APPROVED 7.16.2026

There was a regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Thursday, June 25, 2026 at the Cumberland High School Transitional Building Cafetorium, 2602 Mendon Road, Cumberland, Rhode Island.

Members Present: Amy Vogel, Keri Smith, Lisa Goldstein, Kerry Feather, Heather Chea, Jason Dean and Andrew Bacon

Administration Present: Supt. Phil Thornton, Atty. Stephan Adams

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order
Chairwoman Vogel called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Agenda Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Item #3: Approval of Agenda
Mrs. Smith made a motion to approve, 2nd Mrs. Feather, motion approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #4: Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes – 1) Regular Meeting 6/11/2026, 2) Executive Session 6/11/2026

Mrs. Chea made a motion to approve, 2nd Mrs. Feather, motion approved 7-0. For the record, Mrs. Vogel took item #3 and #4 out of order.

Agenda Item #5: Report Out of Executive Session Meeting

A. Report Out of Executive Session Meeting on 6/25/2026 – 1) Report Out of Executive Session Votes – Mrs. Vogel stated that there were no votes taken. 2) Vote to Seal Minutes of Executive Session – Mrs. Chea made a motion to seal the minutes, 2nd Mrs. Feather, motion approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #6: Personnel Announcements
Mrs. Drezek announced one unpaid personal leave of absence and three resignations.

Agenda Item #7: Superintendent's Report

A. Construction Update – Dr. Thornton stated that most of the windows are in at BFN, change in the front print – lowering and raising some of the landscape, front entrance looks good, pouring cement in the gym and cafeteria next week. NCMS – will be getting new elevator and new front entrance.

Agenda Item #8: Reports of Standing Committees

A. Policy & Procedures Sub-Committee Update – Mrs. Goldstein stated that they met on 6/11 and discussed three amendments and one new resolution. Next meeting is July 14th.
B. Fiscal Management Sub-Committee Update – Mrs. Smith stated that they did meet and discussed 18 resolutions and the payment of bills.

C. Achievement & Communications Sub-Committee Update – Mrs. Vogel stated that they would be meeting in August.
D. District Health & Wellness Sub-Committee Update – Mrs. Chea stated that they would meet in September.

Agenda Item #9: Public Hearing

A. Reading of Amended Policies – 1) H-9 Dispensing of Medication, 2) G-12 Professional Responsibility for Certified Professionals, 3) G-6 Personnel Benefit Policy for Non-Unit Administrative and Support Personnel – Mrs. Goldstein asked that all three of these policies be read into the record.
B. Reading of New Policies – 1) I-18 Cumberland Home Instruction Policy – Mrs. Goldstein asked that this policy be read into the record.
C. Public Comment Related to the Public Hearing – Jen Curry, East Greenwich, regarding I-18 – birth certificate requirement – lacks state law – SC does not have authority to add this requirement, the district justification contradicts itself, if the district is to verify ages the birth month and year should be allowed with another form – ask to strike and have parents declaration of age.

Agenda Item #10: Comments from the Public

There were no comments this evening.

Agenda Item #11: New Business

A. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Amended Policies – 1) H-9 Dispensing of Medication-Mrs. Goldstein noted that there were some slight changes – she made a motion to approve amended H-9, 2nd Mrs. Smith, motion approved 7-0. 2) G-12 Professional Responsibility for Certified Professionals – Mrs. Goldstein noted that there were minor grammatical corrections – she made a motion to approve amended G-12, 2nd Mrs. Chea, motion approved 7-0. 3) G-6 Personnel Benefit Policy for Non-Unit Administrative and Support Personnel – Mrs. Goldstein noted grammatical corrections – she made a motion to approve amended G-6, 2nd Mrs. Chea, Mrs. Smith noted that she voted in the negative earlier, she questioned the $10,000 increase to the current employee that is interested in the position – also questions budget neutral. Mrs. Feather noted that the person did not make the request – it was an understanding that the position had more responsibilities. Mrs. Smith understood that the person would not take the position without the $10,000. Dr. Thornton pointed out that there is no one out there – no one on the outside applied for the job. Mrs. Vogel questioned the Sr. Accountant making more money than the Controller – odd that its more money for less. Mrs. Smith noted again that the person on the inside that wants the position will not take the job unless the financing can be fixed. Mr. McGrath explained that the positions were updated when he came to the district and also noted that we would be getting a deal at $90,000 because those jobs are paying $100,000 to $120,000 – thinks it will be budget neutral because the job below the Controller will be taking a $5,000 cut – position needs to be adjusted. Mr. Bacon commented the Controller gets a bump and the Sr. Acct.

goes down a little – budget neutral. Motion and a second has been made, motion was approved 5-2 with Mrs. Smith and Mr. Dean in the negative.

B. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve 1st Reading of New Policies – 1) I-18 Cumberland Home Instruction Policy – Mrs. Goldstein thanked Mr. DiManna and his team for their help and then made a motion to approve the 1st reading of this policy, 2nd Mrs. Feather – Dr. Thornton explained that this is the first time for home school – birth certificate will be shown and not copied – each year when they apply, this will be necessary. Atty. Adams noted that there are forms on line that you can check if you have a birth certificate or a legal document – so Mrs. Smith asked not every single year? Atty. Adams stated that once it is in, it's in – birth certificate or a legal document. Mr. Dean asked that since we have been approving home instruction right along, is this policy more restrictive? Dr. Thornton said we have always asked for age – copy of birth certificate and Atty. Adams noted that this is less restrictive – can be a legal document or birth certificate. Mr. Dean asked public school? Atty. Adams said regarding the birth certificate – parents can appeal if they don't provide. Dr. Thornton noted that passports have been used. Mr. Dean asked is there no state policy for home schooling? Mrs. Feather stated that the guideline is from RIDE. Motion and 2nd have been made, motion approved 5-2 – Mr. Dean and Mr. Bacon in the negative.

C. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Home School Instruction Requests for the 2026-2027 SY – Mrs. Vogel stated that there were no requests.

D. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Superintendent Authorization for Next Up Transition Curriculum Contract for the CHS TRADE Program – Mrs. Smith made a motion to approve, 2nd Mr. Dean, motion approved 7-0.

E. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Superintendent Authorization for Event Contract with Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, Inc. for the 2027 Senior Prom – Mrs. Smith made a motion to approve, 2nd Mr. Dean, motion approved 7-0.

F. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Superintendent Authorization for EI US, LLC dba LearnWell Agreement for the 2026/2027 SY for Supplemental Tutors as Needed per Policy I-4 – Mrs. Smith made a motion to approve, 2nd Mr. Dean, motion approved 7-0.

G. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Resolutions:
1. SC-PR-06-2026-050- Student Assistance Services at CHS 2026/2027 SY- C3 Wellbeing Student Assistance Services
2. SC-PR-06-2026-051- GEMS-Net Partnership Renewal 2026/2027 SY- University of
Rhode Island
3. SC-PR-06-2026-052- School Psychology Intern 2026/2027 SY- Rhode Island College
4. SC-PR-06-2026-053- CHS CTE Pathways Curriculum & Teacher PD- SkillsUSA
Rhode Island
5. SC-PR-06-2026-054- BFN ES Pay Requisition #009 & Food Service Equipment
Invoice #009A- Consigli Construction Co., Inc.

6. SC-PR-06-2026-055- NCMS Elevator/Vestibule Project Invoice #2406-03 & Reimbursables Invoice #2005-02R_CE_PMC - Torrado Architects
7. SC-PR-06-2026-056- CHS- Pathways Program- 2026/2027 Renewals Law & Public Safety and Business Management & Finance Pathway- Roger Williams University
8. SC-PR-06-2026-057- CHS Science and Pre-Engineering Supplies- Project Lead
The Way, INC.
9. SC-PR-06-2026-058- Eureka Math Squared- Ashton, Community, JJM Cumberland Hill, Garvin, & BF Norton for 2026/2027 SY- Great Minds PBC
10. SC-PR-06-2026-059- School Legacy Account Renewal 2026/2027 SY- Zearn
11. SC-PR-06-2026-060- MobyMax districtwide License Renewal 2026/2027 SY- MobyMax Education, LLC
12. SC-PR-06-2026-061- Wonders Reading Materials for Additional Classrooms, K-2-McGraw-Hill LLC
13. SC-PR-06-2026-062- ELA/Math Benchmarking Platform District-Wide Renewal
2026/2027 SY- Renaissance
14. SC-PR-06-2026-063- MTSS Platform Renewal 2026/2027 SY- Branching Minds
15. SC-PR-06-2026-064- Lexia Core 5 Reading Renewal for BFN, Community, Cumberland Hill, and Garvin 2026/2027 SY- Lexia Learning Systems, LLC
16. SC-PR-06-2026-065- IXL Math & ELA Elementary School District-Wide- IXL Learning
17. SC-PR-06-2026-066- Ready-to-Teach Science Kits Consumables for Middle &
Complete Kits for Elementary- ECA Science Kit Services Ready-to-Teach
18. SC-PR-06-2026-067- 19 Chromebook Carts- CDW- G

Mrs. Smith made a motion to approve SC-PR-06-2026-050 thru 067, 2nd Mr. Dean, motion approved 7-0.

H. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Payment of Bills – Mrs. Smith made a motion to pay the Chartwell invoices in the amount of $264,101.16, 2nd Mr. Dean, motion approved 7-0.

<u>Agenda Item #12</u>: Vote to go in to Executive Session – Discussion on Items Referred to in R.I.G.L. 42-46-5
Dr. Thornton stated that there was no Executive Session tonight.

<u>Agenda Item #13</u>: Adjournment
Mrs. Feather made a motion to adjourn, 2nd Mr. Bacon, motion approved 7-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Linda A. Jackvony

June 25,2026			
ACTION	**EFFECTIVE DATE**	**NAME**	**POSITION**
Unpaid Leave of absence	26/27 school year	Nora Barrows	School Psychologist (0.6FTE) BF Norton
Resignation	06/30/2026	Catalina Chaparro	Paraprofessional SUCESS-BF Norton
Resignation	7/6/2026	Emily Iwuc	Music/Band-Cumberland High School