

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 13, 2015, 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 Pande, 6:00 PM

Board members present: Claudine Pande, Chairperson; Mark Rafanelli, Vice Chairperson; Valerie Zuercher, Clerk; Diane Allen, Lee Kissinger, Theresa Donovan, Sheryl Green

Others present: James Erinakes, II, Superintendent; Robert Ross, Director of Administration; Marie Ahern, Curriculum Director

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. District Mission Statement

The mission of the Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District is to empower students to contribute to school and community by providing substantial learning experiences in a safe, trusting, and motivating environment

III. Open Forum (15-minute limit)

Comments must be directed to the Chairperson of the School Committee who may limit or terminate a discussion. No comment should address personnel, litigation or negotiations as restricted by open meeting regulations. The School Committee cannot take action or vote on topics introduced that are not reflected on the agenda.

Alison Ruscito of West Greenwich expressed disappointment that Honor Roll recognitions have been discontinued at Metcalf School this year. She appealed to committee members and the Superintendent to consider reinstatement of Honor Roll recognitions at Metcalf School. Chair Pande said that the committee and the Superintendent were made aware of the matter and are looking into it.

IV. Presentation(s)

A. Student Liaison Monthly Report

Noah Jussila presented a report on behalf of the senior high student council.

Superintendent Erinakes gave an overview of the consent agenda.

Clerk Zuercher requested to pull the Executive Session minutes of December 9, 2014.

V. Routine Items

Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes - (ENCLOSED) - Regular Meeting Minutes of December 9, 2014; Executive Session Minutes of December 9, 2014

B. Personnel Items

1. Appointments - (As Recommended by the Superintendent)

a. Deb Morin as Sports Supervisor - Winter at the Senior High School; Stipend Amount \$1,480; effective for the 2014 - 2015 season

2. Leaves of Absence

3. Resignations

4. Non-Renewals

5. Recalls

6. Sabbaticals

7. Contracts

C. Bills - Bills in the amount of \$550,244.71

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

1. NEW FAMILY - Grade(s) 9

End Consent Agenda

MSV - To accept the Consent Agenda, less the Executives Session Minutes of December 9, 2014 - Rafanelli/Zuercher - (7-0) - MOTION APPROVED

MSV - To accept the Executive Session Minutes of December 9, 2014 - Rafanelli/Kissinger - (6-0) Clerk Zuercher abstained.

E. Correspondence - (1) August 26, 2014-December 31, 2014 and September 1, 2013 - December 31, 2013 Discipline Reports; (2) Notice regarding potential grant to develop a cross-country trail using the existing path between the Jr. - Sr. High School and Metcalf School. (3) School Committee Organization December 2014 - November 2016

F. 2014 2015 Budget Projection

G. 2015 - 2016 Initial Draft Working Budget

Working draft copies of the Superintendent's proposed 2015 - 2016 budget were distributed and explained to members.

Clerk Zuercher referenced the private school transportation cost of \$268,302.64 and proposed petitioning local legislators to submit a bill to change the private school transportation funding law.

Vice Chair Rafanelli recommended adding this item to an upcoming meeting agenda and inviting local legislators to attend. Furthermore, discuss the matter with both Town Councils at the February 5, 2015 Joint Meeting.

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**
- 5. Maintenance**
- 6. Technology**
- 7. Student Liaison**

VI. New Business

A. Accept 2014 Audit Report

MSV – To approve the 2014 Audit Report – Zuercher/Donovan – (7-0)
– MOTION APPROVED

B. Policies Review/Amendment/Adoption/Deletion

1. 8708: Mental Health Awareness and Intervention – Amendment

Vice Chair Rafanelli proposed two minor revisions to policy 8708.

- Section III. Definitions - Personnel – add ***coaches*** to the list
- Section VIII. Superintended and School Committee Notification – add language . . . shall report such incident to the school ***committee as soon as possible, but not later than . . .***

MSV – To approve Policy 8708 with the amendments Mark suggested
– Kissinger/Allen – (7-0) – MOTION APPROVED

2. 8508: Compliance with the Federal Rehabilitation and Disabilities Act

Continued to the next regular meeting agenda for adoption

C. Approve Superintendent's Evaluation Tool

MSV – To approve the Superintendent's Evaluation Tool –
Zuercher/Rafanelli – (7-0) – MOTION APPROVED

D. School Committee Attorney Discussion

VII. Unfinished Business

A. Approve 2015 – 2016 Sr. High School Program of Studies

Continued to the next regular meeting agenda for approval

VIII. Reports/Comments

Superintendent Erinakes reports

- Currently, three different school calendar formats are being considered by RI school districts for the 2015 – 2016 school year. Two include elimination of or adjustment to February and April vacation weeks. Chariho School District will vote tonight on its proposed calendar, which preserves both the February and April vacation weeks. Consideration should be given to follow the same calendar format as Chariho since a number of EWG students attend the Chariho Career and Technical Center. This will be an agenda item in the near future. Information about other district outcomes will be brought to the committee at that time.

Chair Pande reports

- She will attend the Attorney General’s Open Government Summit on January 15 from 9AM to 12PM at CCRI in Warwick.
- She will attend the RI Association of School Committees’ School Committee Chair meeting on Thursday evening, January 15.
- A reminder to any member who writes letters or speaks on topics publically to make sure to clarify it is your personal opinion and not a reflection of the school committee or the school district, and to sign your name as a resident.

IX. Important Dates and Meetings – Tuesday, January 20, 2015-Budget Workshop; Tuesday, January 27, 2015-School Committee meeting; Thursday, February 5, 2015-Joint Meeting; Tuesday, February 10, 2015-School Committee Meeting; Tuesday, February 24, 2015-School Committee Meeting (*Budget Adoption*)

MSV – To move to Executive Session at 8:01PM in accordance with RIGL 42-46-5 (a)(2) – CBA (C-94/Teachers’ Association)-Negotiation Discussion and/or Pending /Potential Litigation – Legal Advice – Rafanelli/Zuercher - and voted as follows:

Claudine Pande	AYE
Mark Rafanelli	AYE
Valerie Zuercher	AYE
Lee Kissinger	AYE
Theresa Donovan	AYE
Diane Allen	AYE
Sheryl Green	AYE

- X. **Executive Session – RIGL 42-46-4 and RIGL 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 (a)(1) – Personnel
D. 42-46-5(a)(3) – Security

XI. **Disclosure of any votes taken in Executive Session**

No votes taken

XII. **Adjournment**

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM

**ROBIN CERIO
RECORDING SECRETARY**