

RUTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS
January 12, 2015

School Board Members Present:

Dick Courcelle
 Rob Kurchena
 Daniel Alcorn (7:04 pm)
 Hurley Cavacas, Jr.
 Peter Fagan
 Alison Notte
 Matthew Olewnik
 Erin Shimp
 Christian Wideawake

Members Absent:

Joanne Pencak
 Kate Thomas
 Student Representative Lydia Gulik
 Student Representative Nova Wang

Also Present:

Superintendent Mary Moran
 Assistant Superintendent Rob Bliss
 Peter Amons
 Kerry Coarse
 Michael Derevjanik
 Cathy Farman
 Kristin Holsman-Francoeur
 Ellie McGarry
 Bill Olsen
 Loren Pepe
 Pam Reed
 Steve Sampson
 Jay Slenker

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

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Notte/Fagan to accept the minutes of the December 8, 2015 regular school board meeting as written. Minutes stand.

MOTION: MINUTES 12/8/15

Written Communications – None

COMMUNICATIONS

Oral Communications – None

Performance Excellence Initiative/Progress – The next meeting is the Board Administrative Retreat which will be held at the Leahy Center on January 26, 2016. Reporting to the public will follow. The Work Group is working with the consultant to prepare for the retreat.

PEI UPDATE

School Program Update:

Student Representatives' Report – Student Representatives were excused from the meeting tonight due to exams and weather.

SCHOOL PROGRAM UPDATE

Central Office Reports

CENTRAL OFFICE REPORTS

Superintendent – Superintendent Moran invited the Board and the community to attend the 15th Anniversary/Birthday Party for Tapestry which will be held in the RIS Cafeteria on February 27, 2016 from 4:00 – 5:00 pm. RHS will host a Grade 8 Open House on Thursday, January 14, 2016 at 6:00 pm. Superintendent Moran commended and congratulated Howe Center Campus staff and graduates. Assistant Superintendent Bliss was surprised and honored at the recent graduation ceremony. Many of the graduates knew Rob as their Principal at Northwest. Chair Courcelle and Commissioner Kurchena attended the ceremony on behalf of the Board. The Howe Center Campus Newsletter, RHS Program of Studies, Winter Activities Guide, an article regarding a student, Chloe Levins and a “Draft” of the 2016-2017 School Calendar were distributed to the Board.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Legislative – Superintendent Moran referenced materials included in the Board packets (her testimony to the House Education Committee, as well as the testimony of Nicole Mace, VSBA.) A good deal of chatter continues regarding the caps and adverse effects. A .9 percent was just added to the caps (from 2 to 2.9 percent) and will have to be approved by the House and Senate. Superintendent Moran emphasized that the RCPS budget was not driven by the caps, but was developed in the same responsible way it is done every year. Commissioner Fagan concurred that the budget is responsible. He advised that there is a plan in place in regards to paying for the .9 percent increase. Updates will continue to be provided.

**LEGISLATIVE
REPORT**

Facilities and Finance:

**FACILITIES &
FINANCE**

Tuition Rates 2016-2017 – Peter Amons advised that school districts are required to announce tuition rates by January 15th. Our tuition rates will increase 3.6 percent due to upping the costs of special education programs at Rutland Intermediate School, Allen Street Campus and Northeast. Previously rates were established to encourage increased attendance. They are now closer to real costs and are competitive with other programs in the city and below the State average. Recommended rates are: Secondary (7-12) - \$14,500, Elementary - \$9,400 and Special Education - \$40,000.

**FY 17 TUITION
RATES**

MOTION: Fagan/Notte to approve FY 17 Tuition Rates as recommended.

**MOTION: FY
17 TUITION
RATES**

Motion passed unanimously by all in attendance.

FY 17 Budget Ratification – Board Members and community members have been invited to discuss the contents of the budget with Peter Amons and Superintendent Moran. Peter Amons reviewed tax information based on what we know at this point. The State wants to control the tap on the Education Fund. Equalized pupils will go up this year due to the one-time event of being allowed to count PreK students. This adds another 50 equalized pupils. The equalized cost per pupil is the most important number for the development of taxes. We are slightly below the State average and well under the cap. Mr. Amons reviewed the tax formula and the common level of appraisal. More people pay based on income than property. Cap is income sensitive.

