

Warwick School Committee Minutes
Meeting of February 9, 2010
Open Meeting

The Warwick School Committee met in Open Session at Toll Gate High School on Tuesday, February 9, 2010. Chairman Friel called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. with the following in attendance:

COMMITTEE

Christopher Friel, Chairperson
Lucille Mota-Costa, Vice Chair
Bethany Furtado, Clerk
Paul Cannistra
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr.

ADMINISTRATION

Peter P. Horoschak, Superintendent
William Sangster, Assistant to the Superintendent
Rosemary Healey, Esq., Director of Compliance & Human Resources
Richard D'Agostino, Director Special Services
Leonard Flood, Director of Business Affairs

MOTION 2010-24: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, 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
Paul Cannistra - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye

Open Meeting reconvened @ 7:15 p.m.

E. Paul Jansson and David LaPlante, Co-Directors Buildings & Grounds

Chairman Friel announced that relative to employee hearings heard in executive session, in both instances, the committee voted 5-0 in favor of accepting the recommendation of the Superintendent. He also announced that the vote on the layoff notices will be scheduled for an upcoming meeting.

Student comments:

Norwood Elementary: Casey White and alexia Martins (grade 6)

Cedar Hill Elementary: Jaimini Thaker, Morgan Candon and Philip Madden (grade 6)

John Wickes Elementary: Tylor Rubeira and Samantha Jessop (grade 5)

Approval of Minutes of Public Session

MOTION 2010-25: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, to approve the Open Session Minutes for January 8, 2010 and January 12, 2010.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye

MOTION 2010-26: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Maloney, to approve the Executive Session Minutes for January 12, 2010.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye

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Approval of Transfers:

MOTION 2010-27: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Maloney, to approve the transfers presented to the Committee.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye

Approval of Warrants:

MOTION 2010-28: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Maloney, to approve the warrants presented to the Committee.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye

Professional Personnel items:

Appointments:

MOTION 2010-29 Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that the appointment of **Sharon Rix**, Physical Education Department Chair at Pilgrim be approved.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye

Resignation:

MOTION 2010-30: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Maloney, that the resignation of **Pamela Dennen**, special class preschool teacher at Holliman be accepted effective February 9, 2010.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye

Classified Personnel items:

Appointments:

MOTION 2010-31: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Mr. Maloney, that the appointments of **Kelly Holms**, teacher assistant special services; **Maryann DelGuidice**, teacher assistant kindergarten; **Amy Reilly**, teacher assistant kindergarten; and **Fernando Melo**, custodian be approved.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye

Coaching appointments

MOTION 2010-32: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Maloney, that the appointment of **Norman Bouthillier**, head coach boys' outdoor track at Toll Gate High School and **Kathleen Moan**, head coach girls' lacrosse at Warwick Veterans High School be approved.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye

H1N1 update – provided by Dr. D'Agostino.

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Approval of foreign language student trip to Paris and Madrid February 2011 school vacation

MOTION 2009-33: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, to approve the February 2011 (school vacation) trip to Paris and Madrid.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye

Playground Expansion – Norwood Elementary School

MOTION 2009-34: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the proposed playground expansion at Norwood School.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye

High School Tardy Policy 1st Reading – Mr. Mullen said changes had been made in handling tardiness so it would be consistent at all three high schools. Patrick Neary, a student, asked what research was conducted to design the policy. The Chair said the school principals came up with a proposed policy to address concerns regarding tardiness.

MOTION 2010-35: Moved by Mr. Maloney, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the High School Tardy Policy (1st Reading).

