

**RUTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOL
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS
MAY 13, 2014**

School Board Members Present:

Peter Mello
Daniel Alcorn
Hurley Cavacas, Jr. (7:16 pm)
Richard Courcelle
Peter Fagan
Rob Kurchena
Alison Notte
Matthew Olewnik
Erin Shimp
Kate Thomas
Christian Wideawake
Cooper Babbitt

Also Present:

Superintendent Mary Moran
Assistant Superintendent Rob Bliss
Steve Sampson
Lyle Jepson
Bill Olsen
Patricia Aigner
Sharon Napolitano
Ted Guilmette
Jay Slenker
Ellie McGarry
Kristin Francoeur

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Mello noted the absence of Commissioner Cavacas. Mr. Mello said once Mr. Cavacas gets here, there will be perfect Board attendance. Mr. Cavacas is manning the polls.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

**MOTION:
MINUTES
04/22/14
MEETING**

Motion by Fagan / Shimp to accept the minutes of the April 22, 2014 regular school board meeting as written. Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

COMMUNICATIONS

Recognitions: Mr. Mello presented plaques recognizing the achievements of the following: Mr. Olsen accepted the plaque on his own behalf for being Principal of the Year 2014. He also accepted the plaque for the team and the individual for Cara Gauvin, Cheerleading 3rd Place at the New England Interscholastic Spirit Championship. A plaque was also presented to Erica Wallstrom, Einstein Fellowship Award. Legislative Resolutions acknowledging the honors were presented.

RECOGNITIONS

**ORAL &
WRITTEN**

Written & Oral Communications- None

**EDUCATION
REPORT**

Election Update - Mr. Mello said polls close at 7 pm and there should be results when Mr. Cavacas arrives.

**ELECTION
UPDATE**

Howe Center Report - Ms. McLemore gave a background of the program and the work they do there. Ms. Holt said in the Howe Center PLC, they are obtaining a holistic picture of each student, which helps to better guide them toward competency. Mr. Moran said community service is a major component of the program and he reviewed some of the work they have been doing. He introduced two students, who spoke about their senior projects based on the question: "How Can I Affect Positive Change in My Community?" They shared the public service announcement they created and spoke about the upcoming Rutland 30-Minute Make-Over. There are about 36 students involved.

**HOWE
CENTER
REPORT**

**SCHOOL
CHOICE
REPORT**

School Choice Report - Ms. Moran said we keep the records of school choice over time for Rutland County. Last year, the law was revised and it is now state-wide, not

just bound by county. Schools are allowed to set a number of incoming or outgoing schools, based upon their student population. We are able to receive up to 40 children at RHS. Ms. Moran shared data on the number of students, the school they left and the school they entered, including historical data back to 2011-2012. Money does not follow the student; the receiving school does not receive any money. Ms. Moran said most families share the reasons why the students have chosen a different school and we collect the data. Ms. Moran said there are nearby communities that do not have designated high schools and the families choose the school they want to attend and the communities pay us tuition. That is different than the students who have an assigned high school but choose to go elsewhere. The latter are the students included in the School Choice Report.

**SCHOOL
CHOICE
REPORT,
cont**

Motion by Kurchena / Fagan to approve the Licensed and Non-licensed section of the Personnel Memorandum No. 501 dated May 9, 2014, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

PERSONNEL

**MOTIONS:
PERSONNEL
MEMO &
ADDENDUM
#501**

The appointments, resignations, retirements, and leave of absences were reviewed by Superintendent Moran. They are attached.

Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

Motion by Fagan / Shimp to approve the Licensed and Non-licensed section of the Personnel Memorandum No. 501 Addendum dated May 13, 2014, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

The appointment and resignation were reviewed by Superintendent Moran. They are attached.

Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

Ratification of the RSSA Contract 2014-2017 - Commissioner Courcelle presented the proposed RSSA Contract. He, Rob Kurchena and Erin Shimp are on the staff relations committee. Mr. Courcelle said we entered negotiations in January and he commended the group for the tentative agreement. RSSA has already ratified the proposal. He reviewed the major points of the agreement.

**RSSA
CONTRACT**

**MOTION:
RATIFICA-
TION OF
RSSA
CONTRACT**

Motion by Shimp / Fagan for the Board of School Commissioners to ratify the Agreement with the Rutland School Staff Association (RSSA) effective July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017, as presented, and for the Chair to sign on behalf of the Board. Passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

**BUSINESS
REPORT**

Business Report - None

**SUPERIN-
TENDENT'S
REPORT**

Announcements

- Cooper Babbitt reviewed recent activities in the high school: juniors taking Science NECAP exams and juniors and seniors taking AP exams. He also reviewed the final exam schedule. Year End Studies begin June 3. The Student Senate is holding their final meeting this week and will elect new officers. He announced the new student school board members, one incoming senior and

**ANNOUNCE-
MENTS**

one incoming junior. Having two students will allow the junior to grow in to the position. Ms. Moran said the idea for two students follows the state school board methodology and will help when students have to miss a meeting. Cooper said Graduation is June 12 and Seniors Awards Night is June 11.

