

Warwick School Committee Minutes  
Meeting of January 15, 2013  
Open Session

The Warwick School Committee met in Open Session at Toll Gate High School on Tuesday, January 15, 2013. Ms. Furtado called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following in attendance:

COMMITTEE

Bethany A. Furtado  
M. Terri Medeiros  
Eugene A. Nadeau  
Karen Bachus  
Jennifer Ahearn

ADMINISTRATION

Richard D'Agostino, Acting Superintendent  
Dennis Mullen, Director of Secondary Education  
Rosemary Healey, Esq., Director of Compliance & Human Resources  
Anthony Ferrucci, Chief Budget Officer

**Election of officers:** Ms. Furtado – called for **nominations for Chair**: Ms. Medeiros responded she would like to nominate Beth Furtado. Ms. Furtado called for any further nominations; there were no other nominations; Ms. Bachus seconded Ms. Medeiros nomination

MOTION 2013-1: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Ms. Bachus, to approve the nomination of **Ms. Furtado as Chair**.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - Aye  
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

[Roll call: Ms. Bachus –yes; Ms. Medeiros – yes; Ms. Furtado – yes; Ms. Ahearn – yes; Mr. Nadeau – yes]

Ms. Furtado called for **nominations for Vice Chair**

Ms. Ahearn nominated Jean Nadeau for Vice Chair

Ms. Furtado called for any further nominations for Vice Chair

Ms. Furtado nominated Terri Medeiros

Ms. Furtado then called for any further nominations, there being none she called for a voice vote:

[Roll call: Ms. Bachus – Terri; Ms. Ahearn - Jean  
Ms. Medeiros – Terri; Mr. Nadeau – Jean  
Ms. Furtado – Terri;

MOTION 2013-2: Moved and seconded to approve the nomination of **Ms. Medeiros as Vice Chair**.

MOTION PASSES (3 Aye - 2 Nay)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Nay Karen Bachus - Aye  
Jennifer Ahearn - Nay

Ms. Furtado call for nominations for Clerk

Ms. Medeiros nominated Mr. Nadeau - Mr. Nadeau declined the nomination

Ms. Furtado nominated Jennifer Ahearn

[Roll call: Ms. Bachus –yes; Ms. Medeiros – yes; Ms. Furtado – yes; Ms. Ahearn – yes; Mr. Nadeau – yes]

MOTION 2013-2: Moved and seconded to approve the nomination of **Jennifer Ahearn as Clerk.**

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - Aye  
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

MOTION 2013-4: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, 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)**

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - Aye  
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

**Meeting reconvened 6:55 p.m.**

**Student comments:**

Juliet Noelle Dean, grade 6 Randall Holden Elementary School

Evan Asadorian, grade 6 Randall Holden Elementary School

Robert Gemma, grade 6 Lippitt Elementary School

Samantha Carlow, grade 6 Lippitt Elementary School

Chairperson Furtado announced in executive session an action was taken on a recommendation by the Acting Superintendent with a vote of 4 ayes 1 nay. Another personnel matter was accepted by a vote of 5-0. The Chair announced the annual election of officers: Bethany Furtado, Chair, M. Terri Medeiros, Vice Chair and Jennifer Ahearn, Clerk.

**Approval of Minutes:**

MOTION 2013-5: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the Minutes of the Open Session for December 11, 2012.

**MOTION PASSES (3 ayes 2 abstain)**

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - abstain  
Jennifer Ahearn - abstain

MOTION 2013-6: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the Minutes of the Executive Session for December 11, 2012.

