

## Committee

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a number of students at North Kingstown, so we have a legitimate reason for being on a search committee," Power said.

The school panel agreed that Jamestown should have a voice in the selection and agreed to continue to investigate the possibility of providing special education oversight to North Kingstown. "We are looking at long term collaboration," Kaiser added.

In his report, the superintendent said that Barrington School De-

partment representatives visited Jamestown Schools to offer insight on multi-age classrooms and looping. The educators left impressed with the integration and inclusion of special education students in Jamestown. "When they saw team teaching and the willingness of the teachers to bring students in, they said we are a model. Self-contained classrooms are a thing of the past," Power said. "Jamestown is way out in front."

Power went on to praise the Barrington School programs. "They've spent a lot of time on looping, and we will do looping at seventh-eighth grade." Principal

Kathleen Almanzor explained that looping assigns one teacher to a class for two years.

Power noted a significant number of students in Barrington who are tutored. "If you have a lot of kids getting private tutoring in addition to public schooling, it would bolster the grades," he noted.

He also said that a parent raised concerns about traffic flow during the drop-off and pick-up of students and also about the presence of dogs on school property. Power said he would work with the police "to study traffic patterns in order to ensure student safety." In addition, parents would soon be notified, by letter, of a town ordinance prohib-

iting dogs on school property.

Almanzor said she talked with the chief of police and learned that an ordinance already prohibits dogs from the school grounds, leashed or unleashed.

In the principal's report, Almanzor said she would go to a SALT (School Accountability for Learning and Teaching) meeting in Smithfield next month, doing it as part of professional development "in order to prepare for our SALT visits next year."

Almanzor also said two students from North Kingstown High School were running afterschool programs, through the Jamestown Education Fund enrichment program. Jason Gorelick teaches violin, and Alicia Lane instructs a drawing class. "It's really neat to have kids come back and teach," Almanzor added.

In her report on the Melrose Avenue School Improvement Team, Kallfelz said she met with faculty members about how to challenge an upper-end learner. She also announced a yard sale on May 12, to raise funds for the Peyton Watson Medical Fund.

From the Lawn School Improvement Team report, Almanzor announced Community Day, to be held May 24. Community members will team up with grades five to eight and present their interests to students. She also announced the spring session of after school enrichment programs will begin the week of April 9.

In a discussion about finding a new school committee lawyer, Almanzor suggested writing a letter to the editor advertising for someone to sit on the search committee.

In a legislative report, Kaiser

shared the Department of Municipal Affairs' response to her testimony on the interpretation of law S-3050 regarding unfunded mandates. She also shared the interpretation by the Department of Education that rules and regulations established prior to January are not eligible for reimbursement.

In a public forum, Kaiser assured concerned parents that special education services would not change unless to benefit, despite the committee's investigation into possibilities of shared services. "It's simply an exploration. There is no intention to change the model," Kaiser said.

Tony Rafanelli, co-chairman of the Special Education Local Advisory Committee, stood up to say he has been a part of the investigation, and assured those present that "everyone's concerns will be considered."

In correspondence, the school committee received:

- A letter from Harrison Wright, vice president of the Jamestown Historical Society, proposing the renewal of school and society joint efforts to secure a grant to support a Jamestown history room and related programs at Lawn Avenue School. Power noted he met with the historical society regarding the use of the space near the library, "but this was before program sharing." He also noted the mutual benefits, including staff development and behavior intervention, as well as financial benefit to the town. Power agreed to tell the society about the committee's consideration of leasing the room to an outside special education service provider.

- An e-mail from a parent expressing opposition to drug testing of students.



Dear Friends,

It is the proud mission of the Conanicut Island Land Trust to protect the open spaces of our island for the benefit of present and future generations. We support all legitimate efforts to achieve protection of our meadows, fields, and woodlands that otherwise would be developed. Consistent with this philosophy, we support the efforts of the Nature Services Exchange of Jamestown to find creative ways to keep our island pastures undeveloped.

With that said, we find it necessary to point out the Land Trust is not associated in any way with the "Bobolink" project which has been the subject of a recent series of full page ads in the Jamestown Press. As it has been explained to us, the project will solicit money from you to pay a landowner to refrain from mowing his field during the bobolink nesting period.

In a full page ad last week, we were told that we would be receiving in the mail a request to "invest" in the Bobolink project. In view of this announcement, we feel the need to distinguish ourselves from the Bobolink project because it has been confused with us in the past and because it regrettably comes at a time when the Land Trust and the Town are deeply involved in the permanent protection of the Neale, Dutra, and Ceppi properties. The effort to protect these parcels in the center island greenway originated in the Land Trust and has been ongoing for approximately three years. Presently, we are committed to a fund raising campaign to contribute to this important goal, and this campaign is beginning. As a result, we are concerned that confusion regarding the two projects is inevitable and, in the final analysis, could hurt our efforts to protect the greenway. Accordingly, we ask you to keep in mind that we are two different organizations asking for help to achieve significantly different objectives.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Very truly yours,

Quentin Anthony  
President

## Jamestowners named to college deans' lists

- Ian Prichett and Jennifer Poirier were recently named to the Northeastern University dean's list for the 2006 fall semester. Prichett is majoring in criminal justice and Poirier is majoring in history.

- David Marshall, a junior at Connecticut College, has been named to the dean's list for the 2006 fall semester. Marshall achieved Dean's High Honors, a recognition for students who have earned a grade point average of 3.7-4.0.

- David Desalvo was recently named to the dean's list at Maine Maritime Academy for outstanding academic achievement in the first semester of the 2006-2007 academic year. Desalvo is a freshman majoring in small vessel operations.

## Women's center honors Jamestown resident

The Women's Center of Rhode Island will honor Jamestown resident Gemma A. Guinguing during the Fifth Annual Women of Excellence Awards Luncheon at the Providence Marriott on Thursday, April 5.

Individual tickets for the event are available for \$50. Tables of eight are being sold for \$350 and tables of 10 for \$400. Guest registration will begin at 11 a.m. and the luncheon and awards ceremony will begin at noon. Several sponsorship opportunities ranging from \$250 to \$5,000 are available for organizations and individuals wishing to show their support for these inspiring women.

For more information, contact Kim Sebastiao at 861-2761.

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