- Ms. Moran acknowledged the Month of the Military Child posters on display at Longfellow.
- There is a busy schedule in May and June of music events in all the schools.
- NE school is honoring their nine foster grandparents with an appreciation luncheon this Thursday. This Friday is Picnic With a Book day. Guest readers will join classes for picnics and readings throughout the day.
- At Northwest School, May 23 is Star student "Junior Ranger Fun Day". Students will do outdoor adventure and wilderness activities, earning "junior ranger" badges.
- RIS held it's annual Talent Show last week. Special thanks to the RIS staff for all of their hard work behind the scenes to support these young talents.
- The RMS Grade Eight Class Day Breakfast Organizational Meeting will take place on May 15. This year's popular RMS Coffeehouse is on May 20 in the school cafeteria. Students will recite their own original poetry, prose and short stories to an audience in a darkened coffeehouse atmosphere that will include cookies and floor lamps. The annual RMS Memorial Day ceremony takes place on May 23 in the school auditorium.
- Anne Bannister has been named a Vermont Nurse Leadership Fellow and will be serving on a committee in guiding the future of leadership of nursing in Vermont.

Legislative Report - Commissioner Fagan said the session ended this past Saturday. The two pertinent pieces for education:

- The education tax rate was set at \$.98 of \$100 of assessed value. That is a \$.04 increase. That will cause a decrease in the taxes owed by Rutland City homeowners.
- The restructuring of the education governance bill did not make it. Mr. Fagan said it will be taken up again next year.

Election Update - Commissioner Cavacas arrived and announced the school budget passed on a vote of 1131 yes and 613 no. Ms. Moran thanked everyone who helped with the efforts to pass the budget.

Building Committee - Mr. Cavacas said there was a building committee meeting and they looked at the summer work projects. Some is part of the deferred maintenance bond project, some is annual work, and some will be the energy performance work. There is an extensive list of projects. He gave a few updates on some of the work and some upcoming discussion items. Ms. Moran said Mr. Rice is giving a presentation today on behalf of Representative Peter Welch on energy efficiency and energy performance contracts.

Board Project Graduation Contribution

Motion by Kurchena / Fagan for the Board to contribute \$500 to Project Graduation for the senior class.

Project Graduation will be held at the Pico Sports Center. Motion passed unanimously.

LEGISLA-
TIVE
REPORT

ELECTION
UPDATE
BUDGET
PASSED

COMM.
REPORTS

BUILDING
COMM.

NEW
BUSINESS

MOTION:
BOARD
CONTRIB.-
TION TO
PROJECT
GRAD.

Old Business

Mr. Mello said there was a Board retreat in January with Administrators. From that, we have been taking a look at defining what type of criteria or protocols the Board might be looking for in the future, and maybe setting a different expectation of the Board. Commissioner Courcelle met with Commissioners Fagan and Cavacas to work on a direction. He distributed a document entitled "Performance Excellence Initiative" Mr. Courcelle said he wants to look at how the board sets expectations and goals and monitors Rutland City Schools. This is an opportunity for the Board to look at how we engage the entire district and focus on outcomes. He said it will help the Board to provide direction.

**OLD
BUSINESS

BOARD
PERFOR-
MANCE
EXCELL-
ENCE
INITIATIVE**

Mr. Fagan said this initiative will help the Board to drive Rutland Public Schools looking toward the future and to inform the present to ensure that we are always doing the best for the students. Mr. Cavacas said education is always data driven but we do not always define what the data is. We need to have the data information and how it all fits together. He said with school governance changing in the state, we need to be positioned. Mr. Courcelle said this is not meant to supplant what is going on in the buildings. He reviewed the Baldrige National Quality Program and said the model warrants comprehension and understanding. He suggested taking the next step with a formal work group to begin readings and research. He said he is not suggesting the schools or the administration are not doing what they should be doing. It is for this Board to have a clear understanding of what the Board does and what the Board is looking at. Mr. Mello said this Board has always had a reputation of being professional. This will raise the bar even higher and set perspective and leadership from a board's point of view even higher. Commissioner Notte said this is what she thought she would be doing when she ran for school board and said this will have an impact.

**IMPORTANT
DATES**

Ms. Moran said Graduation is June 12 at the Arena. The year end retirement celebration is June 18 at the Howe Center.

**MOTION:
EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

Motion by Thomas / Fagan at 7:45 pm, after a recess, for the board to convene to executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel 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.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:16 pm.

**PUBLIC
SESSION**

Motion by Fagan / Thomas to adjourn at 8:17 pm. Passed.

ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted

Janet Mondlak
Recording Secretary

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Mary E. Moran, Superintendent

DATE: May 9, 2014

RE: Personnel Memorandum – Licensed and Non-Licensed

RESOLVE: That the LICENSED and NON-LICENSED SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 501 dated May 9, 2014, be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

A. LICENSED SECTION

1. Appointment

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Sharon Napolitano	Assistant Principal/RMS	\$87,629.00	7/1/14

2. Resignation/Retirements

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Lyle Jepson	Director/STC	6/30/14
Mary Beth Laird	Special Educator/RMS	6/30/14
Deborah Sanborn	Special Educator/RHS	6/30/14

3. Leave of Absences

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Meghan Carroccia	Science/RMS	10/30/14-2/11/15
Sarah Hagge	English/RHS	2014-15 School Year

B. NON-LICENSED SECTION

1. Appointment

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Benjamin Senecal	Paraeducator/RIS	\$3,275.16	4/21/14

2. Retirement

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Nancy Jeski	Paraeducator/RMS	6/30/14

Addendum Personnel Memorandum

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Mary E. Moran, Superintendent
DATE: May 13, 2014
RE: Personnel Memorandum – Licensed and Non-Licensed

RESOLVE: That the LICENSED and NON-LICENSED SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 501 – Addendum dated May 13, 2014, be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

A. LICENSED SECTION

1. Appointment

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Katherine Milliman	School Psychologist	\$50,204.60	8/15/14

B. NON-LICENSED SECTION

1. Resignation

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Maria Cruise	Paraeducator/NE & NW	5/30/14