles to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, and the Director of Finance and Administration to purchase ELA Materials for NPS from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in the amount of \$19, 841.40 plus shipping and handling.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

3. First Reading – Narragansett High School Program of Studies for 2016-17 School Year

MOTION: moved by Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. White to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the first Reading of the Narragansett High School Program of Studies for the 2016-17 school year.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

4. Approval of NHS NEASC Core Values & Beliefs Statement

MOTION: moved by Dr. Nobles, seconded by Mr. White to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the NHS NEASC Core Values, Beliefs and Learning Expectations.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

5. First Reading- Revision of Policy V.A.6.b. School Health Programs, Wellness

Agenda item and Motion withdrawn by Mr. Ranaldi.

FUTURE MEETINGS/BUSINESS

January 11, 2016	Health and Wellness Meeting-4PM	Narragansett Town Hall, 3 rd Floor, Admin. Office
January 20, 2016	Regular Business Meeting –7:00 pm	Narragansett Town Hall, Assembly Area

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: to adjourn at 8:55 PM, moved by Mr. White, seconded by Dr. Nobles.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank White, Clerk