

# **Warwick School Committee Minutes**

## **Open Session**

**Meeting of September 11, 2007**

**The Warwick School Committee met in Open Session at Winman Jr. High School, on Tuesday, September 11, 2007. The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. with the following in attendance:**

### **COMMITTEE**

**Christopher Friel, Chairperson**

**Lucille Mota-Costa, Vice Chair**

**Bethany Furtado, Clerk**

**Joyce L. Andrade**

**Paul Cannistra**

### **ADMINISTRATION**

**Peter J. Horoschak, Superintendent**

**Victor Mercurio, Director of Secondary Education**

**Richard D'Agostino, Director Special Services**

**Rosemary Healey, Esq., Director of Compliance & Human Resources**

**MOTION 2007-277: Moved by Ms. Mota-Costa, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to go into closed session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business exempt from open meetings under General Laws of Rhode Island 42-46-5(a)(1), (a)(2) and (a)(8).**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**Meeting reconvened at 8:10 p.m.**

**Robert T. Bushell, Director of Elementary Education**

**David E. Small, Director of Buildings and Grounds**

**Approval of Minutes of Public Session:**

**MOTION 2007-278: Moved by Mrs. Andrade to amend the July 10, 2007 Open Minutes as follows: Motion #2007-227 – strike the last portion of that motion removing technological hardware/software, seconded by Ms. Furtado.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**MOTION 2007-278: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, to approve the July 10, 2007 Open Minutes as amended.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**MOTION 2007-279: Moved by Mrs. Andrade to amended to August 14, 2007 Open Minutes by correcting the vote from 3-0 which indicated Ms. Andrade and Mr. Friel were absent – 5-0 with all present, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye            Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**MOTION 2007-280: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, to approve the August 14, 2007 Open Minutes as amended.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye            Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**MOTION 2007-281: Moved by Ms. Mota-Costa, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to approve the August 28, 2007 Open Minutes.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye            Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**MOTION 2007-282: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs.**

**Furtado, to approve the Executive Minutes of August 14, 2007 as amended in Executive Session.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye          Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**MOTION 2007-283: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to approve the Executive Minutes of August 28, 2007.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye          Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**[No transfers presented to the Committee]**

**Approval of Warrants:**

**MOTION 2007-284: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Mrs. Andrade, to approve the Warrants presented to the Committee.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye          Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**Professional Personnel Items**

**Appointments:**

**MOTION 2007-285: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs.**

**Furtado, to approve the following appointments: Regina Wilkinson, School-Based Graduation by Proficiency Coordinator; Jessica Jarvis, science teacher, step 1, pending receipt of State and National BCI and pending receipt of official certification from the RID; Rebekah Johnson-McAllister, science teacher, step 1, pending receipt of State and National BCI and pending appointment of department heads; Kathryn Chasse, science teacher, step 1, pending receipt of State and National BCI and pending receipt of official certification from RIDE and pending appointment of department heads; and Paul Tarasevich, science teacher, step 1, pending receipt of State and National BCI and pending declination of appointment.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**Leave of absence:**

**MOTION 2007-286: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, that the request for parental leave by Kimberly Montour, English teacher at Gorton, be approved, effective for the second semester of the 2007-2008 school year.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**Resignation:**

**MOTION 2007-287: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, that the resignation of Allan Thompson, math teacher at Pilgrim, be accepted, effective August 24, 2007.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**Coaching appointments:**

**MOTION 2007-288: Moved by Ms. Mota-Costa, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, that the following coaching appointments be approved:**

**Marissa Lytle, assistant coach, girls' volleyball at Toll Gate; William Aquilante, assistant coach, girls cross country at Toll Gate; Michael Vadney, assistant coach, boys' soccer at Toll Gate; and Claire Baggeson, head coach, girls' volleyball at Pilgrim (for one year only).**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**Chairman Friel – Robert Rules of Order operations of this meeting, some guidelines, public comment. Under ? new business or adoption policy requires vote of SC subject to public comment. Public comment 2 minutes – per person, one time to microphone; comments and questions directed to School Committee. Public comment – 2 minutes – comment directed to School Committee – one trip to the microphone per person.**

