

RUTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS
FEBRUARY 24, 2015

School Board Members Present:

Hurley Cavacas, Jr
Richard Courcelle
Peter Fagan
Rob Kurchena
Peter Mello
Alison Notte
Matthew Olewnik
Erin Shimp
Kate Thomas (6:45 PM)
Christian Wideawake
Lydia Gulick
Brendan Wright

Members Absent:

Dan Alcorn

Also Present:

Cabinet Members
Susan Ahern
Peter Forshay
Gina Fucci

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to Order
and approval
of minutes of
2/10/15.

Motion by Fagan/Shimp to accept the minutes of the February 10, 2015 Regular School Board Meeting.

Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

Written and Oral Communications

COMMUNIC
ATIONS

Mr. Courcelle read a message from RHS Teacher and Einstein Fellow Erica Wallstrom from the South Pole, commenting upon her experience and thanking the Board for their support.

Performance Excellence Initiative/Progress

Mr. Mello and Mr. Courcelle gave background and a summary of the work of the PEI in developing the Vision Statement.

VISION
STATEMENT

Motion by Kurchena/Fagan to adopt the RPS Board of School Commissioners Vision Statement as presented.

Mr. Fagan offered thanks to all who contributed, from all around the City, in the development of a truly far-reaching Vision, noting that is it very well done. Mr. Mello noted that this is just the beginning and that goals for the achievement of the Vision will be developed next. He noted that that work will take a good deal of time and effort. Mr. Courcelle noted that the next steps will be the development of performance measurements, which will and should be a longer process.

Vision
Statement
Motion

Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

School/Program Update

Lydia Gulick reported on activities of the Environmental Club and a forthcoming composting project a RHS.

SCHOOL
PROGRAM
UPDATE

Central Office Reports

Ms. Moran noted that there has been a great deal of activity in the State House, upon which she and Mr. Fagan will report at the next meeting.

Facilities and Finance

Ms. Notte reported on the activities of the Budget Buddies in the run-up to the Election next Tuesday. Last week Matt and Alison addressed the audience at MSJ/RHS basketball game. The Voting Brochure is being mailed to all registered voters this week. Lawn signs funded by Friends of Rutland Education being put out this week.

Facilities and
Finance

Budget
Buddies
Report

Donated signs, by the Friends of Rutland Education, saying “Please Vote on School Budget” will be placed on 6 school buses this week. Rob Bliss and Peter Amons to do Ken Hayes radio show this Friday morning regarding school finance and programs. There will be reminder calls to vote Monday March 2. We are looking for callers; contact a school principal if interested. We are looking for sign holders for voting day. Please call a principal if you are interested.

Mr. Amons reported on the active involvement of all employee groups in the “Get out the Vote” efforts.

Personnel ~ None

Committee Reports – None

New Business – None

Old Business – Mello Moments

Mr. Courcelle led the Board and audience members in a tribute to Peter Mello’s many years of service as a Board member and President. He read a Joint Legislative Resolution in praise of Mr. Mello, and presented him with a RCPS rocking chair for him to “Rock On” in his next retirement. Those in attendance offered a Mello Moment of their own in tribute and thanks to Peter’s many, many contribution to the Rutland City Public Schools. Mr. Mello offered his reflections and thanks to all in attendance.

Mello
Moments

Motion by Cavacas /Kurchena to adjourn to cake and coffee reception at 7:15 PM.

Motion to
Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Moran