

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 11, 2014, 6:00 p.m.

Business Meeting

Jr. – Sr. High School Library, 930 Nooseneck Hill Road, West Greenwich, RI 02817

MEETING MINUTES

The form and content of these minutes conform to commonly accepted standards and shall become the official record of the meeting after review and approval by the School Committee. By definition, minutes are not a verbatim record of the proceedings.

A DVD recording is made a part of the record for a complete account of the School Committee meeting and is available for viewing on the EWG District website.

Convene Meeting

Call to order Chair Cicero, 6:04 PM

Board members present: Teri Cicero, Chairperson; Mark Rafanelli, Vice Chairperson; Valerie Zuercher, Clerk; Lee Kissinger, Paul McFadden, Claudine Pande, Theresa Donovan

Others present: James Erinakes, II, Superintendent; Robert Ross, Director of Administration, Marie-Elena Ahern, Director of Curriculum; Student Representative Abigail Borges (left meeting at 6:39 PM)

- I. Pledge of Allegiance**
- II. District Mission Statement**
- III. Open Forum (15-minute limit)**
- IV. Recognitions/Achievements**
 - A. Student Representative Abigail Borges**
- V. Presentations**
 - A. Student Representative Report**

Abigail Borges offered a summary of important end of the year Senior High School activities/events.

Superintendent Erinakes reviewed the consent agenda.

Vice Chair Rafanelli requested to pull the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 22, 2014.

- VI. Routine Items**
 - Consent Agenda**
 - A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting Minutes of May 27, 2014; Executive Session Minutes of May 27, 2014**

B. Personnel Items

1. **Appointments - (As Recommended by the Superintendent)**
 - a. **Nicholas Balasco as 1.0 FTE District Groundskeeper/Custodian, Step 1, Pay-Grade 1, Annual Salary \$32,947.20; effective on or about June 12, 104, pending receipt of all mandatory District paperwork**
2. **Leaves of Absence**
3. **Resignations**
4. **Non-Renewals**
5. **Recalls - (As Recommended by the Superintendent)**
 - a. **Please see attached - *Additional Recalls June 11, 2014***
6. **Sabbaticals**
7. **Contract(s)**

C. Bills - Bills in the amount of \$213,005.50

D. Home School Approvals

1. **RETURNING FAMILY - Grades 10 and 5**
2. **RETURNING FAMILY - Grades 7 and 5**

End Consent Agenda

MSV - To accept the Consent Agenda with the exception of the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 22, 2014 - Zuercher/Rafanelli - (7-0) - MOTION APPROVED

Superintendent Erinakes reviewed the Correspondence.

- E. Correspondence - (1) 8/28/2013 - 5/31/2014 AND 9/1/2012 - 5/31/2013 Discipline Reports; (2) Honors Night 2014 Awards, Presenters and Recipients; (3) Late Bus Ridership Update; (4) June 11, 2014 Memo from Superintendent Erinakes to School Committee regarding Staffing Numbers (2013/2014-2014/2015 Comparison); (5) RI Department of Education Fact Sheet Regarding How School Performance is Measured with 2014 School Classification Summary attached; (6) June 9, 2014 (Certified) Job Fair Results**

F. 2013 - 2014 Budget Projection

G. 2014 - 2015 Budget

H. Monthly Subcommittee Report(s)

1. **Policy Subcommittee**
2. **IT Subcommittee**
3. **Public Relations Subcommittee**

- I. **Monthly Status Reports**
 1. **Superintendent**
 2. **Curriculum**
 3. **Business**
 4. **Special Education – (NONE)**
 5. **Maintenance**
 6. **Technology**

VII. **New Business**

A. Member Request for Sealed Executive Session Minutes

MSV – To work to amend School Committee policy on record requests to talk to sealed records by the body – Kissinger/Rafanelli – (7-0) – MOTION APPROVED

Student Representative Borges left the meeting, (6:39 PM)

VIII. **Unfinished Business**

A. Consensus to Move Forward on Charter Review Subcommittee Proposal

The Committee reviewed/considered four recommended changes to the District Charter as proposed by the Policy Review Subcommittee.

(1) “The Charter Review Subcommittee agreed that the Proposed Exeter-West Greenwich School District Budget should be an “Accept” or “Reject” vote, without the citizens having the opportunity to submit alternate budgets. Should the citizens “Reject” the proposed budget, then the School District would have 30-days to come back with an alternate proposal. See the attached DRAFT from Bill Clay concerning the vote on the annual school district budget. It is based upon the language in the Chariho Act.”

