

**BURRILLVILLE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 13, 2009**

1. Welcome/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

Reported By: Janice Peterson

Location: Media Center, BHS

Time Began: 7:02 PM

Adjourned: 8:41 PM

Attending: Chair Debra Stockwell, Vice Chair Mary Karmozyn, Clerk Dorothy Cardon, Scott Moore, Joan Cote, Raymond Trinque

Absent: Paul Couture (excused)

2. Consent Agenda

Committee Chair Stockwell introduced Student Representative, Junior, Doug Fullerton, who will be seated with the Committee beginning next month.

D. Cardon (M), M. Karmozyn (S) to open the item for discussion. VOTE: Approved 6-0. M. Karmozyn noted three corrections: 8/28/09 Negotiation Sub-Committee, remove Committee Chair Stockwell's name as attending; 9/15/09 Negotiation Sub-Committee, reconvene motion made by M. Karmozyn, seconded by D. Cardon; request to hold 9/8/09 Regular Meeting, under Old Business 5B, and Committee Comments, for corrections and more details. The secretary reported there had been an equipment malfunction and there is no recording of the 9/8/09 meeting. On the 9/15/09 Sub-Committee Meeting, J. Cote requested her concerns be expressed prior to the vote regarding sending a recommendation to the full Committee; she will forward same to the secretary. R. Trinque suggested holding the 9/15/09 Negotiation Sub-Committee and 9/8/09 Regular minutes until the November meeting.

R. Trinque (M), J. Cote (S) to approve the following minutes: 8/21/09 Budget Sub-Committee; 8/28/09 Negotiation Sub-Committee (as amended); 9/8/09 Executive Session; 10/6/09 Special Meeting and Executive Session. VOTE: Approved 6-0.

R. Trinque (M), D. Cardon (S) to approve the expenditures and payrolls for September 2009 in the amount of \$2,854,231.85. VOTE: Approved 6-0.

3. Presentations by the Public to the Committee

- Dawn Fiore, Chairperson of the Burrillville Special Education Advisory Committee, read a statement that outlined the group's activities, goals for the upcoming year, Mission Statement, and thanked the School Committee for their support. J. Cote reported she is the liaison to the Advisory Committee.
- High School Principal, Ralph Olsen, and Assistant Principals, Sherrill McKeon and Michael Whaley, presented a chronology of events they have been faced with and shared some of the goals they have established for the year.
 - Commended Peter Berthelette and Diane Carlton for their help in the scheduling process
 - Called attention to the new staff
 - M. Whaley worked closely with teachers to review the teacher handbooks; looking at involving student government to review the student handbook "through student eyes"
 - Held a successful freshman orientation; Student Council members conducted tours of the school
 - Conducted grade level assemblies during the first week of school to clarify student expectations and tried to set a positive tone

- February-June 2009, S. McKeon worked with teams of teachers to begin the curriculum alignment that is critical to developing the foundation of the school's diploma system; by June, all courses were aligned to the English, Reading, Writing, Oral Language, and Math GSEs. Work continued on assessment over the summer; still working on comprehensive course assessments (Digital Portfolio assignments, "mid-term" and "final" exams)
- Have developed some good Individual Learning Plan (ILP) documents for all grades; planning to pilot it through the 9th grade Digital Portfolio class this year
- During Staff Development Day, Dr. Ed Ducette provided a 45-minute overview of literacy across the curriculum, the MMS electronic attendance program and new telephone system were introduced.
- Fall testing of the NWEA has taken place
- Have pre-scheduled meetings for Open House
- Have spoken with parents to develop an incentive for 11th graders taking the NECAP testing
- Preparing for visit from RIDE Office of Diverse Learners and the Commissioner's Review
- Goals include improving school culture, implement credit recovery program, department leaders.
- Doug Fullerton, Student Council Representative, invited the Committee to participate in the Homecoming Parade, 8:30 AM on October 31; members are asked to contact the Student Council President.

S. Moore commented the three things that stood out for him were Saturday School, credit recovery and intervention and added that he sees a lot of optimism.

R. Trinque was told communication between the high school and middle school will increase.

J. Cote commented the three administrators seem to have amazing chemistry and are working as a great team.

Dr. Pallotta complemented the High School administration, thanked the teachers who seem more energized; the culture is moving in the right direction. The Superintendent emphasized that, as previously mentioned, decisions in the future are going to be data driven. Prior to the end of December, the district will have gone through a Title II visit, Commissioner's Visit and Review and Special Education Audit; from January through the spring, the district will be responding to those reviews. No action required.

