

Warwick School Committee Minutes
Meeting of January 8, 2008
Open Session

The Warwick School Committee met in Open Session at Winman Jr. High School on January 8, 2008. Chairman Friel called the meeting to order at 5:55 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 P. Horoschak, Superintendent
Rosemary Healey, Esq., Director of Compliance & Human Resources

Election of Officers:

Mr. Friel called for nominations for Chair: Mr. Cannistra nominated Mr. Friel and Ms. Furtado seconded that nomination. There were no further nominations and Mr. Friel called for a vote:

MOTION 2008-1: Moved by Ms. Mota-Costa, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, to approve the nomination of Christopher Friel as Chair of the Warwick School Committee.

MOTION PASSES (4 ayes 1 abstain)

Christopher Friel - abstain Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Joyce L. Andrade - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye

Mr. Friel called for nominations for Vice-Chair: Ms. Furtado nominated Ms. Mota-Costa and Mr. Cannistra seconded that nomination. There were no further nominations and Mr. Friel called for a vote:

MOTION 2008-2: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, to approve the nomination of Lucille Mota-Costa as Vice Chair of the Warwick School Committee.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Joyce L. Andrade - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye

Mr. Friel called for nominations for Clerk: Ms. Mota-Costa nominated Ms. Furtado and Mr. Cannistra seconded that nomination. There were no further nominations and Mr. Friel called for a vote:

MOTION 2008-3: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, to approve the nomination of Bethany Furtado as Clerk of the Warwick School Committee.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Joyce L. Andrade - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye

MOTION 2008-4: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Mrs. 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) and (a)(2).

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Joyce L. Andrade - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye

Meeting reconvened at 7:05 p.m. with the following in attendance:

Victor Mercurio, Director of Secondary Education
Robert T. Bushell, Director of Elementary Education
Richard D'Agostino, Director Special Services
Leonard Flood, Director of Business Affairs
David E. Small, Director of Buildings and Grounds

Motion to keep minutes of January 8, 2008 Executive Session private:

MOTION 2008-5: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to keep the Minutes of the January 8, 2008 Executive Session private.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Joyce L. Andrade - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye

Student Agenda

Warwick Vets – Emily Cotter and Kayla Fitzsimmons –

Emily Cotter said she is the Jr. Class President and she is experiencing nothing but the best at Veterans. There is much school pride and activities (student/faculty basketball game, community service project) Kayla Fitzsimmons commented about the senior project and the stress level she experienced. She was applying for colleges, and she was torn between the applications versus the senior project and searching for an available mentor. She had an internship of 20 hours at the *Beacon*, and she was published several times. She commented on the article in the paper saying that Vets had failed to meet standards. She said at the time of the testing, she and many other students, were upset because of the death of two students, and how this had affected her. She said that it was the hardest week she had ever endured.

Approval of Minutes of Public Session

Call for vote on Minutes off December 11, 2007 – Ms. Mota-Costa said that Darlene Netoch brought to her attention a correction on page -6- asking that the words “*essays will be graded by teachers*” be stricken and replaced with “*senior exhibits reflected essays are to be graded by English teachers because they pertain to graduation by proficiency – and she thought that the graduation by proficiency coordinator should be reading these essays.*” It was also noted on page 5, under public comment, to change “football came” to “*football game.*”

MOTION 2008-6: Moved by Ms. Mota-Costa, seconded by Ms. Furtado to approve the Minutes of the Open Session for December 22, 2007, **as amended.**

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Joyce L. Andrade - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye

Vote of Minutes of Executive Session

MOTION 2008-7: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the Minutes of the Executive Session for December 11, 2007.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Joyce L. Andrade - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye

Approval of Transfers

MOTION 2008-8: Moved by Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to approve the transfers 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

Approval of Warrants

MOTION 2008-9: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, 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 2008-10: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, that the appointment of **Paul Tarasevich**, Science Teacher, Step 1, be approved pending receipt of Emergency Certification in Chemistry from the RIDOE, and pending receipt of State and National BCI.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Joyce L. Andrade - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye

**Classified Personnel Items:
retirement:**

MOTION 2008-11: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, that the **retirement of Lucille Haigh**, Bus Driver, 44 weeks, be accepted effective December 14, 2007; and that the **retirement of John Preiss**, Head Custodian, be accepted effective December 21, 2007.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Joyce L. Andrade - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye

School Redistricting/Consolidation

Advisory Committee Update – Superintendent Peter Horoschak said that since the committee last met in December, three committees have met in order to discuss consolidation and/or redistricting the three middle schools. Mr. D’Agostino, Mr. Bushell and Mr. Mercurio are the chairs of the committees. They will report on January 10th at 3:00 p.m. at the Administration Building. At that time there will be discussion regarding findings and also will discuss what next steps will be taken. .

