

RUTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS

April 25, 2017

School Board Members Present:

Dick Courcelle
Michael Blow (6:54 pm)
Hurley Cavacas, Jr.
Alison Notte
Matthew Olewnik
Joanne Pencak (6:32 pm)
Erin Shimp
Christian Widewake
Student Representative Nova Wang
Student Representative Connor Solimano

Also Present:

Superintendent Mary Moran
Assistant Superintendent Rob Bliss
Peter Amons
Mary Cohen
Rutland Region Chamber of Commerce
Michael Derevjanik
Susanne Engels
Cathy Farman
Sara Hagge
Kristin Hubert
Dana Johnson
Rose Kennedy
Rutland County State's Attorney
Ellie McGarry
Bianca McKeen
Bill Olsen
Steve Sampson
Greg Schillinger
Jennifer Wigmore

Members Absent:

Rob Kurchena
Dena Goldberg
Kam Johnston

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

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Cavacas/Shimp to accept the minutes of the April 11, 2017 regular school board meeting as written. Minutes stand.

**MOTION:
MINUTES
4/11/2017**

Communications – None.

**COMMUNICA
-TIONS**

Performance Excellence Initiative – Assistant Superintendent Bliss reviewed PEI Mission 1, Mission 2 and Performance 2 goals and highlighted student involvement across grade levels. He noted that we want to “turn how we do community engagement. We really want to have community engaged in our schools.” He shared a note from Sgt. Jim Phelps, University of Vermont Police regarding positive student behavior at a championship game and a note from a parent regarding positive meetings with teachers. He shared stories and photos submitted by Principals. Discussion revolved around dual enrollment numbers and reporting to show the dimensions and comprehensiveness of curriculum to the community.

PEI UPDATE

School Program Update: Student Representatives' Report – Grades 3 – 8 and Grade 11 are currently taking SBAC (Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium) tests. RMS held a successful talent show on April 14th and the ESP Enriched Studies Program Booklets were sent home. RIS will hold a talent show on Thursday. Ms. Mahar and students recently attended a brain trivia competition and did very well. Student elections will be taking place at RHS.

**SCHOOL
PROGRAM
UPDATE**

Mathematics Report – Assistant Superintendent Bliss and Dana Johnson, K-6 Math Coach, reviewed and highlighted the School Board vision, standards and common core practices. Instruction and learning evolve exponentially Grade K – 12. Basic foundation needs to be in place by the end of Grade 5. An exercise related to Standards and grade levels was carried out. Standards are written in a complex manner and taught in student language. Students interact and understand mathematics in a complex manner. Examples of applications, solutions and proficiencies were reviewed. Instruction time (minutes per day) were reviewed across grade

**MATH
REPORT**

levels K-8 and high school math requirements were reviewed. Intervention for all levels were reviewed. Discussion ensued regarding percentage of kids who don't meet the standards, intervention, Everyday Math (is up to date and aligned with common core), introduction of word problems early on, problem solving (is embedded at all levels), teacher training, collaboration with literacy coach and student/parent exposure to language and complexity of standards.

**MATH
REPORT
CONT.**

RHS Internship Program – Superintendent Moran introduced Rowland Fellows: Sara Hagge, Jen Wigmore and Bianca McKeen. She expressed appreciation to the Rowland Foundation. RHS has received more Rowland Grants than any other high school in the World (4 fellowships since 2010.) The Rowland Fellows reviewed the PLACE (Promoting Learning by Activating Community Engagement) Program. PLACE connects learning and provides a service to the community through mentors. The program has (and was developed with) two boards: an advisory board and a steering committee. Future plans include: two programs running during YES Plan (one occupations program and another utilizing speakers and field trips.) There are plans to place 15 students in the community next year. PLACE is an elective credit and can support STEM and Global Studies endorsements. Two students, Sequoia Dixon-Woodard and Dominic Romano spoke about their experiences in the PLACE Program. Mary Cohen, Executive Director, Rutland County Chamber of Commerce, and Rose Kennedy, Rutland County State's Attorney (both mentors in the PLACE Program) spoke about the positive benefits of the PLACE Program for both students and the community. Discussion revolved around work based learning at Stafford Technical Center and through PLACE, identification of students for the program, how organizations are vetted, projections for growth of the program and Act 77.