4. Public Comment

None

5. Personnel

Appointments

M. Karmozyn (M), R. Trinque (S) per Executive Session meeting on 10/6/09, to appoint Dr. Frank Pallotta as Superintendent of Schools; salary to be negotiated per parameters discussed with the assistance of our legal counsel, Ben Scungio. VOTE: Approved 6-0. Committee Chair Stockwell welcomed the new superintendent; J. Cote asked about setting up a "Meet and Greet" to introduce Dr. Pallotta to the community. Superintendent Pallotta noted that although he initially intended to provide interim services, as progress was made on some important issues he decided to suspend his retirement and stay. The Superintendent described the community as a "diamond in the rough", emphasized that all his major decisions are made in the best interest of kids and thanked the Committee for the opportunity.

R. Trinque (M), D. Cardon (S) to appoint Jacob Denault, 2nd Shift Custodian, BHS, effective 10/19/09, at the contract rate. VOTE: Approved 6-0.

R. Trinque (M), D. Cardon (S) to appoint Mary-Lou Tupper and Mandy Crandall, Co-Freshman Class Advisors, stipend \$440 (shared). VOTE: Approved 6-0.

Coaching Appointments for 2009-10

R. Trinque (M), D. Cardon (S), to appoint the following coaches: Tina Lupis, Elem., Cross Country Assistant, \$675; Tyrone Dale, Head Boys' Basketball, BHS, \$2,170 plus \$100 longevity; Steve Daigle, Head Boys' Hockey, BHS, \$2,290 plus \$100 longevity; Gary Rouleau, Head Girls' Hockey, BHS, \$1,735 plus \$400 longevity; Robert Kimatian, Head Wrestling, BHS, \$2,290; Martin Crowley, Head Girls' Basketball, BHS, \$2,170 plus \$500 longevity; Lindsay Rachlow, Girls' Basketball Assistant, \$1,735 plus \$100 longevity; Peter Berthelette, Assistant Boys' Basketball, BMS, Volunteer; Michael Keable, Assistant Boys' Hockey, BHS, \$1,830 plus \$100 longevity. VOTE: Approved 6-0.

R. Trinque (M), D. Cardon (S) to appoint the following coaches: Melissa Rhodes, Head Girls' Basketball, BMS, \$1,300; Jason Rhodes Girls' Basketball Assistant, BMS, Volunteer. VOTE: Approved 5-0-1 (S. Moore recusing from the vote).

Transfers

R. Trinque (M), Committee Chair Stockwell (S) to approve the transfer of Michele Lamirande, from School Nurse/Teacher, District/WLC, to District/BHS, effective 10/23/09.

Leave of Absence/Parental Leave

R. Trinque (M), M. Karmozyn (S) to approve Leave of Absence/Parental Leave to: Alyson Doumato, School Psychologist, BMS, on/about 2/8/10 until 5/10/10; Tammy Mak, School Psychologist, WLC, on/about 1/19/10 until 3/3/10. VOTE: Approved 6-0.

6. Old Business

A. FY10 Budget Update

R. Trinque (M), M. Karmozyn (S) to open the item for discussion. VOTE: Approved 6-0. R. Kimatian explained the update is for informational purposes; no action is required.

B. Enrollment Study

D. Cardon (M), M. Karmozyn (S) to open discussion on the item. VOTE: Approved 6-0. J. Cote questioned figures reported at the High School – 35 students were picked up between September and October. S. McKeon will check the numbers and report back. No vote taken.

7. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Pallotta reported:

- H1N1 Clinic schedules are expected next week. K-5 clinics will be held after school with parent(s) present; 6-12 will be held during the regular school day; make-ups will be done at a central location; preschoolers will need to be seen by their pediatricians. The H1N1 vaccine is not available to school employees. Dept. of Health strongly advises not to close schools. Committee Chair Stockwell suggested providing a link from the school website to the CDC in order to have parent questions answered. J. Cote questioned how permission slips would be distributed to 6-12 students and asked what would happen if there were not enough teachers to adequately staff the schools; Dr. Pallotta indicated he would need to use his judgment under those circumstances.

- M. Karmozyn commented on the high number of students in Grade 4 at Steere Farm and Grade 5 at Callahan and asked what the maximum class size is; D. Sheehan indicated class size is 23 for grades K-2 and 27 for grades 3-5.