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye

Approval of courses: Digital Tools, Academic Writing Workshop, Introductory Algebra I, Introductory Geometry, Introductory Algebra 2, Intermediate Math, Chorus Honors, Orchestra Honors, Concert Band Honors, Studio Art III Honors AP

MOTION 2010-36: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Mr. Maloney, to approve the courses as outlined by Dr. Siesel.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye

[Approval of courses: Digital Tools, Academic Writing Workshop, Introductory Algebra I, Introductory Geometry, Introductory Algebra 2, Intermediate Math, Chorus Honors, Orchestra Honors, Concert Band Honors, Studio Art III Honors AP]

2010-2011 Pilot Courses - Modified Digital Tools, Civics, Fundamentals of Biotechnology and Technology Gateways

MOTION 2010-37: Moved by Mr. Maloney, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, to approve the 2010-2011 Pilot Courses [Modified Digital Tools, Civics, Fundamentals of Biotechnology and Technology Gateways].

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye

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Extension of Superintendent's Contract – Chairman Friel, speaking to the Superintendent, said you had some big shoes to fill, but I think you've done an admirable job. You've done a great job managing the district in a time of decline, both in terms of financial as well as population decline. The process was initially met with opposition, but once enacted, ran smoothly and seamlessly. Chairman Friel said that the School Committee has had discussions regarding the extension of his contract and have put before this committee a 3-year extension with the same provisions as in the past contract. Mr. Maloney remarked that he was satisfied with the Superintendent's performance, but said he would like to ask for the extension to be tabled for this evening for discussion with the superintendent of his objectives and goals.

MOTION 2010-38: Moved by Mr. Maloney, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, to table voting on the extension of the contract.

MOTION FAILS (2 AYES 3 NAYS)

Christopher Friel - Nay Lucille Mota-Costa - Nay
Paul Cannistra - Aye Bethany Furtado - Nay
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye

MOTION 2010-39: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, to approve the extension of the Superintendent's contract.

MOTION PASSES (3 ayes 2 abstain)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Abstain Bethany Furtado - Aye
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Abstain

Superintendent Horoschak thanked the committee and said he was confident that whatever concerns were raised by the abstentions can be worked out. We've had three years full of things that needed to be done and have addressed some difficult matters, particularly financially. I see many challenges and demands in the coming years, and expectations for a considerable amount of change, but our students are in a good position because of the caring and support of the community. I appreciate the fact that many of my colleagues have been in Warwick for years and are dedicated to the success of its students. I've come to admire my staff, faculty and colleagues in central administration. They are all dedicated to the education of students in our community.

Graduation by Proficiency Update – Ms. Bilodeau reported we are tracking 805 seniors; 416 students have their research papers, but 135 students have chosen not to submit a research paper. There are 144 students who have completed their portfolios.

Bids and change orders

MOTION 2010-40: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the bid for air conditioning design/build for the Greene Administration conversion be awarded to D. Larsen & Sons, Inc. as per bid tabulation.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye

MOTION 2010-41: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Mr. Maloney, to approve the bid for new fire alarm systems at Lippitt and Wyman Elementary Schools be awarded to Collard Enterprises as per the bid tabulation.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye

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Mr. Maloney reported that at the PCAC meeting, the NECAP figures were discussed and also the issue of drop off and pick up at Robertson. Mr. Cannistra acknowledged silver key winners: Julissa Gonsalves mixed media (Aldrich); photography: Brandon Desorcy and Gianna Grossi and printmaking: Earl Pina (Pilgrim); design: Nick Caldwell (Toll Gate); photography: Megan Amalfitano, Mason Martino mixed media: Jamie Osem (Vets). He also announced that Travis Fink (grade 6 at Holden) was the winner of a flag competition in the National Flag contest.

Ms. Mota-Costa asked that the public budget hearings in March and April be set up for wireless so the public could bring lap tops to look at documents.

Public Comment: Darlene Netcoh: Toll Gate NECAP figures 5.6 math, 12.6 reading 20. writing. Patrick Neary proud to say I no longer recognize the School Committee as a figure of authority and will continue to do so.

MOTION 2010-42: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, to adjourn.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye
Paul Cannistra - Aye Bethany Furtado - Aye
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye

Meeting adjourned: 9:15 p.m.

Bethany Furtado, Clerk
Betsey Snipes, Secretary