

ROCKPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING  
Wednesday June 14, 2017

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, and Mary Porter, Rebecca Sly 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 minutes from May 17, 2017, June 2, 2017 and executive minutes from June 2, 2017.  
Seconded: Mary Porter seconded the motion.  
Vote: The motion carried 4-0.

B. Personnel Actions

Resigned:	Lindsey McGovern	Director of Student Services	6/30/2017
	Jennifer Tarr	.4 FTE MS Drama Teacher	6/20/2017
	Victoria Washburne	.4 FTE TA/.6 MS Reading Teacher	6/20/2017
Leave:	Brett Hall	MS Reading Teacher	17/18 school year
	Ann Marie Luster	HS SPED Teacher	17/18 school year
	Robyn Tibert	Gr 4 Teacher	17/19 school year
Appointed:	Larissa DeBenedette-Reily	EL Tech Teacher	M30-13 \$77,805
	Brett Hall	MS Dean	M-11 \$65,757
	Peggy Lyman	RES SPED Teacher	M-7 \$57,286
	Ann Marie Luster	HS Dean	M30-Y \$80,805
	Samantha Merrill	MS Counselor	M-2 \$47,093
	Christine O'Brien	One Yr EL Teacher	M-2 \$47,093
	Bridgett Sheehan	Gr 2 EL Teacher	M-8 \$59,438

II. Community Participation

- A. Student Advisory Representative N/A
- B. Public Participation N/A

III. Discussion and Recommended Action

A. Senior Privileges

RMHS Principal Bach presented: In an effort to effectively assist students with their transition to post-secondary college/career studies, we propose that senior students are allowed the independence to choose the use of their U block time on Thursdays only. The choice would mean that students could opt to stay on campus during Thursday U block sessions in order to participate in AP study groups, Guidance seminars, NHS tutoring or teacher support groups. If students do not opt to engage in any of the offered resources, we propose that senior students be allowed to leave campus for the day after the completion of their last assigned class (12:43). This privilege would exist for Thursdays only and would require parent approval through a consent form provided to parents with the opening day packet resources. The option would only exist for students whose parents signed the provided permission forms. The school committee supports this proposal.

B. 2017-2018 School Calendar

Motion: Mary Porter motioned to approve the revised school calendar for the next school year adding a professional development half day to May 19, 2017.  
Seconded: Heather Nelson seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 4-0.

C. RTA MOA's

Motion: Nicole Altieri motioned to approve RTA MOA's for 1 additional work day for Nurse Jeanne Pratt and Nurse Sarah Sawyer, a PreK-12 Mathematics Specialist Stipend, a Guidance Counselor, Counselor, and Guidance Director Working Conditions, and RHS Guidance Program Coordinator job description as presented.

Second: Mary Porter seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 4-0.

The school committee would like an updated organization chart and flow chart for positions and who they report to.

D. Organize/plan August meeting with Selectmen

After discussion of the "Vision of Rockport" meeting offered by the town, Mr. Liebow explained the chart regarding student enrollment from the FINCOM committee, which assumes that there is no visionary planning to promote families moving to Rockport. The school committee discussed forming small groups with a variety of people (school committee, selectmen, and community members, various town committees) to develop "visions". The board talked about inviting someone from Provincetown to tell how their community lost families and that it is no longer thriving and someone from Mt. Desert Island to talk about how they developed affordable housing to promote families to stay and move into the area through a trust. Mr. Liebow has heard that some individuals think we should do away with the middle and high schools. Mr. Liebow explained that the cost would be very close or more to our current per pupil cost. The town that we regionalize with would charge a per pupil tuition and the Town of Rockport would also have to provide transportation to that school. Colleen Coogan would also like to present demographics data from UMASS Amhearst. She will also approach Selectwoman Sarah Wilkinson to discuss inviting the state representatives.

E. Policy Review/Proposals

Motion: Heather Nelson motioned to approve policies File AC Non-discrimination and harassment, File JB: Equal Educational Opportunities, and File JJ: Co-Curricular and Extracurricular Activities as presented at this second reading.

Second: Nicole Altieri seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 4-0.

E. Field trip

The school committee was informed that the trip to Dominican Republic will take place in April 2018 instead of February 2018.

F. Warrants and Payroll

IV. Information and proposals

A. School Council Update N/A

B. Donations N/A

C. Updates

Sub-committee reports:

Policy Sub-committee members Colleen Coogan and Mary Porter met and prepared a list of polies, recently updated by the MASC, and will start reviewing the following: FA, GBEA, BHE, BBBA/BBBB, BDE, BDF, BEDA, BEDB, and Open Meeting Law Change updates, they will reviewed policies: AC, JB and JJ, and drafted a school year 17/18 policy update strategy.

D Other Business

Colleen Coogan and Mary Porter attended the MASC “Charting the Course” and found it very informative, clarified jobs and responsibilities, and that Mr. Liebow keeps the school committee well prepared to keep on task, and keeps them informed so there aren’t any surprises.

Superintendent reported that the two candidates for Director of Student Services position each have a day to visit the Rockport schools; the school committee will interview the two candidates tomorrow evening and will receive feedback from staff and students. The school committee will deliberate and decide to offer a position to one of them.

V. Correspondence

- Coordinated Program Review Final Report
- Sealed letter from a parent regarding a personnel issue.

VI. Future Agenda Items

- A. Superintendent’s Report/FundFlow
- B. Art Wing Building Study (8/23)
- C. Food Service Update (8/23)
- D. Job Descriptions (8/23)
- E. Strategic Plan Review (8/23)
- F. Superintendent’s & School Committee Goals (8/23)
- G. Curriculum Cycle Review (8/23)

VII. Calendar

- A. August 15, 2017, IT Review/”Vision of RPS” at Selectmen’s Meeting – Town Hall
- B. August 23, 2017, Regular Meeting

VIII. Executive Session

N/A

Motion: Mary Porter motioned to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:18 p.m.  
Seconded: Heather Nelson seconded the motion.  
Vote: The motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Liebow  
Superintendent of Schools