

ROCKPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING  
Wednesday February 1, 2017

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, Heather Nelson, Mary Porter and Rebecca Sly. Also, present were Superintendent Robert Liebow and Recording Secretary Ingrid Keating.

I. Opening of Regular Meeting

A. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Heather Nelson motioned to approve the regular minutes from January 18, 2017  
Seconded: Mary Porter seconded the motion.  
Vote: The motion carried 4-0.

B. Personnel Actions

LEAVE: Becky Merry-Berry is on an extended medical leave beginning 1/3/2017

APPOINTED: Dana George has been appointed a MS SPED Teacher to cover a medical leave beginning 1/3/2017, at the B-2 rate of the RTA contract of \$230.90/day.

Allison Chalmers has been appointed to the position of After School Teacher Assistant beginning February 13, 2017 to May 25, 2017, three days a week, at the Step 6 rate of the Support Staff Contract of \$19.31/hour.

Isabella Jackson has been appointed the position of Long-term .6FTE MS Reading Teacher/.4 MS Paraprofessional beginning January 23, 2017 to the end of the school year at the B-2 rate of the RTA contract and Step-1 of the Support staff contract.

INCREASE: Martha Cox-Stavros has had her position of .65 FTE MS Spanish Teacher increased to .75 FTE for the second half of the school year only.

II. Community Participation

A. Student Advisory Representative

Student Representatives Robert Welcome and Savannah Cook reported that peer leaders have been doing different activities with lower grades promoting a healthy school environment and their work has been so successful they will be reaching down to the middle school level. They will also be looking to recruit other students to participate as peer leaders. They have seen next year's schedule during class assemblies and there will be a parents night tomorrow night for them to learn about the new schedule. Assistant Principal Amy Rose stated that some students are anxious about the schedule change but that everyone has been very respectful and they feel well informed. Superintendent Liebow reported that Savanna Cook will be performing at Carnegie Hall.

B. Public Participation

First grade parent Bethany Brosnan was told that the next Policy Sub-Committee meeting is next Wednesday, February 8, 2017 in the RMHS Library at 6PM and is open to the public, the committee will be discussing class sizes. Mr. Liebow reported that a survey went out to the 18 grade level teachers (not specialists) for their opinion on class size.

Mr. Liebow also reviewed last Friday's threat. He reported that the threat was brought to Principal Bach's attention Thursday night. Members of the emergency team were notified, the police interviewed the student involved and it was determined to be a low threat situation. He also reported that between the Rockport and State police it was determined that dogs would not be necessary. The middle and high school were searched and determined safe. Parents received an automated call from the superintendent with information as to what happened; due to a glitch in the automated system not all staff received the call. He was very thankful for all the support of the Rockport Police and emergency service personnel.

### III. Discussion and Recommended Action

#### A. Foreign Language Graduation Requirement proposal

High School Assistant Principal Amy Rose presented a proposal to revise policy File IKF – Graduation Requirements to include 2 years of world language and reflect 120 credits needed that is currently being required vs 90. The committee has asked that Mrs. Rose to ask guidance if it should take place with the class of 2020 or 2021.

The committee considered this the first reading of File IKF – Graduation Requirements

#### B. New Curriculum Cycle Review

High School Principal Gregg Bach will continue to populate the new curriculum data base which is shared with the school committee.

#### C. Policy Review/Proposals N/A

#### D. Warrants

### IV. Information and proposals

#### A. School Council Update

Committee member Mary Porter attended the RMHS School Council meeting today and reported that Mrs. Rose presented the new schedule change. She also attended the Wellness Committee meeting, they discussed the new greenhouse and studio, where both staff and student are being offered yoga classes. The cooking club received the "Awesome Rockport" grant, there was discussion on recess and its use of it being taken away as a punishment, they will be looking at Gloucester's new Wellness policy and compare it to Rockport's, and the food service department received a FUELUP60 Grant. Their next meeting is March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### B. Donations

Cape Ann Savings donated \$1000 towards the purchase of either wind turbines or solar panels for the greenhouse.

#### C. Updates

Sub-committee reports:

### V. Correspondence N/A

### VI. Other Business

### VII. Future Agenda Items

#### A District-Wide Special Education Program Evaluation (2/15)

- B. Superintendent's Report & FundFlow (2/15)
- C. Middle School tracking (3/1)
- D. K-12 PE/Health (3/1)
- E. Growing Good Kids: Informing Student's Social/Emotional Knowledge & Behavior in grades K -12(3/13)
- F. K-12 Guidance/Counseling & PBIS/Lighthouse/SEPAC (3/15)
- G. Superintendent's Evaluation (3/15)

VIII. Calendar

- A. March 1, 2017, regular meeting
- B. March 15, 2017, regular meeting

VIV. Executive Session

At 8:15 p.m. a motion was made to go into executive session to discuss a personnel issue. A Roll Call vote was taken. The Committee unanimously voted to adjourn to Executive Session and will not return to open session.

Colleen Coogan	yes
Martha Morgan	yes
Heather Nelson	yes
Mary Porter	yes
Rebecca Sly	yes

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Liebow  
Superintendent of Schools