FY 17 BUDGET

Commissioner Kurchena asked how much is the PreK increase in the budget?

\$722,000.

Motion: Cavacas/Fagan to ratify the FY 17 operations budget for Rutland City Public Schools in the amount of \$50,431,955.

**MOTION:
FY 17 BUDGET
RATIFICATION**

Commissioner Fagan thanked Superintendent Moran, Peter Amons, Assistant Superintendent Bliss and everyone else for their work on the budget. It's not impacting tax payers and that's a good thing.

Commissioner Wideawake asked to confirm that the cap did not influence the budget at all.

It is correct that the cap did not influence the budget at all and is due to responsible work over the years.

Motion passed unanimously by all in attendance.

The new budget language is complicated and there will be community outreach and education to explain it. We will enter into the same kind of activities as prior years (provide informational document, invite community in, outreach with Board involvement.)

COMMUNITY
OUTREACH
PLANNING

Personnel Action -

PERSONNEL

Motion: Cavacas/Fagan to approve the Licensed and Non-licensed section of the Personnel Memorandum #529 dated January 8, 2016, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

MOTION:
PERSONNEL
MEMO #529

Superintendent Moran reviewed Personnel Memorandum #529.

Motion passed unanimously by all in attendance.

Ratification of the AFSCME Contract 2016-2017 – Commissioner Kurchena reviewed highlights of the contract and thanked everyone involved in negotiations. It was positive and collaborative. There is a 3 percent increase for FY 17. It is a one year contract because health care costs (re: Affordable Care Act) are not currently available. Annual sick leave will be given up front on July 1st for the convenience of the Business Office.

AFSCME
CONTRACT

Motion: Kurchena/Notte to ratify the *Agreement Between The Board of School Commissioners Of The City Of Rutland, Vermont And Rutland School Chapter Of American Federation Of State, County And Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO Local 1201*, Council 93 (Effective Date: July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2017.)

MOTION:
AFSCME
CONTRACT
RAFTIFICA-
TION

Motion passed unanimously by all in attendance.

The contract was signed by Chair Courcelle and Penny Zaloudek.

Ratification of the RAA Contract 2016-2017 – Commissioner Kurchena noted that the RAA Contract is also a one year contract (to allow more time for new health care plan information and costs to become available) and includes a 2.5 percent increase.

RAA
CONTRACT

Motion: Kurchena/Notte to ratify the *Amended Agreement By And Between the Rutland City School District and the Rutland City School District Administrators' Association* (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017.)

MOTION:
RAA
CONTRACT
RATIFICA-
TION

Motion passed unanimously by all in attendance.

The contract was signed by Chair Courcelle and Kristin Holsman-Francoeur.

Commissioner Kurchena noted that the committee met with the REA last week. It is a great collaborative effort and things are moving forward.

Committee Reports - None

COMMITTEE
REPORTS

New Business - None

NEW
BUSINESS

Old Business – None

OLD
BUSINESS

No executive session is needed.

Motion by Shimp/Fagan to adjourn at 7:06 pm.

ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted
Betty Kapitan, Recording Secretary

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Mary E. Moran, Superintendent
DATE: January 12, 2016
RE: Personnel Memorandum – Licensed and Non-Licensed

RESOLVE: That the LICENSED and NON-LICENSED SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 529 dated **January 8, 2016**, be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

A. LICENSED SECTION

1. Retirements

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Patricia Forbes	Mathematics Teacher/RHS	6/30/16
Nancy Nucci	Elementary/Northeast Primary School	6/30/16

B. NON-LICENSED SECTION

1. Retirement

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Helene Fuller	Paraeducator/NE	1/15/16

2. Appointment

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Pro-Rated Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Ryan Gilbert	Paraeducator/NE	\$9,735.39	1/4/16