

**RUTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOL  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS  
NOV. 12, 2013**

**School Board Members Present:**

Peter Mello  
Daniel Alcorn  
Hurley Cavacas, Jr.  
Wayne Cooke  
Richard Courcelle  
Peter Fagan  
Rob Kurchena  
Jamie Pemrick  
Thomas (6:35 pm)  
Cooper Babbitt

**Member Absent**

Erin Shimp  
Rob Towle

**Also Present:**

Superintendent Mary Moran  
Assistant Superintendent Rob Bliss  
Peter Amons  
Bill Olsen  
Lyle Jepson  
Ellie McGarry  
Ted Guilmette

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The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Mello noted the absence of Commissioners Towle, Shimp and Thomas.

Motion by Fagan / Courcelle to accept the minutes of the Oct. 22, 2013 regular school board meeting as written. Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

Written Communications - None

Oral Communications - Two students from the RHS sophomore class announced an upcoming fundraiser called Gobble Wobble - a 5K run / walk. It is a community event with many partnerships.

STC Budget Presentation - Mr. Jepson and Mr. Guilmette reviewed the process of preparing the Stafford Tech Center budget. The budget is informational this evening and they hope for an approval vote on December 10. Mr. Jepson said the proposed student tuition increase is 4.4%, year over year, and equals \$544 more per student, based on current state information. Mr. Jepson compared the STC budget to other tech centers around Vermont. He reviewed the major changes based on strategic planning:

- Starting a STEM Academy (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) next year which will add an instructor.
- There are declining enrollments at schools around the county.
- No longer supporting the Recreation Resort Program.
- Redesigning the Outreach Program to increase STEM outreach.
- Retirement of a secretary with proposal to not replace her.

Mr. Guilmette reviewed the details of the proposed budget, both expenditures and revenues, and how they developed the per student tuition rate. Mr. Mello reviewed that on December 5, the STC Regional Advisory Board will vote on the proposal and then it will come back to this Board.

CALL TO  
ORDER

ROLL CALL

MOTION:  
MINUTES  
10/22/13  
MEETING

WRITTEN &  
ORAL  
COMMUN-  
ICATIONS

EDUCATION  
REPORT

STC  
BUDGET  
PRESENTA-  
TION

Commissioner Pemrick asked about the Perkins Grant and Mr. Jepson reviewed that it can be used for teacher salaries for the first three years of a program. At the end of that time, the salary has to be picked up by the regular program. Mr. Guilmette said we have to show what we are doing with the money. Ms. Pemrick asked if the per student cost can be included in future presentations. She would like to see the actual cost, before grants. Commissioner Fagan asked about some of the other programs and how full they are. Mr. Jepson said enrollment drives the programming as does preparing students for jobs which will support the economy; high paying and in high demand. Most programs have strong enrollment. There are no programs in jeopardy other than Recreation Resort Management. There will be one staff reduction in that program and one loss of a secretary job (retirement). There will be one STEM instructor increase as well as a half-time increase in outreach to create one full time job to also support STEM outreach. Mr. Guilmette reviewed some of the other expenditures proposed to support the STEM program including equipment and building renovations, which will hopefully be paid for by a bond. There will initially be 16 students in the STEM program but it has a high potential to grow. There has been a lot of interest.

Global Studies - Ecuador - Mr. Olsen said the Rowland Foundation supported the Global Studies Team by allowing one teacher, Ms. Cassel, and two students, Will Peterson and Cooper Babbitt, to travel to Ecuador and take part in a Global Issues Network Conference. Ms. Cassel said RHS will be hosting its own similar conference in March. She said the Ecuador conference was transformative. The Global Issues Network is intended to empower youth to collaborate locally, regionally and globally by addressing issues and finding sustainable solutions. The key pieces are action and sustainable. Will Peterson spoke about the break-out group he participated in and Cooper Babbitt talked about all the ways the RHS community can be involved in the March conference. Ms. Cassel also highlighted the JUTLAND conference and said it is very exciting. The theme will be "Gaining Traction."

Co-Teaching Staffing - Ms. Moran said there will be a formal academic presentation about co-teaching in the future but tonight's information is in response to a question from the last Board meeting. Ms. McGarry reviewed that co-teaching is when a special educator works with regular educators in the classroom rather than pulling out students. She reviewed some of the positive impacts of co-teaching and Mr. Bliss said it reduces transition time for the students who suffer the most from so many transitions and exposes the students into a more viable instruction. He reviewed the staffing patterns for Northeast and Northwest Primary Schools as well as RIS. All the paraeducators in those schools are written into student IEPs; there are no "classroom" paraeducators. Mr. Bliss said Meadow Street is a Head Start program and we co-teach with them, as well as at other locations. Ms. McGarry said we are doing more co-teaching at RHS and RMS. There were other questions about particular classrooms. Speech, PT and OT services are mixed -- some are pull-out and some are push-in -- depending on the student's needs. Those are related services, not core services.

