

Chariho School Committee Meeting
Regular Session – April 9, 2024

Committee Members Attendance: Chair Catherine Giusti, Vice Chair Karen Reynolds, Donna Chambers, Tyler Champlin, Kathryn Colasante, Craig Louzon, Linda Lyall and Jessica Purcell.
Absent: Polly Hopkins, Andrew McQuaide, Larry Phelps and Patricia Pouliot.

Administrators and Others Attendance: Superintendent Gina Picard, Assistant Superintendent Michael Comella, Director of Administration and Finance Ned Draper, Systems Administrator Eric O'Brien and School Committee Clerk Donna Sieczkiewicz.

I. Meeting Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Silent Meditation

Chair Catherine Giusti called the meeting of the Chariho School Committee, held in the Chariho High School Library, to order at 6:16 PM. She asked all to please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

II. Motion/Vote to go into Executive Session

Craig Louzon made a motion, seconded by Linda Lyall and Karen Reynolds and it was VOTED: That the School Committee go into executive session and close the meeting to the public under the authority of R.I. General Laws Section 42-46-5(a)(2) for the purpose of discussion and/or action pertaining to collective bargaining (1. Discussion/Action on a Memorandum of Agreement with NEA Education Support Professionals and 2. Discussion on Memorandum of Agreement Between the Chariho Regional School District and Chariho Education Support Professionals pertaining to Article 19.1 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement); under the authority of R.I. General Laws Section 42-46-5(a)(3) for the purpose of discussion regarding the matter of security (Discussion on the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Chariho Regional School District and the Town of Richmond Pertaining to the Funding for a School Resource Officer) and under the authority of R.I. General Laws Section 42-46-5(a)(8) for the purpose of reviewing and/or approving matters which relate to the privacy of students and their records (1. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of March 26, 2024 - Home Instruction Requests and 2. Approval of Home Instruction Requests); any persons to be discussed have been so notified. In favor: Unanimous.

III. Reconvene Open Session/Pledge of Allegiance/Silent Meditation

Chair Giusti reconvened the meeting at 7:01 PM and asked all to please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

IV. Closing/Sealing of Executive Session Minutes

1. Superintendent Picard recommended that minutes relating to the privacy of students and their records (Approval of Home Instruction Requests) remain sealed.

Craig Louzon made a motion, seconded by Tyler Champlin and it was VOTED: That minutes relating to the privacy of students and their records (Approval of Home Instruction Requests) remain sealed. In favor: Unanimous.

2. Superintendent Picard recommended that minutes pertaining to collective bargaining (NEA ESP MOA) remain sealed.

Craig Louzon made a motion, seconded by Tyler Champlin and it was VOTED: That minutes pertaining to collective bargaining (NEA ESP MOA) remain sealed. In favor: Unanimous.

3. Superintendent Picard recommended that minutes pertaining to collective bargaining (Memorandum of Agreement Between the Chariho Regional School District and Chariho Education Support Professionals pertaining to Article 19.1 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement) remain sealed until such time as an agreement has been reached.

Craig Louzon made a motion, seconded by Tyler Champlin and it was VOTED: That minutes pertaining to collective bargaining (Memorandum of Agreement Between the Chariho Regional School District and Chariho Education Support Professionals pertaining to Article 19.1 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement) remain sealed until such time as an agreement has been reached. In favor: Unanimous.

4. Superintendent Picard recommended that minutes regarding the matter of security (SRO Agreement) remain sealed.

Craig Louzon made a motion, seconded by Tyler Champlin and it was VOTED: That minutes regarding the matter of security (SRO Agreement) remain sealed. In favor: Unanimous.

V. Disclosure of Executive Session Votes

Vice Chair Reynolds reported there were four votes taken in executive session. The first vote, approval of executive session minutes of March 26, 2024 – Home Instruction Requests, passed with 7 in favor and 1 abstention with Chambers, Colasante, Giusti, Louzon, Lyall, Purcell and Reynolds voting in favor and Champlin abstaining.

The second vote, approval of a home instruction request, passed with Chambers, Champlin, Colasante, Giusti, Louzon, Lyall, Purcell and Reynolds voting in favor.

The third vote, approval of an MOA with NEA ESP, passed with Chambers, Champlin, Colasante, Giusti, Lyall, Purcell and Reynolds voting in favor and Louzon abstaining.

The last vote, to return to open session, passed with Chambers, Champlin, Colasante, Giusti, Louzon, Lyall, Purcell and Reynolds voting in favor.

