

**RUTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOL
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS
SEPT. 10, 2013**

School Board Members Present:

Daniel Alcorn
Hurley Cavacas, Jr.
Wayne Cooke
Richard Courcelle
Peter Fagan
Rob Kurchena
Jamie Pemrick
Erin Shimp
Kate Thomas
Rob Towle

Members Absent

Peter Mello
Cooper Babbitt

Also Present:

Superintendent Mary Moran
Assistant Superintendent Rob Bliss
John Rice
Lyle Jepson
Bill Olsen
Kristen Hubert
Susanne Engels
Jay Slenker
Patricia Aigner
Pam Reed
Nicole Carter
Wil Cunningham
Peter Amons

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Mello noted the absence of Commissioner Mello and Student Representative Cooper Babbitt.

Motion by Towle / Fagan to accept the minutes of the Aug. 27, 2013 regular school board meeting as written. Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

Written and Oral Communications - None

School Choice Update - Superintendent Moran said a new school choice law implemented last year is for students in grades 9 - 12. It allows for increased number of students: Transfers out can be 5% or ten students, whichever is fewer and transfers in can be 10% or 40 students, whichever is fewer. We had had a limit of ten students and we now have 19 school choice students at RHS; ten of whom had been there. There are eleven students who have gone out, six who had been previously placed. We are continuing to keep regional records. There appears to be no significant movement outside of the region. Ms. Moran said money is not following the student and the funding issue must be taken up by January 15, 2014 by the Legislature. As for adult students, Ms. Moran said the law changed a little but there have been no significant changes in patterns in practice.

Summer Professional Development - Assistant Superintendent Bliss updated the Board on the work the teachers did during the summer. There were 44 teams of teachers supported which resulted in 596 teacher work days. Each project has to result in a product that will support a grade, a school or a department. There is a summary list of 25 topics we approached. Two predominant themes were: A multi-tiered system of support and Common Core. Mr. Bliss reviewed some of the other subjects and projects. In-service work targeted similar topics. Our students will first be tested using Common Core in 2015. Mr. Bliss also discussed other parts of the model, some of which have not been determined yet. There will be some adjustments in instructional practice but

**CALL TO
ORDER**

ROLL CALL

**MOTION:
MINUTES
08/27/13
MEETING**

**WRITTEN &
ORAL
COMMUN-
ICATIONS**

**EDUCATION
REPORT**

**SCHOOL
CHOICE
UPDATE**

**SUMMER
PROFES-
SIONAL
DEVELOP-
MENT**

Mr. Bliss said he thinks the students will adjust fairly easily. We are preparing well for instruction; the challenge will be the assessment.

**INSTRUCT-
TОНAL
TECHNOL-
OGY
REPORT**

Instructional Technology Report - Ms. Aigner and Dan Roswell, Network Administrator, discussed the technical side of the school district's technology. Ms. Aigner reviewed the department staffing, the district's servers and networks, and our number of machines. One of our big six technology goals is working with data and she introduced Tableau, information technology data, and explained the type of data and information available about the entire network.

Ms. Aigner said our staff to machine ratio is 846 machines to one technician. An industry high end is 300 machines to one technician. She reviewed the online digital tools we are using district-wide which help teachers, parents and students. There has been a huge increase in parent and student digital accounts. Commissioner Thomas asked about safeguards to ensure that students are doing their own work at home using technology. Ms. Aigner said she believes this is a school policy issue, not a technology issue. Our focus this year is technology professional development and Ms. Aigner reviewed some of the tools and discussed how teachers keep up and get the support and mentoring needed. She highlighted how technology supports the district's goals. Commissioner Fagan asked about resilience against hacking and also about our back-up system. Mr. Roswell reviewed some of the practices we are using and said backing-up is one of our highest priorities. Commissioner Courcelle said the district needs to keep pace with supporting technology. The department is doing such a good job but he feels there is a breaking point and more resources are going to be needed here. We have cut in the past and there is a danger in continuing to cut. He said the department is doing a phenomenal job. Technology is a driver on how students learn. Ms. Moran said the department could use more students volunteering to help with technology.

PERSONNEL

Motion by Fagan / Kurchena to approve the Licensed and Non-licensed section of the Personnel Memorandum No. 486 dated Sept. 6, 2013, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

**MOTION:
PERSONNEL
MEMO #486**

The appointments and resignations were reviewed by Superintendent Moran. They are attached.

Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

**BUSINESS
REPORT**

Business Report - None

Announcements

- Ms. Moran congratulated Jennifer Kravitz, RHS teacher and a Rowland Fellow last year, has been selected by the Qatar Foundation to go to Qatar for a five-day program on Global Studies. There is also a potential opportunity for a teacher and possibly a student to attend an international conference in Ecuador to support Global Studies.
- Northwest School will hold STAR kid community meetings begin this week. Open house is Wednesday. There will be an evacuation drill on Wednesday (weather permitting). Hat Day, the first spirit day, is this Friday.
- RIS kicked off the school year with assemblies last Friday discussing the "Raider

**SUPERIN-
TENDENT'S
REPORT**

**ANNOUNCE-
MENTS**

Way". These include: Respect, Responsibility, Reaching for your Best and Safety First. As a reminder, the RIS annual evacuation drill is this Thursday from 9:45-10:45. In addition, the first PTC meeting is this coming Monday, September 16.

