

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH April 25, 2006

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES

The Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School Committee held a meeting on this date at

7:00 p.m. in the Exeter-West Greenwich Jr. – Sr. High School Library. Members present were Susan DeSack, Chairperson; Teri Cicero, Vice Chairperson; Gregory Coutcher, Clerk; Bill Clay, Paul McFadden, Frank Maher and William Munroe. Superintendent Roy M. Seitsinger, Jr.; Director of Curriculum Nancy I. Daley; Director of Administration Robert V. Ross; and Director of Special Services Maureen DeCrescenzo were present. Student Member Emily DeCristofano was absent.

ORDER – Chair DeSack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all and Member Maher read the District Mission Statement.

OPEN FORUM – Clerk Coutcher reminded the residents of West Greenwich a town meeting will be held tomorrow night, Wednesday, April 26, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium regarding a bond referendum to preserve town land.

PRESENTATION – Special Education Presentation – Director of Special Services Maureen DeCrescenzo referenced informational packets she provided to members and gave a detailed overview of programs offered to EWG special education students grades PK - age 21, an in-depth update on Reauthorization IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act) 2005; particularly the new guidelines used in identifying students with learning disabilities, and an explanation of the impact of Response to Intervention on Learning Disabilities Identification. Ms. DeCrescenzo reported the census taken just prior to spring recess tallied 392 EWG special education students, gave a breakdown of special education student population by building as of April 25, 2006, and an overview of special education by disability as of April 25, 2006. Some general discussion took place about speech, physical, occupational, and therapeutic services provided to students that are subject to reimbursement for those students eligible for Medicaid, the majority of the 392 students receiving services live in the community, and group home enrollment/placement. Ms. DeCrescenzo presented members with a PK – 12 Special Education Classroom Picture Album highlighting the various services students receive and explained how those services help students become successful. She explained some students receiving services become successful learners and are exited from the special service program prior to graduation. And reported, next year the department and the district will implement a pilot program (Response to Intervention) and hopes to see a decline in referrals. Ms. DeCrescenzo encouraged members to visit the programs

throughout district. Vice Chair Cicero voiced her opinion that early intervention programs are critical and do work.

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NECAP Testing Results Presentation – Director of Curriculum Nancy Daley gave a PowerPoint presentation and summarized the New England Common Assessment Program testing results. She explained the NECAP program and its background to members and showed how to read and understand student reports. She said the data is available on line on the RI Department of Education website. Ms. Daley explained the district receives an item analysis report which reflects the previous year’s results. She said all students, including special education students; unless significantly cognitively deficient, take the same test. Some accommodations are available, (i.e. length of time to take the test and location of test taking) to all students. Ms. Daley reported this is the first year the district scored above average with the state, 941 students participated in testing, and this test was very different from what they’re accustomed to taking. Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District outperformed Chariho, Coventry, and Westerly. Ms. Daley explained test scorers must follow a scoring guide, complete training, and have a basis of education to ensure accurate calibration. Superintendent Seitsinger reported on average southern RI districts demonstrated the best

results in the entire state.

Student Member Report - None

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

Member Clay requested agenda item B. II. a. pulled from the consent agenda.

Member Munroe requested agenda item C. Bills pulled from the consent agenda.

Member McFadden requested agenda item A. Executive Session II Minutes of April 11, 2006 pulled from the consent agenda.

Chair DeSack asked for clarification that procedure is followed and coaches are not being appointed to a team their child is a member of. The Superintendent confirmed procedure is being followed.

Member Clay moved to accept the consent agenda with items B. II. a., C. Bills, and A. Executive Session II Minutes of April 11, 2006 pulled. Seconded by Member Maher. Voted 7 – 0.

The following items were approved:

I. Routine Items

Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes – (ENCLOSED) – Regular Minutes of April 11, 2006

B. Personnel Items

1. Appointments – (As Recommended by the Superintendent)

a. Patricia Federico as Jr. High School Assistant Softball Coach, Stipend – One-half of \$2,647.00, for the 2005 – 2006 season, effective April 25, 2006

2. Leaves of Absence

3. Resignations

4. Non-Renewals

5. Grievances

D. Home School Approvals

End Consent Agenda

Superintendent Seitsinger read the list of Correspondence.

E. Correspondence – (ENCLOSED) – (1) Letter to Mr. Ross from UMass Medical School Subcontractor to Compuclaim, (2) Memo to Superintendent Seitsinger from RI National Guard State Family Program Director Regarding Letter of Commendation, (3) cc: of Letter of Support from EWG School Committee to RIASC and SORICO, (4) March 14, 2006 APT Meeting Minutes, (5) April 14, 2006 Providence Journal Articles-2006 All-State Wrestling and Girls' Basketball, (6) Memo to School Committee members from the Superintendent Regarding Residency Affidavit Confirmation

Referencing correspondence (1), Member Maher requested this item continue onto the next agenda for clarification/discussion.