R. Trinque (M), J. Cote (S) to accept the Superintendent's Report. VOTE: Approved 6-0.

8. Administrators' Reports

R. Trinque (M), J. Cote (S) to open the Administrators' Reports for discussion. VOTE: Approved 6-0. R. Trinque commented it was nice to see the reports again and noted the amount of patience displayed in the buildings at the beginning of the school year. M. Karmozyn noted it seemed opening day went well and particularly liked L. Short's comment about "life of the building". D. Cardon welcomed everyone back and urged all to keep up the good work. S. Moore commented on roof leaks reported by the Facilities Manager. J. Cote questioned the number of students who are home schooled and asked the status of the Chart of Accounts. It was reported home schooled numbers remain about the same as previous years (25-30); R. Kimatian noted it is anticipated UCOLA will go live at the end of the month but is subject to change. J. Cote thanked P. Barrette and the secretary for enabling members to access school committee information via computers. Committee Chair Stockwell thanked all for their comprehensive reports and commended J. Woodward for load testing the generators and back-flow prevention. M. Karmozyn (M), D. Cardon (S) to receive and file the Administrators' reports. VOTE: Approved 6-0.

9. Reports of Standing School Committee Sub-Committees

- Health and Wellness: J. Cote reported Dr. Pallotta, Committee Chair Stockwell and she had attended a Healthy Kids Coalition Breakfast on September 17th that served as a kickoff for the school year. Among the highlights: a \$10,000 grant for high school students writing an essay on healthy lifestyles; distributed copies of RI Physical Education Standards, Law Relating to Health and PE Education-Curriculum, and revised RI Nutritional Requirements; "Get Up and Go" program that stresses short (5 minute) physical activities that can be incorporated into the day. Committee Chair Stockwell added it was suggested that recess be held before lunch, and local fresh fruits and vegetables be provided. J. Cote said they also encourage school gardens and she note the Health and Wellness Committee needs to become revitalized. M. Karmozyn (M), Committee Chair Stockwell (S) to approve the report as presented. VOTE: Approved 6-0.

10. Correspondence/Communications

R. Trinque (M), D. Cardon (S) to receive and file resolutions from several communities opposing binding arbitration. VOTE: Approved 6-0.

11. New Business

A. FY11 Budget Schedule – Draft

D. Cardon (M), M. Karmozyn (S) to open the item for discussion. VOTE: Approved 6-0. Superintendent Pallotta called attention to the draft schedule (subject to change) provided, reported he and R. Kimatian had met with the Town Manager and Finance Director and will meet again, and asked Committee to advise him of any conflicts. R. Trinque noted a lack of backup information had been a problem with last year's submission. D. Cardon (M), M. Karmozyn (S) to accept the FY11 Budget Schedule as presented. VOTE: Approved 6-0.

B. Commissioner's Visit Schedule

Superintendent Pallotta called attention to the sample schedule provided, noting he suggests using the High School as a central meeting place to maximize efficiency of the visit. Would like to have BHS as the central meeting place. The Committee accepted the schedule and suggested meeting along with the Town Council instead of separately. The Superintendent will provide an updated schedule. No vote taken.

C. Overnight Field Trip Request

R. Trinque (M), D. Cardon (S) to open the item for discussion. VOTE: Approved 6-0. Committee Chair Stockwell noted the dates for the trip should read "2010" instead of "2009", and that School Committee policy says field trips should be held during school vacations;

this trip extends beyond the vacation by two days. Dr. Pallotta said the policy does allow for exceptions "under unusual circumstances". S. Moore commented the cost of the trip would limit who would be able to participate. J. Cote added that the trip could not be tied to the class curriculum. D. Cardon asked how many students were expected to participate; it is not known. R. Trinque commented trips like this are incredible experiences; if the plan gets out early it helps families to plan/fund (e.g., birthday, holiday gifts, etc.); would like to offer scholarships and hold fundraisers in the future. D. Cardon (M), R. Trinque (S) to approve an overnight field trip request to Spain, April 16-26, 2010. VOTE: Approved 6-0

D. Appointment of Negotiation Subcommittee

Committee Chair Stockwell reported the Negotiation Sub-Committee was the one sub-committee she did not reappoint because of ongoing contract negotiations. At this time the Chair wishes to revise the composition and bring it down to three members to save on advertising costs; Committee Chair Stockwell appointed R. Trinque, D. Cardon and M. Karmozyn to the Negotiation Sub-Committee.

12. Committee Comments Regarding Agenda Items

None

13. Adjournment

R. Trinque (M), M. Karmozyn (S) to adjourn the Regular Meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:41 PM.

Clerk of the Committee