**Executive: Friel: running meeting – under agenda item unfinished**

**business/new business – all adoption policy require vote of the SC –  
public comment – following 2 minutes per person, one time agenda  
time – one trip per person questions or comments directed to SC – 2  
minutes comments directed to SC in public comment – one grip.  
Guidelines can be modified – 3 people can extend time. Clerk will  
keep time. To be voted upon in Public.**

**MOTION 2007-289: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs.  
Furtado, to approve this  
recommendation.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**[It was noted that the Bethany Furtado, Clerk, will be the time  
keeper.]**

**High School Staffing – Dr. Mercurio –**

**schedules – 3 high school teacher insure all students federal  
instruction**

**insure that all students have multiple district**

**exception Carnegie**

**schedules required for necessity reinstating additional ELA at  
Veterans and Social Studies at Pilgrim – Committee correspondence**

**\_\_\_\_\_ course are part of those both ELA & SS at Vets and Pilgrim**

**core of Tier 2 and 3 literacy**

**Recommend 3/5 technology teacher at Veterans to meet specific requests**

**Meet the regents individuals students' schedules – making towards receiving diploma.**

**Addition 3/5**

**simultaneous alternate students brought back to Veterans**

**Principal discuss last year**

**\_\_\_\_\_ -- with addition 3/5 in the area of technology education**

**reinstate fulfill contract**

**Soc Studies Pilgrim ELA**

**3/5 Technology Vets**

**Friel: understand 2 full time one 3/5th yes**

**Eric Kingman – former auto Vets – heard 3/5ths at Vets – I would propose to you that change put 3/5 at Winman and allow me to come back to Vets. Developed a very good program – won many AAA contests – highly certified 30 years – Asking 3/5 at Winman and full at Vets Kingman requested  $\frac{3}{4}$  position be approved for Winman, allowing him to return to Vets fulltime. It is heartwarming to see so many of my former students here tonight – I would like to come back and work with them. My classes are over-subscribed every year and the only reason I was asked to go to Winman was because I was the low person on the toem pole (in terms of seniority).**

**Tanner: several problems 3/5th where find someone with understanding of auto – no teacher tech ed area not get educational**

value out of it Tried part time in the past – not going to find – adding 3/5 band aid. I have offered several options – willing to go ahead – just for the benefit of the kids here. A lot of classes running with low numbers. want a change other level classes 3/5 does not solve anything – drafting classes overloaded – full time teacher in there. Discriminating against a whole load of students.

Thomas Gaboriault - Sr. at Vets – Petition I would like to present to you. We would like Mr. Kingman back.

Gerry Habershaw – principal – Do appreciate the SC's appointment – the need of teacher at Vets – schedule wise greater than 3/5th position. I think there are other areas that have scheduling issues – other classes overloading – drafting 31 students – full time teacher position- student in those classrooms and they are still there. Auto tech job – interested – requires a full time teacher. appreciated the appointment – but the amount of kids interested in auto technology requires a fulltime teacher – the needs are far greaer than a three-fifths position, but I appreciate the added staff.

Jim Harrison – hoped you would fulfill their wishes – asked how many students total – difference between Vets & Pilgrim – many classes full – small class size leads to better education – 27 – think about teacher back at Vets.

Craig Ricci: (Sr. at Vets) 2 years going into 3rd year – career – sitting there doing nothing in the class – don't want to be put in Algebra

**Honors – not good at math.**

**? (person) – Not everyone going to college – this is discrimination – did not get a chance to go to tech school – they don't have a voice – teachers should stand up for them. Bd. of Ed and Committee need to support education even if they can't go to college #1 auto mech job.**

**Friel: SC well aware small class size – unfortunately budget requirements – wish we had unlimited funds – we have tried our best to rectify the situation.**

**MOTION to approve – recommendation of Dr. Mercurio?**

**Paul Cannistra: like to congratulate students came out here – applaud specifically take on issue of auto tech teacher – “take that class” ???  
However, we also eye on budget at this point. Time only \_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_**  
**Attention it was given – want to help you guys – going out on a limb financially – not trying to \_\_\_\_\_**

**you. We're going out on a limb financially to get you a teacher, but we need to keep our eye on budgetary constraints. We're at liberty to review that decision if something changes.**

**Andrea Lamonte – son honor student talks too much in class – computer application closed no longer available – went to auto class**

– sitting doing nothing Money – full time teacher – you are having coaching put it towards something useful.