NEW BUSINESS – Strategic Planning Recommendation – Superintendent Seitsinger asked this item be carried to the next agenda, as he is awaiting more information regarding this matter.

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Policies – Review and Adoption – 7810-Homework - Revision – Member McFadden voiced his recommendation to revise policy language to include homework, once completed and collected, be returned by the teacher to the student in a timely fashion. A brief discussion took place relating to policy language. Further revisions will be made and this item will carry over to the next agenda.

8513-Bullying and Hazing - Revision – Vice Chair Cicero moved to adopt Policy 8513-Bullying and Hazing as revised. Seconded by Member Clerk Coutcher. Voted 7 – 0.

Bid Approvals – Members did not express any questions or concerns regarding the bid approvals. Member Clay moved to accept bids 1 – 7. Member Maher seconded. Voted 7 – 0.

The following bids were accepted, as per Director of Administration Robert Ross' recommendation:

Boiler Cleaning and Repair

Inspection and Maintenance of Elevators

Storm Drain Cleaning

Inspection and Maintenance of Fire Extinguishers

Septic System Pumping

Inspection and Maintenance of Fire Alarm Systems

Rubbish Removal

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Policies – Review and Adoption – 2300-School Safety Plans-Crisis and Emergency Response Management - Adoption – Vice Chair Cicero moved to adopt Policy 2300-School Safety Plans-Crisis and Emergency Response Management. Seconded by Member Clay. Voted 7 – 0.

3201-Annual Budget Process – 2nd Reading – Member Clay reported members' April 11, 2006 suggested revisions were made. This policy will continue onto the next agenda for adoption.

3206-District Financial Meeting – 2nd Reading – There was a brief discussion regarding policy language concerning the moderator. This policy will continue onto the next agenda for adoption.

2004-2005 Money Held Back by Exeter – Superintendent Seitsinger conveyed there is no additional information to report at this time.

REPORTS/COMMENTS – Chair DeSack reverted back to items pulled from the consents agenda.

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Member McFadden pulled consent agenda item Executive Session II

Minutes of April 11, 2006 for discussion. He asked the minutes be amended to reflect the amount of time the music and physical education teachers went to the classrooms. Consensus was the minutes will be amended and brought to the next meeting for approval.

Member Clay pulled consent agenda item, a. Request from Mary L. Greboval for an extension of her leave of absence to include the school year 2006 – 2007 for discussion. He voiced his opinion regarding this matter. There was a brief discussion regarding the reason for the request. Consensus of the committee was to have the Superintendent seek clarifying information regarding the reason for the request and permission to share the information with members.

Member McFadden moved to carry over a. Request from Mary L. Greboval for an extension of her leave of absence to include the school year 2006 – 2007 to the next meeting agenda for a vote. Member Munroe added, “Based on her explanation.” Seconded by Clerk Coutcher. Voted 5 – 2. Members Clay and Munroe voted no.

Member Munroe pulled consent agenda item, C. Bills – In the amount of \$ 400,024.62 for discussion. He questioned what vendor expenditure; page 11 to the Town of West Greenwich was for. Director of Administration Robert Ross and Superintendent Seitsinger explained the expenditure was for the Student Resource Officer’s salary which is a service the district purchases.

Clerk Coutcher moved to accept consent agenda item C. Bills – In the amount of \$400,024.62. Seconded by Member Munroe. Voted 7 - 0.

IMPORTANT DATES AND MEETINGS – April 29, 2006 – Bond Referendum Work Session, May 9, 2006 – School Committee Meeting-(at Wawaloam School-Lineham/Wawaloam School Presentation), May 23, 2006 – School Committee Meeting-(Jr. High School Presentation), May 29, 2006 – Memorial Day, June 5, 2006 – Last Day for Seniors, June 10, 2006 – Graduation Day, June 13, 2006 – School Committee Meeting, June 20, 2006 – 180th Day of School

Chair DeSack reminded members about the Bond Referendum Work Session scheduled for this Saturday - April 29, 2006, confirmed it has been posted, and asked if members would be able to attend. Member Maher said he is unsure of his availability.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Chair DeSack moved to go into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. in accordance with RIGL 42-45-5(a) (2) for the purpose of discussion regarding Collective Bargaining Agreement. Seconded by Member Maher. Voted 7 – 0.

Meeting recessed to Executive Session at 8:45 p.m.

Meeting reconvened to Open Session at 9:00 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 9:00 p.m.

No votes were taken during Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT – Vice Chair Cicero moved to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. Seconded by Member Clay. Voted 7 – 0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

ROBIN CERIO

CLERK