

ROCKPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING
Wednesday March 15, 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, and Rebecca Sly, Mary Porter was absent. 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 and executive minutes from March 1, 2017.
Seconded: Rebecca Sly seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 4-0.

B. Personnel Actions

RETIRE: Martha Cooney changed her retirement date from September 30, 2017 to September 1, 2017.
LEAVE: Molly Clark has been approved without precedent or prejudice a second year leave of absence for the 2017-2018 school year.
APPOINTED: Allison Vanderpool has been appointed to the position of Data and Compliance Specialist beginning March 1, 2017.
TRANSFER: Lisa Maddox was approved a permanent transfer from Elementary Teacher to MS Special Education Teacher effective the 2017-2018 school year.
Phillip Whitley was approved a permanent transfer from Elementary Science Teacher to Elementary Teacher effective the 2017-2018 school year.
RECIND RETIREMENT: Elementary Administrative Assistant, Marcia Audano, has delayed her retirement to the end of the 2017-2018 school year.
Elementary Teacher, Maureen Murphy, has delayed her retirement to the end of the 2017-2018 school year.

II. Community Participation

A. Student Advisory Representative

Student Representatives Meagan Smith reported that everyone is happy, late arrivals due to weather conditions today. There is still talk regarding the new high school schedule for next year, some students feel that there isn't enough time to schedule make-up work or to take quizzes. Meagan had a new student shadow her today and in that students last school they had a two day rotation with four classes a day.

B. Public Participation N/A

III. Discussion and Recommended Action

A. K-12 Guidance

K-12 Guidance Director Linda Vaughan presented the RHS Guidance Developmental Model, highlighting on 8th grade transition, parent information nights, 9th grade orientation to the high school, 10th grade exploration of interests and strengths in making future career decisions, career day in March, and preparing for and applying to college. Currently the guidance department is working on next year's course selection with students. Some students are taking VHS (Virtual High School) courses and dual enrollment with Salem State University. Mrs. Vaughan is retiring at the end of this school year and said this has been the best school she has worked in due to the students who are very supportive and tolerant of each other, along with the parents being very supportive.

B. School Committee Self Evaluation and Goals Review

School Committee Member Colleen Coogan presented the School Committee Self Evaluation. The evaluation covers governance, operations, member relations, committee/superintendent relations, strategic planning and fiscal management, community relations and conduct at meetings. The members are generally in agreement with scores of 4 and 5 (1-5 rating).

C. Field Trip

Motion: Colleen Coogan motioned to approve the out-of-state All New England Jazz Festival field trip to Plymouth State University with the addition of one more chaperone and one more vehicle or mini-van.

Seconded: Heather Nelson seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 4-0.

D. Policy Review/Proposals

File ADF: Wellness Policy

The Wellness policy will be reviewed by the Wellness Committee on March 20th. Wellness Chairperson Amanda King will bring any thoughts or concerns, from that meeting, to the next school committee meeting for consideration before the policy is approved.

E. Warrants and Payroll

IV. Information and proposals

A. School Council Update N/A

B. Donations

The Joseph Middlemiss Big Heart Foundation donated a small bookcase filled with picture books and chapter books all centered around the theme of kindness for the Rockport Elementary School Library.

C. Updates

Sub-committee reports:

The Colleen Coogan from the communications sub-committee met with Mike Montgomery regarding the website. Mrs. Coogan reported that Mr. Montgomery has been working on and updating the spreadsheet with the bullet items as he completes a task. He has been working with Midas to create a user friendly staff directory; they have not been able to create an acceptable one through Midas so Mr. Montgomery will create a like to a Google document. Next they, along with staff and parents, will be looking at other school websites for “look”, ease of use, and functionality, which can be implemented to our site next fall. Mrs. Coogan stated that Mr. Montgomery has been great to work with and is a great asset to the school system.

D. Other Business

Motion: Colleen Coogan motioned to approve the rescheduling of the ½ professional day to the preferred date of May 25, 2017 and a second choice of April 13, 2017 depending on the booking of the contracted speakers schedule.

Seconded: Heather Nelson seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 4-0.

V. Correspondence

Email from Mr. & Mrs. John Manning, from Medford, regarding the wonderful K-12 art show at the Rockport Art Association and evidence of a coherent program.

VI. Future Agenda Items

- A. Lighthouse/Peerleadership (4/5)
- B. Superintendent's Evaluation (4/5)
- C. "Growing Healthy Kids and Community: Informing Student's Social, Emotional and Learning for Academic Success" (April)
- D. K-12 Library/Technology (4/5)
- E. School Choice Vote (4/5)
- F. Counseling/SEPAC/PBIS (5/3)

VII. Calendar

- A. April 5, 2017, regular meeting
- B. May 3, 2017, regular meeting

VIII. Executive Session

At 8:35 p.m. a motion was made to go into executive session to discuss personnel. A Roll Call vote was taken. The Committee unanimously voted to adjourn to Executive Session and will return to open session.

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

Motion: Heather Nelson motioned to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:56 p.m.

Seconded: Colleen Coogan seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Liebow
Superintendent of Schools