

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

**October 11, 2016**

**School Board Members Present:**

Dick Courcelle  
Rob Kurchena (6:34 pm)  
Hurley Cavacas, Jr. (6:33 pm)  
Peter Fagan  
Alison Notte  
Matthew Olewnik  
Joanne Pencak  
Erin Shimp  
Christian Widewake  
Student Representative Nova Wang

**Members Absent:**

Daniel Alcorn  
Student Representative Connor Solimano

**Also Present:**

Superintendent Mary Moran  
Assistant Superintendent Rob Bliss  
Peter Amons  
Patricia Aigner  
Kerry Coarse  
Melissa Connor  
Michael Derevjanik  
Susanne Engels  
Kristin Hubert  
Bob Johnson  
Ellie McGarry  
Bill Olsen  
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 Cavacas, Alcorn and Kurchena.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Motion by Fagan/Shimp to accept the minutes of the September 27, 2016 regular school board meeting as written. Minutes Stand.

**MOTION: MINUTES  
9/27/2016**

Communications - Written – None.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Oral – None.

Performance Excellence Initiative – The Work Group will meet tomorrow at 5:00 pm. The update will be rescheduled for another meeting.

**PEI UPDATE**

School Program Update: Student Representatives' Report – Rutland High School will be sending a banner, signed by students and staff, to Harwood Union High School as a show of support to the community. Concerts dates were noted: Choruses on Thursday, Orchestra on Monday and Band on October 26, 2016. Visits regarding RISE delegates and activities were noted. At Rutland Intermediate School: Parent/Teacher Conference Forms have been sent home, a movie night (featuring *The Jungle Book*) will be held on Friday, Fall Field Day will be held on October 25, 2016. They are celebrating UVM Outstanding Teacher, Ted Lindgren.

**SCHOOL PROGRAM UPDATE**

PreK-2 School Improvement Plans – Assistant Superintendent Bliss, Susanne Engels and Kristin Hubert presented the PreK-2 School Improvement Plans for Northeast Primary School and Northwest Primary School. Assistant Superintendent Bliss noted the alignment with common goals across the District and the way the plans align with PEI Goals. The Plans are for 2015 – 2017 and both schools are on track to meet all targets by the end of June 2017. The presentations included updates regarding ongoing professional development, the implementation of new machines and programs, use of the Google platform, the continued infusion of Chromebooks and a Touch Chromebook Lab, acceptable use policy, password and internet safety, increasing social emotional skills, PBIS integration, MTSS, increasing parent involvement and positive relationships, increased presence and participation of volunteers, data analysis and trends. Discussion revolved around what intervention looks like, achievement expectations, how behavior data is used and how data analysis leads to intervention. The investment of technology was also discussed in terms of Chromebooks vs Ipad and keyboards vs touch pads. Keyboard skills are addressed early. The learning window for bilateral interaction with hands (similar to piano and fine motor skills) is more natural with young students.

**PREK-2 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

RIS School Improvement Plan – Jay Slenker presented the Rutland Intermediate School Improvement Plan and noted that K-6 uses the same exact process as PreK-2 with the problem solving team and the goals are similar. Goals and progress were highlighted and it was noted that there is a giant difference between a third grader and a sixth grader. They are looking at planning room referrals for trends. All four grades made great gains with SBAC scores. Cohorts are showing gains across the board. This is reassuring to staff and students. Test taking on Chromebooks was noted. Standards based grading on report cards and how reports are addressed with students was discussed. This is more accurate than a traditional A, B, C...grade report card. The connection to PEI goals, how we are working backwards toward them now, and, how moving forward, we will be building from those goals was noted.

**RIS SCHOOL  
IMPROVE-  
MENT PLAN**

Enrollment Analysis – Superintendent Moran presented the annual enrollment analysis, reviewing numbers and trends. Numbers are relatively stable. Projecting kindergarten enrollment is much more difficult and is done through pre-registration and early registration.

**ENROLL-  
MENT**

Central Office Reports: Superintendent – Moran noted a memo from the Vermont Superintendents' Association regarding the *Five Families Fund* established to support the families of the five students who lost their lives in a tragic accident. Information will be posted on our web site and folks are encouraged to contact our office if they have questions.

**CENTRAL  
OFFICE  
REPORT**

Facilities and Finance – Budget Planning Overview - Peter Amons reviewed the annual budget development and revenue forecast process. He noted the focus of the ballot language in terms of equalized cost per pupil and effect of education spending/tap on the education fund. In regards to spending, we are exactly average for equalized cost per pupil in State spending.

**BUDGET  
PLANNING  
OVERVIEW**

Personnel - Motion by Cavacas/Fagan to approve the Licensed and Non-licensed section of the Personnel Memorandum No. 543 dated October 7, 2016, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

**MOTION:  
PERSONNEL  
MEMO #543**

Personnel Memorandum No. 543 was reviewed by Superintendent Moran.

Motion passed unanimously by all those in attendance.

Committee Reports – Building Committee – The Building Committee met last Tuesday, October 4, 2016. Commissioner Cavacas reported that parking improvements were made at RIS and RMS. There are concerns related to parking in the bus and emergency/fire lane. Security presence to maintain clear lanes was discussed. LED lighting has been completed at NE and PA/Intercoms are complete at all schools, except for RHS and STC which will be addressed next summer. Window replacements are in progress at STC. There will be one more mowing of the grounds. Sanders and plows are ready for winter. Roofs have been checked: there is some work needed at NE, work at RIS has been completed. The mechanical room at RHS is being cleaned out and furniture is being recycle or disposed. RCPS is providing tables and chairs for *Walk a Mile*. Football championships will be held at RHS again this year. This helps the Booster Club and is good for the community. Budget planning is underway and we are preparing for the heating season. Lockers (combinations) have been a challenge at RMS and this being handled by the Administration. Our goal is to implement swipe cards in all buildings at some point. The use of the second floor at Longfellow was discussed. The turf on Alumni Field is holding up better than anticipated. We may want to think about a sinking fund for repair/replacement in the future. The overgrowth at the NE Pond is being addressed. Plans are being made to display student work and accomplishments in the lobby at Keefe Gym. Sidewalk/bussing issues on Jackson Avenue have been handled.

**BUILDING  
COMMITTEE**

New Business – Chair Courcelle commended the Administration for addressing: *What do college think?* (in relation to standards based grading.)

**NEW  
BUSINESS**

Old Business – None

**OLD  
BUSINESS**

Motion by Cavacas/Notte Motion at 7:30 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 7:45 pm.

**OUT OF  
EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

Motion by Cavacas/Wideawake to adjourn at 7:46 pm.

**ADJOURN**

Respectfully submitted  
Betty Kapitan, Recording Secretary

TO: Board of Education  
FROM: Mary E. Moran, Superintendent  
DATE: October 7, 2016  
RE: Personnel Memorandum – Licensed and Non-Licensed

RESOLVE: That the LICENSED and NON-LICENSED SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 543 dated October 7, 2016, be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

***A. LICENSED SECTION~ None***

***B. NON-LICENSED SECTION***

1. Resignation

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Jamie Gero	Paraeducator/RIS	10/13/16

2. Coaching Appointment

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Season</u>
Ryan Gilbert	Middle School Boys' Basketball Coach	Winter