McDermott (Tracey&#61514; Coming up her for months – AP classes at Pilgrim – combine classes – 50 or 60 kids. Need t be educated. Can't take tech at career center – fight for a job (career) they are the classes they are successful 3/5 would be certified to teach you have a teacher – put 3/5 at Winman- these kids are going to graduate – need a job.

Mr. Tanner wanted to say something here – he was up once –

Jerry (student) ? - why 3/5 at Winman – full time at Vets

Victor: contractual issue discussed with President WTU – reinstating Kingman at Vets would require more time because he said he would need to have a conversation with Sam Holtzman regarding contractual obligation.

Robert Wood Sr. Why Winman- it's a junior high –

Joel? RRofOrder – I would like to hear what the gentleman has to say

Darlene N: there are other ways – Mr. Tanner offered to retire – his salary save top step – more than enough to pay for the teacher you need.

**Sam Holtzman: consider tabling this – Mercurio and I have a discussion asked if the vote could be tabled, allowing him to have conversation with Mercurio.**

**Friel: approve the position – transfer –**

**Alice Carlin: Point of information RRO – is allowed seeking to gather information – can ask a question**

**Ginolfi: applaud Vets – loose great asset – Point: just created a new position for someone \$45,000 (applause) – Retires and comes back – maybe put the kids first.**

**(Two girls came up – could not get what they said)**

**MOTION 2007-290: Moved by Ms. Mota-Costa, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to approve Dr. Mercurio's recommendation: 2 full time and one 3/5th teacher.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**Bids/Change Orders:**

**MOTION 2007-291: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs.**

**Furtado, to approve the bid for the table top mill package be awarded to CNC Masters in the amount of \$6,822.00.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel – Aye Lucille Mota-Costa – Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra – Aye**

**MOTION 2007-292: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, that the maintenance agreement for a period of 2 years and 9 months for Comdial and ISDN telephone equipment, in the amount of \$14,214, be awarded to Communications Unlimited.**

**MOTION PASSES (4 ayes 1 nay)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Nay**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**MOTION 2007-293: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, that the bid for glazing material be awarded to GE Polymershapes in the amount of: Item #1 - \$63.35; Item #2 - \$92.48 and Item #3 \$112.64.**

**MOTION PASSES (4 ayes 1 nay)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Nay**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**Adoption of Policies:**

## **Policy BDB – Special committee Meetings (1st reading)**

**Joyce: consent of entire meeting – includes Chair**

**Lucille chair really the one set agenda and emergency meeting  
unnecessary language**

**appropriate advertising done**

**Friel: emergency meeting publish Prov. Jnl. – Friel: emergency  
meeting internet –**

**can't restrict special meetings to subject matter**

**Lucille: specifically issues concerns – using special meetings –  
salary raises – adm. done in public meeting.**

**Friel: approve WTU**

**Joyce don't think put limitations on**

**Rosemary: Legal deadlines – student hearings before 10th day of  
suspension We have to get back to court settlement propose ?  
guidelines – on legal issues – this language would be restrictive.**

**Beacon significantly less expense - lead time Prov. Jnl.**

**Agenda – Wednesday – next day**

**3 days if not 4 days Prov. Jnl. –**

**Joyce: BDB 1st 2nd par. suggest language in the last para ----**

**Alice Carlen: school “department” website**

**MOTION 2007-294: Joyce – current language – special will be  
published in the newspaper and school department website in**

**compliance with Open Meetings Law.- Lucille seconded**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye          Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**MOTION 2007-295: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, to approve the 1st reading of BDB as amended.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye          Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**BDC-Executive Sessions –**

