

Warwick School Committee Minutes
Meeting July 16, 2013 – Open Session

The Warwick School Committee met in Open Session at Pilgrim High School on Tuesday, July 16, 2013. Ms. Furtado called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following in attendance:

COMMITTEE

Bethany A. Furtado, Chair
M. Terri Medeiros, Vice Chair
Jennifer Ahearn, Clerk
Eugene A. Nadeau
Karen Bachus

ADMINISTRATION

Richard D'Agostino, Acting Superintendent
Dennis Mullen, Director of Secondary Education
Robert T. Bushell, Director of Elementary Education
Rosemary Healey, Esq., Director of Compliance & Human Resources
Anthony Ferrucci, Chief Budget Officer

MOTION 2013-152: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Ahearn, 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 M. Terri Medeiros – [not present for vote]
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye Karen Bachus – [not present for vote]
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

Open Meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of Public Session

MOTION 2013-153: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Bachus, to approve the Minutes of Open Session for June 11, 2013 and June 27, 2013.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Vote of Minutes of Executive Session

MOTION 2013-154: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Ahearn, to approve the Minutes of Executive Session for June 11, 2013 and June 27, 2013.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Approval of Transfers

MOTION 2013-155: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to approve the transfer 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 2013-156: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Ahearn, 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

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Professional personnel items: Appointments:

MOTION 2013-157: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that the following appointments be approved: **Ryan Borden**, severe/profound teacher, step 1 be approved pending receipt of State and National BCI; **Jennifer Randall**, secondary mathematics teacher, category 1, step 5; **Elizabeth Morrissette**, elementary kindergarten teacher, Step 3; **Kristin Ripley-McNamara**, elementary library medical specialist Step 1, pending receipt of national and State BCI and receipt of RI state certification; **Jennifer Buchana**, secondary special educator, Step 3; **Jacqueline Fazzano**, elementary special educator, category 1, Step 2, pending receipt of national and State BCI and **Lauren Sharkey**, occupational therapist, Step 5 be approved pending receipt of national and State BCI.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

MOTION 2013-158: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that the appointment of **David Tober**, Interim assistant principal, Toll Gate High School, step 1, of the administrative pay scale, be approved.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

MOTION 2013-159: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Ahearn, that the appointment of **John Gannon**, assistant director of special education, Step 4 of the administrative pay scale be approved.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

MOTION 2013-160: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that the appointment of **John Gannon**, interim director of special services, Step 1, be approved.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

MOTION 2013-161: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that the appointment of **David Cluff**, principal J.B. Francis Elementary School Step 3 of the administrative pay scale pending receipt of national and State BCI 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 2013-162: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Ahearn, that the **retirement of Robert Mattis**, special education coordinator be accepted effective July 23, 2013; **retirement of Marcia McOsker**, speech language therapist, Drum Rock Early Childhood Center be accepted effective the last day of school; **retirement of Nancy Marciano**, social studies teacher, Veterans High School, be accepted effective last day of school; **retirement of Eric Kingman**, technology education teacher, Veterans High School be accepted effective last day of school; **retirement of Donna Fennesy**, elementary special educator, J.B. Francis Elementary School be accepted June 24, 2013; **resignation of Bradley Wilson**, assistant administrator, special education, be accepted effective June 28, 2013 and that the **resignation of Sandra Whatmough**, special education/severe profound teacher at Lippitt Elementary School be accepted effective June 26, 2013; that the **resignation of Kimberly Rothwell-Carson**, assistant administrator special education be accepted effective August 14, 2013.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

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Coaching appointments:

MOTION 2013-163: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Ahearn, that the following coaching appointments be approved: **Michael Xiarhos**, head coach (girls' cross country at Pilgrim); **Daniel Calabro**, assistant coach (football at Pilgrim High School); **Bryan Cooper**, assistant coach (football at Pilgrim High School) and **Chad Tvenstrup**, head coach (girls' tennis at Pilgrim High School).

