

ROCKPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING  
Wednesday, April 4, 2018

Chairperson Colleen Coogan called the regular meeting of the Rockport School Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Lane Auditorium. Present were Nicole Altieri, Colleen Coogan, 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: Mary Porter motioned to approve the regular minutes from March 7 & 21 and the executive minutes from March 7, 2018

Seconded: Nicole Altieri seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

B. Personnel Actions

Denise Greel has postponed her intent to retire to the end of the of the 2018-2019 school year.

Gini Nangle has reset her retirement date to February 28, 2019.

Robert O’Hanley request for a one year leave of absence from his position of HS SPED Teacher has been approved.

Nikole Gale has been appointed to the position of EL Administrative Asst. at the Step 1 rate \$18.91/hour beginning July 1, 2018.

Donna Cody has been appointed to the position of HS Administrative Asst. at the Step 5 rate \$22.09/hour beginning July 1, 2018.

Stacey Twombly has been appointed to the position of Out of School Tutor at \$45/hour beginning March 8, 2018 for 24 hours.

Granted Permanent Transfer: Dana George to the Position of MS SPED Teacher and Christine Keczyk to the position of Grade 3 Elementary Teacher

II. Community Participation

A. Student Advisory Representative N/A

B. Public Participation N/A

III. Discussion and Recommended Action

A. Soccer Field Naming

Steve Rowell, representing Michelle Elwell, John Parisi, Amy Rose, Neil Dineen and George Ramsden, presented a proposal requesting that the main athletic field behind the high school building be named in honor of Athletic Director Mary Ryan and Coach David Curley. The committee will assume the responsibility of fundraising and installation of signage.

Motion: Nicole Altieri motion to approve the effort going forward with the naming of the high school athletic field to Curley – Ryan Viking Athletic Playing Field.

Seconded: Heather Nelson seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

B. CATV Proposal (1623 Studios)

Eric Archer, Memory Lane and Christine Armstrong, from 1623 Studios, presented a Project Proposal to promote the reputation of Rockport Public Schools, to foster strong direct audience relationships, provide focus and direction in support of Core Values and Beliefs, and enable the school system to present itself accurately and authentically. They discussed target audiences, their recommendations to relaunch the website, the use of social media to build a stronger fan base, produce video to drive engagement with the website and social media, implement tracking and monitor results, budget and search engine optimization. 1623 Studio reaches 19,000 homes on Cape Ann. Mr. Liebow met with the Administrative team, for their feedback, and they would like to start small and do it right. They will need to determine who will be designated to get the information to the studio. This project will have the opportunity for students to be involved. The committee discussed timelines, funding and organizing discovery sessions.

Motion: Rebecca Sly motioned to accept the concept of the project proposal, submitted by 1623 Studios pending funding from the town IT budget.  
Seconded: Heather Nelson seconded the motion.  
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

C. Review the Phases of Implementation of Security Monitoring Systems

Phase one would upgrade three doorways at each school, eliminate the SPED wing as an entrance, and add cameras in lobby areas, which will cost approximately \$30,000 to \$40,000. The next phase would include securing all other exits. The policy sub-committee will need to review and update policy to reflect that cameras are on campus and any new procedures. The school committee discussed funding, how and who monitors video feeds, and Alice training. Mr. Liebow, Chief Horvath, Officer Wesley and Officer Mahoney attended Alice Training and can now train staff. Mr. Liebow reported that Alice does allow the staff options depending on the situation.

D. SRO MOU

Superintendent Liebow reported that having the current School Resource Officer (SRO) is going very well. He and Chief Horvath presented a School Resource Officer Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Rockport Police Department and the Rockport School District. He feels there are good checks and balances in place for the agreement to work. The school committee discussed replacement procedures and candidates upon retirement, which will include participation and input from the Superintendent and building principals.

Motion: Heather Nelson motioned to approve the School Resource Officer Memorandum of Understanding that will be in place from the first day of school in August 2018 to the last day of school in June 2019.  
Seconded: Rebecca Sly seconded the motion.  
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

E. School Choice Vote

Motion: Nicole Altieri motioned to continue participating in accepting school choice students in the 2018-2019 school year.  
Seconded: Mary Porter seconded the motion.  
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

F. Field trips

Motion: Nicole Altieri motioned to approve the trip to France, April vacation 2019, in conjunction with Lynnfield High School.  
Seconded: Mary Porter seconded the motion.  
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

Motion: Nicole Altieri motioned to approve the trip to Atlanta, April 21 – 25, 2018 for the DECA International Competition.  
Seconded: Rebecca Sly seconded the motion.  
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

G. Policy revise/review

The school committee revised File JFBB: School Choice policy to include discrimination language.

Motion: Mary Porter motioned to approve policy File JFBB: School Choice as presented.  
Seconded: Heather Nelson seconded the motion.  
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

H. Warrants and Payroll

IV. Information and proposals

A. School Council Update

Nicole Altieri reported that the Elementary School Council discussed school safety and Alice Training. Parents were not aware of the magnets being used on the doors latch plates to allow quick locking. Parents should be notified by schools instead of hearing from child. Superintendent Liebow also reported that a film product has been applied to the elementary cafeteria windows making it so that you can't see in but you can see out.

Mary Ported reported that the Middle School Council worked on the school improvement plan.

Colleen Coogan reported that the High School discussed the development of a school newspaper and edited the school improvement plan.

B. Donations

YourCause, LLC Trustee for Applied Materials donated \$200 to support student activities in the Rockport Middle School.

Meredith Browne donated a guitar with hard shell Martin case, a German Cello circa 1950 with a hard case, accessories, and a soft cello case to be used by the Rockport Public Schools Music Department.

C. Updates

Sub-committees: N/A

D. Other Business

Superintendent Report and FundFlow

Mr. Liebow reported on topics that may come up at town meeting, such as school choice, circuit breaker and budget. He also reported on events in the schools and his visit, with other town officials, to Maine to view The Island Housing Trust that promotes viable, year-round communities by advancing affordable permanent workforce housing. Mr. Liebow would like the town to consider creating the same concept to promote family growth in Rockport.

V. Correspondence

Memo to the Rockport Teachers Association re: Article XIII Section E - May be necessary to lay off or reduce teachers for the FY19 school year.

VI. Future Agenda Items

- A. Superintendent's Report/FundFlow
- B. K-12 Social Studies (5/2)
- C. K-12 ELA/Reading (5/2)
- D. K-12 Math Presentations (5/16)  
K-12 Science (5/16)

VII. Calendar

- A. Town meeting April 7, 2018
- B. TBD, IT Review/"Vision of RPS" at Selectmen's Meeting – Town Hall
- C. May 2, 2018, Regular Meeting
- D. May 16, 2018, Regular Meeting

VIII. Executive Session

Motion: Heather Nelson motioned to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:35 p.m.  
Seconded: Mary Porter seconded the motion.  
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Liebow  
Superintendent of Schools