**MOTION PASSES (3 ayes 2 abstain)**

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - abstain  
Jennifer Ahearn - abstain

**Approval of transfers:**

MOTION 2013-7: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the transfers presented to the Committee.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - Aye  
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

**Approval of warrants:**

MOTION 2013-8: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the warrants presented to the Committee.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - Aye  
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

**Professional personnel items:****Appointments:**

MOTION 2013-9: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, that the appointment of **Stephanie Bucci**, secondary special educator, from Category 1 to Permanent, Step 3, be approved.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - Aye  
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

**Retirement(s)/Resignation(s)**

MOTION 2013-10: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, that the **resignation of Peter Horoschak**, Superintendent, be accepted effective December 22, 2012 and that the **resignation of Michele Hanion**, reading teacher on leave of absence, be accepted effective January 4, 2013.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - Aye  
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

**Classified personnel items –****Appointments:**

MOTION 2013-11: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that the appointment of **Robert C. Baxter**, budget and accounting systems analyst, be approved effective upon School Committee approval; and that the appointment of **Michelle Schattle**, teacher assistant-kindergarten, be approved effective upon School Committee approval.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - Aye  
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

**Retirement(s)/Resignation(s)**

MOTION 2013-12: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, that the **retirement of Cheryl Pelletier**, teacher assistant special services be accepted effective December 11, 2012; and that the **resignation of Tammy Sherlock**, confidential secretary, be accepted effective December 31, 2012.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - Aye  
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

**Coaching appointments:**

MOTION 2013-13: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that the following coaching appointments be approved: **Michael Daniels**, head coach-boys' outdoor track at Pilgrim High School; **Jared DeAlmo**, assistant coach girls' lacrosse at Pilgrim High School; **Norm Bouthillier**, head coach boys' outdoor track at Toll Gate (for one year only); **James Stringfellow**, freshman coach boys' baseball at Toll Gate; **Edward Kimmerlein**, head coach boys' outdoor track at Warwick Veterans Memorial High School (for one year only) **Gary Costantino**, assistant coach boys' baseball at Warwick Veterans (for one year only) **Michael Fratus**, freshman coach boys' baseball at Warwick Veterans (for one year only) pending receipt of State of Rhode Island coaching Certificate; and **Alex Gregson**, assistant coach boys' lacrosse at Warwick Veterans (for one year only).

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus - Aye  
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

**Graduation by Proficiency Update – Ms. Bilodeau**

700 seniors are being followed – 365 have completed portfolio, 630 papers completed and 140 are presenting on February 11, 2013.

## Approval of Electricity Contracts

MOTION 2013-14: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the electricity contracts.

### MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye    M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye    Karen Bachus - Aye  
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

## Approve of Fire Code Resolution – tabled this evening

**Approval to create a district safety and security committee** – Ms. Healey said that Rhode Island General Laws Section 16-21-23(a) requires that the School Committee establish a school team to develop a school safety plan. That team should consist of representatives of the school committee, student, teacher and parent organizations, school safety personnel, school administration and members of local law enforcement, fire and emergency personnel. She was seeking approval for the creation of the district school safety team and to establish school committee representation. We will then solicit other participants and seek appointment of the remaining team members at the next meeting.

MOTION 2013-15: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Bachus, to move forward with the district safety and security committee.

### MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye    M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye    Karen Bachus - Aye  
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

[Note: Ms. Furtado and Ms. Ahearn volunteered; the remaining team members will be solicited and then appointed at the next month's school committee meeting.]

**Presentation on STAR Assessment System** – Presentation by Sara Monaco (federal grant program coordinator) PowerPoint presentation for the STAR system. Screenings would be conducted three times a year for all students in September, January and May. Students would engage in systematic problem solving after the screenings and will be progress monitored to determine if they are meeting their goals. There is a multi-level intervention system, consisting of (1) research-based core instruction, strategies and classroom management, universal screening of all students and progress monitoring of at-risk students; (2) research-based interventions, frequent progress monitoring and adjustment based upon data; and (3) intensive intervention. STAR assessments will be taken on computer; with each assessment taking ten to fifteen minutes. At the secondary level, students will use the computer labs; and at the elementary level assessments will be part of classroom administration. Ms. Monaco noted that STAR is a computer-adapted test, so as student answers correctly, they questions get harder. It should be noted that this program interfaces with Aspen. She said it will also support past and current professional development in the district. The first phase of professional development would start around March and initial training through half-day sessions. The second part would focus on specific subject areas. This system will cost \$150,000 the first year, then \$62,000 per year to maintain. The money is budgeted in the fiscal year 2013 budget.