VI. Recognition – Superintendent Picard asked all to please join her in congratulating/thanking the following (many were unable to attend due to a conflict with sports):

1. (in attendance) 2024 SkillsUSA State Competition Medal winners. The students who earned gold medals are eligible to compete in the national competition in Georgia at the end of June. Thanks to the entire CHS and CTC staff for supporting these students, along with our other competitors, during the busy competition season. Superintendent Picard asked students to please remain over to the side once their name is called so that photos can be taken. *The 18 Gold Medals earned by Chariho tied Cranston for the MOST Gold medals earned at the competitions this year.*

Architectural Drafting	1st - Gold	Erin von Housen
Baking & Pastry	1st - Gold	Ella Murphy
Carpentry	1st - Gold	Preston Jaruta
Crime Scene Investigation	1st - Gold	Mia McNiece, Tori Babineau & Emerson Flynn
Electrical Construction Wiring	1st - Gold	Elijah Henley
Health Occupations Professional Portfolio	1st - Gold	Abigail Heim
Marine Service Technology	1st - Gold	Aidan Calianos
Nurse Assisting	1st - Gold	Amber Lambert
Teamworks	1st - Gold	Caleb Caswell, Colin Cooley, Noah Dinucci and Lucas Holloway
Technical Drafting	1st - Gold	Tucker Sargent
Welding	1st - Gold	Parker Slaughaupt
Welding Sculpture	1st - Gold	Grace Marcotte
Information Technology Services	1st - Gold	Benjamin Costa
Architectural Drafting	2nd - Silver	Lindsay Maine
Automotive Service Technology	2nd - Silver	Nicholas Paine
Baking & Pastry	2nd - Silver	Mackenzie Myers
Computer Programming	2nd - Silver	Kyle Bodnar
Criminal Justice	2nd - Silver	Josie Mastin
Electrical Construction Wiring	2nd - Silver	Jesse Desarro

First Aid-CPR	2nd - Silver	Megan Ballard
Information Technology Services	2nd - Silver	Sara Johnson
Marine Service Technology	2nd - Silver	Hudson Juenger
Welding Sculpture	2nd - Silver	Janelle Parrilla
Crime Scene Investigation	3rd - Bronze	Fiona Smith, Cassidy Moyer & Hayleigh Conklin
Criminal Justice	3rd - Bronze	Catherine Pilkington
Medical Math	3rd - Bronze	Lillian Asci

2. (in attendance) FBLA State Competition Winners. Thanks to Susie Scanapieco and FBLA Advisor Bethany MacLeod for their support of these students. Superintendent Picard asked the same of these students – to place wait after being called up so that photos can be taken.

Advertising	1 st Place	Grace MacLeod
Introduction to Business Procedures	1 st Place	Efe Koseoglu
Supply Chain Management	1 st Place	Nolan Lopes
Introduction to Business Presentation	1 st Place	Ella Murphy, Lidia Taber, Lillian Baxter
Social Media Strategies	1 st Place	Maicey MacLeod
Business Ethics	2 nd Place	Quinn Goodman
Introduction to Public Speaking	2 nd Place	Efe Koseoglu
Securities and Investments	2 nd Place	Quinn Goodman
Introduction to Business Procedures	3 rd Place	Ella Murphy

3. Postseason Awards: High School Girls' Indoor Track – Erin von Housen (All-New England – 2 mile, 1st Team All-State – 3000, 3rd Team All-State – 1000, Class Champion – 1500 & 1000, Division Champion – 600 & 3000, All-Division – 4x400, School Records – 600, 800, 1000, mile, 3000, 3200 & 2 mile) and Academic All-State); Emily Brown (3rd Team All-State – 55 Hurdles, All-Class – 600, 55 Hurdles, Long Jump & 4x400, School Record – Long Jump); Evelyn Campbell (All-Division – 4x400); Lidia Taber (All-Division – 4x400); Weeko Thompson (All-Division and All-Class – Shot Put); Chloe Babcock, Mia Cleary, Kaden Kelly, Kendra Meagher and Emmiline Wiberg (Academic All-State).

High School Boys' Indoor Track – Elias Sposato (1st Team Southern Division, 1st Team Class B, 1st Team All-State and School Record – 300); Everett Knerr, Charlie Allenson, Cam Eidam, Jared Peltier (2nd Team All-Southern Division – 4x800); Tom Golas (2nd Team Southern Division – 1500); Ethan McCann (3rd Team Southern Division – 1500); Tom Golas, Ethan McCann, Jared Peltier, Elias Sposato (3rd Team All-Class B – 4x800).

High School Girls' Basketball – Division II Team Sportsmanship Award (Coach Dan LaBelle); Keira Frias (All-State Honorable Mention, 2nd Team All-Class Division II, 1st Team Division II-A and All-Academic Team Division II); Jules White (2nd Team All-Class Division II and 1st Team Division II-A); Emily Ballard (2nd Team Division II-A and All-Academic Team Division II); Tori Babineau (2nd Team Division II-A and All-Academic Team Division II); Megan Ballard (3rd Team Division II-A and All-Academic Team Division II); Charlie Edmunds and Erin O'Leary (All-Academic Team Division II).

High School Boys' Basketball – Division II Team Sportsmanship Award (Coach Corey Downey); Owen Apice (3rd Team All-Division II); Wyatt Holt and Will Ellis (All-Academic Team Division II).

High School Gymnastics – Brooklyn Vacca (1st Team All-Division II).

High School Boys' Ice Hockey – Preston Abbott (1st Team All-Division and All-Academic Team); Mason Campbell (2nd Team All-Division); Evan Harley, Jack Loring and Lucas Beaudry (All-Academic Team).

