

ROCKPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING
Wednesday May 17, 2018

Superintendent Robert Liebow called the regular meeting of the Rockport School Committee to order 7:00 p.m. in the MS/HS Library. Present were Nicole Altieri, Richard Drost, Colleen Coogan, and Mary Porter, Michael Kelley was absent . Recording Secretary Ingrid Keating was also present.

I. A. Re-organization, nomination of Chair and Vice-Chair

Superintendent Liebow requested a nomination for the position of chairperson.

Motion: Nicole Altieri nominated Colleen Coogan as chairperson.
Seconded: Mary Porter seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 4-0.

Chairperson Colleen Coogan requested a nomination for the position of vice-chairperson.

Motion: Colleen Coogan nominated Michael Kelley as vice-chairperson.
Seconded: Nicole Altieri seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 4-0.

Sub-committee appointments:

Budget: Mary Porter/Mike Kelley
Website/Technology/Communications/Advocacy: Nicole Altieri/Mike Kelley
Policy: Colleen Coogan/Rick Drost
School Building/Facilities: N/A
Negotiations: (RTA): Mary Porter/Colleen Coogan
Negotiations: (Support): Michael Kelley/Nicole Altieri
EL Council: Nicole Altieri
MS Council: Rick Drost
HS Council: Mary Porter
Health and Wellness: Nicole Altieri

I. Opening of Regular Meeting

A. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Nicole Altieri motioned to approve the regular minutes from May 2, 2018.
Seconded: Mary Porter seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 3-0.

B. Personnel Actions

RESIGN: Elementary School Nurse Sarah Sawyer has resigned from her position effective June 20, 2018.

LEAVE: Beth Zerilli has been granted a one year leave of absence from her Grade 3 position.

APPOINTED: Connie Lucido has been appointed to the position of Elementary School Clerk, at the Step 1 rate of the Support Staff contract which is \$15.85/hr, beginning August 27, 2018.

Michelle Notte has been appointed to the position of Elementary Grade 5 Teacher at the M-3 Rate of the Teachers Contract which is \$49,523.

Greg Twombly has been appointed to the position of High School Special Education Teacher, at the M30-3 rate of the Teachers Contract which is \$53,304.

OTHER: Beth Zerilli has been granted a permanent transfer to grade 1.

II. Community Participation

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

III. Discussion and Recommended Action

A. K-12 Science

Elementary Assistant Principal/Curriculum Coordinator Heather Castonguay presented the PreK-5 Science curriculum. The goals for the department are for teachers to examine Next Generation Science Standards, incorporate TOOLS, implement Know Atom Science, and explore Mystery Science Curriculum and increase science and technology in the classrooms. She explained the curriculum at each grade level and how it is being integrated in to the classroom. They will work to increase scientific inquiry methods, and increase the integration of reading writing, math, arts, technology and engineering. Mrs. Castonquay presented suggested instructional times in the standards and the attention to overlapping content areas which strengthens Science/Technology/Engineering learning.

Middle School Science Curriculum Coordinator Carolyn McWilliams reported that the department appreciates the great thinkers coming from the elementary school where there is focus on the standards. Mrs. McWilliams explained the new 2016 frameworks. Grade six focuses on structure and function, grade seven focuses on systems and cycles, and grade eight focuses on cause and effects. The department works on skillful thinking using graphic organizers, grading rubrics, metacognition logs, UbD curriculum, using ELA Common Core Writing and levels of mastery progresses developmentally from grade 6-8. The middle school continues field trips to Halibut State Park, Saratoga Creek, and the Millbrook Watershed. They offer science and environmental clubs and would like to add a robotics club. Their goals are to experience and revise curriculum for science and technology/engineering, finish writing grade 8 UbD units, develop new data driven instruction benchmarks in Galileo, apply existing argumentation skillful thinking strategy within new frameworks, and continue to develop grade level field trips. MCAS scores and student survey were reviewed.

High School Curriculum Coordinator William Waller explained the course offerings at the high school and would like to see a computer science class added. Mr. Waller reviewed the MCAS scores and said it will be computer based in the future. He does not know if the new policy change in the advance placements has affected the enrollment for next year, the committee is wondering if there will be positive test results from the change. Some highlights in the department are a surface debris drifter project with NOAA, surveying aquatic life in Mill Pond with NOAA, growing food in the greenhouse, telescopic observing, weather tracking, and participating in the Junior Science and Humanities Symposia in Boston.