MOTION 2013-16: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Ahearn, to approve the purchase of the Star Assessment System.

### MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye    M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye    Karen Bachus - Aye  
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

**FY 2013 Monthly Fiscal Budget** – Presented by Mr. Ferrucci:**For the period ending 12/31/12:**

Total Revenue received	\$135,762,120
Total Expenditures	\$ 62,140,981
Total Encumbrances	\$ 10,162,943

[Excludes salaries and fringe benefits]

## Summary Review of non-salary and fringe benefits costs

Approved Budget	Revised Approved Budget	Revised Approved	Year to Date Exp.&Encumber	Percentage of Non Staff Costs
7/10/12	8/14/12	12/11/12	12/31/12	
\$24,673,572	\$24,825,106	\$25,254,127	\$19,024,454	75.3%

**Bids/Change Orders:**

MOTION 2013-17: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Bachus, that the bid for ceiling tile abatement and replacement be awarded to Coletta Contracting Co., Inc. in the amount of \$75,650 as per the bid tabulation presented to the Committee.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye    M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye    Karen Bachus - Aye  
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

**Information and Proposals:****School Committee:**

Ms. Medeiros comment that on January 21<sup>st</sup> it would cost \$10 for 3 games of bowling at Meadowbrook for the benefit of VOWS. Ms. Bachus said this includes shoes and snack. Mr. Nadeau said he attended thirteen concerts given by school orchestras and choirs and the extent of the music program is quite remarkable and we are blessed with great music teachers.

Ms. Ahearn proposed an agenda item for a committee for hiring a new superintendent. Ms. Healey responded that we do that by a School Committee directive.

Ms. Bachus: VOWS February 8<sup>th</sup> - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Warwick Museum

The Chair welcomed Ms. Ahearn and Ms. Bachus saying, thank you for putting yourself out there and I look forward to moving in a positive direction.

**Superintendent and Staff:**

Dr. D'Agostino said there will be two flu clinics on 1/23 and 1/24.

Mr. Bushell said the public is invited to attend a security presentation and demonstration at John Brown Francis on 1/17/13 at 7:00 for a brief demonstration of how doors and cameras will be used for security purposes. Francis will be used as a pilot model that will extend to all schools in the district.

**Public comment:** Mr. Landri said thank you for the kind words on the music program and for the new instruments. He said there is something in the works for a memorial concert for Mr. Shapiro and said to pencil in May 2<sup>nd</sup> at Toll Gate. Mary Townsend: thanked Mr. Landri for the preschool children music presentation and thanked Terri and Karen for mentioning VOWS. She asked when we will be getting answers from First Student. We still have issues with drivers. Darlene Netcoh noted there is no computer lab at Winman right now, and some are inadequate for the intended uses [STAR assessment program]. She said the Toll Gate math lab exists, but the schedule is already full, which wouldn't allow time for other students to come in and use them. If we don't have the technology to support it, it won't work. Mr. Daniels said in light of what happened in Newtown, one of the things that shocked me was to find out when secretaries are on lunch the 5<sup>th</sup> graders man phones and doors and this is a policy that has continued. He said he didn't want any child manning the phones. No child should be opening the door for anyone. The Chair responded that this was not an agenda item, but to submit his concern to the Superintendent.

She said I believe our district took the right steps in securing our schools. Steve Asprino commented he was pleased with the STAR program and suggested using a number key for login purposes as opposed to names.

MOTION 2013-18: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to adjourn the meeting.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye    M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye    Karen Bachus - Aye  
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

**Meeting adjourned: 8:30 p.m.**