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Approval of Assistant Principal transfer – Gorton Junior High School

MOTION 2013-164: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that **Scott Shepherd** be transferred to the assistant principal position at Gorton Junior High School.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

FY 13 Preliminary year-end report – Mr. Ferrucci discussed the FY2013 preliminary year end projection report. He said a surplus greater than what had been previously reported has been achieved in the amount of \$2,551,146 for the school year ending June 2013. This is a preliminary determination that will be validated through the summer based on payments of accrued expenses and final bills received. The final financial results are expected by mid-September. The contingencies that were held but were not needed totaled \$1,000,000 [PD stipends-district \$310,000; Associated fringe benefits \$90,000; tuition private sources \$300,000; legal services \$100,000 and business affairs office(collective) \$200,000]. We have been able to further contribute to this surplus, in addition to the \$400,000 contingency, with unanticipated surplus of vacation \$30,629; retro salary prior year \$108,272; class overage \$48,124; class covers \$24,526; severance \$54,418 and associate fringe saved on salary surpluses \$49,195. We were able to surplus an additional \$644,398 through the efforts of all of the district's budget managers. If these projections hold, as we still have outstanding unencumbered expenses to be booked and payrolls to be paid and over \$3.1 million dollars of encumbered purchase orders to process, we are in a position of having a FY2013 surplus of \$2.5 million for use in FY2014 against \$3.4 million on anticipated budget cuts.

FY2014 Administration's recommended budget balance proposals: The Directors' recommended budget balance proposals are in priority order. Those items of the highest priority are listed last. It is our recommendation to re-seed the last items on the list first in FY2014 when/if funds become available.

Description of Proposal	Line Item Affected	Amount	Running Balance
Projected Shortfall-SC Recommended Adopted 4-26-13			\$3,853,408
Additional Revenue from City	Acct# 41210	\$ 437,832	\$3,415,576
Correction to Summer Sch. Principal	Salary & Fringe	<\$ 70,000>	\$3,345,576
Math Textbooks Proposal Under Budget	Acct# 56401	<\$ 135,000>	\$3,210,576
Deduct Math Textbooks-Purchased Fy13	Acct# 56401	<\$ 515,000>	\$2,695,576
Leave Vacant Special Education Director Position	Salary & Fringe	<\$ 150,000>	\$2,545,576
Fuel Cuts-Gas, Diesel, Heating Oil. (Current price per gallon down from Projected budget costs as of 01-2013. Futures contract should be awarded to take advantage of this current pricing.)	Accts# 56202,56203, 56209	<\$ 200,000>	\$2,345,576
10% Across the Board Reduction in Purchase Services. Budget Managers to determine impact.	Accts# 54xxx	<\$ 110,000>	\$2,235,576
10% Across the Board Reduction in Supplies. All Budget Managers to determine impact.	Accts# 56xxx	<\$ 80,000>	\$2,155,576

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Description of Proposal	Line Item Affected	Amount	Running Balance
10% Across the Board Reduction in Equipment. All Budget Managers to determine impact.	Accts # 57xxx	<\$ 100,000>	\$2,055,576
Food Service-Eliminate Operating Losses	Acct#59012	<\$ 255,576>	\$1,800,000
Cut Programs to achieve an additional 10 certified staff positions laid off.	Salary & Fringe	<\$ 1,000,000>	\$ 800,000
Cut Music/Arts Equipment Accts	Accts# 57xxx	<\$ 50,000>	\$ 750,000
Cut Technology Related Hardware 10%	Acct#57309	<\$ 50,000>	\$ 700,000
Transportation-Increase walking distances to state maximums and stop pickup/ drop off at day care centers that are not on bus route.	Acct# 56401	<\$ 150,000>	\$ 550,000
Cut Interscholastic Sports by 10%	Salary and Fringe	<\$ 90,000>	\$ 460,000
Cut Extra Curricula Activities by 10% and supplies		<\$ 10,000>	\$ 450,000
Cut Contingencies-Charter School Tuitions	Acct# 55660	<\$ 50,000>	\$ 400,000
Cut Contingencies-Out of District Tuition	Acct# 55630	<\$ 150,000>	\$ 250,000
Additional Revenue Summer Sch. Tuitions	Acct# 41704	\$ 15,000	\$ 235,000
Limit Outside Groups Access to school property thereby reducing event overtime.	Acct# 51203 & Fringe	<\$ 45,000>	\$ 190,000
Cut Professional Development -Services	Acct# 53301	<\$ 40,000>	\$ 150,000
Cut Interscholastic Sports by an additional 10%.	Salary and Fringe and supplies	<\$ 90,000>	\$ 60,000
Cut Extra Curricula Activities by an additional 10%.		<\$ 10,000>	\$ 50,000
Cut New .5 Math Position	Salary & Fringe	<\$ 50,000>	Balanced

