

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
BARRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BARRINGTON, RHODE ISLAND**

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**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 08/25/11**

A regular meeting of the Barrington School Committee was held on Thursday, August 25, 2011 at the Barrington Middle School Library. Mr. Guida called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Mr. Guida, Dr. Shea, Mrs. Brody, Mr. Ramsden, Mr. Fuller, Dr. McIntyre, Mr. Tarro and Mr. Messori.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mrs. Nancy Seadale led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Achievement Recognition**

Dr. McIntyre welcomed and commended the staff, teachers and administrators for the great opening day.

Dr. McIntyre noted that we earned EPA's ENERGY STAR for Barrington High School for 2011, which recognizes the school as one of our nation's leaders in energy efficiency. Dr. McIntyre acknowledged Mr. Learned and Mr. Tarro for their efforts with energy conservation.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Dr. Shea moved and Mr. Ramsden seconded to approve the minutes of the 08/04/11 School Committee meeting as presented. The motion passed 5-0.**

**Dr. Shea moved and Mr. Ramsden seconded to approve the minutes of the Executive Session meeting of 08/04/11 as presented. The motion passed 5-0. It was noted that the minutes were sealed and no votes were taken.**

**Dr. Shea moved and Mr. Ramsden seconded to approve the minutes of the 08/22/11 School Committee meeting as presented. The motion passed 4-0. Mrs. Brody abstained as she was not present at that meeting.**

**Dr. Shea moved and Mr. Ramsden seconded to approve the minutes of the Executive Session meeting of 08/22/11 as presented. The motion passed 4-0. Mrs. Brody abstained as she was not present at that meeting. It was noted that the minutes were sealed and one vote was taken.**

**Approval of Financials**

Upon review and discussion of the July financial expenditures:

**Dr. Shea moved and Mr. Ramsden seconded to adopt and approve the monthly expenditures for July in the amount of \$1,248,749.13. The motion passed 5-0.**

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Dr. McIntyre took the agenda out of order to address one personnel item under New Business from the Superintendent and Staff, which was to accept the resignation of Mrs. Gail Keith, Nayatt Principal.

**Dr. Shea moved and Mr. Ramsden seconded to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent with respect to accepting the resignation of Gail Keith, NA, Principal. The motion passed 5-0.**

The agenda returned to Information and Proposals.

**Information and Proposals**

Dr. McIntyre provided the Committee with the revised Strategic Plan for their review and noted that updates on the status of the progress of items targeted this year will be reported on a regular basis during the school year. Following a review of the plan by the Committee, it will be posted on the District's website.

Additional discussion took place regarding agenda topics to be discussed during the 2011-2012 school year.

**General Public Discussion and Information**

Much discussion took place regarding the leadership at Nayatt School in light of the resignation of Mrs. Keith. Options for moving forward to assign an interim principal for Nayatt School and options that might be implemented as the district moves forward for a search for a permanent principal for Nayatt School. Dr. McIntyre noted that the appointment of an interim principal would be addressed later in the meeting. Mr. Guida commended the Nayatt teachers (who were present this evening) for their professionalism and commitment in dealing with this issue.

A member of the audience expressed her concern regarding large class sizes at Nayatt School and asked the Committee to consider how it might affect the teachers as the new teacher evaluation model is implemented.

**Old Business from Superintendent and Staff**

Mr. Tarro updated the Committee on the FY13 budget noting that the new pension numbers received for the FY13 budget are significantly higher than this past year. (\$2.2 million increase in contributions to pensions; last year's pension contribution was a little over \$500,000). It was noted by everyone that this is an extremely concerning issue and the status of any changes regarding this issue will be watched closely. Mr. Tarro noted that this year's budget is currently on target and that he will keep the Committee updated on the status of the budget as the year progresses.

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Mr. Tarro presented a brief update on the status of the District working with the consultant regarding the Middle School Facilities and that this topic is scheduled to be discussed at the November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Old Business from School Committee**

No issues were raised at this time.