School Choice Report - Ms. Moran said there is a new state wide school choice program. This is a data summary of where the students come from and where they are going. We keep the data for the local region. Ms. Moran reviewed the primary reasons for students doing school choice. The issue of funding will be taken up in the legislature. This year, RHS has ten outgoing students and 21 inbound.

Motion by Fagan / Cooke to approve the Licensed and Non-licensed section of the Personnel Memorandum No. 490 dated Nov. 8, 2013, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

**PERSONNEL**

**MOTION:  
MEMO #490**

The retirements, family medical leaves and appointments were reviewed by Superintendent Moran. They are attached.

Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

**BUSINESS  
REPORT**

NW Contingency Ratification Ms. Moran reviewed that the lower level of the northeast addition of the Northwest School has had a moisture problem for a number of years. The classroom has now been successfully relocated. She thanked everyone involved who helped to accomplish that. The essential problem is roof leaking. A consultant advised that this be fixed before it starts snowing. The Board had been polled by telephone and ratification of that action was requested.

**NW CONTIN-  
GENY  
RATIFICA-  
TION**

Motion by Cooke/ Fagan that the Board of School Commissioners approves charging the contingency account at an estimated amount of \$35,000 for the rehabilitation of the lower classroom at Northwest School due to moisture damage.

**MOTION:  
CHARGE  
CONTIN-  
GENY FOR  
NW SCHOOL  
CLASS-  
ROOM  
REHAB**

Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

**SUPERIN-  
TENDENT'S  
REPORT**

**Announcements**

- Cooper Babbitt said that RHS held a terrific Veterans Day assembly last week and he thanked all those involved and who attended. The Spanish National Honor Society will be traveling to Dartmouth College for an interdisciplinary lesson about several artists at the Hood Museum. The Spanish National Honor Society will be inducting new members. The Encore Theater is performing Macbeth this weekend and next. This past week, RHS hosted the VPA football championships. Thanks to the Booster Club for organizing it. The Guidance Department is hosting an event next week about college applications.
- Ms. Moran said there were three presentations by RCPS employees last week at VTFest, STEM: Working with Big Data, Robotics Competitions and 3D Printers for Greater Student Engagement.
- At Northwest School, Stuff a Bus final day is Thursday. Students will travel to Price Chopper to stuff the city bus! Captain Credit Union came to the school and made a presentation. The school's Thanksgiving feast is Nov. 15. For Stuff a Bus efforts, students earned a magic show with Tom Joyce. Nov. 26 is Star Student trip to the Bowlerama!
- This past Friday at RIS, students remembered veterans with two Veterans Day ceremonies, blending remembrance, music, and art to honor those who served our country. Dr. Tim Cook was the speaker for both ceremonies. Special thanks to all the RIS music, art, P.E., technology and library staff for their organization of this special event.
- Howe Center Campus newsletter was distributed. The January graduation date was announced.

**ANNOUN-  
CEMENTS**

Committee Reports - None

**COMM.  
REPORTS**

New Business - Mr. Mello said Commissioner Alcorn has accepted a position on the Vermont School Board Association and will be a representative from this Board. He will keep the Board apprised of action there.

**NEW & OLD  
BUSINESS**

Old Business - School Lunch Update - Ms. Moran distributed a memo from Marty Irion regarding the issue of running out of a particular lunch item. Ms. Pemrick said her son feels he does not have enough time to finish his meal. He brings his own lunch and still feels hurried. Ms. Moran said we have tried to structure this carefully -- there are six lunches with approximately 900 students at RIS / RMS who all need to eat within a reasonable time slot. Ms. Pemrick said adults get a half-hour for lunch. She thinks it is very important for students to have the time they need.

**REP TO  
VSBA  
BOARD**

**SCHOOL  
LUNCH  
UPDATE**

Motion by Thomas / Fagan at 7:46 pm, after a recess, for the board to convene to executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters, the premature release of information regarding those subjects which would place the Board at a substantial disadvantage. Unanimously passed by those in attendance.

**MOTION:  
EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

The Board came out of executive session at 8:40 pm.

**PUBLIC  
SESSION**

Motion by Fagan / Cavacas to adjourn at 8:40 pm. Passed.

**ADJOURN**

Respectfully submitted

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Janet Mondlak  
Recording Secretary

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Mary E. Moran, Superintendent

DATE: November 8, 2013

RE: Personnel Memorandum – Licensed and Non-Licensed

RESOLVE: That the LICENSED and NON-LICENSED SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 490 dated November 8, 2013, be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

### ***A. LICENSED SECTION***

1. Retirement

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Wil Cunningham	Principal/RMS	6/30/14

2. Family Medical Leave

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Jen Kravitz	Social Studies/RHS	4/11/14 – 6/12/14
Tiffany Patterson	Special Educator/RIS	3/16/14-5/2/14

### ***B. NON-LICENSED SECTION***

1. Retirements

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Sally Moore	Adm. Asst./STC	6/30/14
Randy Roberts	Accountant/District Wide	6/30/14

2. Appointment

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Pro-Rated Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Tiffany Pagan	Paraeducator/ASC	\$10,143.49	11/12/13

3. 2013-14 Winter Coaching Appointments and Re-Appointments ~ Memo Attached