

**SCITUATE SCHOOL COMMITTEE REGULAR SESSION
TUESDAY January 6, 2015
North Scituate Elementary School**

<p><u>CALL TO ORDER</u></p>	<p>154-1</p> <p>The Regular Session was called to order by Chair Umbriano at 7:01 PM.</p> <p>Present were Marylou Umbriano, June Guglielmi, Jean Esposito, Brian LaPlante and Coleen Pendergast. Also present were Dr. Paul Lescault, Superintendent, and Dr. Lawrence Filippelli, Assistant Superintendent</p>
<p><u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</u></p>	<p>154-2</p> <p>Led by Chair Umbriano; all participated in <i>The Pledge of Allegiance</i> to the Flag.</p>
<p><u>SCHOOL COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION</u></p>	<p>154-3</p> <p>Dr. Paul Lescault asked for the nomination of the position of Chairperson.</p> <p>June Guglielmi nominated Marylou Umbriano as Chairperson; seconded by Mr. LaPlante. The committee unanimously approved the motion.</p> <p>Chairperson Umbriano asked for a nomination for the position of Clerk.</p> <p>Chairperson Umbriano nominated Mrs. Guglielmi; seconded by Mr. LaPlante. The committee unanimously approved the motion.</p>
<p><u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u></p>	<p>154-4</p> <p>Mrs. Guglielmi moved to approve minutes of the regular meeting of November 18, 2014; seconded by Mrs. Esposito; the roll was called; motion was approved.</p> <p>Mrs. Umbriano – Yes; Mrs. Guglielmi – Yes; Mrs. Esposito – Yes; Mr. LaPlante - Yes; Mrs. Pendergast - Abstained</p> <p>Mrs. Guglielmi moved to approve minutes of the executive session of November 18, 2014; seconded by Mr. LaPlante; the roll was called; motion approved.</p> <p>Mrs. Umbriano – Yes; Mrs. Guglielmi – Yes; Mrs. Esposito – Yes; Mr. LaPlante - Yes; Mrs. Pendergast - Abstained</p> <p>Mrs. Pendergast abstained from voting as she was not part of the Committee at that time.</p>

<p><u>ROUTINE MATTERS</u> <u>MINUTES AND BILLS</u></p>	<p>154-5</p> <p>Mrs. Guglielmi moved for approval of the Grant bills for December 2014 in the amount of \$27,764.96; seconded by Mr. LaPlante; unanimously approved.</p> <p>Mrs. Guglielmi moved for approval of the General Fund December 2014 bills in the amount of \$654,573.38; seconded by Mr. LaPlante; unanimously approved.</p> <p>Mrs. Guglielmi moved for approval of the Grant bills for January 2015 in the amount of 43,676.36; seconded by Mr. LaPlante; unanimously approved.</p> <p>Mrs. Guglielmi moved for approval of the General Fund bills for January 2015 in the amount of \$583,473.36; seconded by Mr. LaPlante; unanimously approved.</p>
<p><u>CORRESPONDENCE</u></p>	<p>154-6</p> <p>1. A letter to the Superintendent from Carol Geary announcing her retirement effective December 31, 2014. Mr. LaPlante moved to accept the resignation of Carol Geary with regret; seconded by Mrs. Esposito; motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>2. A letter to the Superintendent from Paula Manocchio requesting to continue her use of sick time as family sick time through December 31, 2014.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> According to the Paraprofessional contract, "In special circumstances, the School Committee, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, may grant additional sick leave."</p> <p>Mr. LaPlante moved to approve the request; seconded by Mrs. Guglielmi; after discussion; motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>3. A letter to Chair Umbriano from Jay Walsh, Assistant Executive Director/NEARI, requesting a meeting for the purpose of negotiating a successor agreement for the Scituate Paraprofessionals Association/NEARI/NEA.</p> <p>Chairperson Umbriano noted that administration will send a letter to the Union President to being bargaining sessions as proposed Jay Walsh's letter. .</p> <p>4. A cover letter from Stacy D'Allesandro, Scituate High School's head basketball coach and 29 letters and emails she requested from former players, peers and parents stating "what it was like to play for her."</p> <p>Chairperson Umbriano asked Dr. Lescault whether the Committee was required or being asked to take any action on the information presented. Dr. Lescault indicated that no</p>