**New Business from Superintendent and Staff**

Dr. McIntyre recommended that Mr. John Gray be appointed interim principal at Nayatt School. Mr. Guida explained that by law, Mr. Gray cannot serve more than 90 days consecutively and that a permanent replacement should be in place by then.

**Dr. Shea moved and Mr. Ramsden seconded to approve the appointment of Mr. John Gray as interim principal at Nayatt School. Following accolades from members of the audience, the School Committee and the administrators regarding the appointment of Mr. Gray, the motion passed 5-0.**

Mr. Guida noted that he was pleased with all the new staff members that he met during the orientation program.

**Dr. Shea moved and Mr. Ramsden seconded to approve the following appointments:**

**Catarina Anselmo, PH, ELL (part time)  
Catherine Burgess, HM, Grade 4  
Holly DaSilveira, HS, Reading Specialist (part time)  
Elizabeth Harris, HS, English  
Kenneth Salhany, MS, Business Technology  
Holly Swanson, HS, Science**

**The motion passed 5-0.**

**Dr. Shea moved and Mr. Ramsden seconded to approve the resignation of Elizabeth Hubbard, PH, RTI Co-Chair. The motion passed 5-0.**

**Dr. Shea moved and Mr. Ramsden seconded to approve with profound regret the retirement of Kathleen McCarthy, HS, Social Studies. The motion passed 5-0.**

**Dr. Shea moved and Mr. Ramsden seconded to approve the request for home schooling for Joel (Gr. 11) and Giana (Gr 6) Bigelow. The motion passed 5-0.**

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Following Mr. Tarro's overview of his request for the Superintendent to enter into a contract for solar panels to be installed at the schools and clarifying questions asked by the Committee regarding this issue:

**Dr. Shea moved and Mr. Ramsden seconded to approve our entering into a contract for solar panels. The motion passed 5-0.**

Following Mr. Tarro's explanation regarding his request for approval of disposal of school assets:

**Dr. Shea moved and Mr. Ramsden seconded to approve the disposal of school assets as provided on the list provided to the School Committee. The motion passed 5-0.**

**New Business from School Committee**

No issues were raised.

**Discussion Future Agenda Items**

No further discussion took place as this time as it was discussed under Information and Proposals.

**General Discussion to Guide Future Recommendations**

|                            |           |   |
|----------------------------|-----------|---|
| September 1st              | 7:30 p.m. | Naivance, District Strategic Plan @ Administration Office |
| September 14 <sup>th</sup> |           | Open House at Nayatt, Primrose Hill and Sowams            |
| September 15 <sup>th</sup> |           | Open House at Hampden Meadows                             |
| September 21st             |           | Open House at High School                                 |
| September 22 <sup>nd</sup> |           | Open House at Middle School                               |

Mrs. Brody requested that a discussion take place at the next School Committee regarding the incorporation of the new student representative to the School Committee table.

A member of the audience requested the School Committee consider the possibility of not having all the elementary open houses on the same night as it is difficult for teachers who have children in the school system to attend their child's open house.

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**General Public Discussion and Information**

No issues were raised at this time by members of the audience.

Dr. McIntyre indicated that plans are in place should he need to close schools next Monday due to an impending possible hurricane.

**Dr. Shea moved and Mr. Ramsden seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:35 p.m. and go into Executive Session pursuant to Section 42-46-5(a)(1) and Section 42-46-5(a)(2) specifically for: (a) two Personnel matter, (b) Collective Bargaining discussion with respect to NEAB, BEST and United Steelworkers, and (c) Administrative Evaluation. The motion passed 5-0.**

**Dr. Shea moved and Mr. Ramsden seconded to adjourn the Executive Session at 10:00 p.m. and to seal the minutes and report that no votes were taken. The motion passed 5-0.**

**Dr. Shea moved and Mr. Ramsden seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:00 p.m. The motion passed 5-0.**