

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH February 14, 2006

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES

The Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School Committee held a meeting on this date at 6:10 p.m. in the Jr. - Sr. High School Library. Members present were Susan DeSack, Chairperson; Teri Cicero, Vice Chairperson; Gregory Coutcher, Clerk; and Bill Clay. Member Paul McFadden arrived at 6:40 p.m. and left early at 9:01 p.m. Member William Munroe arrived at 7:00 p.m. Member Frank Maher was absent.

Superintendent Roy M. Seitsinger, Jr.; High School Principal Denise Boulé; and School Resource Officer Pietro Petrarca were present. Student Representative Emily DeCristofano left early at 6:40 p.m. Director of Administration Robert V. Ross; Director of Curriculum Nancy I. Daley; and Director of Special Services Maureen DeCrescenzo arrived at 7:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Chair DeSack moved to go into Executive Session at 6:10 p.m. in accordance with RIGL 42-46-4 and RIGL 42-46-5 and in accordance with RIGL 42-46-5(a)(8) for a Student Hearing, written notice having been provided to the individual informing him/her of the right to hold the hearing in open session. Seconded by Member Clay. Voted 4 – 0.

Meeting moved to Executive Session at 6:10 p.m.

Meeting reconvened to Open Session at 7:00 p.m.

No votes were taken during Executive Session.

ORDER – Chair DeSack called the meeting back to order in Open Session in accordance with RIGL 42-46-2(b) at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all and Superintendent Seitsinger read the District Mission Statement.

OPEN FORUM – None

PRESENTATION – Student Member Report – Chair DeSack announced Student Representative Emily DeCristofano was not in attendance at this time.

Chair DeSack moved to move up agenda item C. Facilities Presentation to this time and Member McFadden moved to move up agenda item G. Budget 2006 – 2007 immediately following the Facilities Presentation. Seconded by Member Munroe. Voted 6 – 0.

Facilities Presentation – Director of Maintenance Bill Plumley referenced the EWG Facilities/Maintenance Presentation handout provided to members and gave highlights and details of repairs/replacements for each building in the district. One point of interest detailed was the new lighting retrofitting implemented throughout the district buildings.

Chair DeSack asked Mr. Plumley to have the lighting contractor check the lighting over the basketball hoops in the Jr. High School gymnasium. Mr. Plumley reported on the new pump replacement in the well at Wawaloam School. Mr. Plumley and members discussed district roof estimates and repairs. Member Clay recommended Mr. Plumley obtain roofing repair estimates from the roofing contractor; and requested adding to the next School Committee agenda, a discussion of a referendum bond in order to make the necessary repairs needed throughout the district. Consensus was to add this item to the next agenda.

APT Presentation – Parent volunteer Ann McDonough introduced herself and gave details about the “Letters & Parcel of Hope” Project implemented at Wawaloam and Metcalf Schools. She showed members gifts Metcalf and Wawaloam Schools received from the 506th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron stationed in Iraq. The gifts were sent as a symbol of appreciation for items received from the “Letter & Parcel of Hope” Project at Metcalf and Wawaloam Schools. The gifts included, two incased American flags which were flown in Iraq in honor of both Metcalf and Wawaloam Schools and two folder arrangements displaying miniature flags and an explanation of where the flags were flown and for whom. Ms. McDonough read

passage from a letter received from Lt. Stephen D. Baker, 1Lt, USAF and emphasized how honored the community is to have received these items. She explained these items; along with a binder containing pictures and letters from soldiers, will be displayed at Metcalf and Wawaloam Schools. She encouraged members and community members to stop by to view the items. Ms. McDonough said the Project will take letters, trial size items, contributions for postage, and any means of support offered; as well as the names and addresses of community members serving in Iraq. She reported on three separate occasions, three servicemen visited Metcalf School upon completion of their deployments. Ms. McDonough thanked members for taking the time to allow her to share these gifts with the committee and the community. Consensus was to have Superintendent Seitsinger make arrangements for EWG TV Studio to video tape Ms. McDonough's presentation in order to make the community more aware of the Project and the honor bestowed.

