

Warwick School Committee Minutes
Meeting of April 10, 2012
Open Session

The Warwick School Committee met in Open Session at Toll Gate High School, on Tuesday, April 10, 2012. Ms. Furtado called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m. with the following in attendance:

COMMITTEE

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

ADMINISTRATION

Peter P. Horoschak, Superintendent
Anthony Ferrucci, Chief Budget Officer
Rosemary Healey, Esq., Director of Compliance & Human Resources

MOTION 2012-52: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, 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 (3-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye Patrick E. Maloney, Jr. - Aye
Christopher E. Friel – not present for vote Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye
M. Terri Medeiros – not present for vote

Return to Open Session 7:10 p.m.

Chair Furtado announced a matter held in executive session was voted on by the School Committee 5-0 to accept the Superintendent's recommendation.

Student Comments:

Sophia Carter and Isaiah Rose, grade 6 from Wyman Elementary School
Keerthana Sivakumar, Axel Olsson, Sophia Maynard, grade 6 from Cedar Hill Elementary School

Recognition of NASA Cassini 5th Grade Science Competition

Alyssa Silvestre, Greenwood Elementary School
Brett Bernier, Hailey Dobish, Jenna Carmichael and Paarth Tandon of Wickes Elementary School

Recognition of Toll Gate Robotics Club

Captain Jeffrey Castellanos, Michael Smith and Jamie Allstrom

Approval of Minutes

MOTION 2012-53: Moved by Mr. Maloney, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the Minutes of Open Session for March 6, 2012 and March 27, 2012.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

MOTION 2012-54: Moved by Mr. Maloney, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to approve the Minutes of the Executive Session for March 6, 2012 and March 27, 2012.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

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Approval of Transfers:

MOTION 2012-55: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the transfers presented to the Committee.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Approval of Warrants:

MOTION 2012-56: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the warrants presented to the Committee.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Professional personnel items

Appointments:

MOTION 2012-57: Moved by Mr. Friel, seconded by Mr. Maloney, that the appointment of **David Laplante**, Director of Building and Grounds, Step 3 of the Administrative Pay Scale, be approved effective April 11, 2012.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Leave of Absence

MOTION 2012-58: Moved by Mr. Friel, seconded by Mr. Maloney, that the request for a sabbatical leave by **James Kennedy**, Health & Family Life Teacher at Toll Gate, be approved effective for the first semester of the 2012-2013 school year; that the request for a sabbatical leave by **Elise Hickey**, English teacher at Toll Gate be approved effective for the first semester of the 2012-2013 school year; and that the request for a parental leave by **Michelle Hanion**, Reading Specialist Consultant at Robertson Elementary School, be approved effective for the first semester of the 2012-2013 school year.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Retirements/Resignations:

MOTION 2012-59: Moved by Mr. Friel, seconded by Mr. Maloney, that the **retirement of Judith Daniel**, principal at Wyman Elementary School be accepted effective June 29, 2012; that the **retirement of Louise Carbone**, elementary teacher, John Brown Francis Elementary School be accepted effective March 23, 2012; and that the **resignation of Heather Rigney**, art teacher, on leave of absence, be accepted effective April 2, 2012.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Classified appointments:

MOTION 2012-60: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Friel, that the following appointments be approved: **Leslie Baxter**, teacher assistant, Special Services; **Sharon Picton**, teacher assistant, Special Services; **Elizabeth Eminger**, teacher assistant, Special Services; **Kathy Cookson**, teacher assistant, Special Services; and **Lisa Campagnone**, teacher assistant, Special Services.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

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Coaching appointments:

MOTION 2012-61: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Maloney, that the following coaching appointments be approved: **Joel Cordeiro**, assistant coach girls' Lacrosse, Pilgrim High School (for one year only); **Tamra Gallo**, head coach boys' tennis, Toll Gate High School; **James Kennedy**, assistant coach, girls' softball, Toll Gate High School; **James Stringfellow**, head coach, freshman baseball, Toll Gate High School (for one year only); and **Matthew Acciaoli**, assistant coach, boys' outdoor track, Warwick Veterans Memorial High School.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Student Senior Project Presentation by Michael Dias - Michael Dias presented his senior project "Renewable Energy Cost/Benefit Analysis for Solar Panels on Toll Gate High School."

