

ROCKPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING
Wednesday, March 7, 2018

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

I. Opening of Regular Meeting

A. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Rebecca Sly motioned to approve the regular minutes with the correction of a misspelled word from February 14, 2018.
Seconded: Heather Nelson seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 4-0, Mary Porter abstained.

B. Personnel Actions

Sue Collins has been appointed to the position of Out of School Tutor at the rate of \$45/hour up to 10 hours per week.
Brett Hall will remain as MS Dean
Ann-Marie Luster will remain as HS Dean
Phil Whitley will remain at Grade 4
Robyn Tibert will remain as Elementary Math Interventionist
Molly Clark will return on January 2, 2019 and transfer to EL SPED Liaison

II. Community Participation

A. Student Advisory Representative N/A

B. Public Participation N/A

III. Discussion and Recommended Action

A. K-12 Math Presentation (rescheduled to 5/16)

B. Pre-K recommendation

Elementary School Principal Todd Simendinger presented a proposal for part time enrollment, for Peer Models, in the Pre-school, either Tuesday/Thursday or Monday/Wednesday/Friday. He has found that most parents prefer a part-time enrollment option. It would also increase flexibility in maintaining compliance numbers for peer models and maximize the preschool cohort in transitioning to kindergarten. During Pre-K/Kindergarten registration 10 families expressed interest in the part-time option.

Motion: Heather Nelson motioned to approve the proposed offering of part-time enrollment options in the Pre-K program.
Seconded: Rebecca Sly seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0

C. Elementary Standard Based Report Card

Principal Simendinger presented a proposal for a change in the elementary school report card format. The format has “Pro-social/Approaches the Learning Indicators” and “Academic Performance Skills Indicators”. He presented this proposal at a staff meeting and feels that 99% agree to the change and with this support feels he can start the next school year with this format. Parents will have more information when attending teacher/parent conferences, the teachers will have to be able to defend the indicators, and it’s a better way for specialist to align with grade level curriculums. He found a report card template from Lexington Schools and says it is in alignment and linked with the state standards. Mr.

Simendinger will look into how many progress reports are issued each year since this report card has just 2 terms. Parents will receive a template example via email prior to a parent's night, where there will be more explanation, at the beginning of the next school year.

Motion: Mary Porter motioned to approve the modifications to the elementary school report card.
Seconded: Nicole Altieri seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

D. Preliminary Discussion on Solar Project

Superintendent Liebow presented a PPA Savings Estimate, designs, and a template for a "power purchase agreement" from Solectenergy for a possible solar roof project on the school building. Solectenergy would develop, design, construct, own and operate the solar units. The school district would receive electricity at a reduced rate, with an estimated savings of \$1,149,137 over twenty years. The project would also be connected to student learning. Since the town owns the buildings an easement would be required, to be voted upon at town meeting. Solect Energy Development is an approved vendor on the state bid list so the project would not have to go out to bid. Audience member Rick Drost commented that the community may want to know how much the solar company is making from the project and suggested notifying the fire chief for any challenges that the fire department might have in case of a fire.

E. Bus Purchase strategy

Superintendent Liebow is proposing the replacement of two, out of four, school buses. He had requested new buses through the town Capital Improvement Request system, but was denied. With a remaining balance of \$24,000 from the previous purchase and reduced maintenance expenses he feels the district can contract a five year lease with the option to buy.

F. School Resource Officer (SRO) – Status update and future proposal

Superintendent Liebow reported that all schools in Massachusetts are required to have a SRO pending funding. The police department was able to fund a full time SRO until the end of this school year and stated that Officer Wesley is a good fit with the schools and the students seem comfortable with his presence. Mr. Liebow and Police Chief Horvath are working on a Memorandum of Understanding to foster an efficient and cohesive program that will build a positive relationship between law enforcement and the youth of our community to support students. The committee discussed what will they wear, training, exposure of gun, building relationships with students, setting parameters, and position funding.

G. Attorney review/reappointment

Motion: Mary Porter motioned to reappoint Naomi Stonberg as the Attorney for the Rockport School District.
Seconded: Rebecca Sly seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0

H. RTA MOA'S (see end of meeting)

I. Superintendent's Goals Review (rescheduled to 5/2)

J. School Committee Goals Review (rescheduled to 5/16)

K. School Credit Card

Motion: Heather Nelson motioned to approve the receipt of a town credit card to be used for emergency procurement, procurement of cheaper items not available through vendors who bill, and travel, with only the Superintendents or Business Managers authorization of purchase and will be kept in a secure area of the Superintendent's suite.
Seconded: Rebecca Sly seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0

L. Policy review/revise

Motion: Mary Porter motioned to approve, from this second reading, the revisions to File IHBA: Observation of Special Education Programs and the two Non-disclosure/confidentiality agreements.

Seconded: Nicole Altieri seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 5-0

Motion: Heather Nelson motioned to approve, from this second reading, the revisions to File ADC: Tobacco and Drug Free Schools.

Seconded: Rebecca Sly seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 5-0

Files JICFB Bullying Prevention, JFBB School Choice and AC Non-discrimination and Harassment had a first reading.

M. Warrants and Payroll

IV. Information and proposals

A. School Council Update

Nicole Altieri reported that only two people attended the latest elementary council meeting and the discussion was about school safety.

B. Donations

C. Updates

Sub-committees: N/A

D. Other Business

V. Correspondence

VI. Future Agenda Items

A. Superintendent's Report/FundFlow

B. K-12 Math Presentations (5/16)

C. Emergency Protocol Review (3/21)

D. K-12 English Language Arts/Reading (3/21)

E. Bruce Perkins Essex Technical School Committee Representative report (6/6)

F. Goals Superintendent & SC (??)

VII. Calendar

A. March 21, 2018, regular meeting

B. April 4, 2018, regular meeting

C. Town meeting April 7, 2018

D. TBD, IT Review/"Vision of RPS" at Selectmen's Meeting – Town Hall

VIII. Executive Session

At 9:39 p.m. Nicole Altieri motioned to go into executive session to discuss additions to collective bargaining.

Rebecca Sly seconded the motion a roll call was taken.

Colleen Coogan	yes
Nicole Altieri	yes
Heather Nelson	yes
Mary Porter	yes
Rebecca Sly	yes

At 9:46pm the committee returned to the regular meeting.

Motion: Heather Nelson motioned to approve three Memorandum of Agreements between the Rockport Teachers Association and the Rockport School Committee as presented.

Seconded: Mary Porter seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 5-0

Motion: Heather Nelson motioned to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:47 p.m.

Seconded: Rebecca Sly seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Liebow
Superintendent of Schools