

ROCKPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING
Tuesday, November 6, 2018

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

I. Opening of Regular Meeting

A. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Michael Kelley motioned to approve the October 17, 2018 regular minutes as presented.
Seconded: Mary Porter seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

B. Personnel Actions

High School Science Teacher David Tower has submitted his intention to retire at the end of the 2018-2019 school year.
Cindy Rich has been appointed to the position of High School Guidance Administrative Assistant effective 12/3/2018 at the Step 2 rate of the Support Staff Agreement which is \$19.70/hour.
Dana Weaver has been appointed to the position of Long-Term Elementary Music Teacher Substitute beginning October 17, 2018 to November 13, 2018 at the B-1 Rate of the RTA Contract, which is \$236.44/day.

II. Community Participation

A. Student Advisory Representative

Student Representative Amanda Verga reported that the high school musical performance was held last week, this production included some middle school students. Last week 11 students were inducted in to the National Honor Society, retired Navy Seal Earl Kashida was the guest speaker and Sharon Kashida received a service appreciation award.

B. Public Participation

N/A

III. Discussion and Recommended Action

A. Math Scores and Instruction/Learning

PreK-12 Math Math Specialist Jodi Goodhue presented MCAS achievement and growth math scores by cohort, some grades have missing data if their last test was PARRC. The staff can analyze test items and standards to help them determine areas of instruction that need more attention. With this information they are able to create curricular and instructional changes to strengthen their program. The Galileo software continues to be a good source at predicting outcomes. Ms. Goodhue reported that overall the Mixed Ability Groupings are improving both students at the top and lower 25%. Peer Observations are happening at the middle and high school levels and will be implemented at the elementary with a “pineapple” (by invite) approach. Debriefings are held after the observations for constructive input. After the November MCAS retake the high school will have remediation groups during U block and the middle school will have a Math Interventionist before and after school. The department will continue to focus on Co-teaching, content and data driven decisions and work on curriculum devolvement, develop and utilize assessments to drive instruction and incorporate growth

B. Budget

Superintendent Liebow presented the FY20 budget. He created five different scenarios each one having the same expenditures but having different funding versions to demonstrate different financial impacts. He explained when an override would be needed and where the reserve balance would be with each

scenario. The message to get out is that the school department has a very frugal budget, many of the students needs are met with funds raised by the students or other groups like FRA, PTO, EdFoundation and user fees. The school is the only department that has to purchase vehicles. The town has the ability to increase taxes through a “tax levy” since Rockport is generally below the Prop 2.5% limits, which could avoid an override.

The committee discussed moving forward with other Cape Ann schools regarding a Viability/Town Wide Study. Chairperson Colleen Coogan will approach Selectperson Sarah Wilkinson for an initial meeting to organize moving forward.

C. Policy revise/review

The Policy Sub-Committee presented the following policies for a second reading:

Motion: Nicole Altieri motioned to approve the adoption or revision of the following policies as a slate:

File AC Non-Discrimination and Harassment (revised)

File GBA Equal Employment Opportunity (Adopttion)

File GCF Professional Staff Hiring (Revised)

File JB: Equal Educational Opportunities (Revised)

File JFABE Educational Opportunities for Military Children (Adopted)

File JFABF Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care (Adopted)

File JFBB School Choice (Revised)

Seconded: Mary Porter seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

D. Warrants and Payroll

IV. Information and proposals

A. School Council Update

Nicole Altieri reported that the Elementary School Council is discussing ways to promote the school budget; she reported that Elementary Librarian Katherine Schwinden helped with an override at the last district she worked at and she has some good ideas.

B. Donations

Judy Linn donated a sculpture stand and accessories to be used by the High School Art Students.

A thank you was sent to the Rockport PTO for their generous donation of roughly \$20,000 to renovate the Elementary School Library.

An anonymous donation of \$15,600 was made to replace backboards and rims, and add new fencing, lighting, and benches to the outdoor basketball court.

C. Updates

Sub-committee reports:

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Liebow reported that the camera upgrade and installation request was approved by the selectmen tonight, which had previously been denied by the FinCom committee on Monday night. The second ALICE drill will be held on November 19th, Mr. Liebow will be sending out a message to parents tomorrow with building based information.

D. Other Business

V. Correspondence

VI. Future Agenda Items

- A. Budget Workshop and Public Participation (12/5)
- B. Superintendent's Report/FundFlow (12/5)
- C. K-12 PE/Health (1/2/2019)

VII. Calendar

- A. December 5, 2018, regular meeting
- B. January 2, 2019, regular meeting

VIII. Executive Session

Motion: Mary Porter motioned to adjourn the regular meeting and enter executive session for the purpose of discussing the collective bargaining proposal between the Rockport Educational Support Staff Association and the school committee.

Seconded: Michael Kelley seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

Roll call:	Nicole Altieri	yes
	Colleen Coogan	yes
	Richard Drost	yes
	Michael Kelley	yes
	Mary Porter	yes

At 10:35pm the school committee returned to regular session and made the following motion:

Motion: Michael Kelley motioned to approve the proposed Memorandum of Agreement with the Rockport Educational Support Staff Association.

Seconded: Nicole Altieri seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

Motion: Richard Drost motioned to adjourn from the regular meeting at 10:37pm.

Seconded: Mary Porter seconded the motion

Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Liebow
Superintendent of Schools