

Warwick School Committee Minutes  
Meeting of April 2, 2012  
Open Meeting

The Warwick School Committee met in Open Session at the Administration Building, on Monday, April 2, 2012. Ms. Furtado called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. with the following in attendance:

COMMITTEE

Bethany A. Furtado, Chair  
Patrick E. Maloney, Jr., Vice Chair [absent]  
Eugene A. Nadeau, Clerk  
Christopher E. Friel  
M. Terri Medeiros

ADMINISTRATION

Peter P. Horoschak, Superintendent  
Robert T. Bushell, Director of Elementary Education  
Rosemary Healey, Esq., Director of Compliance & Human Resources

Ms. Furtado: The administrator involved in the executive session hearing has been notified in writing of his right to have this hearing in open session, but since neither he nor his lawyer are present at this time, we will wait to see how they would like to proceed.

MOTION 2012-52: Moved by Mr. Friel, seconded by Mr. Maloney, 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 (4-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye	Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. – [absent]
Christopher E. Friel - Aye	Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye
M. Terri Medeiros – Aye	

**Reconvened at 6:15**

Present Attorney Marshall Raudci and stenographer

Attorney Healey stated a vote of 4-0 was taken in Executive Session to approve the resolution of a potential litigation matter in this case specific to terms and conditions discussed. Ms. Healey stated she had a conversation with the attorney for Roy Roberts, and he has opted to have this take place in Open Session. She turned the matter over to the superintendent.

Superintendent Horoschak recommended the following: that Roy Roberts, an elementary principal at Lippitt Elementary School, be suspended without pay in contemplation of his termination from employment and/or his non-renewal as an administrator in the Warwick Public Schools. Should you accept my recommendation to suspend Mr. Roberts without pay in contemplation of his termination and/or non-renewal, Mr. Roberts will be offered the opportunity to have a full evidentiary hearing before a majority of the school committee before any final action of the school committee. My recommendation is based on my conclusion that Mr. Roberts has poorly performed as a building principal. Examples of that poor performance include failing to maintain proper test security, poor leadership, maintaining poor relations with staff, failing to communicate important information to staff, failing to hold regular and effective staff meetings, failing to effectively address student discipline and failing to prepare an improvement plan for Lippitt School as promised. His proposed non-renewal is based on the acts that there are more qualified candidates available.

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Attorney Raudci was present on behalf of Attorney Sowa. He said he would rely on Mr. Sowa's prior argument and preserve all rights. Ms. Healey said because of a previous defect in the notice, we will proceed with the hearing. We have already presented the administration's argument with regard to this particular action. We have provided Mr. Roberts and his legal counsel a letter as the reason for action taken this evening.

Chairperson Furtado called for a vote to accept the Superintendent's recommendation.

MOTION 2012-53: Moved by Mr. Friel, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to accept the Superintendent's recommendation.

**MOTION PASSES (4-0)**

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye      Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. – [absent]  
Christopher E. Friel - Aye      Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye  
M. Terri Medeiros – Aye

MOTION 2012-54: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to adjourn.

**MOTION PASSES (4-0)**

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye      Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. – [absent]  
Christopher E. Friel - Aye      Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye  
M. Terri Medeiros – Aye

**Meeting adjourned: 6:20 p.m.**

Eugene A. Nadeau, Clerk