	<p>action was necessary as both Girls Basketball coaches were appointed by a majority of the Committee on October 7, 2014 and both the Athletic Director and the Principal remain supportive of both of them. Thus, there is no action necessary at this time.</p>
REPORT OF COMMITTEE LIAISONS	<p>154-7 Chairperson Umbriano discussed reaching out to her fellow Committee members as to what committees they would like to be on.</p> <p>Mrs. Esposito made a motion to set up more meaningful and appropriate sub-committees of the School Committee. The motion was not seconded and was subsequently withdrawn by Mrs. Esposito.</p>
BUDGET	None
CURRICULUM	None
FOOD SERVICES HEALTH / WELLNESS	None
NEGOTIATIONS	None
POLICY	None
RIASC	None
SCHOLARSHIP	None
SPECIAL EDUCATION	None
STRATEGIC PLANNING	None
TRANSPORTATION / SAFETY	None
SCITUATE PREVENTION COALITION (formerly SAFE)	None
<u>UNFINISHED BUSINESS</u>	154-8

	None
	<u>154-9 ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT</u>
<u>SCIENCE NECAP TEST SCORES</u>	<p>Dr. Filippelli read his Report (which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference). In particular, he noted concerns with how RIDE scored the NECAP tests.</p> <p>He noted that Scituate remains above the state average in all scoring. While the administration continues to focus on improvement, Scituate is usually 30 to 40 percent higher than the state average across the board and has been for years.</p> <p>The Committee engaged in a brief discussion of test scores with Dr. Filippelli.</p>
<u>TITLE II AUDIT</u>	Dr. Filippelli next reported on the RIDE TITLE II, scheduled for February of 2015. Title II are the funds that provide the majority of the professional development done in Scituate.
<u>KINDERGARTEN ASSESSMENT PILOT</u>	Dr. Filippelli also reported that RIDE received a \$19 million grant from the federal government on pre-school education. While Scituate might not receive a significant portion of those funds, Dr. Filippelli was of the opinion that Scituate would be involved in curriculum development in pre-school education, as All-Day K was recently initiated in Scituate.
<u>BYOD (bring your own device) POLICY RESEARCH</u>	Dr. Filippelli continues to work on a district BYOD policy and will update the Committee accordingly.
<u>HIGH SCHOOL COURSE PROPOSALS</u>	<p>Dr. Filippelli then reported on his work with Dr. Sollitto and various department heads for new course proposals. He recommends to the Committee a course entitled Introduction to Engineering and Technology EE/Robotics II (Honors) Grades 10-12, which would introduce students to various tools and problem solving skills common to most fields of engineering and technology.</p> <p>The Committee engaged in a brief discussion on this topic.</p>
<u>DISTRICT TEXTBOOK PURCHASE POLICY</u>	Dr. Filippelli also reported on the District's textbook purchase policy. The first public reading appears later on tonight's agenda.

	The Committee engaged in a brief discussion on this topic.
<u>MIDDLE SCHOOL PROMOTION/RETENTION POLICY</u>	Dr. Filippelli reported on a minor language change to the MS Promotion/Retention Policy and read it into the record. The Committee engaged in a brief discussion on this topic.
<u>MONTHLY ACTIVITIES</u>	Dr. Filippelli's report also listed his activities for the preceding month.
	<u>154-10 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT</u>
<u>2015-2016 School District Budget</u>	Dr. Lescault read his Report (which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference). He reported that the proposed Budget has an increase over the 2014-2015 by \$629,807 or 2.8%. However, the increase is misleading because the town is funding \$250,105 of Improvements to Buildings and Grounds out of their Capital budget. Consequently, the proposed school district budget for 2015-2016 is artificially inflated by \$403,200. If the Town continues to fund improvements to Buildings and Grounds out of their Capital budget, the school district budget will be up \$226,607 or 1.0% A 1.96% increase over current actual is used throughout the budget for potential salary increases for certified and non-certified personnel that are not otherwise covered by an existing contract for 2015-2016, with specific rates. Dr. Lescault reported on revenue projections and he explained that the proposed district budget is a draft only, subject to any changes the Committee wishes to make. The Committee engaged in a discussion on this topic. Mrs. Pendergast made a motion to remove the \$125.00 Sunshine Fund from the Budget; seconded by Mrs. Esposito; the roll was called as follows: Mrs. Esposito – Yes; Mr. LaPlante – No; Mrs. Guglielmi No; Mrs. Umbriano – No; Mrs. Prendergast – Yes. The motion did not pass.
<u>Approval of the Northwest Region Special Education Collaborative Agreement</u>	Dr. Lescault recommended approving the Northwest Rhode Island Special Education Collaborative Agreement for 2015-2016. The arrangement has been in place for many years and has served the district very well.

