

Warwick School Committee Minutes  
Meeting April 8, 2014  
Open Session

The Warwick School Committee met in Open Session at Toll Gate High School on Tuesday, April 8, 2014. Ms. Furtado called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. with the following in attendance:

**COMMITTEE**

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

**ADMINISTRATION**

Richard D'Agostino, Superintendent  
Dennis Mullen, Director of Secondary Education  
Rosemary Healey, Esq., Director of Compliance & Human Resources  
Anthony Ferrucci, Chief Budget Officer  
John Gannon, Interim Director of Special Services  
David LaPlante, Director of Buildings & Grounds

Reconvened at 7:05 p.m.

Recognition of the Warwick RI Co-Op "Lady Titans" hockey team by the Warwick School Department and Senator Erin Lynch presented RI Senate citation for the coaches and players.

The Chair announced that in executive session three matters came before the committee; one matter was accepting the Superintendent recommendation by a vote of 3 in favor 1 abstain and 1 dissent; the second matter was accepting the Superintendent's recommendation by a vote of 4 in favor and 1 dissent; and the third matter was a unanimous vote to uphold the superintendent's recommendation.

**Approval of Minutes**

MOTION 2014-83: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Ahearn, to approve the Minutes for the Open Session of February 25, 2014, March 5, 2014 and March 11, 2014.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

MOTION 2014-84: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Ahearn, to approve the Minutes of the Executive Session of February 25, 2014, March 5, 2014 and March 11, 2014.

**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 2014-85: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, 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 2014-86: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, 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

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**Professional personnel items:**

**Appointments:**

MOTION 2014-87: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, that the appointment of **Carmen Pina Faria**, foreign language department head at Aldrich/Pilgrim be approved; and that the appointment of **Jeremiah Ryan**, social studies teacher, step 1, be changed from category 1 permanent.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Retirement/Resignation**

MOTION 2014-88: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, that the **retirement of Leslie Angelone**, elementary teacher at Holliman Elementary School be accepted effective the last day of school; that the **resignation of Shanna Factor**, math teacher on leave of absence be accepted effective the last day of school; and that the **resignation of Scott Shepherd**, assistant principal at Gorton Junior High School be accepted effective July 1, 2014.

**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 2014-89: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, that the appointment of **Michael Giarrusso, Sr.**, custodian at Greene Administration Annex, be approved; and that the appointment of **Carolyn Fawe**, attendance clerk at Winman Junior High School 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/Resignation**

MOTION 2014-90: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, that the **resignation of Juliann DeLuca**, laid off bus driver, be accepted effective March 10, 2014; that the **resignation of Paula Cardillo**, custodian at Oakland Beach Elementary School be accepted effective January 17, 2014; and that the **resignation of Lillian Wilding**, laid off bus driver be accepted effective March 11, 2014.

**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 2014-91: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that the following coaching appointments be accepted: **Nicholas Riess**, freshman coach boys' baseball at Pilgrim High School (pending RIDE certificate for one year only); **Stephanie Shields**, head coach girls' field hockey at Pilgrim High School; **James Stringfellow**, head coach boys' football at Toll Gate High School for one year only; **Patrick Chin**, assistant coach boys' volleyball at Toll Gate High School for one year only; **Michael Giard**, assistant coach boys' baseball at Toll Gate High School for one year only; and **James DeSimone**, head coach freshman baseball, Warwick Veterans High School.

**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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**RIDE presentation of IT Services** – by Lee Rabbitt – Ms. Rabbit presentation included major categories of tech readiness which include teaching and learning, educator preparation and development, administration and support services and infrastructure for technology. The Warwick technology study covered interviews, documentation, site visits and meetings. 95% of those interviewed believed technology is integral to education; 89% stated more technology and support are needed; and 85% believed there are major shifts occurring in curriculum, instruction, assessment with regard to technology. Highlights of the study were school staff concerns regarding integrating technology in the school/classroom; PD specific to technology and some not being clear regarding technology vision or plan for the district. The following recommendations are as follows: technology leadership needs to be addressed; a shared vision and clear goals around technology planning and implementation needed; technology budgeting and purchasing needs to include district stakeholders and integrate into strategic plans of the district; integration of technology in the schools/classroom to support innovative pedagogy and learning environments. It was recommended that the technology department be organized around three distinct functions: educational and infrastructure support and networking data management; both short term and long range planning needs to take place and a director of technology needs to be an administrative level position.

**GBP Update** – Ms. Bilodeau – following 664 seniors; 636 proficient research papers complete; 385 have completed portfolios. May 22<sup>nd</sup> Senior Project Presentation Day

**Subcommittee for RFP Update:** Ms. Furtado asked Ms Bachus for an update. Ms. Bachus reported we have had one meeting, and I had to cancel the second meeting because of health reasons and have not rescheduled. She said she hoped to have a meeting scheduled after Easter.