In-Site Certification 2006-2007 – Mr. Flood asked for approval of the FYE 2007 In\$ite Supplemental Data and Certification Report, and requested the Chair’s signature. This information was prepared based on actual expenditures for last fiscal year as reported to RIDE.

MOTION 2008-12: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to endorse the FYE 2007 In\$ite Supplemental Data and Certification Report.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Joyce L. Andrade - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye

2006-2007 Budget Shortfall - Superintendent Peter Horoschak presented the following resolution:
Resolution Relative of Warwick School Committee: Date January 8, 2008:
Resolution Relative to the School Committee's Operating Deficit
for the 2006-07 Fiscal year:

RESOLVED, that

WHEREAS, the Warwick School Committee recognizes that it sustained a deficit in the School Department's General Fund for Fiscal Year 2006-2007 in the amount of six hundred seventy-two thousand nine-hundred forty-six dollars and sixty-nine cents (\$672,946.69), and

WHEREAS, the Warwick School Committee desires to improve relations with the Warwick City Council and the City Administration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Warwick School Committee, along with Superintendent, Peter P. Horoschak, Ed.D., agree that should the Warwick School Committee sustain an operating surplus for the 2007-2008 Fiscal Year, they will return that surplus to the City to cover in whole or in part that operating deficit. The Warwick School Committee and the Superintendent further agree that they will place this matter on the agenda each fiscal year for further consideration until such time as the City is reimbursed the full amount of the 2006-2007 deficit.

The School Committee Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Mayor and members of the Warwick City Council.

This Resolution shall take effect upon passage.

Submitted by: Christopher Friel, Warwick School Committee Chair

MOTION 2008-13: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, to approve the Resolution and forward same to the Mayor and the Warwick City Council.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Joyce L. Andrade - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye

[Chairman Friel signed the Resolution.]

Bids & Change Orders

MOTION 2008-14: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Mrs. Andrade, that the bid for the Workbench at the Career Center, in the amount of \$8,048.16 be awarded to All Spec, as per the bid tabulation.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Joyce L. Andrade - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye

Advertising Policy – 2nd reading: Attorney Healey said that the changes to Policy KHB have been made in bold type and underlined. After discussion the following amendments were voted upon in the order they appear on the Policy.

1. Change Page 1 – final paragraph – add word “Federal” before the word “State” and also it should appear throughout the document.

MOTION 2008-15: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, to approve said amendment.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Joyce L. Andrade - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye

2. Page 4 #5 – insert “or other groups that have received building approval.”

MOTION 2008-16: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Mrs. Andrade, to approve said amendment.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye

3. B. modify that there will be no advertising of any kind permitted on school buses (also add Federal/State).

MOTION 2008-17: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Mrs. Andrade, to approve said amendment.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye

4. grammatical change - word “persons” – (page 4 Subsection E.)

MOTION 2008-18: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to approve said amendment.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye

5. Page 5 Subsection H - after words “Warwick School Committee” strike out “as applicable.”

MOTION 2008-19: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Mrs. Andrade, to approve said amendment.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye

Mrs. Andrade moved that in the first paragraph that the words “*promoting the interests of any commercial or non-school agency, individual or organization*” be struck – (saying that it was too broad.)

There was no second to this motion. Motion Failed

MOTION 2008-20: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, to approve Policy KHB, as amended.

MOTION PASSES (4 ayes 1 nay)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Joyce L. Andrade – Nay Bethany Furtado – Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye

Information and proposals

School Committee: Ms. Mota-Costa that an update on the concerns of special ed parents regarding reporting cards be on the next agenda. Superintendent Peter Horoschak recognized the newly assigned *Providence Journal* reporter Barbara Palichetti.

Public comment: Darlene Netoch asked what was being done to cut at the administrative level and requested a copy of all salaries for administrators. She said that the mid-year exams are a fiasco. She commented on the lack of mentors and wanted to know if were protecting our students. Michele said that she was glad that Ms. Fitzsimmons’ senior project turned out well for her, but that the paper work, anxiety, and trying to find a mentor, have to be smoothed out. She also asked if it would be possible to allow students to do the work place 20 hours in the summer prior to their senior year.

Special meeting: January 15th

School consolidation: January 10th.

MOTION 2008-21: 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: 8:00 p.m.

Bethany Furtado, Clerk

Betsey Snipes, Secretary