**Closed meetings – adding Executive Sessions will not exceed 7:00 p.m. if followed by a public meeting.**

**Friel: Understand the though process – times may have to extend – announce votes in Open Session.**

**Joyce there are situations, hearings, collective bargaining discussion, extend past 7:00 – do not tie our hands.**

**Lucille: The SC will make a genuine attempt to assure that - Executive Sessions will not exceed 7:00 p.m. if followed by a public meeting**

**Rose: must allow to go back into executive after public.**

**MOTION 2007-296: Moved by Ms. Mota-Costa, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, move to Table BDC for additional language.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye            Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**BDDB – Agenda Format:**

**Lucille: adding “E. Student Agenda/Student Comments: (the purpose would be to allow students to have input into their school governance and be able to leave if necessary.) –**

**MOTION 2007-297: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, to approve the First Reading of BDDB.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye            Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**BDDG – Minutes:**

**Discussion of the amendment to BDDG:**

**Joyce: posting they have not been approved by SC**

**Lucille – that was discussed – unapproved minutes “draft”  
strike language next regularly schedule committee meeting**

**Joyce: significant budget item providing copies**

**Friel: made available – put on line after approved by SC**

**Does need to be available to the public – posting would suffice**

**Friel: at the next regular scheduled meeting published on website**

**Darlene: minutes not previously provided – do not care past practice  
– deserve to have minutes as you approve them. should be “shall  
be” – not “should”**

**Sharon T> print on both sides of paper**

**Chair read amendment as follows: Accurate minutes of the regular and special meetings of the committee will be taken. These minutes will be made available for inspection at the Administration building and shall be published on the Warwick school department website no later than five days prior to the next regularly scheduled school committee meeting. In addition, after minutes are formally approved by the Committee, copies of such minutes will be made available to the public and published on the school department website. Any committee member may explain his/her vote on any resolution by submitting a written statement to the district clerk prior to the adoption of the minutes.**

**MOTION 2007-298: Moved by Ms. Mota-Costa, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to approve the First Reading of BDDG as amended.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**Policy IGA – Basic Instructional Program (2nd reading)**

**MOTION 2007-299: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to approve the 2nd reading of Policy IGA.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye**

## **Paul Cannistra - Aye**

### **Information and Proposals:**

#### **School Committee Members:**

**Ms. Furtado wished Ms. Mota-Costa a Happy Birthday.**

**Ms. Andrade discussion options relative to maintenance special ed buses – superintendent appoint committee options may be – we have not moved forward – slight delay start of school – committee should be reporting regular SC meeting in October.**

**Superintendent: report deficit position as we account for the spending of the 06-07 school year as required by law letter sent to Mayor and President of City Council announcing SD appears \$650,000 more than revenues available to it last year. Projection for Medicaid reimbursement which did not go forward as expected. Pre-audit financial information will have to be provided – like to say – insufficient revenue by the State & Fed government. It is something which causes the type of discussion we have this evening causing the SC and Superintendent having to make very difficult unpopular decisions fact that many members of the public created. Unfortunately having anger directed to the SC not really placed correctly. Put out a statement suggest to us all get together officials SC superintendent speak to our US congress delegation from RI fed gov costing back to Medicaid.**

**\$2 mil projected last year - \$500,000 + does not appear will be provided to SD – Fed gov cut back going to SC concern projected 3%**

**increase in State aide to schools – not approved by legislature – planning done as if getting 3% cut back further deficit – med. not come through – release statement: mayor and CC found WSC property tax allocation state and fed failed to meet responsibility.**

**Shortfalls impacting**

**Ask delegation to look into**

**Get behind this – work together – review problem**

**By law had to report have to look to state and fed**

**Public comment:**

**Alice Carlan – lunch advisory - annual report conclusion asked please be considered that SLAC be part of the Wellness Committee – you indicated couldn't be taken up at the time put on agenda – not on agenda – want a commitment from the SC when put on the agenda**

**Friel: Next Month**

**High Holy Days – Jewish teachers and students – mandate “no new material introduced” .....**

**Woman from Transportation: (name?) cuts come from SD – trickle down – WISE or Adm.**

**Friel: did not draw down on city surplus – lead me to believe to come from SD We have not met to address –**

**Woman: I think we have taken enough cuts look for higher ups.**

**Linda Reeve – teacher assistant Greenwood – 20th year – love my job and the kids. upsetting 2nd year without a contract – negotiations not taking place – SA not providing vital information to negotiate team**

and executive board – raises for administration receive – lump sum payments for teachers – 19 jobs eliminated – not being treated fairly.

