

SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING  
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION OFFICES  
1675 FLAT RIVER ROAD

March 2, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Patenaude at 5:30 p.m.

Members present: Chairperson Katherine Patenaude, Vice-Chairman Andrew 'Ben' Perra, Member Thomas Hetherman, Member Lisa Tomasso, Member Nancy E. Sprengelmeyer, Superintendent Kenneth R. Di Pietro, Assistant Superintendents Michael Convery and James Erinakes, and Finance Director Robin Reasor.

Recording Secretary: Donna A. McDonald

Executive Session: Personnel, Litigation

Motion No. 10-3-1 by Vice-Chairman Perra, seconded by Member Hetherman, that the Committee recess into executive session at 6:02 p.m. to consider matter(s) relating specifically to personnel and litigation; said action being taken in accord with Open Meetings Act, Sections 42-46-5(a)(1)&(2).

<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	Chairperson Patenaude	<u>AYE</u>
	Vice-Chairman Perra	<u>AYE</u>
	Member Hetherman	<u>AYE</u>
	Member Tomasso	<u>AYE</u>
	Member Sprengelmeyer	<u>AYE</u>

Motion No. 10-3-2 by Member Tomasso, seconded by Vice-Chairman Perra, to recess to the Open Meeting.

<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	Chairperson Patenaude	<u>AYE</u>
	Vice-Chairman Perra	<u>AYE</u>
	Member Hetherman	<u>AYE</u>
	Member Tomasso	<u>AYE</u>
	Member Sprengelmeyer	<u>AYE</u>

Motion No. 10-3-3 by Member Tomasso, seconded by Member Hetherman, that the records of the executive session be kept closed pursuant to Sections 42-46-4 and 42-46-5. Motion unanimously approved.

Business Agenda:

The regular business meeting reconvened at 7:18 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence for the pending school business. Vice-Chairman Perra notified the public of emergency exits and read the Mission Statement.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes of the Open Meetings of 2/9/10 and 2/11/10.

Superintendent approval of nine (9) requests for home schooling for the 2009/2010 school year as reviewed and recommended by Assistant Superintendent Convery.

Motion No. 10-3-4, by Vice-Chairman Perra, seconded by Member Hetherman, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented regarding the minutes of the open meetings of 2/9/10 and 2/11/10, and home schooling as presented. Motion unanimously approved.

Personnel:

There were no personnel matters to discuss at this meeting.

School Committee Communications:

There were no communications to report at this meeting.

## Open Meeting

### Art Month Resolution:

The Rhode Island Art Education Association has asked the district to endorse Youth Art Month – March 2010. A proclamation was read and signed by Chairperson Patenaude. (see attached endorsement) A copy of the endorsement will be sent to each principal.

### Wellness Policy Revision – Second Reading and Adoption:

Assistant Superintendent Convery reported that the Wellness Committee has made some minor changes to the Wellness Policy and will produce a pamphlet. Member Tomasso said that a lot of work had been put into the first policy; this revision will be a model for children.

Motion No. 10-3-5 by Member Sprengelmeyer, seconded by Vice-Chairman Perra, to dispense with the reading of the Wellness Policy. Motion unanimously approved.

Motion No. 10-3-6 by Member Tomasso, seconded by Vice-Chairman Perra, to adopt the Wellness Policy as presented. Motion unanimously approved.

### Parent/Community Involvement Policy – First Reading:

After an extensive Title I audit at Oak Haven, Blackrock and Hopkins Hill last school year, it was determined that one of thirty-three requirements was to have a policy in place for parent and community involvement. The Parent Involvement Policy revision is required for compliance with Title I regulations. The policy will be posted on the district website.

Motion No. 10-3-7 by Member Hetherman, seconded by Member Sprengelmeyer, to dispense with the reading of the Parent/Community Involvement Policy. Motion unanimously approved.

### 2010/2011 Calendar Adoption:

The calendar for 2010/2011 was sent to both union leaders, was reviewed by all administrators, and was submitted to the Committee for adoption.

Motion No. 10-3-8 by Vice-Chairman Perra, seconded by Member Tomasso, to adopt the 2010/2011 calendar as presented. Motion unanimously approved.

### Administrative Reorganization:

Given the announcement of the retirement of the Superintendent on June 30, 2010, the Committee reserved this agenda item to discuss the potential to reorganize the district leadership effective July 1, 2010.

Motion No. 10-3-9 by Member Sprengelmeyer, seconded by Member Hetherman, to appoint the Coventry School Committee as the search committee for the best candidate for a new superintendent and assistant superintendent for Coventry Public Schools. Motion unanimously approved.

Motion No. 10-3-10 by Member Sprengelmeyer, seconded by Member Tomasso, to appoint Assistant Superintendent Michael Convery to the position of Superintendent of Coventry Public Schools, effective 7/1/10, subject to contract review with the School Committee. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Convery accepted the position and noted that he sees himself and Mr. Erinakes as a team; that they are equals in his eyes. The entire administrative team from the high school, as well as the principal of Blackrock School, was in the audience to offer their support to both Mr. Convery and to Mr. Erinakes. Others shared their satisfaction with the choice made.

### FY2011 Budget Adoption:

The FY2011 budget was reviewed on February 23, 2010 with a projected request for an increase of \$638,043. With the administrative reorganization made this evening, which consolidates the district leadership to a superintendent and one assistant superintendent, the cost savings for the second assistant was deducted and the projected FY2011 budget increase was reduced to \$524,588. Union President Erinakes requested a breakdown of numbers

Motion No. 10-3-11 by Member Tomasso, seconded by Member Perra, to adopt a recommended FY2011 Budget of \$62,196,189 as presented. Motion unanimously approved.

### Administrative Contract Renewal:

This agenda item was tabled.

### Superintendent's Report:

The high school is getting ready for the NEASC visit from April 11<sup>th</sup> through April 14<sup>th</sup>.

Students will be recognized for their achievements in academics and athletics at the School Committee on March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### Committee Liaison Reports:

Member Tomasso reported that Hopkins Hill reading week is April 5-9 and is looking for volunteers to read for Friday afternoon. Member Sprengelmeyer volunteered to read.

Member Sprengelmeyer attended the Tiogue PTA meeting. The book fair will be held from March 18-25.

Vice-Chairman Perra attended the 6, 7 and 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance at Feinstein Middle School.

### Citizens' Comments:

CHS Principal Hobin reported on the H1N1 flu clinic held at his school on February 17<sup>th</sup>. This was open to the public. Representatives from the school, fire department and police department were present. A total of 300 people were vaccinated.

Union President Erinakes has received emails regarding parent volunteers in the schools and reported that the district appreciates parent volunteers. Volunteers cannot do the job of an employee who has lost a job. She also reported that the 5:00 p.m. news reported misinformation in regards to the Central Falls superintendent firing teachers at the high school.

### Scheduling of Next Meeting:

Motion No. 10-3-12 by Vice-Chairman Perra, supported by Member Hetherman, that the next meeting of the School Committee be scheduled for Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

### Adjournment:

Motion No. 10-3-13 by Member Hetherman, supported by Vice-Chairman Perra, that the meeting be adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

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Approved by School Committee 4/13/10