

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH March 11, 2008

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES

The Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District 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, Gregory Coutcher, Clerk; Frank Maher; Mary Walsh; William Munroe; and Robert Bollengier. Vice Chair Cicero was absent. Superintendent Thomas J. Geismar; Director of Administration Robert V. Ross; Director of Curriculum Nancy I. Daley; Director of Special Services Carmella Farrar; and Student Member Katherine Matook were present.

ORDER – Chair DeSack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all and Chair DeSack read the District Mission Statement.

OPEN FORUM – None

PRESENTATION – Student Member Report – Student Member Matook updated members on spring sports and other activities taking place at the Senior High School. She reported that students are enjoying the new healthier choices offered in the school cafeteria.

ROUTINE ITEMS – CONSENT AGENDA – Superintendent Geismar

gave an overview of the Consent Agenda. He advised members that Maryhelen Chiulli's appointment as Jr. High School softball coach is contingent upon receipt of her Coaching Certificate which she has applied for.

Member Bollengier moved to accept the consent agenda. Seconded by Clerk Coutcher. Voted 6 – 0 in favor.

The following items were approved:

A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Minutes of February 26, 2008

B. Personnel Items

1. Appointments – (As Recommended by the Superintendent) – (No changes to budgeted FTE's)

a. Maryhelen Chiulli as Junior High School Softball Coach, Stipend \$2,746; effective for the 2007 – 2008 season

2. Leaves of Absence

3. Resignations

4. Grievances

5. Non-Renewals

6. Recalls

7. Sabbaticals

C. Bills – In the amount of \$63,667.63

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D. Home School Approvals – (As Recommended by the Superintendent)

1. DALLAS – Safiatu Bah

2. CARPENTER – Laura, Leah, Kristen

3. COMIRE – Justine, Amy, Julia, Morgan, Levi

End Consent Agenda

Correspondence – None

Monthly Status Reports- Superintendent – Members did not express questions or comments regarding the Monthly Status Reports.

Business

Curriculum

Special Education

Maintenance

Technology

Monthly Budget Projection 2007 – 2008 – Members did not express any questions, concerns, or comments regarding the 07/08 Budget Projection.

NEW BUSINESS – Final Budget 2008 – 2009 – Adoption – Member Walsh moved to adopt the Final Budget proposal as presented in the packet. Seconded by Member Bollengier. Voted 5 – 1 in favor. Member Munroe voted no.

Approve Position/Job Description for Sr. Computer Support Technician – In response to Member Bollengier’s inquiry, the Superintendent confirmed that this position will replace the two recent vacancies in the Technology Department.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NECAP Testing Results – Superintendent Geismar requested that the School Committee schedule a workshop to discuss the test results and the district’s plans for improvement and to invite parents to attend. He said that tomorrow he, Director of Curriculum Nancy Daley, and Principal Boulé are attending the RIDE workshop for understanding and interpreting the high school scores. Members asked clarifying questions and discussed the details of the district’s impending NECAP workshop. Consensus of the committee was to schedule the workshop for a weekday evening, perhaps on a Tuesday, from 6:00 – 9:00. Chair DeSack advised that posting this as a workshop and because no action will be taken at the workshop, a quorum will not be required to validate the meeting.

SORICO Legislation – Superintendent Geismar reported that as per the request of the School Committee he spoke with SORICO Executive Director Lizann Gibson regarding the pending legislation. She said that the proposed realignment of districts was based

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strictly upon geography and that the legislation is pending. Member Munroe requested a copy of the legislation.

2008 – 2009 School Calendar Approval – Superintendent Geismar advised that he has not yet received feedback from the EWG Teachers' Association regarding the 08/09 School Calendar. Member Bollengier recommended rescheduling the September 9, 2008 School Committee meeting date to Wednesday, September 10, 2008 because September 9th is also Primary Day and school will be closed that day. Consensus of the committee was that the suggested change to the calendar will be made and this item will continue to the next regular meeting agenda for approval.

Wawaloam Fire Alarm/Egress Issue – Director of Administration Robert Ross reported that he attended the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review meeting on March 4, 2008. The Board denied the variance that the District had partitioned for concerning the egress issue. The Board has given the District until April 29, 2008 to work with the architect and the fire marshal to design/approve an egress plan for Wawaloam School. The fire marshal is out of town and will return to Rhode Island on April 4, 2008. Torrado Architects has incorporated the egress issue into the capital bond project. The project would be performed during the summer of 2008. Mr. Ross answered members clarifying questions regarding what other districts are doing to address fire code issues, the surplus from Metcalf School's fire alarm funds, the funding of Metcalf School's

gymnasium floor renovation, and the status of Lineham School and fire code. Mr. Ross said that he will continue to keep members updated on this matter.

Bond Discussion – Superintendent Geismar referenced the memo enclosed in members’ supplemental packets from Commissioner McWalters to the Board of Regents recommending to approve the District’s bond project on March 13, 2008 with a 56% state reimbursement rate. In response to Member Munroe’s inquiry, Chair DeSack agreed to have administration research when the state will approve the reimbursement to the District.

Member Bollengier requested to revise the February 26, 2008 Building Committee meeting minutes to clarify that the meeting time was 7:00 a.m. and not 7:00 p.m.

Health Care Discussion – Director of Administration Robert Ross reported that he continues his efforts in the process of obtaining a healthcare proposal from United Health.

REPORTS/COMMENTS –

IMPORTANT DATES AND MEETINGS – Monday, March 24, 2008-Public Hearing; Tuesday, March 25, 2008-School Committee Meeting-(Metcalf Presentation @ Metcalf School); Monday, April 7, 2008-District Financial Meeting;

Tuesday, April 8, 2008-School Committee Meeting-(High School Presentation); Tuesday, April 22, 2008-School Committee Meeting-(Jr. High School Presentation)

Chair DeSack advised members that the April 7, 2008 District Financial Meeting needs to be rescheduled to the second or third Monday in April. She recommended that, since the second Monday in April starts school vacation week, the DFM be rescheduled to April 21, 2008. Members discussed the need to set plans to accommodate a large crowd. Chair DeSack and Superintendent Geismar assured members that plans will be in place to manage a large turnout. Chair DeSack suggested that a second Public Hearing may need to be arranged in view of the fact that there is such a long break between the March 24th Public Hearing and the April 21st DFM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – RIGL 42-46-4 AND RIGL 42-46-5 – None

ADJOURNMENT – Member Walsh moved to adjourn at 7:47 p.m. Seconded by Member Bollengier. Voted 6 - 0 in favor. Meeting adjourned 7:47p.m.

ROBIN CERIO

CLERK