Note: first \$600,000 of FY13 surplus going to cover professional development, which needs to be added. Surplus above \$600,000 to be used to reseed expenses, starting at bottom and working up the list.

If approved, the School Committee Original Budget would be \$157,225,051

FY14 Budget Adoption:

MOTION 2013-165: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the FY2014 budget adoption as presented in Memo dated July 16, 2013 as Administration's Recommended Original Budget.

MOTION PASSES (4 ayes 1 nay)

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

FY14 Revised Budget Adoption - Mr. Ferrucci said based on the fiscal results the district achieved in the FY2013 school year, a preliminary year-end report indicates a \$2.5 million surplus. Based on the cut list provided and known current needs that have to be addressed, we recommend the following actions be considered:

Description of Proposal	Line Item Affected	Amount
Add Professional Development Stipends	51302 & Fringe	\$645,900
Add Professional Develop Substitutes	51115 & Fringe	\$484,216
Add Bldg. Improve-Security Construction	57202	\$455,000
Re-instate cut-New .5 Math Position	51110 & Fringe	\$ 50,000
Re-instate cut Extra cut Curricula Activities additional 10%.	51404	\$ 10,000
Re-instate cut Interscholastic Sports additional 10%.	51404	\$ 90,000
Re-instate Cut Prof. Development –Serv.	53301	\$ 40,000
Re-instate Outside Groups Access to Schools, Event Overtime	51203	\$ 45,000
Re-instate cut Contingencies-Out of District tuition	55630	\$ 150,000
Re-instate cut Contingencies-Charter School Tuitions	5660	\$ 50,000

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Description of Proposal	Line Item Affected	Amount
Re-instate cut Extra cut Curricula Activities additional 10%.	1404	\$10,000
Re-instate cut Interscholastic Sports additional 10%.	51404	90,000
Re-instate-Transportation	56401	150,000
Do not increase walking distances to state maximums and continue pickup/drop off at day care centers as current.		
Re-instate cut Technology Related Hardware 10%	57309	50,000
Re-instate cut Music/Arts Equipment	57xxx	50,000
TOTAL Adjustments to Original Budget:		\$ 2,370,116

Mr. Ferrucci requested that this **Recommended Revised Budget** be approved. The School Committee Revised Budget would then be **\$159,595,167**.

Public comment with the following summary of comments: a group of librarians spoke and requested position not be eliminated. Many parents and children commented on the elimination of the ALAP program. Some of the comments were as follows: inspired me to do my best; goal to get there and finally there; quality outcome and challenged in academic work; not being challenged enough, not interested in school; a parent commented that she felt because her daughter had been in the ALAP program drive and leadership skills had been generated in her formative years; another student asked that the program be kept as it helped her be driven, focused and confident; an ALAP teacher asked how would we meet the needs of these 300 students; another ALAP teacher said these are not typical kids they get fired up about school; a parent said that her child cried when the letter that ALAP was being cut was opened; and another parent commented that her daughter had lost interest in school and when started with ALAP her daughter was energized. Mary Townsend wanted to note that when outside groups use buildings, custodians are not paid overtime. Mr. Testa said he felt two librarians to cover three schools didn't make sense and they should be fully staffed.

MOTION 2013-165: Moved by Ms. Furtado to approve the Administration's Recommended Revised Budget and second for amendments, seconded by Terri.

It was noted that motions for amendments can be made, seconded and discussed. Then there will be a motion on the revised budget with amendments.