BUDGET 2006 – 2007 – Superintendent Seitsinger, Director of Administration Robert Ross, and members reviewed and discussed the 2006 – 2007 Budget Summary. Members came to a consensus on all Sufficiencies, with the exception of 0.5 Math Coach (split) K – 8. School Committee recommended moving \$22,000 for video cameras to the Capital Expense fund. Member Munroe presented members with a list of budget cut suggestions. Members reviewed and discussed Member Munroe's suggestions. Members discussed allowing Member Munroe time to reflect and to continue this

discussion onto the next agenda. Vice Chair Cicero and Member Clay communicated they will not support Member Munroe's proposal. Chair DeSack directed Member Munroe to provide more detailed backup for members' review to administration by next Wednesday, February 22, 2006 in order to enclose the data in members' packets for

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discussion at the next School Committee meeting. Member Munroe asked Superintendent Seitsinger to review figures and see where further cuts could be made in

order to reach a lower number of 6.3%. There was no consensus or direction from the committee to the administration on this matter or other budget discussion, except where noted, regarding the sufficiency list.

ROUTINE ITEMS – CONSENT AGENDA – Superintendent Seitsinger gave an overview of the Consent Agenda.

Superintendent Seitsinger explained the 2/14/2006 Non-Renewal list provided in the supplemental folder this evening is the list he is recommending to take action on. Superintendent Seitsinger explained the non-renewal procedure and how notification is determined. There was a brief discussion about displaced programs. Superintendent Seitsinger explained this course of action is process;

and procedure embedded in state law and almost all of these positions will need to stay in the budget.

Member Clay moved to accept the consent agenda. Seconded by Vice Chair Cicero.

Voted 6 – 0.

The following items were approved:

A. Minutes – Regular Minutes of January 24, 2006, Budget Workshop Minutes of January 11, 17, 19, 23, 31, and February 2, 2006.

B. Personnel Items

1. Appointments

2. Leaves of absence – (As Recommended by the Superintendent)

a. Request from Sharon Lee to continue her leave of absence from her High School Science Teacher position, in order to complete her experience at RIDE as a High School Reform Fellow Teacher for the 2006 – 2007 school year.

3. Resignations – (As Recommended by the Superintendent, with Regret)

a. Letter of Resignation from Jared Lewis as Head Baseball Coach, with regret, effective January 25, 2006.

b. Letter of Resignation from Laura Ervin as 1.0 FTE, Metcalf

Custodian, with regret, effective February 13, 2006.

4. Non-Renewals – (As Recommended by the Superintendent)

a. See Attached (February 14, 2006) List

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C. Bills – In the amount of \$110,532.24

End Consent Agenda

Superintendent Seitsinger read the list of Correspondence.

D. Correspondence – (1) February 2006 Board & Administrator Newsletter, (2) January 2006 Metcalf Elementary School Newsletter, (3) E-mail from Sr. High Art Teacher Elizabeth Lind regarding Art News, (4) Sr. High Military and Higher Education Request to Hold Information 2005-06 School Year Data, (5) RIAEA Letter to the Superintendent regarding Youth Art Month, (6) ~~REVISED~~ School Committee Presentation Schedule for 2006, (7) E-Mail from Jr. – Sr. High School Band Teacher Gregg Charest Regarding Sr. High Jazz Ensemble, (8) Letter to Town of Exeter Board of Canvassers from Exeter Town Council President William Devanney

Member Clay referenced correspondence (8) Letter to Town of Exeter Board of Canvassers from Exeter Town Council President William

Devanney and asked this item be brought forward to the next School Committee agenda for discussion.

Superintendent Seitsinger referenced correspondence (6) REVISED School Committee Presentation Schedule for 2006 and explained why it may be necessary to hold an additional School Committee meeting on March 7, 2006. Chair DeSack recommended this item be placed on the next agenda for a vote.

MONTHLY STATUS REPORTS – Superintendent – Superintendent Seitsinger recommended adding his Superintendent’s Status Report topic Substitute Strategy to the next agenda for discussion. There was a very brief discussion about the district’s substitute pay rate.

Business – No discussion.

Curriculum – No discussion.

Special Education – No discussion.

Maintenance – This item was addressed during the Facilities Presentation.

MONTHLY BUDGET PROJECTION 2005 – 2006 – Some members and administrators briefly discussed the 2005 -2006 budget balance and the probability of 2005 – 2006 enrollment growth for the Special

Service Department.

