

**SCITUATE SCHOOL COMMITTEE REGULAR SESSION  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2015  
HOPE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

<p><b>CALL TO ORDER</b></p>	<p>The Meeting was Called to Order at 6:00 PM by Chair Umbriano in the Hope Library:</p> <p>Present were Marylou Umbriano, June Guglielmi, Coleen Pendergast, Brian LaPlante and Jean Esposito. Also present were Paul Lescault, Superintendent, Lawrence Filippelli, Assistant Superintendent, and Attorney David D'Agostino. Also present were the Principals, Assistant Principal, Special Education Director and Director of Buildings and Grounds.</p> <p>Mr. LaPlante made a motion to Convene into Closed/Executive Session and read into the record the RI law: Closed pursuant to RIGL § 42-46-5(a)(1), specifically, sessions pertaining to the job performance of persons in the employ of the School Department. This discussion shall apply only to the following: Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Principals, Assistant Principal, Special Education Director, and Assistant Special Education Director, all of whom have existing employment agreements with the Scituate School Department.</p> <p><b>Motion made by Mr. LaPlante, seconded by Mrs. Pendergast to reconvene into Open Session. Open Session was reconvened by at 7:00pm:</b></p> <p>It was reported out that the School Committee voted to give a 3% raise to the Administrators and a 4% raise to the 3 Elementary School Principal because they were 10% lower than the State average so the Committee wanted to bring them up to the State average.</p> <p>Mr. LaPlante made a motion to close Executive session and seal the minutes. Seconded by Mrs. Pendergast</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p>
<p><b>TOUR OF BUILDING</b></p>	<p>A walk through of the building was conducted.</p>
<p><b>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</b></p>	<p>Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Umbriano</p>

<p><b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b></p>	<p>Mrs. Guglielmi made a motion to approve Open and Executive minutes of August 4, 2015. Seconded by Mrs. Pendergast.</p> <p>Mrs. Esposito asked that a one or two line summary be included in the discussions sections of the minutes.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p>
<p><b>ROUTINE MATTERS MINUTES AND BILLS</b></p>	<p>Mrs. Guglielmi made a motion to approve the Grant bills for month of September 2015 for \$ 9,283.02. Seconded by Mr. LaPlante Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Mrs. Guglielmi made a motion to approve the General Fund for the month of September 2015 for \$787,247. 23.  Seconded by Mrs. Pendergast. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The following letters to the Superintendent were received requesting home schooling for the 2015-2016 school year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. T for one child</li> <li>• Mr. &amp; Mrs. H. for one child</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>Mr. LaPlante made a motion to approve the requests, according to the policies and procedures established by RIDE and the school department.</p> <p>Mrs. Esposito seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. A letter from Tara Marchant expressing her support and appreciation for Athletic Director Kevin Ryan.</li> </ol> <p>No Action needed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Letter from Mr. DeChristofaro requesting that his son be allowed to enter grade 1 at North Scituate on 9/2/15 before the closing of his house.</li> </ol> <p>Mr. LaPlante made a motion to approve the request on the Superintendent's recommendation.</p> <p>Mrs. Esposito seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>

	Mrs. Umbriano welcomed Mr. DeChristofaro to the community.
<b>REPORT OF COMMITTEE LIAISONS</b>	Mrs. Esposito asked that the Scholarship Committee be placed on the agenda. Mrs. Esposito and Mrs. Pendergast will be on the committee.
<b>Budget Committee – Mr. LaPlante</b>	Mr. LaPlante and the committee worked on the Coaching Policy and it will be presented at the October meeting for the first reading for approval. The Athletic Director policy will also have to be vetted and work through for the following month. Mrs. Pendergast said it should go smoother and it's been a great collaboration.
<b>Collective Bargaining Committee- Chair Umbriano/Ms. Guglielmi</b>	Mrs. Guglielmi said they begin to negotiate with teachers and will start in either December or January. Mrs. Pendergast would like to sit in on the meeting to observe.
<b>Food Service – Chair Umbriano</b>	Nothing to report
<b>Policy Development: Ms. Pendergast</b>	Nothing to report
<b>Transportation: Chair Umbriano</b>	Some busses ran late but nothing major to report.
<b>School Space needs Study Committee: Mr. LaPlante - Traffic Safety – Chair Umbriano</b>	Nothing to report.
<b>Scituate Prevention Partnership: Mrs. Esposito Mr. &amp; Mrs. Forte, South Woodland Road Mrs. McCormick, Trimtown Road</b>	Mrs. Esposito said that Mrs. McCormick sent an e-mail that the SSP sponsored 20 students to attend a 4 day youth leadership conference at Bryant. Also, SSP sponsored an on-line training course during the in-service on August 31 <sup>st</sup> for 6 health teachers to implement the new Life Skills curriculum. Lastly, the SSP invites the Committee to attend a presentation by John Underwood on September 9 <sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the Auditorium as part of the required policy for the Life of an Athlete program. Mrs. Pendergast asked that an e-mail and an announcement regarding the Life of an Athlete program be sent to all students. Mrs. McCormick said that is a mandatory program. Students need a baseline for concussions. Mrs. Umbriano said that this is a new program. Mr. Forte said that his son does not have a baseline. He asked if there is something free online that they can use if they need a baseline done. Mrs. Umbriano said she will get the paperwork and send it out to everyone.
<b>Health &amp; Wellness: Chair Umbriano</b>	Nothing to report.