MSV – To adopt language such that the budget is an “Accept” or “Reject” vote without the citizens having the opportunity to alter budgets, as drafted by Bill Clay in the attached proposal – Kissinger/Pande and voted (6-1) – MOTION APPROVED – as follows:

Cicero	AYE
Rafanelli	AYE
Zuercher	AYE
Kissinger	AYE
Pande	AYE
Donovan	AYE
McFadden	NAY

- (2) ***“The Charter Review Subcommittee agreed that the language concerning a quorum required revision. Currently, any (4) members of the School Committee constitute a quorum. This language may have been left over from when there were only (6) members on the School Committee, (3) from either town, and therefore the language defining a quorum was correct. Since the School Committee consists of (7) members, (4) from the Town with the highest total population by Census and (3) from the other Town, it is important that the quorum be defined as follows: ‘A quorum of the School Committee will exist when there are (4) members present and both Towns of the School District are represented.’”***

MSV – To amend language of the Charter as recommended by the Charter Review Subcommittee that, *“a quorum of the School Committee will exist when there are four (4) members present and both Towns in the School District are represented”* – (7-0) – MOTION APPROVED

- (3) ***“The Charter Review Subcommittee agreed that the payment dates from the Towns to the School District should be changed to better accommodate the cash flows from the Towns, i.e., the tax deadlines from the citizens. Currently the dates are September 1, December 1, February 1, and May 1. It was agreed that the new dates should be September 15, December 15, March 15, and June 15.”***

MSV – To amend language of the Charter as recommended by the Charter Review Subcommittee that the payment dates from the Towns to the School District should be changed *from* September 1; December 1, February 1, and May 1 *to* September 15; December 15; March 15; and June 15 – (7-0) – MOTION APPROVED

Marie Ahern left the meeting, (6:59 PM)

- (4) ***“The last change that the Charter Review Subcommittee agreed to was to change the date for the Student Count for the purposes of the Budget and the Town Apportionment. The current deadline for the Student Counts to be submitted to RIDE is October 1, and that is also the date for the purposes of calculating the Budget Apportionment for the Towns. This date makes sense for RIDE but it does not make sense for the Budget Apportionment for the two Towns, as the Budget does not get proposed until the end of February and approved by the Voters until the middle of April. For the purposes of the School District Budget and the member Town Apportionments, the proposed new deadline for the Student Counts to be submitted to the two Towns is December 15.”***

Marie Ahern returned to the meeting, (7:04 PM)

A comprehensive discussion ensued regarding Proposal (4). There was no action taken with respect to proposal (4).

Reports/Comments

Returned to item pulled from the **Consent Agenda** by Vice Chair Rafanelli

MSV – To accept the **Regular Meeting Minutes of April 22, 2014** – Zuercher/Kissinger – (5-0) – Members Donovan and Pande abstained (as having been absent on April 22, 2014)

The committee will consider whether or not to eliminate its July meeting at its next meeting on June 24, 2014.

IX. Important Dates and Meetings – Saturday, June 14, 2014 – Sr. High School Graduation; Friday, June 20, 2014 – Jr. High Moving-Up Ceremony; Tuesday, June 24, 2014 – School Committee Meeting; Tuesday, July 14, 2014 – School Committee Meeting (*optional or eliminate*)

MSV – To move to Executive Session at 7:23 PM in accordance with RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (9) – CBA – Grievance(s) – Rafanelli/Zuercher – and voted as follows:

Teri Cicero	AYE
Mark Rafanelli	AYE
Valerie Zuercher	AYE
Lee Kissinger	AYE
Paul McFadden	AYE
Claudine Pande	AYE
Theresa Donovan	AYE

X. Executive Session – RIGL 42-46-4 and 42-46-5
A. 42-46-5 (a)(9) – CBA – Grievance(s)
B. 42-46-5 (a)(2) – CBA – (C-94/Teachers’ Association)-Negotiation Discussion and/or Pending/Potential Litigation – Legal Advice
C. 42-46-5 (1)(1) – Personnel
D. 42-46-5 (a)(3) - Security

XI. Disclosure of any votes taken in Executive Session

Report on Executive Session Vote: No votes taken

XII. Adjournment

MSV – To adjourn – Zuercher/Kissinger – (7-0) – MOTION APPROVED

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM

**ROBIN CERIO
RECORDING SECRETARY**