

**RUTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOL
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS
AUGUST 26, 2014**

School Board Members Present:

Peter Mello
Daniel Alcorn (6:50 pm)
Richard Courcelle
Peter Fagan (7:02 pm)
Rob Kurchena
Alison Notte
Matthew Olewnik
Kate Thomas
Christian Wideawake
Brendan Wright
Members Absent
Hurley Cavacas
Erin Shimp
Lydia Gulick

Also Present

Superintendent Mary Moran
Assistant Superintendent Rob Bliss
John Rice
Bill Olsen
Peter Amons
Steve Sampson
Ellie McGarry
Ted Guilmette
Patricia Aigner
Sharon Napolitano
Kerry Coarse
Greg Schillinger

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Mello noted the absence of Commissioners Cavacas, Shimp, Fagan, Alcorn and Student Representative Gulick.

Motion by Kurchena / Thomas to accept the minutes of the Aug. 5, 2014 regular school board meeting as written. Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

Written Communication - Commissioner Courcelle read a letter of thanks from Kristin Switzer for being awarded the Dr Michael and Susan Dick Community Services Award.

Oral Communications - None

Opening of School Activities 2014 - Superintendent Moran said the past three days with staff have been terrific. There was professional development and teachers have been doing preparation work. School opens tomorrow for students in grades K-9. High school students in grades 10 - 12 begin on Thursday.

Summer Professional Development Report - Assistant Superintendent Bliss reviewed summer learning opportunities for staff. There were 46 teams of teachers working on a variety of projects and Mr. Bliss highlighted some items. He said every teacher worked in a team and every team produced a product. Last year we started working with a national consultant about standard-based grading and he talked about the activities she did with teachers in the past few weeks. Ms. Moran said Common Core will be an agenda item for a future board meeting. Mr. Mello stressed the importance of monitoring and tracking of implementation.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

**MOTION:
MINUTES
08/05/14
MEETING**

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

LETTER OF THANKS

ORAL COMMUNICATION

EDUCATION REPORT

OPENING OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

SUMMER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Board Retreat Report - Mr. Mello reviewed the Board retreat, which was held earlier in August. He said there is a strong commitment to initiate the performance excellence initiative. The Board looked at brainstorming ways to engage the public and identify stakeholders. They also talked about a vision statement. Committee members will meet with Student Senate members and get the students' visions. Student Board Representative Brendan Wright will help work on this. Mr. Courcelle distributed examples of vision statements from nine different school districts from around the country. They reflect different styles and will be used to help the discussion here. He said the concept of collaborative is very important. Board members were urged to begin thinking about what our vision statement will look like.

**BOARD
RETREAT
REPORT**

Motion by Thomas / Notte to approve the Licensed and Non-licensed section of the Personnel Memorandum No. 507 dated Aug. 22, 2014, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

PERSONNEL

**MOTION:
PERSONNEL
MEMO #507**

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

Mello said he has talked to Commissioner Alcorn who has no reservations about any candidates but does have personal knowledge of one, which may prompt him to abstain.

Motion passed with one abstention (Alcorn)

**WELCOME
NEW
LEADERSHIP
TEAM
MEMBERS**

Welcome two new members of the Leadership Team - Kerry Coarse, Birth-Grade 2 Coordinator for NE & NW and Greg Schillinger - Associate Principal at RHS.

**BUSINESS
REPORT**

Financing & RHS Library Renovations Project Description - Mr. Rice said the concept about making changes in the library started with work last year's freshman class did in which they analyzed the library and identified issues, came up with solutions, and put together floor plans for improvement. The project is oriented on function and takes place within the existing library structure; this is not an expansion. Mr. Rice reviewed the problems identified and said the projected cost for design and construction is \$1,170,000; current furnishings and IT are estimated at \$219,000 for a total estimate of \$1,389,000. The estimate is to begin work in May 2015 and end in September 2015.

**FINANCING &
RHS LIBRARY
RENOVATIONS
PROJECT**

Mr. Amons reviewed the bid process for the deferred maintenance work and also for library renovations. There are still some questions for at least one bidder and he asked to table acceptance of the bid until the Board's next meeting. There was discussion about the municipal bond bank and financing. Commissioner Kurchena said this is a competitive bid and the municipal bond market has good rates now. Mr. Amons said he will be back with a proposal at the next Board meeting.