Friel: agreed not to discuss in public without advance notice.

Tracy McDermott: Police JE – student attendance – 2nd reading – 1st reading – why not 2nd reading tonight –

Answer: Secretary 2nd reading on agenda – did not place on this agenda –

Tracy: Please hold until 2008-2009 next year – old policy already given out. – Regarding playgrounds inspect in August – red flag – don't take them down right away – give PTA PTOS time to raise money.

Sharon T: Heads up – meeting today understanding Bd of Regents – SC will be setting class size for the future –

Sherry? (daughter at Gorton – safety precautions – not safe –

Friel: children to and from safety – once leave school grounds no control

Sherry: no police officer no one patrolling – after accident –

Advocate to CC contact mayor CC coming up next speed bumps raised crosswalks

Superintendent: I have talked to the Police chief and Traffic Control (Higgins) to meet with me. Chief quickly traffic study – to determine exactly what improvement can be made and will be made regarding safety in that location. In the meantime 2 principal are working with their schools to deal with students and parents to be more safety conscience

**? Olando: Thank you –**

**Michele Landri: Were you reading letter sent to our state reps and delegation to Washington. Statement Super: to be provided to the media and using this information we intend to contact US congressmen, senators and state leg.**

**Michele: talked about tooling machinist class – getting something going. Any kid can go to college – reality not everyone will. These kinds of programs keep these kids in school – go out trained**

**Darlene : again RIPAC – system top heaving – administrative cuts – stop hiring back retired people part time – not going to save money. Retiring and coming back – What if every district said “no” – no to the federal mandates no to the state mandates. Problems at Toll Gate 1-8 stanines – advisory – and also posting on August 28 school meeting had wrong address.**

**Tammy Flanagan – Joyce: thank you – what happened to bond money for our own garage and mechanics – spending little money to save money. Medicaid money bus report we fill out\_**

**D’Agastino: reimbursement of services to special ed children eligible “to and from” logs need to be filled out – part of it.**

**Name? sr. at Vets: Did you make up your minds before the meeting – 254 signed the petition, Tanner said he would resign,**

**Friel: we recognized the issue and addressed it the best we could  
Sitting doing nothing – affect future goals.**

**Kate (Jr. at Vets) – full time tech teacher – can't get full education part time – notice you cut people off – what happened to freedom of speech?**

**Amanda: you need mechanics for your buses – here they are**

**Sent letter in July – e-mail and hard copy – one response Mr. Friel – requesting high holiday Jewish – Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashanah days off – discrimination – not responsible – principal scheduled PTA meeting – Potowomut having a craft fair on Yom Kippur – show respect – Jewish – Temple 2 days.**

**What about new attendance policy – Holidays strike against my children – Answer attendance question.**

**superintendent: Try to respond – It is my understanding no student should be penalized for taking off for a religious holiday – No student should be penalized for having taken off a religious holiday, I need to have that verified, but that's my understanding. No new materials or tests have been planned for those two days and I've asked my directors to make sure that message is clear with the principals at our schools so that students are not put at a disadvantage.**

**Did send info out indicating no new material should be presented these two days nor should there be any tests planned. I would ask the directors to make sure it is clear with principal at what those**

directions are. Your children put at a disadvantage – work it out.  
Doesn't seem to work out that we invite you to let me know.

Warwick has no respect –

Debbie – teaching assistant 30 years – no less important person

Cherri Nickerson: - 5 ½ years Medicaid clerk – to bring in  
reimbursement – well known – someone at top we would not be short.