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**MONTHLY SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT – Policy Committee Report –
No discussion.**

**NEW BUSINESS – Policy #5130 – School Property Usage – 1st
Reading – Member Clay asked members to review underlined text in
section 8. Members did not voice any questions or concerns
regarding this policy. This item will be placed on the next School
Committee agenda for a 2nd Reading.**

**Policy #6405 – Screening Potential Employees and School Volunteers
– 1st Reading – Superintendent Seitsinger and members discussed
which category of district volunteers should be required to obtain a
Criminal Background Check; and the present Criminal Background
Check requirements implemented for newly hired district employees.
Members voiced their recommendations, views, and opinions
concerning this matter.**

**With regard to school volunteers, consensus of the committee was to
especially require Criminal Background Checks on unsupervised
volunteers who oversee students and/or have direct contact with
students. This item will continue onto the next agenda for a 2nd**

Reading.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Policy #3901 – Use of School Funds to Communicate

with Town Residents – 2nd Reading – Members exchanged views and concerns

relating to the need for policy language to clarify this policy is significant to the dissemination of School Committee business only and will not interfere with day to day management decisions or emergency situations. It was also suggested policy language reflect assurance of School Committee approval prior to dissemination.

The policy committee will address members' suggested revisions.

This policy will be carried over to the next School Committee agenda for Adoption.

Policy #8608 – Access to Students' Personal and Academic Information – 2nd Reading – No discussion. This item will be placed on the next School Committee agenda for Adoption.

Tentative School Calendar Proposal – Superintendent Seitsinger reported there may be a need to amend December 22, 2006 Vacation Day to January 2, 2007. He explained he will need to check contract language to be sure dates are appropriately within state law. Consensus of the committee was to table approval of the school calendar to the next agenda.

EWG Sports 4 Kids – Track Project Access and Track Easement Language – No discussion.

Sr. High School After School Programs – Superintendent Seitsinger explained Administration is seeking School Committee approval to move forward with two Sr. High School After School Ramp-Up Programs; E-Portfolio and Foundations of Writing. Superintendent Seitsinger gave details relating to the programs.

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Member Clay moved to authorize the Sr. High School After School Programs.

Discussion: Some members voiced concerns relating to cost implications and the need for more details. Superintendent Seitsinger confirmed the pay rate is based on contract language; and will be categorized as per diem. Some members voiced concerns regarding obligating funds for an uncertain amount. Superintendent Seitsinger reported a rough estimate of \$1,500 per course.

Vice Chair Cicero second Member Clay's motion to authorize the Sr. High School After school Programs.

After another brief discussion among members, Member Clay

withdrew his motion and amended his motion to authorize \$4,000 for the Sr. High School After School Programs. Vice Chair Cicero seconded. Voted 6 – 0.

Emergency Planning Committee Bylaws – No discussion.

2004-2005 Money Held Back by Exeter – There was a very brief discussion concerning this matter.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS – None

IMPORTANT DATES AND MEETINGS – February 13 – 17 2006 – EWG Alumni

Art Show (at the Administration Building), February 17, 2006 – Alumni Art Show Reception @ 2PM, February 20, 2006 – Presidents' Day, February 20 – 24, 2006 – Winter Recess, February 28, 2006 – School Committee Meeting-(Open for Budget Discussion), March 6, 2006 – Key Work Meeting at East Greenwich High School, March 7, 2006 – School Committee Meeting-(Budget Adoption), March 14, 2006 – School Committee Meeting, March 28, 2006 – School Committee Meeting-Metcalf School Presentation-(at Metcalf School)

Chair DeSack asked members to add Joint Meeting on March 2, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. to the Important Dates and Meetings list.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Chair DeSack moved to go into Executive

Session at

9:00 p.m. in accordance with RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) for the purpose of discussion regarding Collective Bargaining Agreement. Seconded by Member Clay. Voted 6 - 0.

Meeting recessed to Executive Session at 9:00 p.m.

Member McFadden left early at 9:01 p.m.

Meeting reconvened to Open Session at 9:20 p.m.

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Chair DeSack called the meeting back to order in open session in accordance with RIGL 42-46-2(b) at 9:20 p.m.

No votes were taken during Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT – Vice Chair Cicero moved to adjourn at 9:20 p.m.

Seconded by Member Clay. Voted 5 - 0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

ROBIN CERIO

CLERK