

**RUTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS**

**March 22, 2016**

**School Board Members Present:**

Dick Courcelle  
Hurley Cavacas, Jr.  
Alison Notte  
Matthew Olewnik  
Joanne Pencak  
Erin Shimp  
Kate Thomas  
Christian Widewake  
Student Representative Nova Wang

**Members Absent:**

Rob Kurchena  
Daniel Alcorn  
Peter Fagan  
Student Representative Lydia Gulik

**Also Present:**

Superintendent Mary Moran  
Assistant Superintendent Rob Bliss  
Peter Amons  
Patricia Aigner  
Kerry Coarse  
Melissa Connor  
Michael Derevjanik  
Kate Herlihy  
Ellie McGarry  
Sharon Napolitano  
Bill Olsen  
Glenn Olson  
Pam Reed  
Steve Sampson  
Greg Schillinger  
Jay Slenker  
Jennifer Wigmore

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

Motion by Cavacas/Thomas to accept the minutes of the March 8, 2016 regular school board meeting as written. Minutes pass.

**MOTION: MINUTES 3/8/16**

Communications - Written - None.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Oral - None.

Performance Excellence Initiative/Progress – Planning Meeting: March 23, 2016.

**PEI UPDATE**

School Program Update: Raider Way assemblies were held at RIS, focusing on friendship, with Jeopardy and a flash mob. Students at RMS held a mock legislature and will be traveling to the State House. Spring sports have begun at all levels. There will be a blood drive at RHS on Thursday. March is *Music in Our Schools Month*. There was an orchestra concert yesterday. Spanish students return home tomorrow. The Global Studies and STEM Fair were held last week. The GIN Conference is scheduled for April 7th and will feature a keynote speaker and student Capstone project presentations. There will also be a film at the Paramount on April 7th (6:00 - 8:00 pm.)

**SCHOOL PROGRAM UPDATE**

Flexible Pathways - RHS Principal, Bill Olsen introduced Alisha Arshad (RHS junior), Jen Wigmore (RHS Guidance) and Kate Herlihy (RHS Guidance.) Presentation included Flexible Pathways definition from the Vermont AOE and highlighted new pathways (RHS Room 111, Project Search, Dual Enrollment, Early College/VAST and Internships.). Dual Enrollment and Early College give students opportunities: take college classes on or off campus, live at home or on college campus and/or enroll simultaneously as high school senior and college freshman (graduating from high school at the end of their senior year with sophomore college standing.) Application fees and book fees are students' financial responsibility. Scholarships are available. Internships related to Capstone projects are being explored through new Rowland Grant. Alisha shared her dual enrollment experience, noting that it allowed her to gain experience taking

**FLEXIBLE PATHWAYS**

college courses and build real world skills. Discussion revolved around internships and collaborating with local organizations, Early College option and RHS graduation requirements, eligibility, application process and course selection.

**FLEXIBLE  
PATHWAYS  
(CONT.)**

Advance Vermont Project - Superintendent Moran referred to the Advance Vermont Project (formerly known as Project Lumina) insert included in the Board packet and invited STC Director, Glenn Olson to share in the presentation. The presentation focused on credential of value, stackable credentials and post-secondary and employment opportunities. Anticipated are forums and student focus groups (high school students and recent graduates), a more clear definition of credential of value, community organizations involvement, developing career pathways, financial aid and funding options. Discussion revolved around media interpretation of student debt issue, outreach for educating students and parents and generating economic development. Advance Vermont Project is a volunteer committee led by Yasmine Ziesler and funded by a grant from the Lumina Foundation.

**ADVANCE  
VERMONT  
PROJECT**

Central Office Reports - Superintendent's Report - Superintendent Moran thanked all involved in the Soup Bowls for Hunger event and noted the presentation of Hamlet, at the Paramount, attended by many students today.

**CENTRAL  
OFFICE  
REPORTS –  
SUPERINTEN  
-DENT**

Legislative Report - Superintendent Moran noted that she was scheduled to testify regarding the Tech. Ed. Bill today, but this will be rescheduled. She distributed a copy of her planned testimony and a copy of the Tech. Ed. Bill as introduced. This is a concerning bill. We will continue to follow and report. We continue to watch the Special Education Bill and the Marijuana Bill and will report.

**LEGISLA-  
TIVE  
REPORT**

Facilities and Finance - None.

**FACILITIES  
& FINANCE**

Personnel - Motion by Cavacas/Thomas to approve the Licensed and Non-licensed section of the Personnel Memorandum No. 534 dated March 18, 2016, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

**MOTION:  
PERSONNEL  
MEMO #534**

Personnel Memorandum No. 534 was reviewed by Superintendent Moran.

Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

Committee Reports - None.

**COMMITTEE  
REPORTS**

New Business – None.

**NEW  
BUSINESS**

Old Business – None.

**OLD  
BUSINESS**

Motion by Shimp/Notte at 7:27 pm for the board to convene to executive session for the purpose of discussing contractual matters, the premature release of information regarding those subjects which would place the Board at a substantial disadvantage. Passed unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

The Board came out of executive session at 8:09 pm.

Motion by Cavacas/Shimp to adjourn at 8:10 pm.

**ADJOURN**

Respectfully submitted  
Betty Kapitan, Recording Secretary

TO: Board of Education  
 FROM: Mary E. Moran, Superintendent  
 DATE: March 18, 2016  
 RE: Personnel Memorandum – Licensed and Non-Licensed

RESOLVE: That the LICENSED and NON-LICENSED SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 534 dated March 18, 2016, be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

**A. LICENSED SECTION**

1. Resignation

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Erik Remsen	Social Studies/RHS	6/30/16
Wendy Wentz	Special Educator/NE	6/30/16

2. Professional Leave of Absence

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Meghan Carroccia	Science/RMS	7/1/16-6/30/17

3. Leave of Absence

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Sharon Napolitano	Assistant Principal/RMS	2016-17 School Year

**B. NON-LICENSED SECTION**

1. Resignation/Retirement

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Kathy Bixby	Secretary/STC	6/30/16
Taylor Kenyon	Secretary/RHS Athletic Office	3/30/16

2. Spring Coaching Nominations 2016 Season

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Donald Bushee	MS Girls' Lacrosse Coach	\$1,226.39
Lauren Keefe	MS Softball Coach	\$1,267.92
Matt Zmurko	JV Girls' Lacrosse Coach	\$2,469.10