

ROCKPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING
Wednesday November 16, 2016

Chairperson Martha Morgan called the regular meeting of the Rockport School Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. in the MS/HS Library. Present were Colleen Coogan, Martha Morgan, Rebecca Sly and Heather Nelson, Mary Porter arrived at 7:18pm. Also, present were Superintendent Robert Liebow and Recording Secretary Ingrid Keating.

I. Opening of Regular Meeting

A. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Colleen Coogan motioned to approve the regular minutes, from November 2, 2016.
Seconded: Rebecca Sly seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 4-0.

B. Personnel Actions

RESIGNED: Joanne Wood ó Cafeteria worker effective October 31, 2016

II. Community Participation

A. Student Advisory Representative N/A

B. Public Participation N/A

III. Discussion and Recommended Action

A. Field Trip requests

Motion: Colleen Coogan motioned to approve the two night out of state High School Jazz Festival to Newark, Delaware and Havre de Grace, Maryland.
Seconded: Rebecca Sly seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

B. Budget Workshop/~~Public~~ Public Participation

Superintendent Liebow presented a 2017-2018 FY18 budget message and explained increases and decreases in the proposed final FY18 School Budget. The FINCOM produced a version of the School Department Reserve Account Analysis out to FY2023. Mr. Liebow explained that he has reduced the number of anticipated school choice students in the future do to the fact that birth rates are going down everywhere and Gloucester parents may choose to have their child stay in the Gloucester as their district moves forward. Colleen Coogan would like these documents on the school website. The FINCOM supports the Pre-school tuitions going into the SPED Reserve Fund to continue growth in that balance. Mr. Liebow will be meeting with the FINCOM and feels that he is presenting a very honest and transparent budget, along with giving them realistic scenarios of what can affect the budget in the future. The approved budget will be presented to the selectmen in December.

Motion: Mary Porter motioned to approve the proposed Superintendent and School Committee Budget of \$13,609,132.95.
Seconded: Heather Nelson seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

C. Policy Review/Proposal

The policy sub-committee presented File AC Non-Discrimination and Harassment for a second reading. It was suggested to change Rockport Public Schools (óDistrictö) to Rockport Public School (District). This policy has been developed, to comply with current laws, by Lawyer Michael Joyce, to replace the following policies that will be repealed.

Motion: Heather Nelson motioned to approve File: AC Non-Discrimination and Harassment policy with a change to Rockport Public Schools (øDistrictö) to Rockport Public School (District)
Seconded: Rebecca Sly seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

Motion: Rebecca Sly motioned to repeal the following policies:
File GBA Equal Employment Opportunity
File JICDD Sexual Harassment
File ACAB Sexual Harassment Policy
File ACAB Procedures for Dealing with Sexual Harassment
File ACA Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Sex
Seconded: Colleen Coogan seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

The committee had a first reading of File JJE: Student Fund-raising Activities the policy sub-committee will return with suggested revisions at the second reading. They also had a first reading for new policy File CHCA Approval of Handbooks and Directives.

D. Warrants

Motion: Rebecca Sly motioned to approve the warrants as presented, relating to payroll, tuitions, and Food Service.
Seconded: Colleen Coogan seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

IV. Information and proposals

A. School Council Update

Mary Porter attended the RMHS School Council, the council is putting together a list of 4 or 5 similar school districts (possibly Millis/Georgetown) to visit to investigate how they manage scheduling, transitions for students from middle school to high school, internships, tech free time for students, and how they create teacher enthusiasm. RMHS Principal would like the council to be more focus in their mission and will come up with 4 or 5 topics/issues. Colleen Coogan would like to see an øExit Interviewö form for parents who send their child to other districts or private schools asking them what the other school had to offer that we donø.

Rebecca Sly attended the elementary school council meeting and they discussed the teacher/parent conferences and how they can be improved and more productive. For the first time this year, parents will receive report cards before the conferences.

Colleen Coogan reported that she is not receiving communications from the middle and high school, where in the past she received a packet each week from the middle school. There was discussion as to the status of the website; Mr. Liebow will ask the IT department to post on the website that the district is still in the process of creating and adding information to the website.

B. Donations

Sports Stop of Wenham donated 1 seasonal rental package to be used by the Middle School Ski Club as a raffle item for a fund raiser.

C. Updates

Sub-committee reports: N/A

V. Correspondence N/A

VI. Other Business

Mr. Liebow presented the first FundFlow for this fiscal year. He explained that it is very early in the fiscal year and these figures should be taken as a rough estimate. His year-end estimated surplus is higher than Business Manager June Sanfilippo at \$1,034,587.97. He explained that there could be unknown expenses, such as increase in fuel costs or a unexpected student outplacement, that could reduce this balance.

Chairperson Martha Morgan invited the other members to join her at the MASC Suburban Coalition on November 30th to continue efforts towards the implementation of the Foundation Budget Review Commission's Recommendations.

VII. Future Agenda Items

- A. Superintendent's Report & Fund/Flow (1/18)
- B. Budget presentation to Selectmen (TBD)
- C. Website Review (12/7)
- D. Curriculum Review Cycle (12/7)
- E. EL Math Program Review (1/4)

VIII. Calendar

- A. December TBD, 2016, Budget Presentation to the Selectmen
- B. December 7, 2016, Regular Meeting
- C. January 4, 2017, Regular Meeting

VIV. Executive Session

Motion: Rebecca Sly motioned to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:23p.m.
Seconded: Colleen Coogan seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Liebow
Superintendent of Schools