<p><b>ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT</b></p>	<p>Dr. Filippelli read his report into the Record (which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by the reference.)</p> <p><b>1. <u>PARCC TESTING UPDATE:</u></b></p> <p><b>DISCUSSION:</b></p> <p>Mrs. Esposito asked about the high opt out rate and if there were any plans to encourage students to take the test. She said that it would be good to let the parents know that the curriculum and common core is in line with PARCC.</p> <p>Dr. Filippelli said that RIDE gave them a communications kit to send out to parents. There is also one testing window in either March or April. He also mentioned that the new Commissioner is not sold on PARCC.</p> <p>Mrs. Pendergast asked who the communication would come from. Dr. Filippelli said it would be from him.</p> <p><b>2. <u>COLLEGE COURSE CREDIT FROM PROVIDENCE COLLEGE</u></b></p> <p><b>DISCUSSION:</b></p> <p>Mrs. Guglielmi asked if there would be tuition.</p> <p>Dr. Filippelli said they would have to figure that out and that the courses would be an elective after school. It is still in the planning stages.</p>
<p><b>SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT</b></p>	<p>Dr. Lescault read his report into the record (which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by the reference.)</p> <p><b>1. <u>Teacher Salary Increase</u></b></p> <p><b>DISCUSSION:</b></p> <p>Mrs. Esposito asked about the 1.5 to 2.5 salary range. Mrs. Esposito asked if they just took the average.</p> <p>Dr. Lescault asked for direction on what to do with the bus monitors and other bargaining units.</p> <p>Mrs. Pendergast asked if these were two separate items. Teachers increase and other people outside bargaining unit.</p> <p>Mrs. Umbriano asks for an Executive Session before the next meeting to catch up on any other raises not covered.</p>

<p><b>PUBLIC COMMENTS &amp; QUESTIONS</b></p>	<p><u>Mr. George Kuzmowycz, 37 Esek Hopkins Road</u></p> <p>Mr. Kuzmowycz asked about the 32% opt out rate. Dr. Fillippelli said the highest numbers were at Middle and High School. Elementary had less opt outs.</p> <p>Mrs. Umbriano said 200 students opted out at the Middle School which is ½ of the Middle School population. They could not get commended status.</p> <p>Mr. Kuzmowycz said RIDE said that no one will be on warning status because of low attendance. He wants to know about next year. Dr. Fillippelli said that would be a problem. That is why we need better communication with parents regarding the PARRC testing.</p> <p>Dr. Filippelli said he sent letters to the Commissioner and to RIDE.</p> <p>Mr. LaPlante and Mrs. Esposito agreed and we need to have better communication with parents regarding the testing.</p> <p>Mrs. Esposito said it should be communicated at Open House.</p> <p>Erik Mikkelsen (Gleaner Chapel Road) asked what the impact would be going forward.</p> <p>Mrs. McCormick – handed out the curriculum results of “Community that Care” program for Life Skills &amp; Health and Education. This program will fit into the Health Curriculum. Teachers will be trained on the curriculum.</p> <p><b>End of discussion.</b></p>
<p><b>NEW BUSINES</b></p>	<p><b>1. First Reading of the Coaching/AD policies</b></p> <p>Tabled until October meeting.</p>
<p><i>Coleen Pendergast asked to have this topic listed under New Business to discuss the evaluation forms for the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent.</i></p>	<p><b>2. Administrator Evaluation Tools</b></p> <p><b>DISCUSSION:</b></p> <p>Mrs. Pendergast said that there are different evaluation forms for Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and they are also different for Principals and building and grounds</p>

