

**RUTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOL
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS
FEB. 11, 2014**

School Board Members Present:

Peter Mello
Wayne Cooke
Richard Courcelle
Peter Fagan (6:33 pm)
Rob Kurchena
Erin Shimp
Cooper Babbitt

Members Absent

Daniel Alcorn
Hurley Cavacas, Jr.
Jamie Pemrick
Kate Thomas

Also Present:

Superintendent Mary Moran
Assistant Superintendent Rob Bliss
Lyle Jepson
Peter Amons
Ellie McGarry
Wil Cunningham
Cathy Farman
Steve Sampson
Nicole Carter
Molly Wasserman
Susanne Engels

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. There was no quorum at the opening of the meeting. No action will be conducted unless another Board member arrives.

Board / Administration Retreat - Chair Mello said he was not at the retreat but he has seen the compilation of the work that administrators and board members completed. He will review the activities and goals after elections in March.

Written Communications - Commissioner Courcelle read a letter from Rob Towle with his resignation from the School Board, due to work commitments. Mr. Mello said he accepts the resignation with regrets and acknowledged Mr. Towle's service to the Board, the City Pension Board, and the Staff Relations Committee.

Fagan arrived (6:33 pm). The Board has a quorum.

Oral Communications - Mark Woodbury read a letter with parental concerns about the RMS Omega Team science teacher. Parents are concerned that there has not been a highly qualified teacher in the position all year. Mr. Mello said each commissioner has received this letter dated Feb. 5. Mr. Mello said information is still being collected. Mr. Woodbury will be getting a written response from him tomorrow.

NECAP Report - Assistant Superintendent Bliss reviewed the NECAP data and presented information on how our students are doing compared to other Vermont students. He presented scale scores and said the data shows results of cohorts with four years or more of continuous tests. It shows the data over their four years and compared to the state. There was discussion on the results. He talked about trends in Rutland City and how they are similar to trends statewide. Mr. Bliss said the information has been analyzed for each cohort and there is a comparison of all the cohorts. It was noted this is the last year NECAP testing will be done. Mr. Bliss said he also compared our results with those from other Vermont schools with similar size and demographics as our schools.

CALL TO
ORDER

ROLL CALL

RECAP OF
BOARD /
ADM.
RETREAT

WRITTEN
COMMUN-
CATION

BOARD
MEMBER
TOWLE
RESIGNA-
TION

ORAL
COMMUN-
CATION

PARENTS
QUESTION-
ING OMEGA
SCIENCE
TEACHER
POSITION

EDUCATION
REPORT

NECAP
REPORT

Ballot Review and Community Outreach Planning - Mr. Amons reviewed the information being provided to voters. A brochure is being mailed that explains the ballot items to include the annual budget, the energy performance contract and the deferred maintenance financing bond. Mr. Amons said a lot of information was released on the website. There will be "get-out-the-vote" callers the last few days before the election.

**BALLOT
REVIEW &
COMMUN-
ITY
OUTREACH**

2014-2015 Rutland City School Calendar - Ms. Moran reviewed the proposed calendar for 2014-2015 and how it is developed. This is done with consensus from all superintendents in the county.

**2014-15
SCHOOL
CALENDAR**

Motion by Fagan / Shimp to accept the minutes of the Jan. 28, 2014 regular school board meeting and board / administrative retreat as written. Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

MINUTES

**MOTION:
APPROVE
MINUTES**

Motion by Kurchena / Fagan to approve the Licensed and Non-licensed section of the Personnel Memorandum No. 495 dated Feb. 7, 2014, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

PERSONNEL

**MOTION:
PERSONNEL
MEMO #495**

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

Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

**BUSINESS
REPORT**

Business Report - None

Announcements

**SUPERIN-
TENDENT'S
REPORT**

- Cooper Babbitt said the Student Senate and Executive Board held a fundraiser for cystic fibrosis. The Global Studies Capstone was presented last week. They are ready for the conference on March 19. He reported good news for the boys and girls ski teams after today's events.
- Superintendent Moran said that Northeast School held a Grade 1 Very Special Night last week. Kindergarten's event is rescheduled to Feb. 24. These are evenings showcasing art, music, and physical education activities.
- The Northwest schoolwide PAWS celebration is on Thursday and students will be listening to the Proctor HS Jazz Band. The Northwest Skating Club starts tomorrow with the Spartan Girls Hockey team and special guests. The winter celebration is this Friday.
- The RIS PTC recently held their annual craft night with one hundred students and families participating. The RIS Geo-Bee will be held tomorrow.

**ANNOUNCE-
MENTS**

Legislative Report - Ms. Moran said Rutland will be hosting the House Education Committee on Feb. 27. They will be spending the day in Rutland City, visiting all schools and the Tapestry program and they will hold a community forum in the evening. Yesterday there was a regional superintendent meeting with legislators. There was discussion about finance and governance. Commissioner Fagan said the legislature continues to discuss consolidation although nothing is being decided yet. There was discussion on these possibilities.

**LEGISLA-
TIVE
REPORT**

Staff Relations Committee - None

**COMM.
REPORTS**

Building Committee - Commissioner Cooke said the committee met and John Rice reviewed items he is working on.

**BUILDING
COMM.**

- As soon as the energy performance contract passes with the voters, Johnson Controls will be starting work. They will work on the big pieces. These costs will be offset by the savings
- The deferred maintenance items will take longer because of the type of projects. Mr. Cooke explained inefficiencies due to be replaced, including univentilators, equipment from the 1960s and 1970s. There will be a significant amount of work and scheduling will be critical. A lot of the work will be scheduled during the summer and vacations. The replacement systems will be up to date and state of the art.
- Northwest's roof issue has been repaired. The space has been tested and approved by fire and safety experts. We have received clean reports.
- RHS is 20 years old and starting to face some problems. Mr. Rice and his crew have detected a problem with the fuel line from the fuel tank leading into the building and boiler. It will be repaired next week. The cost will likely come from contingency. We only have estimates now.
- Mr. Cooke said there have been ideas discussed for the RHS library.
- The STEM project at STC is bond-dependent. He said what he has seen Stafford do in his term of 12 years on the board is wonderful.
- Library Ave. has paving and parking needs which will be addressed.
- Safety in all buildings has been addressed and the buzzing systems are up and running at all schools. They have been well received.

Mr. Cooke said there is great leadership with John Rice and his crew and collaboration with administration and teachers. Mr. Fagan said the Board has been lucky to have Mr. Cooke leading this committee. His vision of coordinating effort and getting things done has helped put the buildings in the district in a far better shape than would have been otherwise. Mr. Cooke said he has enjoyed it.

**NEW & OLD
BUSINESS**

New & Old Business - None

Motion by Fagan / Kurchena at 7:36 pm, after a recess, for the board to convene to executive session for the purpose of discussing legal and contractual 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 8:12 pm.

**PUBLIC
SESSION**

Motion by Shimp / Courcelle to adjourn at 8:13 pm. Passed.

ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted

Janet Mondlak
Recording Secretary

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Mary E. Moran, Superintendent
DATE: February 7, 2014
RE: Personnel Memorandum – Licensed and Non-Licensed

RESOLVE: That the LICENSED and NON-LICENSED SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 495 dated February 7, 2014, be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

A. LICENSED SECTION

1. Appointments

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Pro-rated Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Joseph M. Bonasera	School Social Worker/RIS	\$24,771.48	2/24/14
Sherry A. Hathaway	School Social Worker/RIS	\$25,687.51	2/10/14

B. NON-LICENSED SECTION

1. Appointment

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Pro-rated Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Danielle Comstock	Paraeducator/NW	\$6,102.85	2/3/14