Mother special needs child – transition academy – we vote people in –  
IGA - ----- read it -----

made policy – lied to them – We you are 18 able to vote – remember  
---

Roger ? Medicaid – reimburse confused decreased student 6% would  
warranted reimbursement. Known factor in March timeframe – Fed.  
reducing amount – population eligible decreased.

superintendent Fed reducing Medicaid – actual number of students  
IEP – has been reduced. Really does not effect Medicaid eligible or  
not – our job to turn in reports based on their criteria – who we get  
reimb. for. systematic attempt to reduce how much goes out to  
school dist. in this area – level funding

Roger: going to show in March basically going to level fund – no  
adjustment made then?

Super: information as I can – I have to get all the facts – secondly I

can tell you that those people work on this “outside group” – in March there was not going to be a reduction that this money would be coming in.

Only in July it appear short – going to get to the bottom of that.

Jonathan Latierre: re Jewish holidays – quizzes – no new material – as a teacher – testing I can work around – new material – why send me children now school 178 not 180 – review – we have it off – honor or go about business s- can’t have school and don’t do anything – color? Looking at issue from two different standpoints: not teaching anything new makes no sense. Not scheduling tests and quizzes is one thing, buy being asked not to teach new lessons means I can’t go through the next chapter in history and it means I can’t assign any new reading. What am I suppose to do? If kids won’t be learning anything new and won’t be taking tests and quizzes, what’s the point of having them in school for the two days?

Dr. Joel Gluck (see editorial letter) – Holiest days ignored in Warwick – Cranston has off – showed respect. Past Superintendent what are we suppose to do? The directive is not being followed – kept my child home – son marked absent – called Bushell – policy could not be changed – Called RIDE had no right to mark absent – Bushell went against policy. Spelling test scheduled for Friday – Orchestra rehearsal – force me to make decision – right thing keeping home for holiday – send to school – When SC makes an error – willing to fix it – closed for Yon Kippur and Rosh Hashanah if the policy is not to

have important instructional work done during the hold days what is the point of having school

Summary of editorial:

Young Man: penalize Jewish children – I have a 9-year old brother – I graduated 3 years ago. Dealt with same issue should I learn or should I pray. Expect teachers to abide – As Jewish children open to discrimination and others angry at us for stopping school.

Rabbi Yossi Laufer of Chadad Chai Center of West Bay, said in the past the agreement was to have at least one of the two holy days off. He had spoken with Superintendent Shapiro so an agreement was made that one of the holidays would always be taken off.

– compromise – one day taken off - -----

Ginolfi: shortfall fed gove – part of problem? every city? yes

What dept. responsible for it? outside consulting who handles that

D’Agnositno – service provider sent to compuclaim – process – they determine eligibility –

Ginolfi kept insisting who is responsible – why dept. business?

Dooley?

PH: as superintendent I am responsible – will look into this history – monitor everyone as you fill them out on a regular basis.

Why not caught sooner?

Fred Aldrich: in light of new deficit – reconsider adm. raisies –

recalled? - they take back pensions.

Beth Veltri son Jr at Pilgrim message not getting to all teachers. The other day son called and told her quiz was scheduled in one of his classes for Friday. He had to go back the next day and inform the teacher about the directive that no tests or quizzes are supposed to be scheduled – thus quiz is now moved to Monday. – son student (Jr. at Pilgrim) – not getting to the teachers – told him tell teacher quiz on Friday – need to go back to school that a directive was sent out Quiz now Monday – we need your help – we go to temple.

George Landri: has intramural sports been eliminated or not at the Jr. level. WTU appendix C. – want to start band rehearsal – I'm hearing Jr. high sports eliminated –

Superintendent: I have been informed eliminated budget – working on making other accommodations.

Sr. – public comments affect you at all? - I'm jammed into \_\_\_\_\_ I don't want to be – Tanner offered to resign to pay for Kingman – When can I vote you guys out?

McDermott – Landry- Mayor's office cover costs through "after school grant program" –

Meetings: October 9th:

**MOTION 2007-300: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to adjourn.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

**Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye**

**Joyce L. Andrade – Aye            Bethany Furtado – Aye**

**Paul Cannistra - Aye**

**Meeting adjourned: 10:25 p.m.**

**Bethany Furtado, Clerk**

**Betsey Snipes, Secretary**