Ms. Ahearn – I would move to vote for a meeting time line as I feel we should be able to decide how much time should be spend on this.

MOTION 2014-92: Ms. Ahearn moved a vote for a meeting time line by the School Committee, seconded by Ms. Furtado.

Discussion: Ms. Medeiros supported a report at a regular meeting. Ms. Furtado said the RFP has to come back to the school committee and then posted. Ms. Ahearn asked for a deadline for the RFP to come to us for approval. Ms. Furtado requested an RFP be presented at the June regular monthly meeting [scheduled for June 9<sup>th</sup>].

Call on MOTION 2014-92: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, to present a RFP at the regular monthly meeting in June for approval.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Approval of advertising on new trailer for Career and Technical Center**

MOTION 2014-93: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Ahearn, to approve advertising for the new trailer at the Career and Technical Center.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Approval of Elementary Physical education curriculum** – Dr. Siesel said the senior high and junior high physical education curriculum has been approved, and we are now seeking approval of the elementary physical education curriculum.

MOTION 2014-94: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to approve the elementary physical education curriculum.

**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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**Approval of teacher assistant position** – Mr. Gannon requested approval of the appointment of a new teacher assistant position to support the new pre-school program recently established at Holliman School. Regulations of the State will require the staff and student ratio in a pre-school classroom to be 9:1. This position is funded by IDEA Federal funds.

MOTION 2014-95: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, approval of the teacher assistant position at Holliman 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 walking/running track at Oakland Beach Elementary School**

MOTION 2014-96: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, approval of the walking/running track at Oakland Beach Elementary School.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Approval for Washington DC trip for Gorton, Aldrich and Winman Junior High Schools.**

[Aldrich: May 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>; Gorton May 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>; and Winman May 1<sup>st</sup> to May 3<sup>rd</sup>]

MOTION 2014-97: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to approve the Washington DC trip for Gorton, Aldrich and Winman Junior High Schools (May 2014).

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Approval of contract award for student furniture – (elementary schools)**

MOTION 2014-98: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, approval of contract award for student furniture [\$17,178].

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Approval of contract award for Pearson-Math AP textbooks**

MOTION 2014-99: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, approval of contract award for Pearson-Math AP textbooks [\$9,728].

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Approval of contract award for Atrion annual support renewal**

MOTION 2014-100: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, approval of contract award for Atrion annual support renewal [\$14,910].

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Approval of contract award for Orton-Gilligham PD Reading Specialist**

MOTION 2014-101: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, approval of contract award for Orton-Gilligham PD reading specialist.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

(\$18,121.00 – budgeted item)

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**Approval of contract award for Trane – replacement parts Toll Gate HVAC System**

MOTION 201-102: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, approval of contract award for Trane – replacement parts Toll Gate HVAC System (\$19,750)

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

**Approval of contract award for architect’s fee structure for Veterans High School re-roofing re-bid (\$39,645)**

Discussion: Ms. Bachus said she would support making emergency repairs if required but prefer to hold off on the roof replacement until the committee hears from the consultant it plans to hire. Mr. Jansson said we can’t risk another year; the rain is deteriorating the roof. Ms. Furtado commented that this needs to be taken care of now. This project should have been done three years ago. Ms. Medeiros noted the roof is leaking; there are buckets on the floor. Mr. Jansson said mold was a great concern. Mr. Nadeau said we should not be taking money out of our budget; the schools belong to the City. He said he didn’t know of any other school district in the state that pays principal and interest on its bonds. Ms. Furtado said we agreed to assume the debt payments because we wanted access to the bonding authority. She urged members to first deal with the immediate need of fixing roof and then try to renegotiate with the City about how debt payments are handled.

Ms. Bachus – call the vote – seconded Ms. Medeiros

MOTION PASSES (3 ayes 2 nays)

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

MOTION 2014-103: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the contract award for architect’s fee structure for Veterans High School re-roofing re-bid.

MOTION PASSES (3 ayes 2 nays)

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

**Approval of contract award for wireless**

MOTION 2014-104: Moved by Ms. Bachus, and seconded by Mr. Nadeau, approval of contract award for wireless.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

**FY2014 Monthly Fiscal Report – for period ending 3/26/14**

Total Revenue received	\$147,742,906
Total Expenditures	107,108,571
Total Encumbrances	6,896,477

[Excludes salaries and fringe benefits]

Summary Review of non-salary and fringe benefits costs

School Committee Approved Budget 7/16/13	School Committee Revised Approved Budget 7/16/13	School Committee Revised Approved 3/11/14	Exp.&Encumber 3/26/14	Percentage of Non Staff Costs
\$24,842,824	\$25,762,824	\$26,807,173	\$22,123,349	82.5%

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**Bids/change orders** - Recommended: that the bid for re-roofing Veterans Memorial High School in the amount of \$2,209,000 be awarded to Commercial Roofing and Construction, Inc. as per memorandum.