<p><u>School Calendar for 2015-2016</u></p>	<p>Dr. Lescault reported on the survey concerning the School Calendar.</p> <p>The Committee discussed Dr. Lescault's report and recommendations and he will prepare a calendar based on the Committee's suggestions for a future vote.</p>
<p><u>Rockland Road Traffic Safety</u></p>	<p>Dr. Lescault reported on the Scituate Traffic Safety Committee's review of Rockland Road between the Middle/High School and Manning Field.</p> <p>The Committee engaged in a discussion of this issue.</p>
<p><u>MONTHLY ACTIVITIES</u></p>	<p>Dr. Lescault's report also listed his activities for the preceding month. He also noted that during February school vacation, the antiquated district phone system will be upgraded at no "up-front" cost and monthly operating costs will remain relatively the same.</p>
<p><u>PUBLIC COMMENT AND QUESTIONS</u></p>	<p>154-11</p> <p>Richard Finnegan, 47 Ridge Road – Spoke on the budget and the policy for family sick leave.</p> <p>Rick Cabral, 29 Alberta Lane – Spoke on concerns he has regarding a coach and his daughter's safety and wanted to know the next steps to be taken.</p> <p>Chairperson Umbriano acknowledged that they are aware that there are issues.</p> <p>Mr. LaPlante stated – I want to be on the record and be very clear about this. I have not personally investigated this to make a conclusion. When you use the word "we", please do not include me. The administration that we trust, Dr. Sollitto has investigated this. It is my understanding that he has made a conclusion to some extent. I have not reviewed that information and scrutinized it. All I care about is the wellbeing of the kids. That is what all of us should care about, is the wellbeing of the kids.</p> <p>Pamela Pino, 17 Mountain Laurel Lane – Spoke on concerns with coaching staff.</p> <p>Mike Sollitto - High School Principal – Spoke on coaching and staff concerns and bussing issues.</p> <p>Jennifer Pierce, 84 Woodsong Drive – Spoke on letters she wrote on bussing issues and procedures.</p> <p>Kevin Venturini, 245 Gleanor Chapel Road - Spoke on bussing issues.</p> <p>Sal Gelsomino, 107 Rocky Hill Road - Spoke on bussing issues and protocol.</p> <p>Larry Pierce, 84 Woodsong Drive – Spoke on issues with getting to Manning Field and</p>

	<p>bussing issues</p> <p>Bob Corsi, 300 Bungy Road – Spoke on wall on Rockland Road</p>
<p><u>NEW BUSINESS</u></p>	<p>154-12</p> <p>1. First Reading of revised Cyclical Textbook Purchase Policy Mr. LaPlante moved to approve the First Reading of the revised Cyclical Textbook Purchase; seconded by Mrs. Pendergast; motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>2. TPA Agreement <u>The Solicitor recommended renewal of the TPA Agreement.</u></p> <p>Mr. LaPlante moved to review the TPA Agreement; seconded by Mrs. Pendergast; after discussion motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>3. Initial Approval of the 2015-2016 School District Budget Mrs. Guglielmi moved to approve the 2015-2016 School District Budget; seconded by Mr. LaPlante; motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>4. Ratification of Northwest Special Education Region Collaborative Agreement</p> <p>Mr. LaPlante moved to ratify the Northwest Special Education Region Collaborative Agreement; seconded by Mrs. Guglielmi; motion passed unanimously.</p>
	<p>154-13 <u>APPOINTMENTS</u></p> <p>1. Jeanne Feeney; Payroll Clerk, effective 12/29/14</p> <p>2. Mary Pietrantozzi; 17 hour Paraprofessional, Scituate Middle/High School, effective 12/15/14</p> <p>3. Mary Stelle; 17 hour Paraprofessional, Scituate Middle/High School, effective 1/7/15</p> <p>Mr. LaPlante moved to accept the appointments; seconded by Mrs. Pendergast; the Committee unanimously approved this motion.</p> <p><u>RESIGNATIONS</u></p> <p>1. Sharon Vredenburg; Paraprofessional, North Scituate Elementary School, effective 11/21/14</p> <p>2. Kathleen McCarvill; Paraprofessional, Scituate Middle/High School, effective 11/25/14</p> <p>3. Kelly Joslin; Boys Volleyball Assistant Coach</p> <p>4. Christine Luchun; .5 Pre-School Teacher, effective 1/20/15</p>

