

Warwick School Committee Minutes
Meeting of April 21, 2010
Special Open Meeting

The Warwick School Committee met in Open Session at the Administration Building on Wednesday, April 21, 2010. Chairman Friel called the meeting to order at 5:50 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
Leonard Flood, Director of Business Affairs
William Sangster, Assistant to the Superintendent
Rosemary Healey, Esq., Director of Compliance & Human Resources

MOTION 2010-80: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, 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

Meeting reconvened at 6:30 p.m. with the following in attendance in addition to those listed above:

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

Adult Education: Chairman Friel: we will open with the Adult Education portion of the budget followed by the budget vote. Superintendent Horoschak said there had been a request for more explanation of adult education budget. Mr. Crowley said the district does not put any money into the adult ed budget. GED function is self funded. Discussion regarding the program, grant money being funded and each year it is less, so we make up the difference.

Budget Vote: Chairman Friel asked for any additional comments before the budget vote. Ms. Mota-Costa commented that she thought it was a reasonable budget. She felt there was an inequity in K-12 fine arts and said that for the third consecutive year there has been no director in charge. She proposed amending the 2011 budget but taking one-fourth of a percent cut in elementary, secondary, system wide curriculum, math/science, special services (supplies & materials only), superintendent's budget, business affairs (exclude MIS), director of compliance and system wide maintenance. This would amount to \$32,019 and to redirect that amount into funding for appointment of a part-time K-12 fine arts consultant. Superintendent Horoschak inquired of Mr. Flood if we had an amount in the budget set aside last year that was not used. Mr. Flood said there were funds of \$10,000 each set aside for athletics, art and music, totaling \$30,000 which was still in the budget. Ms. Mota-Costa proposed using this money, instead of taking one-fourth of a percent from the departments mentioned.

MOTION 2010-81: Moved by Ms. Mota-Costa, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to eliminate three stipends of \$10,000 contained within this proposed budget; utilize those funds for a fine arts consultant K-12 not to exceed \$30,000; no net effect on proposed budget.

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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Patrick Maloney: Commented on line item 53218, secondary education, student assistance in the amount of \$138,786. He asked why we need individuals to come in from the outside for students to talk to them in confidence when we have adequate guidance counselors on staff. If a student didn't want to talk to the guidance counselor in their school, they could see someone in another school. Superintendent Horoschak said it is greatly underestimated the need and responsibility of these outside support personnel. The real issue is we have students who have very critical problems that need to be address. It is not just matter of confidentiality, it is a matter of having people to go to, people to follow up with these students and give them the opportunity to overcome issues that will hold them back from their education. The Superintendent said he strongly supports maintaining these services, and would prefer to find ways to make cuts that do not directly impact students. Mr. Sangster had prepared a breakdown what the student assistance counselors do and how the system works, which he discussed. He said the principals feel this is the most important program in our schools right now. The Superintendent said this is a vital service and it should be left in. Mr. Maloney questioned if there was another grant that could be applied for and withdrew his proposal to amend the Superintendent's budget.

**FYE 2011 School Committee Proposed Budget
Budget Comparison to Prior Fiscal Year
Expenditures**

	FY2010-2011	FY2009-2010	Difference	%
Salaries	101,959,567	100,094,063	1,865,504	1.9%
Fringe Benefits	39,604,809	43,872,243	(4,267,434)	-9.7%
Purchased Services	13,479,721	13,690,526	(210,805)	-1.5%
Supplies & Materials	5,488,759	5,627,931	(139,172)	-2.5%
Capital Outlay	1,091,374	1,016,895	74,479	7.3%
Debt Services & Misc.	134,036	153,848	(19,812)	-12.9%
Other Objects	562,000	550,462	11,538	2.1%
TOTAL	163,320,266	165,005,968	(\$2,685,702)	

REVENUES

	FY2010-2011	FY2009-2010	Difference	%
Local Appropriation	128,020,734	123,968,068	4,052,666	3.3%
Tuition	975,000	1,050,000	(75,000)	-7.1%
State Aid	31,032,244	37,182,749	(6,150,505)	-16.5%
Federal Aid	35,000	35,000	0	0.0%
Local Revenue	2,257,288	2,770,151	(512,863)	-18.5%
TOTAL	162,320,266	165,005,968	(2,685,702)	-1.6%

[Revised 4/21/10]

MOTION 2010-82: Moved by Mr. Maloney, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, to approve the proposed Superintendent's budget, as amended by Ms. Mota-Costa's proposal, which does not affect the \$162,320,266 figure.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

MOTION 2010-83: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, 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: 7:35 p.m.

Bethany Furtado, Clerk

Betsey Snipes, Secretary

[Committee members went into negotiation meeting with WISE members.]