

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH May 12, 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 Wawaloam School cafeteria. 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 was absent.

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

OPEN FORUM – None

PRESENTATION – Student Member Report – None

Wawaloam/Lineham Presentation – Principal Melissa Marino welcomed everyone to the Wawaloam School/Lineham School Presentation and introduced music teacher Carrie Scheff. Ms. Scheff

presented her choral students and they shared a musical offering called, "Little Tom Tinker". Next, Ms. Marino introduced kindergarten teachers, Joy Souza, Sarah Civic, and Christine Petrarca. Ms. Souza and a few of her students explained what students have been learning all year in kindergarten science. Ms Petrarca and some of her students demonstrated how kindergarten mathematic skills and concepts are taught through daily routines. Mrs. Civic presented samples of students' artwork and gave an overview of art lesson plans that have been offered to her students through parent volunteer/trained art teacher Donna Pari. Three of Mrs. Civic's students read their writings about what they liked about Mrs. Pari coming into their classroom. Ms. Marino then introduced Wawaloam teachers Mrs. Corcoran, Ms. Wilson, and Mrs. Titus. A few students from Mrs. Corcoran's and Ms. Wilson's classroom shared what they have accomplished in Grade 1 this year. Some of Mrs. Titus' students shared samples of their writings and Mrs. Titus demonstrated a mini writing conference with one of her students. Next, parent volunteer Egidia Vergano gave details about the success of the Wawaloam School recycling program initiated by the School Improvement Team, (SIT). Lastly, Ms. Marino said that she has a surprise announcement to make regarding the 2008-2009 Zoner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest that Wawaloam students participated in this year. She called up 1st grade student Hannah Rae and 2nd grade student Brooke Messier and announced that both students are Wawaloam's State-Level Champions. Ms. Marino offered congratulations and presented Hannah and Brooke with achievement awards to honor

their accomplishments.

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH May 12, 2009

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT Page 2

Vice Chair Cicero made a motion to move up agenda items, New Business

VI., A. Youth to Youth Field Trip Approval and VI. B. FFA Field Trip Approval. Seconded by Clerk Coutcher. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

NEW BUSINESS – Youth to Youth Fieldtrip Approval – Vice Chair Cicero made a motion to approve the Youth to Youth Fieldtrip. Seconded by Member Zuercher. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

FFA Fieldtrip Approval – Vice Chair Cicero made a motion to approve the FFA Fieldtrip. Seconded by Member Zuercher. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

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

Superintendent Geismar referenced the letters of resignation for the purpose of retirement and said that these three individuals have provided many years of great service to the district and will be

missed.

In response to Chair DeSack's clarifying question regarding consent agenda item, B., 2., a., Dr. Geismar said that the Collective Bargaining Agreement, (CBA) states the teacher shall be granted maternity leave for up to one year without pay. In response to Member Bollengier's inquiry regarding CBA language relevant to long-term substitute teachers, Dr. Geismar said that he will have to go back and check, but does not believe that this teacher has been out for 90-days.

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

Chair DeSack requested Dr. Geismar to clarify the inquiry regarding the Leave of Absence request.

The following items were approved:

A. Approval of Minutes - Regular Minutes of April 28, 2009

B. Personnel Items

1. Appointments

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

a. Request from Barbara Johnson to continue her parental leave of absence, without pay, from her position as 1.0 FTE Grade 6 Teacher at Metcalf School, through the remainder of the 2008/09 school year

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

- a. Letter of Resignation from Catherine DelPozzo, for the purpose of Retirement, from her position as 1.0 FTE Sr. High School Special Education Teacher Assistant, effective June 26, 2009**
- b. Letter of Resignation from Barbara Lemek, for the purpose of Retirement, from her position as 1.0 FTE Sr. High School Library Aide, effective June 26, 2009**
- c. Letter of Resignation from Dolores Eaton, for the purpose of Retirement, from her position as 1.0 FTE Sr. High School Librarian Teacher, effective June 26, 2009**

4. Grievances

5. Recalls

6. Non-Renewals

7. Sabbaticals

C. Bills – In the amount of \$113,257.98

D. Home School Approvals

End Consent Agenda

Members did not express questions, concerns, or comments

regarding Correspondence.

Correspondence – (1) April 2009 Wawaloam School A. Feinstein Leadership School Newsletter; (2) April 29, 2009 Letter from Attorney Gorham Regarding Breathalyzer Testing; (3) May 1, 2009 Memorandum from RIDE to Superintendent Geismar Regarding “World of Work” , (4) April 27, 2009 letter from Holly Walsh of RIDE to Superintendent Geismar Regarding RITTI Grant Award from EWG Jr. High School; (5) April 29, 2009 letter from Mary Ann Snider of RIDE to Superintendent Geismar Regarding “Building a Strong Foundation: Improving Achievement in Mathematics and Science”

Monthly Budget Projection 2008 – 2009 – Members did not express any questions, concerns or comments concerning the monthly budget projection.