- Ms. Moran highlighted the remaining open house schedule in some of the different schools.

Buildings & Grounds Committee Report - Mr. Cooke said Mr. Rice orchestrated a successful summer program. Mr. Rice said the focus of the work was primarily on security, safety and health environment of the schools. We made a major effort to improve school and grounds. He highlighted some of the accomplishments. There was discussion on some of the outstanding work and the funding. Mr. Cooke said years ago we entered into a contract with Johnson Controls for energy upgrades. In 2014, the RHS bond will end; it is a \$440,000 budget line item. Mr. Cooke said a question for the full board is if the retirement of the RHS bond is a good time to bond again for major upgrades, especially for items which will generate greater savings: The building committee has looked at a couple different scenarios looking at what we would want to accomplish and what could be done affordably. Mr. Rice has generated a list of items.

There was discussion on fuel burners, #2 fuel, pellet stove boilers and the potential to convert to natural gas if it becomes an option. Ms. Moran said the building committee has spent a lot of time looking at options and discussing deferred work. Mr. Fagan said we should be pursuing this and the longer we wait, the higher the interest rate will be. He asked about the current Johnson Control contract and the payback and Mr. Amons reviewed the tracking methods. He said there is a \$14,000 a year fee for the tracking. Commissioner Towle asked about solar energy and there was discussion about options and viability. Mr. Fagan asked for a review on the Johnson Controls tracking and Mr. Amons referred that to the building committee.

New Business - None

Old Business - Mr. Fagan said he remains concerned about the potential use or misuse of the Sodexho vehicle. He asked for Sodexho to do a lease-to-own so they can carry the liability, or in the very least, a Memorandum of Understanding. Ms. Moran said we cannot do a lease-to-own but she will have a MOU drawn up.

Motion by Towle / Thomas at 7:49 pm, after a recess, for the board to convene to executive session for the purpose of discussing contractual and student matters, the premature release of information regarding those subjects which would place the Board at a substantial disadvantage. Unanimously passed by those in attendance.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:04 pm.

Motion by Towle / Alcorn to adjourn at 8:05 pm. Passed.

Respectfully submitted

Janet Mondlak
Recording Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENTS, cont.

COMM. REPORTS

BUILDING COMM.

NEW BUSINESS

OLF BUSINESS

SODEXHO VEHICLE

MOTION: EXECUTIVE SESSION

PUBLIC SESSION

ADJOURN

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Mary E. Moran, Superintendent

DATE: September 6, 2013

RE: Personnel Memorandum – Licensed and Non-Licensed

RESOLVE: That the LICENSED and NON-LICENSED SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 486 dated September 6, 2013, be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

A. LICENSED SECTION

1. STC 2013-2014 Youth Group Advisors

<u>Name</u>	<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Sue Densmore	FCCLA: Family Career and Community Leaders of America	\$2,407.00
Cheryl Niedzwiecki	DECA: Distributive Educational Club of America	\$2,479.00
John Bixby	Skills USA (.5)	\$1,535.00
Melissa Patterson	Skills USA (.5)	\$1,135.00
Judi Delpha	NVTHS: National Technical Honor Society	\$1,593.00
Lori Cillo	Web Manager	\$2,834.00

B. NON-LICENSED SECTION

1. Resignations

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Sarah Burke	Paraeducator/NW	9/6/13
Laura Jones	Paraeducator/RIS	9/6/13
Debra Wisell	Paraeducator/NW	9/6/13

2. Appointments

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Douglas Brewer	Bus Driver/District	Grade 3 - \$19.16/hr	9/24/13
Laura Chrisinger	Paraeducator/ASC	\$15,649.76	8/28/13
James Courcelle	Bus Driver/District	Grade 3 - \$19.16/hr	9/23/13
Leah Geryk	Paraeducator/NW	\$12,671.75	9/3/13
Jennifer Gilhooly	Paraeducator/NW	\$15,901.60	8/30/13
Peter Kelada	Paraeducator/NW	\$14,531.92	8/28/13
Zachary Manieri	Custodian/Courier/Longfellow	Grade 3 - \$19.16/hr	9/9/13
Jacqueline Proulx	Paraeducator/RHS	\$17,940.72	8/29/13
Michelle Stuhlmuehler	Paraeducator/RIS	\$13,525.33	8/28/13
Sarah Therrien	Paraeducator/ASC	\$16,380.00	8/26/13

3. Coaching Appointment

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Stipend</u>	<u>Season</u>
Nicole Kanehl	MS Field Hockey Coach	\$1,468.12	Fall