

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

The Warwick School Committee met in Open Session at Toll Gate High School, on Tuesday, March 9, 2010. Chairman Friel 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  
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

**MOTION 2010-51:** 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), (a)(2), and (a)(9).

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

Meeting reconvened at 7:15 p.m.

Robert T. Bushell, Director of Elementary Education  
Richard D'Agostino, Director Special Services  
E. Paul Jansson and David LaPlante, Co-Directors Buildings & Grounds

The Chair announced in Executive Session three grievances were heard and the Committee voted 5-0 to deny #08-336, #08-337 and #08-340.

**Student Comments:**

Lippitt Elementary School: Kyle DiCarlo and Tyler Nordin (grade 6)  
Hoxsie Elementary School: Heather Francis, Jacob Alves, Sidney Chace (grade 6)  
Robertson Elementary School: Megan Massey and Skylar Loeb (grade 6)

**Approval of Minutes:**

**MOTION 2010-52:** Moved by Ms. Mota-Costa, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to approve the Minutes of the Open Session for February 3, 2010.

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

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

**MOTION 2010-53:** Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, to approve the Minutes of the Open Session for February 9, 2010, February 23, 2010 and February 25, 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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MOTION 2010-54: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, to approve the Minutes of the Executive Session for February 3, 2010.

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

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

MOTION 2010-55: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, to approve the Minutes of the Executive Session February 9, 2010, February 23, 2010 and February 25, 2010.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Approval of transfers:**

MOTION 2010-56: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, 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 warrants:**

MOTION 2010-57: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, 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:**

**Declination of appointment**

MOTION 2010-58: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Maloney, to rescind the appointment of **Sharon Rix**, Physical Education Department Chair at Pilgrim High School.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Appointment:**

MOTION 2010-59: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Maloney, to approve the appointment of **Gary Gorman**, Physical Education Department Chair at Pilgrim High School.

**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:**

**Appointment:**

MOTION 2010-60: Moved by Mr. Maloney, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the appointment of **Amy Frank**, teacher assistant, Special Services.

**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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**Retirement/resignation:**

MOTION 2010-61: Moved by Mr. Maloney, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that the resignation of **Steven Janelle**, Controller, be accepted effective March 12, 2010.

**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 2010-62: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Maloney, that the appointment of **Justin Murphy**, assistant coach boys outdoor track at Toll Gate be approved for one year only; and that the appointment of **Fred Schweizer**, head coach boys' lacrosse at Warwick Veterans be approved.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Washington DC trip (Junior High Schools)**

MOTION 2010-63: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Maloney, to approve the Washington DC trip for the junior high schools.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Approval of 2010-2011 SY calendar**

Peter Horoschak recommended the proposed calendar for 2010-2011 school year. It was noted that the first day of school was listed for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade but not for all other grades. The Superintendent said that will be September 2, 2010.

MOTION 2010-64: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Maloney, to approve the 2010-2011 proposed school calendar with the change for the first day of school.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Restraint Policy 1<sup>st</sup> Reading:**

MOTION 2010-65: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, to approve the first reading the Restraint Policy JGAA.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Graduation by Proficiency Update:** Ms. Bilodeau – tracking 786 students; 607 have research papers; 126 student review process; 53 no submission and 210 completed portfolio.

**Adoption of Policies**

**High School Tardy Policy 2<sup>nd</sup> reading**

MOTION 2010-66: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Maloney, to approve the High School Tardy Policy [JE].

**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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**Information and Proposals:**

Superintendent Horoschak: plans have been made to have the budget information projected for members of the audience and wireless connection. Mr. Maloney commented that at the PCAC meeting, the Superintendent discussed the funding formula the state is proposing. He said it is important that parents currently fill out paperwork regarding financial status. The City will get an amount of money based on students for each bracket. Show financial need % goes up. He also said parents come to the meeting and talk about safety, i.e. parking, drainage, electrical.

Peter Horoschak: Last Saturday at the New England Regents Wrestling Tournament, Mike Myers was named most outstanding of that tournament.

**Public Comment:** High school and junior high department heads addressed their concerns regarding consolidating or eliminating positions. Approximately nineteen department heads spoke on the following issues: educational reasons against this idea and consequences that will have a negative impact on the school department's mission for education; department heads are integral components of leadership team for success of students; important that students receive proper instruction and support for testing; they schedule testing, devising strategies and work to assist students and provide materials for teachers; they also disseminate test results and help focus on weaknesses; in addition to NECAP testing, they are involved with GRADE testing (which students take three times a year). Department heads help write curriculum and also evaluate teachers, conduct monthly meetings, and play a role in GBP requirements. One of the unique aspects to social studies is the time and work that goes into preparing history day. A junior high department head said she acts as a liaison between her feeder elementary school and high school. A junior high department head commented they establish protocols for communication and learning for transition from sixth grade to seventh grade and provide tours for students in their new school and repeat the process with parents. Scheduling is time consuming and is worked on all year. They asked to continue their jobs so they could continue to improve schools.

Chairman Friel thanked everyone and said we realize the importance of all department heads, especially with additional duties of GBP, but we're concerned with our financial situation and the grim outlook for next year. No decision has been made.

MOTION 2010-67: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to adjourn the meeting.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Meeting adjourned 8:45 p.m.**

Bethany Furtado, Clerk  
Betsey Snipes, Secretary