

Marion – Mattapoisett – Rochester, Massachusetts
September 12, 2018
MINUTES

Regular meeting of the Old Rochester Regional District School Committee, held on Wednesday, September 12, 2018, at 6:30 p.m., Media Room, Jr. High School, 133 Marion Road, Mattapoisett's, Massachusetts.

PRESENT: Cary Humphrey, Vice Chair; Michelle Smith; Paul Goulet; Jim Muse; Heather Burke; Joseph Pires; Stefan Gabriel; Deborah Dyson

ABSENT: Tina Rood, Chair

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Doug White, Superintendent; Elise Frangos, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum; Michael Devoll, High School Principal; Kevin Brogioli, Jr. High School Principal; Patrick Spencer, School Business Administrator; Michael Nelson, M.Ed., Director of Student Services; Deborah Carlino, Secretary; members of the press and public

MEETING TO ORDER: Vice Chair Humphrey opened the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

OPEN COMMENTS: None at this time.

RECOGNITION PRESENTATION: Introduction of New Staff

Dr. White presented a couple of video presentations introducing the new personnel.

II. Consent Agenda

III. Agenda Items Pending

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Meeting – June 6, 2018

B. Executive Session – June 6, 2018

C. Budget Subcommittee – None

MOTION: by Ms. Smith to approve the regular meeting minutes of June 6, 2018

SECOND: by Mr. Goulet

VOTE: 8:0:1 (abstaining: Ms. Dyson)

MOTION: by Ms. Smith to approve the Executive Session meeting minutes of June 6, 2018

SECOND: by Mr. Goulet

VOTE: 8:0:1 (abstaining: Ms. Dyson)

V. Special Topic Report

VI. General

A. Review of Opening Day

Dr. White welcomed everyone back to a new school year. He provided an overview of the opening day events for both just the teachers as well as the first day of school for the students.

Mr. Brogioli introduced the two new Jr. High School teachers/staff.

Mr. Devoll introduced the new High School teachers/staff.

Dr. Frangos gave an overview of the welcoming events and such for the new teachers and staff. She also noted that the theme for this year is “Launch into Education”.

B. Review of Open Houses

Mr. Brogioli advised that his staff actually started before school started. He advised that the opening of school went very smoothly, probably one of the best start of the new school year.

Mr. Devoll advised that they have their High School Back to School Bash this coming Saturday. He invited the community to attend. Should be a good time had by all. There are a lot of new faces and staff in the building. He also noted that this seems to be one of the best school openings. They are 777 students to start this year off. Off and running and looking forward to a great year.

STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT: _____ - was present and provided an update on the recent survey that went out with regard to Climate Culture and after going over the results they will make a presentation. They are looking at the climate of the school and how the teachers communicate and how to improve communication between students and teachers. He will be getting the data on September 20th.

C. Vision 23 – Strategic Plan

Dr. White thanked those who have participated and helped out over the last five months. He provided a handout “Vision 2023, Old Rochester Regional #WeareOR” with an outline of the theory of action.

He noted that if we provide all students with life and career skills, learning and innovation skills, and technology skills, by integrating these skills into a rigorous and relevant curriculum. And develop and consistently utilize evidence-based approaches and strategies that foster the social and emotional well-being of students to promote their success. And create a school district environment that broadens our student’s leadership skills, understanding and appreciation of multiculturalism, diversity and global awareness by building relationships to establish a broader worldwide network. Then we will have provided our TriTown students with 21st century academic skills strengthened their social and emotional competencies and prepared them to be engaged global citizens.

He asked the Board to review the document and if there are any amendments or additions that

they feel need to be done, he would ask for input. The plan is to review and vote on this at the Joint Meeting scheduled for September 27, 2018.

D. Lunch Increase Request

Mr. Spencer was before the Board asking for an increase for school lunches for the upcoming school year.

He advised that the USDA has set the new rate for paid lunch equity at \$2.92 for school year 2018-2019. It was noted that ending FY 17/18 the lunch paid equity was a weighted average of \$2.88 which is below the USDA required minimum for FY17/18 of \$2.92. To stay in compliance with the USDA regulations, we are required to increase the prices by a minimum of \$.10. Speaking with DESE they are recommending a price increase of \$.25 to districts across MA to avoid a meal price increase yearly. The last district increase was FY14-15 with an increase of \$.25. All free and reduced meals will remain the same. The increase would begin as of January 1, 2019.

He also noted that this increase will be district wide and as such he has to receive approval from each Board; and Rochester and Marion have both approved this increase. It will be put forward to Mattapoisett at their meeting next Monday.

MOTION: by Mr. Muse to increase the school lunch price by \$.25 effective January 1, 2019, as recommended
SECOND: by Ms. Houdelette
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

E. Revision of Program of Studies

Mr. Devoll advised that there was one change to the Honors Contemporary A Capella class. He would ask that this be effective immediately so that it can be instituted into this term's curriculum.