	<p>Mr. LaPlante moved to accept the resignations; seconded by Mrs. Pendergast; the motion was unanimously approved.</p> <p><u>TRANSFERS</u></p> <p>1. Lisa Casinelli, Bookkeeper, effective 1/1/15</p> <p>Mr. LaPlante moved to accept the transfer; seconded by Mrs. Pendergast; the motion was unanimously approved.</p>
	<p>154-14 <u>COMMITTEE REMARKS</u></p>
MRS. ESPOSITO	None
MRS. GUGLIELMI	None
MR. LAPLANTE	None
MRS. PENDERGAST	We had so much to discuss tonight, I wanted to commend Dr. Sollitto on the commended status three years in a row.
CHAIR UMBRIANO	None
DISCUSSION OF FUTURE BUSINESS	<p>154-16 None.</p>
<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>	<p>154-17</p> <p>Mrs. Guglielmi moved to adjourn; seconded by Mr. LaPlante to adjourn at 9:21 P.M. The committee unanimously approved motion.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted,</p> <p>Mrs. Guglielmi, Clerk</p> <p><i>Minutes prepared by Susan J. Hartley, Recording Secretary. Neither the Clerk nor the Recording Secretary is the designated Public Records contact for the Scituate School Committee or Scituate School Department under the RI Access to Public Records Act ("APRA"). For all APRA inquiries, please contact the Superintendent's</i></p>

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ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

March 3rd, 2015

1. PARCC ASSESSMENTS

Scituate is well-prepared for the PARCC assessments which will be happening in the next few weeks. This being said, districts around the state are concerned about students' performance on this assessment. Scituate has prepared well from an instructional, curricular, and technology standpoint. We are as ready as we could be. RIDE has indicated that for this year only, there will be no changes in a school's status based on this year's PARCC assessments. What this means is that a school like the high school or Hope Elementary, both of which are Regents Commended Schools, will not lose that status for next year if the PARCC presents challenges from a scoring or participation point of view. On the plus side, we will be able to use the results of PARCC (assuming they are valid from a statistical standpoint), to better inform our curricular and instructional changes moving forward. There have been some concerns regarding parents wanting to opt their children out of the test and Paul and I have given our administrators guidance from RIDE on this process. We do have some opt outs, which in turn could affect our federally required 95% participation rate due to our district-wide small N size.

2. TITLE II AUDIT

I reported last month that we were having a TITLE II desk audit by RIDE. I wanted to inform the committee that I have sent in all of the required documents to RIDE two weeks in advance of the March 1 deadline.

3. PD COMMITTEE MEETING

I met our district professional development committee on January 29th. The focus of our professional development next year will be on Math and Reading. The committee felt (as do I), that we have spent the last two years of professional development working on PARCC prep and Common Core Curricular changes at all levels. After assessing our data district-wide, it is evident that although our movement in math has been in the right direction, there are gaps that need to be addressed at all levels. To this end, the committee decided that we are going to bring in a consultant from RIMTA to help us with consistency of math instruction K-12. Our second area of focus is going to be on reading PD. As we transition over to CCSS, our teachers wanted some coaching on looking at what we are doing for reading instruction and making a stronger connection to CCSS, and instituting best practices with using digital text for instructional purposes.

4. DISTRICT TEXTBOOK PURCHASE POLICY

Tonight you have the second reading and hopefully, the adoption of the Cyclical Textbook Purchase Policy. I thank the committee members for their input on this policy

5. MIDDLE SCHOOL PROMOTION/RETENTION POLICY

Also tonight you have the first reading of the revised Middle School Promotion/Retention Policy. As you may recall this was almost ready for a first read at our last meeting, but I felt there were some minor changes that needed to be made to make the language clearer so I asked for it to be tabled and read at tonight's meeting. It is ready for a first read tonight.