GBP Update – Ms. Bilodeau: we are tracking 726 seniors, 720 have mentors, 705 have research papers and 524 have completed GBP.

Approval of Pilgrim High School Band and Chorus field trip to Pennsylvania, May 3rd through 6th, 2012

MOTION 2012-62: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Mr. Maloney, to approve the Pilgrim High School Band and Chorus field trip to Pennsylvania on May 3, 2012 through May 6, 2012.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Approval of 2012-2013 School Year Calendar: The first day of school begins August 29, 2012 and last day will be June 18, 2013. Discussion regarding starting school after Labor Day and the fact that there were so many 4-day school weeks.

MOTION 2012-63: Moved by Mr. Friel, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the 2012-2013 School Year Calendar which was presented to the Committee.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Non-renewals/pre-deprivation hearings (tabled)

Approval for reinstatement of Director of Secondary Education Position

MOTION 2012-64: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Mr. Maloney, to approve the reinstatement of the position of Director of Secondary Education.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Approval of elimination of interim positions:

MOTION 2012-65: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Mr. Maloney, to eliminate the position of "interim assistant to the Superintendent" as of September 1, 2012.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

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MOTION 2012-66: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Mr. Maloney, to eliminate interim director of buildings and grounds position.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Approval of Administrative Reappointments: - as amended – in executive session.

MOTION 2012-67: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Mr. Maloney, approve the administrative reappointments, as amended in executive session.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Approval of FY12 Revised School budget – presented by Mr. Ferrucci. The analysis is based on year-to-date financial activity through March 15, 2012.

REVENUE

Adopted budget 10/25/11	Revised Adopted 12/13/11	Recommended Revised 4/10/12	Unfavorable Variance
\$157,293,144	\$157,844,182	\$157,729,102	<\$115,080>

- Most notable is that the FY2011 State Restricted Set Aside and re-appropriated fund balance have been confirmed by the city auditors, with a slight increase from 12/13/11 projections \$93,985
- Tuitions charged to other districts id down, most notable West Warwick's student enrollment has decreased <\$127,192>
- Federal indirect cost rate reductions <\$130,000>

EXPENSES

Adopted budget 10/25/11	Revised Adopted 12/13/11	Recommended Revised 4/10/12	Favorable Variance
\$157,293,144	\$157,844,182	\$157,479,094	\$364,278

- Most notable, the favorable variance noted offset's the unfavorable revenue variance noted above and with it the school budget projects a small surplus through year end.
- Salary and fringe benefits have been adjusted to reflect the actual costs incurred for drivers and aids that are no longer on Warwick Public Schools payroll. In addition, salary costs associated with snow removal has been deducted given the warm weather which generally reduced our winter operational costs.

Personnel Costs:	Under Revised Adopted	<\$431,883>
Employee Benefits	Over Revised Adopted	\$66,696

- Non-Personnel Costs categories
- | SC recommended
4/27/11 | SC Adopted
10/25/11 | SC Revised
12/13/11 | Recommended Revised
4/10/12 |
|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| \$20,225,794 | \$21,479,674 | \$24,007,776 | \$24,008,685 |

Notable positive variances:

- Contracted services throughout the district are down \$77,000
- Out of district tuitions, overall down \$400,000 after setting aside an allocation for unencumbered students who may be in programs that we haven't been notified of and for out of district placements in dispute.
- Transportation, in the 12/13/11 Revised Budget, anticipated payment to First Student a daily fee which included rental of new buses beginning January 2, 2012. First Student has been using Warwick Public School buses while waiting for their new inventory to arrive. This circumstance allows us to be able to release nearly \$50,000 from December's projections.

