

ROCKPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING  
Wednesday, November 15, 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, Mary Porter, and Rebecca Sly. Also, present were Superintendent Robert Liebow and Recording Secretary Ingrid Keating and Assistant Town Administrator Mitch Vieira.

I. Opening of Regular Meeting

A. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Mary Porter motioned to approve the regular minutes and executive minutes as presented from November 1, 2017.

Seconded: Nicole Altieri seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

B. Personnel Actions

High School Special Education Teacher Jamie Hare will resign from her position effective November 22, 2017

High School Paraprofessional Mike Wilson submitted his intent to retire at the end of the 2018-2019 school year.

II. Community Participation

A. Student Advisory Representative

N/A

B. Public Participation

III. Discussion and Recommended Action

A. Rockport Teachers Association Contract

Superintendent Liebow presented the Tentative Agreement between the Rockport Teachers' Association (RTA) and the Rockport School Committee. He read and explained each revision/deletion/addition. Mr. Liebow, Colleen Coogan and Mitch Vieira all agreed that the negotiations went well thought out, all parties were very respectful and professional.

Motion: Heather Nelson motioned to approve the Strategic Plan as presented

Seconded: Rebecca Sly seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Liebow reported that the RTA met the day before and ratified the same agreement.

B. Strategic Plan

Mr. Liebow presented an updated Strategic Plan – September 2017 – June 2020. He reviewed the core values and beliefs, theory of action and strategic objectives, then spoke about various strategic priorities from each year.

Motion: Nicole Altieri motioned to ratify the Agreement between the Rockport Teachers' Association and the Rockport School Committee for the contract in effect from September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2021.

Seconded: Heather Nelson seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

C. Budget

Mr. Liebow presented the current version of the FY18 School Budget and Capital Requests. He displayed each department and explained the reasons for differences in a line item. After his presentation he and the school committee discussed how tight the budget is, increasing SPED costs (which are mandated by the state), lower enrollment, school choice, how the SPED reserve works, and how to present to the town. Public participant Scott Borgerson stated that he was impressed with the presentation of the budget, very transparent and in good a format. He also suggested that the number of employees be added to the line items to reflect how many are being paid from that school/department and to start with the SPED budget first.

E. Policy Review/Proposals

The school committee had a second reading of policies File JFBB-1 School Choice and File: JFBB School Choice.

Motion: Heather Nelson motioned to approve the review of File JFBB-1 School Choice and File: JFBB School Choice.  
Seconded: Mary Porter seconded the motion.  
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

F. Warrants and Payroll

IV. Information and proposals

A. School Council Update

Rebecca Sly reported that she receive four parents who are interested in being a candidate for Elementary School Council.

B. Donations

N/A

C. Updates

Sub-committees:

Nicole Altieri reported that the Wellness Committee met today and that there were new members; parent, board of health, state community health representative and the high school counselor Courtney Wilson. They discussed the curriculum at each school, life skills, and how to involve parents in talking about social issues and social media. They would like to offer a screening for parents and hope they can recruit teachers to invite parents to attend. The counselor is seeing an increase in anxiety and is available to meet with parents anytime.

D Other Business

V. Correspondence

N/A

VI. Future Agenda Items

- A. Administration Budget Presentation w/Public Participation (11/29)
- B. Budget Review (12/6)
- C. Sabbatical requests (12/6)
- E. Superintendent's Report/FundFlow (12/6)

VII. Calendar

- A. November 29, 2017, regular meeting
- B. December 6, 2017, regular meeting
- C. TBD, IT Review/"Vision of RPS" at Selectmen's Meeting – Town Hall

VIII. Executive Session

At 9:56 p.m. Mary Porter motioned to go into executive session to discuss the deployment of security devices and will not return to regular session.

Nicole Altieri seconded the motion a roll call was taken.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Liebow  
Superintendent of Schools