**MONTHLY ACTIVITIES
FOR
LAWRENCE P. FILIPPELLI
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
January and February
March 3rd 2015**

- On January 8th, I attended a RISSA meeting at NEIT.
- On January 9th, I attended a RISSA/RIASBO legal institute at the Radisson in Warwick.
- On January 12th, I attended a Town Council/School Committee Budget meeting.
- On January 14th, I attended a wellness committee meeting at Clayville.
- On January 15th, I held a BYOD policy meeting at the high school.
- On January 16th, I held a report card committee meeting at the main office.
- On January 29th, I held a PD committee meeting at central office.
- On February 5th, I attended a meeting on Manning Field.
- On February 10th, I attended a negotiation session meeting.
- On February 13th, I met with high school administration and the cafeteria workers from Aramark.
- On February 12th, I attended an assistant superintendent's meeting at RIDE.
- On February 27th, I held a report card meeting at central office.
- I will be teaching classes at JWU and PC this spring.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

January 6, 2015

1. Walking to Manning Field

New Business Item #3 is the First Reading of the Policy regarding Athletes Walking to Manning Field. It was forwarded to the School Committee on January 16, 2015, is attached and will be available to members of the public at the March 3 meeting. Essentially, the proposed policy indicates that the School Committee does not recommend or condone students walking to Manning Field on Rockland Road and is directing that students should utilize one of several other options. As I wrote on January 16, we recognize the policy is not a perfect, or the final solution. We are all committed to continue to walk to Manning Field, as well as advocating for the development of new fields. However, in the interim, it is our hope that the proposed policy will enhance the safety of our student athletes.

2. Salary Increases

New Business Item #12 is the retroactive approval of the salary increases discussed during the January Executive Session. Please note however, the discussion actually took place at the November Executive Session. Following the advice of Dave D'Agostino, the agenda was not amended. The error was a scrivener error, not impacting the substantive business of the Committee. You recall the Committee settled on a 1.96% increase for bus monitors, administrators, consultants, school committee secretary, call clerk secretary, mail courier, coaches and extracurricular activity advisors.

3. School Committee Meetings

New Business Item #13 is "Procedure for cancelling/rescheduling School Committee meetings". The Committee can at any meeting, by majority vote, cancel or reschedule a meeting. However, I need direction on how to handle a cancellation/rescheduling outside of a meeting. For example, if I am informed that a quorum is not going to be at a meeting, do I have the authority to cancel the meeting, as I did with the February meeting? If there is a major weather event that jeopardizes the safety of the Committee and other participants, do I have the authority to cancel a meeting? If a meeting is cancelled, what authority do I have to reschedule that meeting? To avoid confusion in the future, I need some direction from the Committee on handling situations like these.

4. Calendar

New Business #14 is approval of the 2015/2016 School Calendar. It is attached and will be available to members of the public. It reflects the consensus of the discussion the Committee has had during the past several months. It includes a September 1 start date, provides the day before Thanksgiving off, and maintains the February and April vacations.

5. Budget

New Business #15 is the ratification of the proposed 2015/2016 School Department Budget. This item is included in case the Committee needs to

amend the budget approved on January 6 and presented to the Council on January 12. As of this report, I have not received any requests for an amendment.

Superintendent's Report
March 3, 2015
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6. Food Services

The food service personnel communicated their unhappiness with their current working conditions under Aramark at a meeting with Chair Umbriano and several Scituate administrators on February 13. Chair Umbriano and I subsequently met with Aramark on February 18. A follow-up meeting with the food service personnel, several Scituate administrators and Aramark representatives is planned for February 27. Marylou and I will report on result of that meeting on March 3.

7. Telephone

Steve, Mark and Cox installed a completely new phone system throughout the entire district during the February school vacation. We are looking forward to improved service, but ask for everyone's patience while we get used to the new system.

8. Sub Caller

The current sub caller has resigned because of the low pay. Her work has been impeccable. She is paid an annual stipend of \$4,669.86. She works from 5-7 AM and 7-9 PM for 180 days, which comes out to about \$6.48/hr. We advertised the position internally and externally and received no viable candidates. Minimum wage in RI is \$9.00/hr. Jenn is willing to continue in the position if we can raise the stipend for the position to reflect that minimum wage rate. Doing so would result in the stipend becoming \$6,480. I am asking for School Committee permission to make this change.

9. Monthly Activities

Attached is a list of activities that I have involved in during the months of January and February.

Paul Lescault
January - February 2015

In addition to my normal day to day activities, I was involved in the following activities during the months of January and February 2015

Met with parents at monthly Superintendent's Coffee hour (1/5)

Attended January School Committee meeting at Town Hall (1/6)

Presented proposed 2015-2016 School Department budget at joint School Committee/Town Council meeting (1/12)

Attended West Bay Health board of directors meeting (2/4)

Met with representatives of all constituency groups regarding walking to Manning Field (2/5)

Vacation (2/7 – 2/15)

Met with Chair and Aramark representatives regarding food service personnel (2/18)

Attended strategy session regarding para negotiations (2/24)

Attended meeting of food service personnel, administrators and Aramark management (2/27)