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- Due to warm winter, some savings in utility and heating costs. We are able to release nearly \$100,000

Recommended use of these noted positive variances:

- 54602 lease equipment/vehicles +\$100,000
Use additional funds to defray copier acquisition costs where possible, with intent to reduce next year's costs
- 56401 Textbooks +\$400,000
Propose to use funds to purchase textbooks that have been requested to be bought next year
- 57xxx Capital and Equipment +\$ 90,000
Between funds not used on originally planned activities and this proposed increase of funds, we will be attempting to address the following open issues within the district:
 - a) computer room at Warwick Avenue – relocate to Physical Plant building on Draper Avenue
 - b) acquire another vehicle for maintenance
 - c) replace computers in 5 additional computer labs in various secondary schools

It is our recommendation that the School Committee consider adopting the Recommended Revised School Budget for the 2011-2012 school year as presented.

MOTION 2012-68: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Mr. Maloney, to **approve the FY12 Revised School Budget** as presented to the Committee.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Bids/Change Orders:

Bid for maintenance vehicle to Paul Masse Chevrolet – tabled until April 16th meeting [reading of bid was “bid for vehicle maintenance” and should have been “**bid for maintenance vehicle.**”]

MOTION 2012-69: Moved by Mr. Maloney, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, that the bid for Food Safety Inspection be awarded to F.I.R.S.T. Inspections for three years beginning 7/1/2012 in the amount of \$17,112.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Presentation of FY13 Recommended Budget: Opening Remarks by Superintendent Horoschak:

The bottom line of the proposed FY 2013 Warwick Public School Department budget is \$162,202,136. This proposal represents \$4,908,792 or 3.1% over the FY 2012 Adopted Expenditure Budget of \$157,293,144. A significant contributing factor is building and construction projects. The focus of this proposal is on acquiring the resources necessary to meet the school district's obligations to its student. The focus is also on maintaining the school department's ability to meet the emerging requirements of the Federal and State Departments of Education, continuing to pursue our school districts educational goals, and providing for the efficient and cost-effective school operations. This is not an over the top request for funding which could allow us to meet all the school department's needs. You will be presented with information about what this proposed budget will not allow and there are no pay increases factored in except for those required in collective bargaining agreements. We must prepare our students to move forward in their lives with the necessary knowledge and skills to succeed and for the school department to provide a physical environment which is safe, healthy and conducive to learning. The revenue projections take into account that which is the in Governor's proposed budget. The proposed increase in the City of Warwick's contribution would allow the School Department to make up for approximately \$2,000,000 of surplus revenue used to balance the FY 2012 budget. Very importantly, the proposed increase from the City would allow for the reduction of expenditures for bond debt service and secure the future funding of the fire code upgrades required by the State of Rhode Island.

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Presentation of FY2013 recommended budget (as of 4/10/12)

REVENUE

- State Aid: includes Governor's recommended allocation for Warwick, which includes restoring funding of the Federal Jobs Grant; which supplanted state aid in FY2012, as well as the Governor's recommendation to accelerate the state funding formula adjustment. The accelerated amount recommended for Warwick is \$253,273 and is including in FY2013 recommendation.
- Historical structural deficit has not come forward as the school department has relied upon approximately \$2 million annually over the last three years. FY2013 has only a small surplus projected to be carried forward reducing available revenue considerably.
- Minor adjustments were made to each revenue line based on actual trends
- Given the number of initiatives that will be identified throughout the budget process, and the noted loss of prior year surpluses, we are in need of an increase from the community of \$5,961,498. This amount represents an approximately 5% increase over FY2012 allocation. Compared to FY2010 community allocation of \$123,968,068, the \$124,648,188 represents a \$638,062 increase from three years ago, less than the increase granted in FY2012.