Ms. Ahearn moved to amend and override \$45,000 for outside groups access to schools, event overtime and save the librarian position at Gorton Jr. High. Ms. Healey said \$75,000 would be necessary to cover the salary and fringe benefits. Ms. Ahearn made the following Motion.

MOTION 2013-166: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, to eliminate the reinstated outside groups access to schools in the amount of \$45,000, seconded by Mr. Nadeau.

MOTION PASSES (3 ayes 2 abstain)

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

MOTION 2013-167: Moved by Ms. Furtado, to eliminate the reinstated cut for extra curricula activities #51404 for \$10,000 and eliminate the reinstated cut interscholastic sports #51404 for \$90,000; totaling \$100,000, seconded by Ms. Ahearn.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

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MOTION 2013-168: Moved by Ms. Furtado to reduce music/arts equipment by \$25,000, seconded by Ms. Medeiros.

MOTION PASSES (3 ayes 2 nays)

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

MOTION 2013-169: Moved by Ms. Furtado to add \$45,000 to #57202 capital equipment (\$500,000) **No second** – Motion Fails – remains at \$455,000

In answer to question about motion for reinstating ALAP program, Attorney Healey said if you want to reinstate the ALAP program you would have to propose to reinstate the program and find \$325,000.

MOTION 2013-170: Moved and proposed by Mr. Nadeau to keep the ALAP Program at \$325,000, seconded by Ms. Ahearn.

MOTION FAILS (2 AYES 2 NAYS 1 ABSTAIN)

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

Mr. Nadeau requested to speak about the summer school tuition increases. Attorney Healey said this was voted on by the school committee and for it to be reconsidered a member of the committee who voted in favor must bring it forward and it has to be on the agenda. A motion to reconsider must be moved by a member who voted in favor, and she commented, Mr. Nadeau you were not present for the vote.

MOTION 2013-171: Moved by Ms. Furtado for the approval of the FY2014 Administration's Recommended **Revised** Budget, with **amendments**, seconded by Ms. Bachus

Ms. Bachus said when I voted to keep Gorton open, I was clear in my statement it would necessitate serious conditions/cuts that would hurt everyone – despite that warning the audience cheered; and for that reason this is the result – hopefully it is only a one-year result. One librarian is not going to cover one school – two librarians will be covering three schools – hopefully next year not an issue. This year very painful – restore a lot of things, still cuts that have been made because we kept Gorton open. We listened to the people and we did as they asked. Hopefully our educators will step up and teach differentiated instruction in the classroom. Mr. Nadeau commented when I voted to keep Gorton open, I didn't mean to get rid of a librarian. We just eliminated \$325,000; certainly we can bring back a librarian.

MOTION 2013-172: Call for the vote on the Motion made by Ms. Ahearn and seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to bring back the librarian.

MOTION FAILS (2 AYES 3 NAYS)

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

Call for the vote on MOTION 2013-171: to approve the revised budget as amended and further revised, seconded by Karen.

MOTION PASSES (4 ayes 1 nay)

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

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Policy GBN – Disqualification of Job Applicants with Criminal Convictions and of Volunteers with disqualifying information (1st reading)

MOTION Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Bachus, to approve the **first reading of Policy GBN.**

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Policy GBCA – Prohibition against holding dual employment (1st reading)

MOTION Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the **first reading of Policy GBCA.**

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Bids and Change Orders

MOTION Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that the change order for hardware changes in the amount of \$4,088.42 be approved as per bid tabulation presented.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Public Comment:

Mr. Testa thanked Mr. Ferrucci for his continuing details regarding the budget and commented that the librarians should be put back into the budget. Ms. Netcoh said the school committee could say “want this position reinstate – budget director go find the money.” She also commented that ALAP helps the gifted kids get something more. Mr. Landri suggested at the next school committee meeting to vote to bring back ALAP and the librarian positions. Mr. Maloney commented that you are not saving \$325,000 and to look at the budget again and bring it back up.

MOTION 2013-: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Ahearn, 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: 10:15 p.m.