B. K-12 Math

K-2 Math coordinator Linda Kluge reported that Number Sense is a major piece of the standard based learning, the new focus is on connections, what are the tools? Mrs. Kluge explained the math assessment supports at each grade level. Grade 3-5 Math coordinator Robyn Tibert reported on Math Data Days, the coaching models, and the math specific professional day offered last November. Staff book groups are reading "Mindsets in the Classroom" and Making Number Talks Matter". The book group outcomes will be mindset shifts in teachers, cross collaboration between RES and RMS teachers, number sense emphasis and lesson plan creation.

PreK-12 Math Specialist Jodi Goodhue reported on math professional development (PD), which includes growth mindset and 15 hours of curriculum and instructional practices. The PD focused on framework revisions, curriculum alignment by grade, grading practices, test corrections and retakes, and mixed ability grouping. Ms. Goodhue participates in co-teaching one 8th grade class twice a week and meets once a week for planning time with that teacher. The MS department will focus on growth mindset, mixed ability grouping analysis and the Next Gen MCAS. The high school professional practice goal is to develop UbD units by reviewing framework revisions, map course learning objectives, built a curriculum unit map and continue to work on goals, understandings, and essential questions. The student learning goal is DDM's in

Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. Ms. Goodhue reported on changes in courses, coaching, curriculum development, MCAS, and PD needs. Elementary Interventionist Robyn Tibert reported that it has been great coaching in the classrooms with Ms. Goodhue, they both reported on curriculum, instruction and assessment PreK-12. At the high school level students are involved; they meet with teachers to give input and feedback, attend community coffee to discuss content curriculum, answer questions at course selection night and present at RPS Gives Back in April. The math department feels they need differentiated instruction PD, building growth mindset in faculty, data driven decision making & instruction, and RTI model continued development across all grades.

C. Safety Update

Superintendent Liebow presented the Rockport Public Schools emergency response protocol for violent critical incidents and armed intruders. The goal is to have “impeccably and fully trained adults overseeing age appropriate trained students to maximize safety”. He stated that Rockport Schools will not simulate intruders with the students, they will have age appropriate drills. The committee feels we should inform families of the precautions already taken, how it is all funded, and how to handle communicating with parents/guardians regarding drills and what safety implementations children are learning at school.

D. Field trips

Motion: Mary Porter motioned to approve the Middle School Chorus field trip to Canobie Lake Park in Salem, NH, 5/25/2018, on the condition that the students be transported by bus.
Seconded: Richard Drost seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 4-0.

E. Policy Review/Proposals

N/A

F. Warrants and Payroll

IV. Information and proposals

A. School Council Update

Mary Ported suggested drafting a letter to the principals regarding the role of the school committee at school council meetings.

B. Donations

Anonymous donations totaling \$2150 to the “Bootstrap Award Fund” to support a student participate in the Atlantic Challenge 2018

The Educational Foundation for Rockport, Inc. donated \$500 to the “Bootstrap Award Fund” to support a student participate in the Atlantic Challenge 2018.

C. Updates

Sub-committee reports: N/A

D Other Business

N/A

V. Correspondence

The Committee discussed with Superintendent Liebow an email sent from Mr. & Mrs. Proposky. The committee would like the issues separated and dealt with by the appropriate supervisor or committee.

VI. Future Agenda Items

A. Superintendent’s Report/FundFlow (6/6)

B. School Handbook approval (6/6)

- C. Tech/Voc Rep Bruce Perkins (6/6)
- D. Curriculum Highlights (6/6)
- E. Superintendent's Report/FundFlow
- E. MASC Workshop (Summer)

VII. Calendar

- A. June 6, 2018, regular meeting
- B. August 22, 2018, regular meeting

VIII. Executive Session

N/A

- Motion: Mary Porter motioned to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:48 p.m.
- Seconded: Nicole Altieri seconded the motion.
- Vote: The motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Liebow
Superintendent of Schools