EXPENSES

- Transportation – with the full implementation of the outsourcing of the district's transportation responsibilities, the full savings realized in recommended budget is \$1,279,350.
- Due to a number of curriculum initiatives, the budget includes requests for new textbooks which require an additional \$1,000,000 (math, literacy and civics)
- There are over \$860,000 in building initiatives included
- New technology initiatives included total \$841,850
- The most pressing issue facing the school district is the need to fund fire code upgrades over the next three years. Due to this significant issue, we recommend putting the fire code funding into the local budget and reduce our long term debt. The cost increase to our budget is \$3.3 million. This noted amount as a percentage of the FY2012 expenditure budget represents a 2.1% increase on the local budget.
- Starting with FY2012 adopted expenditure budget of \$157,293,144 and going to a FY2013 recommended expenditure budget of \$162,202,136, the increase of \$4,908,992 is a 3.1% increase overall. (The fire code issue noted above accounts for 67% of the total increase in expenses for FY2013.)

Total FY13 Superintendent recommended budget is \$162,202,136.

Initiatives Not included in FY13 proposed budget:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------|
| • Elementary: | Additional Readings Teachers (8) | 640,000 |
| | Textbooks for K-6 health program | 300,000 |
| • Special Education: | elementary inclusionary classrooms and student anxiety stress release program | 550,000 |
| • Curriculum: | Program needed to address gap between students with IEPs as compared to all students. Currently 495 more students in reading and 42% more students in math were proficient than students with IEPs. Warwick's Race to the Top calls for cutting these percentages in half | 6,056,000 |
| • Building and Grounds: | | |
| | District wide electrical upgrades needed to support electrical demands | 7,900,000 |
| | Capital Improvement Plan that supported 2006 bond referendum | 13,169,784 |
| | New roof – Veterans | 1,989,000 |
| | New roof – maintenance building | 190,000 |
| • Technology, management information | | |
| | District wireless network solution | 700,000 |
| | Computer for each student @ \$800 (approx. 8000 needed) | 6,400,000 |
| | Offsite storage and backup solution for disaster recovery | 200,000 |
| | RIDE's PARCC initiative-pilot program | 3,000,000 |

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Initiatives Included in FY13 Proposed Budget

- Student Transportation

FY13 transportation as budgeted	7,141,875
FY13 transportation if transition had not taken place	8,421,225
Savings	1,279,350

 - Special Education: a revenue neutral re-alignment of resources expanding a therapeutic program and self-contained classroom by reducing another program.
 - Curriculum: Textbooks (math \$500k; Literacy \$300k; Civics \$200k) 1,000,000
 - Buildings and Groups

Total building initiatives budgeted: \$860,000

Following top priorities

o boiler replacement	50,000
o kitchen hood fire suppression upgrades	24,500
o new roof – Park Elementary	465,000
o Wickes windows repaired	2,000
o elevator upgrade – Winman	65,000

 - Technology – total initiatives budgeted \$1,281,660 – which is distributed between reoccurring committed costs and new initiatives:

o Reoccurring committed software	439,810
o New initiatives	
software	155,000
hardware	686,850

 - Proposal to fund fire code projects using local operational funds. School District will return all unspent RIHBEC bond funds on 7/1/12. We have added \$3.3 million for this summer’s fire code work into FY13 operating budget. By returning the \$3.3 million to the bonding corporation and using local funds in FY13, we would reduce our long-term debt. The amount owed would be reduced to \$4.312 million. In addition to the \$3.3 million being added to the local budget for FY13, Warwick Public Schools removed the \$507,500 in principal and \$48,556 in interest, thereby having a net effect of increasing the local budget by \$2,743,944.
- If the debt were not paid down, the School Department is facing an interest payment of 448,556 per year for the life of the bond payments. If the bond is paid down, the interest owed on the reduced debt would be \$27,507 per year. With fourteen years of debt service in front of the school department, the school district would save \$21,049 per year for fourteen years. Total savings for not having to pay interest amounts to \$315,734. In addition to the interest savings, by adding the \$3.3 million to the local operational budget in FY13, the district would be in a position to move forward with the required second and third phases of the fire code projects in FY 14 and FY15 knowing these funds will be available as part of the local support for maintenance of effort purposes.

MOTION 2012-70: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Mr. Maloney, to adjourn.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Meeting adjourned: 10:00 p.m.
 Eugene A. Nadeau, Clerk