There was concern about eliminating students by making this change. This is being offered as an A level as well as Honors.

MOTION: by Mr. Stephan to approve of the change to the Program of Studies as presented
SECOND: by Mr. Goulet
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

F. Stipend for Committee Members

Mr. Muse explained that at the Mattapoisett's Town Meeting there was a lot of discussion about a stipend being offered to the School Committee members as well as other elected Boards. We as a group are elected officials and this position is a huge responsibility. We have to take ethics courses, we are here for the public good. Having a stipend, we recognize that we are not just volunteers, but elected officials. We have committed up to three years of our time to serve on this Board. Consideration can be nominal, but it is appropriate that this Board is

shown the respect it deserves. We set budgets, negotiate contracts, oversee and hire Administration. A statement of a stipend is appropriate at this stage.

It was asked if the people on this Board are working for the better good of the students, wouldn't it be better if the money went back into the school rather than to the Committee.

Mr. Muse stated that the stipend could be minimal and could come from the existing budget. As such not having a negative impact on the school budget. He is asking for a statement of support.

Ms. Smith noted that the Selectmen are elected and paid.

Ms. Dyson disagreed and would feel uncomfortable being paid for being on this Board. She would feel uncomfortable being paid when there are other people who volunteer for many more hours than she does serving as a member on this Board.

Mr. Pires agreed with the point of the stipend as it shows a level of commitment to serve on this Board. Other elected officials are being paid.

Mr. Gabriel agreed with the issue of lack of respect being on this Board. Although he has not received negative comments for being on this Board, he does understand. He agrees that the stipend would be a type of respect for those serve here on the Board. He would agree to nominal pay but would not agree to a large stipend. Also, that the stipend should it be approved, start at the next election. He does not want the community to see that they are on the Board and now they are voting to give themselves a stipend.

It was suggested looking into what other towns do and if and how much the School Committee members are paid. It was further suggested putting this on the next agenda for further discussion.

- V. New Business**
 - A. Policy Review
 - B. Curriculum
 - C. Business**

- 1. Financial Report**

- Mr. Spencer provided an update of the financials to the Board; the FY18 Budget is dated 7/1/2017 thru 7/13/2018 with a budget balance of -\$38,474.90 after current encumbrances.

- 2. Budget Transfers – none at this time.**

- D. Personnel –**

- NEW STAFF – 18-19

Brian Almeida	Technology Eng.	JHS
James Barrasso	Asst. Principal	HS

Catherine Dumas	Paraprofessional	HS
Grace Durgin	Latin	HS
Stephanie Ghannam	Science	JHS
Daniel Kuncik	Science	HS
James Martins	Paraprofessional	JHS
Beth Oleson	Paraprofessional	HS
Colin Pilkington	Paraprofessional	HS
Kaitlin Roberts	Paraprofessional	JHS
Sarah Toltin	Science	JHS
Beth Trout	Paraprofessional (LTS)	HS
Alyssa Whitney	Science	HS
Michelle Wright	Social Worker	HS
Elizabeth Corbett	Paraprofessional	HS

STAFF RETIREMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Doug Borsari	Paraprofessional/HS	Resignation
Holly Cardoza	Paraprofessional/HS	Resignation
Geralyn Dias	Family Consumer/HS	Retirement
Carol Fletcher	Science/JHS	Retirement
David Hamer	Science/HS	Retirement
Patricia Harriman	English/JHS	Retirement
Charles Howie	Science/HS	Retirement
Steve Kocur	Social Studies/JHS	Retirement
Polly Lawrence	Paraprofessional/JHS	Retirement
Michael Parker	Asst. Principal/HS	Resignation
Judy Pretat-Seaman	Latin/HS	Retirement
Paul Sardinha	Paraprofessional/HS	Resignation
Brandon Terrien	Paraprofessional/JHS	Resignation
Shawn Sweet	Paraprofessional/HS	Resignation

STAFF INCREASES & TRANSFERS

Name	Old Position	New Position
Danielle Caron	Math/Science/JHS	English/JHS
Nate Orie	English/JHS	Social Studies/JHS
Scott McElroy	Tech/JHS	Tech/HS
Therese Valente	Science/JHS	Computer Science/JHS
Nate Kane	Social Studies/.6 @HS	Social Studies/1.0 @ HS
Jacqueline Pullo	Paraprofessional/JHS	Paraprofessional/HS

VI. Unfinished Business

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Vice Chair Humphrey noted there was none at this time.

CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Dr. White explained that they are trying a new concept this year. On Friday afternoon's an email (called Friday News) will be forwarded to everyone advising of ongoing events and happenings for that week. Rather than wait and provide updates every six weeks, this helps to stay current on school events. He would ask everyone to review and if there are any questions, please contact his office. He feels that having news reported in "real" time is a much better scenario.

Several members asked for hard copies of the Friday news to be provided at the meeting as well.