**SUMMER
WORK**

Summer Work - Mr. Mello thanked Mr. Rice and the entire maintenance crew for their outstanding work this summer.

Announcements

- Ms. Moran presented board members with a season pass for all student events in the schools. She said Board members serve with no pay and this is a small way to show thanks.
- All students in grades K-8 are now eligible for free school lunch as part of a new federal program and Hunger Free Vermont. There is no additional cost to the district. The high school program remains the same.
- Students in different primary grades will be visiting the Vermont State Fair next week.
- Northeast School's first Parent Teacher Collaborative meeting will be held Sept. 8.
- At Northwest School, parents are invited to join classrooms for the first day of school in grades 1-2. Kindergarten has orientation Wednesday-Friday.
- RIS will celebrate the opening day of school with the First Day of School Holiday by inviting parents into the classroom starting at 8am. A light snack will be served and the staff will explain the routines of their classrooms to the students and parents. At 8:30, parents will attend an informational meeting with school administration.
- Open house nights have been scheduled in all schools.

**SUPERIN-
TENDENT'S
REPORT

ANNOUNCE-
MENTS**

Building Committee - Mr. Rice reviewed the work which was completed this summer. He said the mold issue from Northwest School is substantially completed. The RHS heating line is now replaced. Commissioner Notte said the building committee also discussed the library plans and financing. STC forestry students will be helping Mr. Rice and his team with cleaning out.

**COMMITTEE
REPORTS

BUSINESS
COMMITTEE**

New Business - None

**NEW
BUSINESS**

Old Business - Commissioner Olewnik asked for follow-up regarding the parent concern expressed in May about extreme weather protocols and athletic events. Ms. Moran said there have been discussions with Mr. Norman and Mr. Olson and there are plans and protocols in place. She will make sure that all new coaches are aware.

OLD BUSINESS

**FOLLOW-UP
ON PARENT
CONCERN
ABOUT
EXTREME
WEATHER
PROTOCOLS**

Motion by Fagan / Thomas at 7:19 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 7:38 pm.

**PUBLIC
SESSION**

Motion by Fagan / Kurchena to adjourn at 7:39 pm. Passed.

ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted

Janet Mondlak
Recording Secretary

TO: Board of Education
 FROM: Mary E. Moran, Superintendent
 DATE: August 22, 2014
 RE: Personnel Memorandum – Licensed and Non-Licensed

RESOLVE: That the LICENSED and NON-LICENSED SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 507 dated August 22, 2014, be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

A. LICENSED SECTION

1. Appointments

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Geoffrey Bloomer	LTS PE/RHS	\$177.55/day	11/10/14-5/29/15
Patricia Casey-Rafter	LTS Mathematics/RHS	\$284.10/day	12/13/14-4/20/15
David Garland	Special Educator/RHS	\$54,199.00	8/22/14
Amie Francoeur	LTS Science/RMS	\$186.43/day	10/30/14-2/11/14
Ashleigh McDonough	Special Educator/NW	\$36,133.00	8/22/14
Andrea Ustainov	LTS Special Educator/NW & LTS Elem. Gr. 5/RIS	\$177.55/day	2/11/15-4/29/15

2. Transfer

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location From/To</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Kerry Coarse	From: Special Educator/RHS To: Coordinator of Support Services: Birth to Grade 2/NE & NW	\$67,728.00	8/11/14

3. Resignation

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Stephanie Synder	Coordinator of Support Services: Birth to Grade 2/NE & NW	8/6/14

4. Leave of Absence

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Margaret Lawrence	Health Ed./RHS	2/13/15-5/26/15

B. NON-LICENSED SECTION

1. Appointments

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Jennifer Coltey <i>(transfer from NW)</i>	Volunteer Coordinator/RIS	\$15,585.00	8/22/14
Nathalie Colwell	Secretary/RIS/RMS	\$24,830.00	8/29/14
Mary Margaret Etori	Volunteer Coordinator/NW	\$11,086.00	8/22/14

2. Coaching Appointments

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Stipend</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Geoffrey Bloomer	MS Boys/ Soccer Coach	\$1,468.15	Aug. 2014
Sam Capogrossi	Asst. Football Coach	\$2,209.51	Aug. 2014

3. Resignation

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Phil Hall	Paraeducator/RIS	6/30/14