	<p>and coaches and athletic directors. Mrs. Pendergast said they need to look at the evaluation tools themselves. Mr. LaPlante agreed.</p> <p>Mrs. Esposito said she would like to see professional responsibility and growth and goals in the forms. We should include this in the Administrators form. She would like a committee of 2 parents, 2 administrators and 2 School Committee members to draft an evaluation for the Administration of the District before the Search Committee is formed for the Superintendent job.</p> <p>Dr. Filippelli said they had to do the evaluation tool with goals and objectives. It should be in the evaluation tool.</p> <p>Ms. Umbriano said they should go back to the old structure and add in the goals and objectives to the tool.</p> <p>Mrs. Esposito said that they need to look at the Principals and RIDE and put the goals and objectives in the tool.</p> <p>Mrs. Umbriano asked to have a sample for the ready for the October meeting.</p> <p><b>END OF DISCUSSION:</b></p> <p>Mrs. Umbriano said that she had a donation from Mr. Steiner who is the welfare person in town. North Scituate Library did a collection of backpacks and school items and wanted them to go to the Title I schools for distribution or whoever needs these items. Mr. LaPlante asked what we do about this problem. The Hope Principal, Dana Morel said they have a budget for supplies for these items. School supplies all items, but they do get donated items.</p> <p>Mrs. Pendergast said they get a list for Middle School. Mr. LaPlante asked what happens if they cannot afford to get the items? Dr. Fillippelli said the teams get supplies for those students. Mrs. Esposito said this is in the instructional supply budget.</p>
<p><b>RESIGNATIONS/APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS/TRANSFERS/TERMINATIONS</b></p>	<p><b><u>RESIGNATIONS</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Alayna Christiansen; 19.92 hour Paraprofessional, Clayville Elementary School</li> <li>2. Nicole Selema; 13 hour Paraprofessional, Clayville Elementary School</li> <li>3. Lucia Fratantaro; .3 School Psychologist, Clayville Elementary School</li> </ol>

Mr. LaPlante made a motion to approve, Mrs. Esposito seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

**APPOINTMENTS**

1. Eric LaPrade; Middle School Boys Soccer Head Coach
2. Jennifer Park; .2 HS Math Teacher. This is in addition to her current .75 MS Computer Teacher position, making her FTE .95.
3. Rebecca Joyal: .4 Special Education Teacher, Scituate High School, effective 9/3/2015, pending BCI
4. Michaela Canning: 17 hour Paraprofessional, Scituate Middle/High School pending Certification.

Mr. LaPlante made a motion to approve with BCI checks for Special Ed. teacher and Certification for Paraprofessional.

Mrs. Pendergast seconded.

Mrs. Esposito questioned the Math/computer teacher position.

Dr. Filippelli will check on the schedule of this teacher and report back.

Motion approved unanimously.

**REAPPOINTMENTS**

**TRANSFERS**

1. Laura Harrell; 19.92 hour Paraprofessional, Clayville Elementary School
2. Lori Menna; 11.5 hour Paraprofessional, Clayville Elementary School

Mr. LaPlante made a motion to approve. Mrs. Pendergast seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**TERMINATIONS:** None

	<p>Mr. LaPlante made a motion to approve, Mrs. Esposito seconded. Motion passes unanimously.</p> <p><b><u>APPOINTMENTS</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Eric LaPrade; Middle School Boys Soccer Head Coach</li><li>2. Jennifer Park; .2 HS Math Teacher. This is in addition to her current .75 MS Computer Teacher position, making her FTE .95.</li><li>3. Rebecca Joyal: .4 Special Education Teacher, Scituate High School, effective 9/3/2015, pending BCI</li><li>4. Michaela Canning: 17 hour Paraprofessional, Scituate Middle/High School pending Certification.</li></ol> <p>Mr. LaPlante made a motion to approve with BCI checks for Special Ed. teacher and Certification for Paraprofessional.</p> <p>Mrs. Pendergast seconded.</p> <p>Mrs. Esposito questioned the Math/computer teacher position.</p> <p>Dr. Filippelli will check on the schedule of this teacher and report back.</p> <p>Motion approved unanimously.</p> <p><b><u>REAPPOINTMENTS</u></b></p> <p><b><u>TRANSFERS</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Laura Harrell; 19.92 hour Paraprofessional, Clayville Elementary School</li><li>2. Lori Menna; 11.5 hour Paraprofessional, Clayville Elementary School</li></ol> <p>Mr. LaPlante made a motion to approve. Mrs. Pendergast seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p><b><u>TERMINATIONS:</u></b> None</p>
<b>COMMITTEE REMARKS</b>	
<b>Mrs. Esposito</b>	Mrs. Esposito said she went by the field and said they did a great job on the wall.
<b>Mrs. Guglielmi</b>	Nothing to report
<b>Mr. LaPlante</b>	Nothing to report

