

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH January 13, 2009

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 Auditorium/Library. Members present were Susan DeSack, Chairperson; Teri Cicero, Vice Chairperson; Gregory Coutcher, Clerk; Valerie Zuercher; Mark Rafanelli, Robert Bollengier, and Mary Walsh. Superintendent Thomas J. Geismar; Director of Administration Robert V. Ross; Director of Curriculum Nancy I. Daley, and Director of Special Services Carmella Farrar were present. Student Member Katherine Matook left the meeting early at 7:46 p.m.

ORDER – Chair DeSack called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all and Clerk Coutcher read the District Mission Statement.

PRESENTATION – Recognition/Achievements – EWG Senior High School Football Team – Superintendent Geismar acknowledged the EWG Sr. High School Football Team coaches and teammates as the 2008 Division IV Super Bowl Champions. Dr. Geismar called each player forward to receive a recognition pin. On behalf of the School Committee, Chair DeSack and Vice Chair Cicero presented the team

with a championship banner. Coach Messier and Assistant Coaches Jim and Steve Alves were each presented with a “School Committee Apple Recognition Award” for a job well done. Chair DeSack expressed her opinion that the football program has come a long way in her six-years as a School Committee member. She said that the coaches and students have done an amazing job and have represented the school district in a way that the Committee would have wanted them to.

The following students/players were recognized:

- 1. Nicholas Cominos, (CB/WR, Freshman)**
- 2. Justin DaRosa, (OL/DL, Junior)**
- 3. Alex Desirey (DE/OL/OT, Sophomore)**
- 4. Joshua Dion (OL/LB, Freshman)**
- 5. Joseph Ferle (WR/CB, Captain, Senior)**
- 6. Gibson Fines (RB/CB, Captain, Senior)**
- 7. William Gannon (OL/DL, Junior)**
- 8. Alfred Georgio (RB/CB, leading rusher, Sophomore)**
- 9. Zachary Hornoff (QB/S, Captain, Senior)**
- 10. Arthur Huber (WR/S, Freshman)**
- 11. Kyle Johansen (G/LB, Junior)**
- 12. Ryan Lacombe (TE/LB, Junior)**
- 13. Joel Lake, (TE/DE, Senior)**
- 14. John Marshall (FB/K, Senior)**
- 15. Zachary McGraw (C/DL, Senior)**

- 16. Andrew Persechino (WR/CB, Freshman)**
- 17. Brian Philbert (OT/DE, Junior)**
- 18. Robert Prashaw (OG/LB, Junior)**
- 19. Andrew Read (OL/DL, Freshman)**
- 20. James Read (OL/DL, Sophomore)**
- 21. Joshua Ritter (OL/DL, Senior)**
- 22. Ryan Rawsley, TE/DT, Senior)**
- 23. Fred Seymour (OT/DT, Captain, Senior)**
- 24. Nicholas Shuckerow (RB/CB, Freshman)**
- 25. Jeffrey Silva (G/LB, Sophomore)**
- 26. Stephen Springer (WR/CB, Freshman)**
- 27. Lee Stamos (WR/CB, Freshman)**
- 28. Adam Sweeney (FB/LB, Junior)**
- 29. Matthew Varone (BC/WR, Senior)**

After a brief refreshment break, the Committee relocated to the library to complete the remainder of the meeting.

Student Member Report – Student Member Matook gave an overview of various past and upcoming student activities/events at the senior high school.

OPEN FORUM – None

SCHOOL COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION – Elections of School Committee Chair, Vice Chair, Clerk, RIASC Delegate, and SORICO – Vice Chair Cicero moved to nominate Susan DeSack as Chair of the School Committee. Seconded by Clerk Coutcher. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

Clerk Coutcher moved to nominate Teri Cicero as Vice Chair of the School Committee. Seconded by Member Zuercher. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

Member Zuercher moved to nominate Gregory Coutcher as Clerk of the School Committee. Seconded by Member Walsh. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

Vice Chair Cicero moved to nominate Chair DeSack as RIASC Delegate. Seconded by Clerk Coutcher. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

Vice Chair Cicero moved to nominate Member Walsh as SORICO Representative. Seconded by Member Bollengier. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

Student Member Matook left the meeting at this time, (7:46 p.m.).

