Minutes of School Committee Meeting 02/09/12

A regular meeting of the Barrington School Committee was held on Thursday, February 9, 2012 at the Administration Office. Mr. Guida called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Mr. Guida, Mr. Fuller, Dr. Shea, Mrs. Brody, Ms. Teitz, Dr. McIntyre, Mr. Tarro and Mr. Messore. Mr. Ramsden was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Guida led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Achievement Recognition

Dr. McIntyre was proud to announce that the following twelve students were recognized as 2012 Presidential Scholars: Evan Bulman, Joseph Donnelly, Brenden Forte, Holly Gildea, Olivia Griot, Olivia Justynski, Madeline Klinger, Stephen Lamontagne, Utkarsh Shah, Yechuan Tian, Kenneth Xiao and Feifan Zhou.

Dr. McIntyre congratulated the following students who are finalists in the 2012 Competition for National Merit Scholarships: Evan Bulman, Amy Entin, Holly Gildea, Olivia Griot, Olivia Justynski, Stephen Lamontagne, Utkarsh Shah, Yechuan Tian, Kenneth Xiao and Feifan Zhou.

Dr. McIntyre was pleased to report that Maite Van Hentenryck has been selected as the recipient of the newly created Rhode Island Interscholastic League "National High School Spirit of Sport Award." The purpose of the award is to recognize individuals who exemplify the ideals of the positive spirit of sport that represent the core mission of Rhode Island Interscholastic League (RIIL) education-based athletics.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Fuller moved and Mrs. Brody seconded to approve the minutes of the 01/19/12 regular School Committee meeting as presented. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Fuller moved and Mrs. Brody seconded to approve the minutes of the special meeting of 01/26/12 as presented. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Fuller moved and Mrs. Brody seconded to ratify the Executive Session minutes of 12/01/12 as presented this evening. The motion passed 4-0.

Approval of Financials

No financials were available for formal approval this evening.

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Information and Proposals

An update on the status of each of the present strategic plan's five goals was given by Mr. Michael Messore, Mr. Tarro, and Dr. McIntyre. The update included the objectives defined to meet the goals and examples of how some of the objectives have been met. Mr. Messore focused on the first three goals: Goal #1 - Community Engagement; Goal #2 - Meeting the Needs of Diverse Learners and Goal #3- Physical, Social and Emotional Development. Mr. Tarro focused his update on Goal #4 - Facilities and Technology Needs and Dr. McIntyre focused his update on Goal #5 - Ensure Fair and Adequate Funding. Questions were asked by the Committee regarding various aspects of their updates.

Mr. Joseph Hurley presented an update on the status of the District's response to the NEASC Report recommendations outlining steps taken to date and the future steps that will be taken to complete the report. Questions were asked by the School Committee regarding various aspects of this process.

General Public Discussion and Information

No issues were raised at this time.

Old Business from Superintendent and Staff

A list of the individuals who volunteered to serve on the Building Committee was provided to the School Committee. It was the consensus of the School Committee to contact the individuals listed to confirm they are still interested in serving on the Building Committee.

Mr. Tarro presented a brief update on the status of the Middle School stating that this issue was covered during the Strategic Plan update earlier in the evening.

Mrs. Kate Brody, Chair of the Superintendent Search Committee, presented an update on the status of the superintendent search and outlined the timeline and next steps in the process. It should be noted that Mr. Joseph Hurley is also a member of the search committee. Ms. Cynthia Coyne is the Town Council liaison to the Search Committee and will serve as a non-voting member. It was noted that an update regarding the status of the superintendent search will be posted on the district website and updates will also be provided to the schools to include in their newsletters.

Mr. Guida stated that the outcome of the recent forum regarding the feasibility of changing start school times indicated that a workshop be scheduled to discuss practical issues and logistics of this possible initiative. It was emphasized that a survey needs to be distributed to parents, students and teachers to get their input. Dr. Douglas suggested that it would be helpful to

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provide more education regarding the value of sleep prior to a survey being distributed. A member of the audience expressed his view regarding this initiative and noted that it would be a financial hardship for his family. The School Committee will be polled to determine a date for the workshop and it was suggested that members of the Health and Wellness Committee be invited to the workshop.

Dr. McIntyre presented brief update on the budget and indicated that the present proposed 2012-2013 budget represents a 2.1% increase. He noted that this draft budget would require no layoffs. He requested direction from the Committee as what direction they would like administration to take with regard to budget numbers. Mr. Guida suggested we start with the numbers included in the present proposed budget and work the numbers down, if necessary, during the budget process.

There was no Old Business from School Committee.

New Business from Superintendent and Staff

Mr. Fuller moved and Mrs. Brody seconded to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent with respect to the retirement of Paula Sigal, PH, Speech Pathologist. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Fuller moved and Mrs. Brody seconded to approve the request for a leave of absence for Christine Bergeron, HS, Science for the 2012-2013 school year. The motion passed 4-0.

Following Mr. Tarro's overview of the Engineering Bid Award to PARE Corp. Engineering Services, he requested that the School Committee approve the extension of the original bid award to address the Sowams School parking lot:

Mr. Fuller moved and Mrs. Brody seconded to approve the recommendation of Mr. Tarro with respect to the approval of the Bid Amendment for Engineering Services for the Sowams School parking lot to PARE Corp which is an extension of the existing bid. It should be noted that it is the lowest qualified evaluated bidder. The motion passed 4-0.

There was no New Business from School Committee.

Discussion Future Agenda Items

Future agenda topics include the budget discussion on February 16th, NECAP scores, a workshop specifically to discuss the possibility of changing school start times and math tutoring.

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General Discussion to Guide Future Recommendations

February 16th

7:30 p.m.

Budget

General Public Discussion and Information

No issues were raised at this time.

Mr. Fuller moved and Mrs. Brody seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:43 p.m. and go into Executive Session pursuant to Sections 42-46-5(a)(1) specifically for two (2) personnel matters. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Fuller moved and Mrs. Brody seconded to adjourn the Executive Session at 10:14 p.m. and to seal the minutes and report that no votes were taken. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Fuller moved and Mrs. Brody seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:15 p.m. The motion passed 4-0.