High School Girls' Ice Hockey – Helena Beasley and Nadia McFarlane (All-Academic Team).

High School Wrestling – Ryan Currier (1st Team All-State).

VII. Public Forum

There were no requests to speak.

VIII. Business

A. Memorandum of Understanding Between the Chariho Regional School District and the Town of Richmond Pertaining to the Funding for a School Resource Officer – Superintendent Picard recommended approval of the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Chariho Regional

School District and the Town of Richmond Pertaining to the Funding for a School Resource Officer for 2024-2025. If approved, the MOU will be forwarded to the Town of Richmond for their approval.

Craig Louzon made a motion, seconded by Karen Reynolds and Tyler Champlin and it was VOTED: To approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Chariho Regional School District and the Town of Richmond pertaining to the funding for a School Resource Officer for 2024-2025. In favor: Unanimous.

B. Memorandum of Agreement Between the Chariho Regional School District and Chariho Education Support Professionals (ESP) Pertaining to Article 19.1 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement – Superintendent Picard recommended approval, per the memo from Ned Draper dated April 3, 2024, of the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Chariho Regional School District and Chariho Education Support Professionals (ESP) Pertaining to Article 19.1 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Craig Louzon made a motion, seconded by Karen Reynolds and it was VOTED: To approve the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Chariho Regional School District and Chariho Education Support Professionals (ESP) Pertaining to Article 19.1 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. In favor: Unanimous.

C. Budget Transfers – There are no transfers for April 9, 2024. Included in the packet was the FY24 Running Total. Tyler thanked Ned for this information.

D. FY24 Budget Update – Superintendent Picard asked Ned to provide a brief overview. Ned stated that this hasn't changed much but there was a positive move in healthcare. We still have a deficit but it has slowed down/stopped. Vacancies still exist so this and tuition are both positive. Due to the mild winter, we are seeing a savings in oil but we will probably have to spend more on mowing considering the amount of rain we have had. Tyler noted his appreciation to Ned for putting this information together as often as he does.

IX. Consent Agenda Items

Chair Giusti asked if there were any items that needed to be pulled. Tyler pulled A-1, A-2, A-3, A-4.

Craig Louzon made a motion, seconded by Tyler Champlin and it was VOTED: To move the remainder of the Consent Agenda Items. In favor: Unanimous.

- B. Bill Review – Accepted.
- C. Personnel Actions – None at this time.
- D. Permission to Issue Bids/Request Quote – Approved issuance of the following:
 - 1. Fuel Oil Bid
- E. Permission to Award Contracts – None at this time.
- F. Home Instruction – Action taken in executive session.
- G. Grants – None at this time.
- H. Donations – None at this time.

A-1. Craig Louzon made a motion, seconded by Linda Lyall and it was VOTED: To approve the Executive Session Minutes of March 26, 2024 – Approval of Executive Session Minutes of March 12, 2024 (minutes not sealed). In favor: Chambers, Colasante, Giusti, Louzon, Lyall, Purcell and Reynolds. Abstained: Champlin. The motion carried by a vote of 7 in favor with 1 abstention.

A-2. Craig Louzon made a motion, seconded by Linda Lyall and it was VOTED: To approve the Executive Session Minutes of March 26, 2024 – Review of Superintendent's Contract (minutes not sealed). In favor: Chambers, Colasante, Giusti, Louzon, Lyall, Purcell and Reynolds. Abstained: Champlin. The motion carried by a vote of 7 in favor with 1 abstention.

A-3. Craig Louzon made a motion, seconded by Linda Lyall and it was VOTED: To approve the Executive Session Minutes of March 26, 2024 – Memorandum of Agreement with NEA ESP (minutes not sealed). In favor: Chambers, Colasante, Giusti, Louzon, Lyall, Purcell and Reynolds. Abstained: Champlin. The motion carried by a vote of 7 in favor with 1 abstention.

A-4. Craig Louzon made a motion, seconded by Linda Lyall and it was VOTED: To approve the Regular Session Minutes of March 26, 2024. In favor: Chambers, Colasante, Giusti, Louzon, Lyall, Purcell and Reynolds. Abstained: Champlin. The motion carried by a vote of 7 in favor with 1 abstention.

X. Reports

A. Subcommittee Reports – There were no subcommittee reports.

B. Superintendent's Report

1. K Registration Update – Superintendent Picard provided an update. So far we have 24 students registered for Kindergarten in Ashaway, 30 in Charlestown and 35 in Richmond for a total of 89 overall.

2. High School Graduation will be held on Friday, June 7, 2024. It will be held at the URI Ryan Center. It is open to the public; no tickets are required. She asked School Committee members to please let the District Clerk know if they will be attending.

3. Results of All-Day Budget Referendum – As voting was still open, there were no results to share.

C. Coming Events were highlighted.

XI. School Committee Requests for Future Agenda Items or Legal Opinions

There were no requests.

XII. Adjournment

Tyler Champlin made a motion, seconded by Jessica Purcell and Karen Reynolds and it was VOTED: To adjourn at 7:24 PM. In favor: Unanimous.

Donna J. Sieczkiewicz, Clerk