Dr. Frangos spoke about exciting events going on. Such as the Elementary schools and their book reading event. She spoke about the animal event that the students participate in. The students research a specific animal and provide a presentation as said animal. She wished everyone a safe and happy summer.

Mr. Nelson noted he had nothing to add.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. Brogioli provided a report dated September 12, 2018. They are holding a seminar for students to learn about Vaping. It is an issue as over 40% of kids have tried it. He noted that it's a serious issue and they have talked about how to cope with the health issues caused by vaping.

Mr. Devoll provided a report dated September 6, 2018. He also noted that their music department is looking to go on an out of state field trip in April to Nashville that will cost \$1300 per student. He will bring this before the Board at a later date.

VII. School Committee

A. Reorganization

a. School Committee Re-organization

Dr. White opened the nominations for Chair

MOTION: by Mr. Muse to nominate Cary Humphrey as Chairman

SECOND: by Ms. Smith

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

MOTION: by Mr. Pires to nominate Heather Burke as Vice Chair

SECOND: by Ms. Smith

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

MOTION: by Ms. Muse to nominate Patrick Meagher as Treasurer

SECOND: by Mr. Goulet

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

MOTION: by Mr. Muse to nominate Deborah Carlino as Secretary

SECOND: by Ms. Burke
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

Budget Subcommittee	Carey Humphrey Tina Rood Jim Muse Paul Goulet Jr.
Educational Council	Joseph Pires Michelle Smith Stefan Gabriel
Sole Signatory	Cary Humphrey Heather Burke
SMEC	Jim Muse
Sick Leave Bank	Stefan Gabriel Cary Humphrey Heather Burke
School Physician	Dr. Mendes Dr. Reynolds
PCC	Douglas R. White Jr.
Sick Leave Bank for District-Wide (Non-Union Employees)	Tina Rood
Standing Committee on Graduation Requirements	Entire Committee
Policy Review (new ORR policies)	Joseph Pires Deborah Dyson Heather Burke
MASC Delegate/Legislative Liaison	Cary Humphreys
TriTown Educational Foundation	VACANT
Town Relations	Jim Muse Michelle Smith Joseph Pires
Facilities	Joseph Pires

Carey Humphrey

Superintendent Goals Subcommittee

Cary Humphreys
Michelle Smith

Communications Subcommittee

Joseph Pires
Heather Burke

MOTION: by Mr. Goulet to approve the reorganization as noted

SECOND: by Mr. Muse

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

B. Committee Reports

1. SMEC – Ms. Smith noted that have not met.
2. Local School Committee: Ms. Smith that they met and had a great meeting. They met new teachers. They talked about Atlas Rubicon which is an online curriculum program. The teachers are loving it and looking forward to using it. Mr. Muse noted that they are meeting next Monday.
3. Tri-Town Foundation: Dr. Frangos noted that they are meeting tomorrow night.
4. Budget Sub-Committee: Nothing at this time.
5. Facilities Committee: Nothing at this time.
6. Communication Committee: Ms. Burke stated that they are in the process of finding a student who will design a new flyer showcasing what ORR has to offer. They plan to have everything ready by Thanksgiving. Mr. Pires would like to have a group picture of the Board to post online; so, dress nice for the next meeting. He feels recognition is better than a stipend.
7. District Agreement Committee: Ms. Burke provided an overview of their meetings. They reviewed the district agreements; which were very interesting and enlightening. They are waiting to hear back from the Towns as to who they will be appointment to serve and meet with our Committee.

IX. Future Business

A. Timeline

B. Future Agenda Items

X. Open Comments

A parent asked about an American Sign Language class being offered. She asked that the Board consider this during budget time.

Mr. Devoll noted that a couple of years ago, they funded that position as a .4 position, however they could not get a candidate to cover. A .4 position is a tricky position to fund and cover. They did have 24 students interested, but because of the type of position, they could not get a local qualified person.

Mr. Pires suggested interns for computer or engineer type students in order to help students match experience with potential career paths. He would propose creating a subcommittee to work with local business to offer our students internships to help them see both sides of their potential career paths. Seeing it from the curriculum based as well as “real life” experiences.

Dr. White suggested Mr. Pires call his office to further brainstorm this idea.

Mr. Humphrey stated that he is looking to streamline these meetings. He asked if the packet could be emailed earlier for review, and if there are any questions perhaps the Administration could be made aware of them beforehand so that we can move these meetings along quicker.

XI. Information Items

XII. Executive Session

MOTION: by Ms. Burke to go into Executive Session for purpose #3 to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government’s bargaining or litigation position; and to come out only to adjourn

SECOND: by Mr. Muse

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8:0:0 (yes - Humphrey; yes - Pires; yes - Goulet; yes - Dyson; yes - Gabriel; yes - Muse; yes – Burke)

NEXT MEETING:

ORR School Committee - Wednesday, October 24, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Media Room, ORR Jr. High School

Joint School Committee – Thursday, September 27, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Media Room, ORR Jr. High School

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Carlino, Secretary