Budget Discussion/Charter Discussion/Workshop – Chair DeSack recommended carrying this item over to the next meeting agenda for discussion. She reported that there has been no answer from the teachers’ membership yet, the teachers will meet tomorrow, the membership knows what the School Committee is looking for in concessions, and they know that the deadline to respond is the end of this month. Chair DeSack reported that initial contact has been made with Council-94 leadership. She advised that at the next meeting members will finalize the numbers. She requested the Superintendent to bring members the numbers at the next meeting

along with the same type of worksheets that were used before.

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH May 12, 2009

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT Page 4

Status Reports – Superintendent – Members did not express any questions, concerns, or comments regarding the monthly status reports.

Business

Curriculum

Special Education

Maintenance

Technology

NEW BUSINESS – Kindergarten Enrollment – Superintendent Geismar reported that kindergarten enrollment for next year is down from 115 to 86, therefore, the enrollment may not support seven sections. A brief discussion ensued regarding how enrollment numbers may affect scheduling morning and afternoon sections by town. Dr. Geismar advised that at this point in time there is not a change and the situation is being monitored. A new report will be brought forward in two weeks at the next School Committee meeting. Principal Marino said that last year there was a similar situation. She expressed concern that notification to parents regarding a possible change is important. Some parents have already been told whether their child will be scheduled in the morning or afternoon next year.

She expressed her opinion that if the idea is that there may need to be a change, the district needs to get that notice out as soon as possible. Superintendent Geismar said that the district will work the best it can with families and vice versa. It is premature to cut sections at this point because there is the potential that an additional ten students could register. He said that he will continue to monitor the enrollment numbers.

Chair DeSack acknowledged that she inadvertently went out of order on the agenda and called members' attention to agenda item, 2009 – 2010 Sr. High School Program of Studies - Approval.

2009 – 2010 Sr. High School Program of Studies – Approval – Principal Boulé answered members' clarifying questions.

Vice Chair Cicero moved to approve the 2009 – 2010 Sr. High School Program of Studies. Seconded by Member Walsh. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Policies – Review and Adoption - #8700-School Health Program – Adoption – Member Bollengier made a motion and Vice Chair Cicero seconded to adopt policy 8700-School Health Program. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

#8702-Managing Communicable and Infectious Diseases – Adoption – Member Bollengier made a motion and Vice Chair Cicero seconded to

adopt policy 8702-Managing Communicable and Infectious Diseases.

Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH May 12, 2009

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT Page 5

#8703-Immunizations and Physical Examination of Students – Adoption – Member Bollengier made a motion and Vice Chair Cicero seconded to adopt policy 8703-Immunizations and Physical Examination of Students. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

#8704-Managing Medical Emergencies – Adoption – Member Bollengier made a motion and Vice Chair Cicero seconded to adopt policy 8704-Managing Medical Emergencies. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

#8706-Managing Diabetes Among School Children – Adoption – Member Bollengier made a motion and Vice Chair Cicero seconded to adopt policy 8706-Managing Diabetes Among School Children. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

#8707-Managing Severe Allergies in the School Setting – Adoption – Member Bollengier made a motion and Vice Chair Cicero seconded to adopt policy 8707-Managing Severe Allergies in the School Setting. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

Formulate Charter Change Committee – Superintendent Geismar pointed out the names of three listed Exeter citizens who are interested in serving on the Charter Change Committee. He reported that subsequently he has received one West Greenwich citizen request from Bob Bollengier. Notification has been received from the Town of Exeter that William Monahan will serve representing Exeter Town Council. Chair DeSack recommended to table this item to the next meeting agenda and requested that the notice seeking community volunteers be reposted. Chair DeSack requested the Charter Change Committee makeup list that was voted on be brought to the next regular meeting along with the names of those who have applied to serve on the committee.

Capital Project Update – Members did not respond to Chair DeSack’s inquiry if anyone wants to serve on the Building Committee because she wishes to withdraw.

REPORTS/COMMENTS – None

IMPORTANT DATES AND MEETINGS – Wednesday, May 13, 2009-Building Committee Meeting; Wednesday, May 20, 2009-Building Committee Meeting; Tuesday, May 26, 2009- School Committee Meeting--(High School Presentation): Wednesday, May 27, 2009-Building Committee Meeting; Friday, May 29, 2009-Senior Prom; Wednesday, June 3, 2009-Honors Night; Wednesday, June 10, 2009-School Committee Meeting-(Special Education Presentation);

Friday, June 12, 2009-Graduation; Friday, June 19, 2009-Last Day of School; Tuesday, June 23, 2009-School Committee Meeting-(Facilities Presentation)

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

ADJOURNMENT – Vice Chair Cicero moved to adjourn at 8:21 p.m. Seconded by Member Walsh. Voted 7 – 0 in favor. Meeting adjourned 8:21 p.m.

ROBIN CERIO

CLERK