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER ASSIGNMENTS – Chair DeSack gave an overview of each School Committee Standing Committee position and members indicated if they were interested in serving. The mission of the Kindergarten

Subcommittee was reviewed. Chair DeSack reminded members that Clerk Coutcher and Member Walsh currently serve on that (short-term) subcommittee. She asked members to let her know if any of them are interested in filling the available seat that was vacated by an outgoing member.

The outcome of the School Committee Organization Assignments is as follows:

Graduation Team (2) Member Zuercher, Clerk Coutcher

Exeter Town Council Liaison (1) Member Mary Walsh

WG Town Council Liaison (1) Clerk Coutcher

Curriculum Director Liaison (1) Member Zuercher

Legislation Action Group (1) Chair DeSack

Food Service Liaison (1) Vice Chair Cicero

Career & Tech. Centers (1) Member Bollengier

SALT Visit Reps (2) Vice Chair Cicero, Member Rafanelli

District Improvement (3) Chair DeSack, Members Rafanelli & Zuercher

**Transportation Subcommittee (2) Member Bollengier, Clerk Coutcher
Policy Subcommittee (2) Vice Chair Cicero, Member Bollengier
Health and Wellness (2) Vice Chair Cicero, Member Walsh**

REVIEW IMPORTANT DATES – Chair DeSack requested that the 2009 School Committee Meeting Dates be reviewed once again for conflicts with 2009 Town Meeting Dates. If a conflict is found, she requested that the schedule be brought back to the Committee once again. Chair DeSack confirmed that the Budget Discussion/Workshops and the Joint Meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m. She gave a brief overview of the scheduled meetings and the budget process. Consensus of the Committee was to stay with the various meeting dates as presented.

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

In response to Member Bollengier’s inquiry regarding consent agenda item, BILLS – Gatekeeper Admin. & Consu: payment of \$1,338.75, Director of Administration Robert Ross confirmed that presently, as per School Committee approval on September 10, 2008, the District is paying Gatekeeper as the third party provider of the 403(b).

Member Bollengier moved to accept the consent agenda. Seconded by Vice Chair Cicero. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

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The following items were approved:

A. Approval of Minutes - Regular Minutes of December 9, 2008; Special Meeting Minutes of December 16, 2008; Joint Meeting of December 16, 2008

B. Personnel Items

1. Appointments

2. Leaves of Absence

3. Resignations

4. Grievances

5. Recalls

6. Non-Renewals

7. Sabbaticals

C. Bills – In the amount of \$345,092.44

D. Home School Approvals

End Consent Agenda

Chair DeSack referenced Correspondence (2) and requested that going forward, the Superintendent inform the School Committee of

any policy or procedural changes prior to issuing notification to parents.

Correspondence – (1) January 7, 2009 Memorandum from Director of Administrator Robert Ross to School Committee Regarding Estimated Cost Savings Information supplied to the State; (2) January 13, 2009 Memorandum from Superintendent Geismar to School Committee Regarding Breathalyzers at School Dances; (3) January 12, 2009 Memorandum from Superintendent Geismar to School Committee Regarding Governor’s Supplemental FY 2009 Budget with Attachments; (4) RIASC Management Rights Seminar Registration Brochure

MONTHLY STATUS REPORTS – Superintendent – Members did not express questions or concerns regarding the Monthly Status Reports.

Business –

Curriculum –

Special Services –

Maintenance –

Technology –

NEW BUSINESS – Request Approval of GEMS-NET MOU 2009 – 2012

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Member Bollengier moved to approve the GEMS-NET M.O.U. 2009 – 2012. Seconded by Clerk Coutcher.

In response to Vice Chair Cicero's inquiry, Director of Curriculum Nancy Daley reported that the District is fine in terms of GEMS-NET's, (K-8 Science Program) alignment with Grade Span Expectations.

Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

Transportation of a Non-District Student – Member Bollengier expressed his opinion that the Committee would be imposing a disproportionate share on the parents of the non-district student if it should decide to charge the going IRS rate of .585 cents per mile for a bus that the District already uses to transport students. Although, he said, that he is not opposed to the fee. He suggested that theoretically the cost of the bus could be factored as a per student cost. He asked if the District is in the business of making money on a student. Chair DeSack said that the transportation is to service and convenience the parent. It is not Exeter-West Greenwich School District's obligation to transport the student. She suggested that a flat fee of \$25 or \$30 per day could be implemented instead of using the IRS mile rate. Clerk Coutcher voiced his concern regarding District liability and asked if the District attorney was consulted. Director of Administration Robert Ross said that he checked with the District insurance provider and with First Student. First Student has insurance and the District is listed as the second insured. Therefore,

First Student's insurance carrier covers payment.

Member Rafanelli made a motion to charge a flat fee of \$30 per day to transport the [out-of-district] student. Seconded by Vice Chair Cicero. Voted 6 – 0 – 1 in favor. Member Bollengier abstained.

Member Bollengier requested Chair DeSack's permission to retract his vote. He said that he will support the motion.

Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Policies-Review and Adoption - #6202: Special Education Staffing Policy – 2nd Reading – This item will continue to the next regular meeting agenda for adoption.

Policies-Review and Adoption - #6313: Hiring Non-Certified Employees – Adoption – Vice Chair Cicero moved to adopt Policy #6313. Seconded by Clerk Coutcher. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

#6310: Recruiting, Selecting, and Appointing Teaching Staff – Adoption –

Vice Chair Cicero moved to adopt Policy #6310. Seconded by Clerk Coutcher. Voted

7 – 0 in favor.

Capital Project Update – Superintendent Geismar reported that the Metcalf School’s gymnasium wood floor has been repaired and a system was installed to stabilize the bleachers.

REPORTS/COMMENTS – None

IMPORTANT DATES AND MEETINGS – Wednesday, January 14, 2009-Capital Bond Building Committee Meeting; Tuesday, January 20, 2009-Budget Discussion; Wednesday, January 21, 2009-Capital Bond Building Committee Meeting; Thursday, January 22, 2009-Joint Meeting; Tuesday, January 27, 2009-School Committee Meeting; Wednesday, January 28, 2009-Capital Bond Building Committee Meeting; Tuesday, February 3, 2009-Budget Discussion (if needed); Tuesday, February 10, 2009-School Committee Meeting (Facilities Presentation); Friday, February 20, 2009-Notice to Canvasser; Tuesday, February 24, 2009-School Committee Meeting; Tuesday, March 3, 2009-Joint Meeting; Wednesday, March 4, 2009-Budget Workshop; Tuesday, March 10, 2009-School Committee Meeting (Budget Adoption); Monday, March 23, 2009-Public Hearing; Tuesday, March 24, 2009-School Committee Meeting (Metcalf Presentation - @ Metcalf School)

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

ADJOURNMENT – Vice Chair Cicero moved to adjourn at 8:23 p.m.

Member Bollengier asked for clarification regarding the Committee’s decision on Correspondence (2). Chair DeSack reiterated what she had stated earlier this evening - that going forward, the Superintendent inform the School Committee of any policy or procedural changes prior to issuing notification to parents.

A discussion developed surrounding members’ concerns and questions relevant to administering breathalyzers at school dances. Consensus of the Committee was to schedule a Special Meeting at 6:00 p.m., just prior to the January 20, 2009 Budget Discussion/Workshop. Chair DeSack requested that members receive action plan information at that meeting such as, who will administer the test, what guidelines will be followed, and student consequences for a positive test.

Vice Chair Cicero moved to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Seconded by Member Bollengier. Voted 7 – 0 in favor. Meeting adjourned 8:30 p.m.

ROBIN CERIO

CLERK