<b>Mrs. Pendergast</b>	Thank you to Mrs. Morel for the tour of her school.
<b>Chair Umbriano</b>	Mrs. Umbriano said that the weather will be very warm in the 90's and wants to be sure that the schools are prepared with water and other heat related procedures. Next meeting at Clayville, and will be honoring "Teacher of the Year".
<b>DISCUSSION OF FUTURE BUSINESS</b>	"Discussion of Clayville "Teacher of the Year"
<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	<p>Mrs. Guglielmi moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mrs. Esposito. The Committee unanimously approved the motion at 8:35 pm.</p> <p>Respectfully Submitted:</p> <p>Mrs. Guglielmi, Clerk</p> <p><i>Minutes were prepared by Dorothy DeRemer 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 Office.</i></p>



**ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**  
**September 1, 2015**

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**1. PARCC TESTING UPDATE:**

I attended a RIDE meeting about PARCC testing and results. The meeting was held at the Northern Rhode Island Collaborative. At the meeting, the representatives from RIDE had a noticeably different tone about the PARCC testing than they did last year. They were very adamant that we not compare PARCC scores to NECAP scores because of how different the tests are. They noted that you can't really look longitudinally at the data right now because the testing data will not only look different, but the content of the test was so vastly different than NECAP. RIDE indicated to us that they were going to look at the statewide data first and find trends and then take a local look at the data.

RIDE is anticipating a release of testing data around the end of November. I, of course, asked about the opt out issue. They told me that they have to see what the opt outs look like statewide and then they would have a better idea of how it affects each of the districts. The downside to the opt outs is that RIDE is not moving their position on "commended" status. If you remember, last year I was a strong statewide advocate of us not losing commended status for our schools based on opt outs alone. Basically, the final word is that if a school did not meet 95% participation rate, then we would indeed be ineligible for commended status. The good news is that because this is the first year with the PARCC testing, RIDE will not assign any of the lower classifications to the schools. This means that while we may not be eligible for commended status, none of our schools would be put into "warning" status or worse based on our test scores or participation rate. This is also a change from the messages that were coming out of RIDE last year. RIDE also indicated that they would not be using current PARCC data to inform teacher evaluations until at least 2017. They need to have a few years of data before they can compute a growth model for evaluation purposes. While they did not mention administrator evaluations, I would assume it is the same for building principals as well as they are under the RIDE model.

Our main focus this year needs to be increasing our participation rates and quelling the fears of the parents. After hearing the different (and more positive) tenor of the RIDE representatives and after hearing the new commissioner speak on the topic, I have a strong sense that we will have more participation this year and moving forward. The new commissioner views PARCC simply as a test vendor. We need to assess our kids according to NCLB. However, I got the sense that if PARCC was not going to work for RI, the new commissioner didn't seem particularly married to PARCC. This is a 180 degree change from the prior commissioner. So, there is hope and I am looking forward to working with the changed administration at RIDE.

## **2. COLLEGE COURSE CREDIT FROM PROVIDENCE COLLEGE**

Based on our partnership with Providence College, I have begun having conversations with them about possibly offering college credit courses for students in Scituate. This conversation is very much in the preliminary stages, and I am not sure if it will even be feasible. However, my vision for this program would be to have the course be treated as an elective for high school credit purposes and for college credit for the student for transferable credit purposes. I will be meeting with Dr. Sollitto and Shannon Dolan from PC on this in the near future but I am excited about the possibility of offering this to our high school students.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

September 1, 2015

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### 1. **Teacher Salary Increase**

Attachment A is a spreadsheet providing a comparison of the current 2014-2015 Teacher Salaries for steps 1-10 with the average of settled contracts as of August 15, 2015. Also attached is a spreadsheet providing the detailed data used to produce the summary. You will note that increases range from 1.6% to 1.72%, with an average increase of 1.67%. Increases would have been much smaller if the contract did not include a minimum increase of 1.5%. For budgetary purposes, an assumption of 1.96% was used.

Traditionally the school committee has used the average percentage increase as a guide to establish increases for personnel not covered by a contract or agreement and for those whose contracts do not include a specific level of increase (bus monitors and aides, mail courier, sub call clerk, technology director, consultant). The committee needs to discuss and provide direction on how it wishes to proceed.

### 2. **Evaluation Forms**

Blank evaluation forms were sent to the committee on 8/18. Additional copies are attached (Attachment B). I sent them to the committee at Marylou's request, based on a recommendation from Coleen. They are listed under New Business.

### 3. **Opening Day for Teachers**

Opening day for teachers began with all professional staff meeting in the Middle/High School. A copy of the agenda for the day is Attachment C. Larry and I welcomed everyone back and offered best wishes for a successful, satisfying school year

### 4. **Monthly Activities**

As schools were closed for most of August, activities in addition to the normal day to day ones, were very limited. Therefore, they are not included in the September Superintendent's Report or the Assistant Superintendent's Report.