**RHS INTERN-
SHIP
PROGRAM**

Central Office Reports: Superintendent Moran distributed the Howe Center Campus Spring Newsletter and extended invitations to Board Members to the Stafford Technical Center National Technical Honor Society Induction on May 11th (6:00 pm in the RHS Theatre.) Graduation is June 15th. Last day for students is June 22nd. Last day for teachers is June 23rd. A detailed list of year end events is forthcoming.

**SUPERINTEN-
-DENT'S
REPORT**

Legislative Report – Summaries were sent on April 24th regarding Act 46. Potential changes in teachers' retirement and health care were introduced late in the session.

**LEGISLA-
TIVE
REPORT**

Facilities and Finance – Bid Approval – Purchase of Two School Buses.

**FACILITIES &
FINANCE**

Peter Amons reviewed the process/cycle for replacing busses (purchase 2 per year and retire/sell 2 per year.) We use any one of three companies to secure better pricing.

Motion by: Cavacas/Notte that the Board of School Commissioners purchase two passenger buses from W. C. Cressey and Son Inc. of Kennebunk, Main for a total cost of \$164,632.

**MOTION:
PURCHASE
OF BUSES**

Discussion ensued regarding local companies (there are no major bus companies in State.) Local resellers can provide service but can no longer sell busses.

Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

Personnel - Motion by Cavacas/Notte to approve the Licensed and Non-licensed section of the Personnel Memorandum No. 554 dated April 21, 2017, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

**MOTION:
PERSONNEL
MEMO #554**

Personnel Memorandum No. 554 was reviewed by Superintendent Moran and is attached.

Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

Addendum to Personnel Memorandum No. 554 was distributed.

Motion by Cavacas/Shimp to approve the licensed section of the Addendum to Personnel Memorandum No. 554 dated April 25, 2017, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

**MOTION:
ADDENDUM
PERSONNEL
MEMO #554**

Addendum was reviewed by Superintendent Moran and is attached.

Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

Superintendent Moran relayed news received via text from Commissioner Kurchena. Dan Kurchena was named "Player of the Game" at the hockey festival in Buffalo.

Committee Reports – Policy Committee – Commissioner Shimp presented Policy #7698 (Child Nutrition and Wellness Policy) for second reading.

**COMMITTEE
REPORTS –
POLICY**

Motion by Notte/Cavacas to accept Policy #7698 for second reading.

**MOTION:
POLICY #7698
SECOND
READING**

Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

New Business – None.

**NEW
BUSINESS**

Old Business – None.

**OLD
BUSINESS**

Motion by Notte/Cavacas at 7:51 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.

**MOTION:
EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

The Board came out of executive session at 8:15 pm.

**OUT OF
EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

Motion by Notte/Cavacas to adjourn at 8:16 pm. Passed.

ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted
Betty Kapitan, Recording Secretary

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Mary E. Moran, Superintendent
DATE: April 21, 2017
RE: Personnel Memorandum – Licensed and Non-Licensed

RESOLVE: That the LICENSED and NON-LICENSED SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 554 dated April 21, 2017, be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

A. LICENSED SECTION

1. Resignation

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Katie Chapman	Special Educator/RHS	6/30/17

2. Family Medical Leave

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Anna Walker	School Counselor/ NE	8/25/17-11/20/17

B. NON-LICENSED SECTION ~ None

ADDENDUM

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Mary E. Moran, Superintendent
DATE: April 25, 2017
RE: Personnel Memorandum – Licensed and Non-Licensed

RESOLVE: That the LICENSED and NON-LICENSED SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 554 dated April 25, 2017 -- ADDENDUM, 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>
Ashley Hess	School Psychologist/District	\$42,472.05	8/18/17