Mr. Jansson said the flat roof is far beyond its life expectancy and leaks so badly that seams are ripping and buckets have to be placed throughout the building on rainy days. The roof is in horrendous shape; waiting another year adds more of a risk. Mold is a great concern – the roof is beyond its life expectancy. The roof should have been replaced three years ago, but the funds weren't available. CRCI has agreed to uphold its bid of \$1,989,000 – however it did increase due to building code changes since 2011. CRCI proposed an offer to honor their original bid plus a change order in the amount of \$220,000 for the cost of the code-required changes for a total bid award of \$2,209,900.

MOTION 2014-105: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, that the bid for re-roofing Veterans Memorial High School in the amount of \$2,209,000 be awarded to Commercial Roofing and Construction, Inc. as per memorandum.

MOTION FAILS (2 ayes 3 nays)

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

Further discussion and comments: Mr. Mullen said that the leaking roof problem cited by visiting accreditation team several years ago, and the district was advised to fix it back then. You run the risk of Vets losing accreditation from NEASC. Back in 2008 the school was told it could lose accreditation or be put on probation if the roof situation wasn't addressed. The next study is scheduled for 2016. Dr. D'Agostino said if the roof gets compromised we could be looking at \$5 million instead of \$2 million. Ms. Furtado remarked as a committee and a group of five, we determined not to take action on the consolidation plan that was presented to us, with the expectation that Vets would remain open. By not taking action tonight, we're impacting the students that receive an education at Vets. The roof leaks and needs to be repaired and it needs to happen now. I leave it to the three of you to explain to the teachers, students and parents if accreditation becomes an issue. Mr. LaPlante said the longer the bid approval is delayed, the further construction gets pushed back. Work may not be able to be completed over the summer and could extend into spring. Mr. Nadeau said there has to be an accounting by the city and they need to realize they are putting the school department in jeopardy. Ms. Furtado said the money to replace the roof is coming out of the operating budget we currently have. This is a non-reoccurring expense. Once the roof is fixed, it is done. We have the money for it this year. Ms. Medeiros said we have heard RIDE say we will lose our accreditation. It is important not to let the disagreements between the city and the schools impact the students. Something that sits before all of us is there are issues between the city and the school, but it's not appropriate to put the students in the middle of it, and that's what we just did. Mr. Ferrucci said it is risky to continue to rely on a budget surplus that carries over every year and earmark it for programs that it expects to run every year because when the surplus runs out, the department will experience a deficit. It is wiser to allocate it to non-reoccurring expenses, such as capital projects, which is why the \$1.7 million surplus was earmarked for the Vets roof. The department just needed final bid approval for work to start in May. The additional \$500,000 of bond money would be used to make up the difference to complete the project.

It was agreed this will be revisited at the April 16<sup>th</sup> upcoming meeting and will appear on the agenda as reconsideration of vote on Veterans roof bid award and reconsideration of vote on Veterans roof architect award.

MOTION 2014-106: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to reconsider the vote on Veterans roof bid award and reconsideration of vote on Veterans roof architect award at the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

MOTION PASSES (4 ayes 1 nay)

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

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**Budget Presentation**

**Director of Elementary Education (Mr. Bushell)**

FY12 Actual	FY13	FY13	Original	FY14 Act Exp	FY14SC	FY15
Expense	Budget	Actual	FY14 Budget	+Enc	Revised	Requested
		Expense	(July)	(thru 3/24)	Budget (3/24)	Budget
372,001.00	555,032.00	514,807.00	382,411.00	300,631.50	399,944.00	450,793.00

**Not included in FY15:**

- **All-day Kindergarten**
- **New health books for K-6**
- **Full-time nurses at all schools**
- **Reading teachers (8) for intermediate grades**
- **Math or science supervisor**
- **Needed increase in supplies and materials**
- **Substitute/stipends for professional development**

**Director of Secondary Education (Mr. Mullen)**

FY12 Actual	FY13	FY13	Original	FY14 Act Exp	FY14SC	FY15
Expense	Budget	Actual	FY14 Budget	+Enc	Revised	Requested
		Expense	(July)	(thru 3/24)	Budget (3/24)	Budget
529,754.00	664,938.00	648,007.00	624,771.00	445,997.00	620,834.00	670,341.00

**Athletics (Mr. Mullen)**

FY12 Actual	FY13	FY13	Original	FY14 Act Exp	FY14SC	FY15
Expense	Budget	Actual	FY14 Budget	+Enc	Revised	Requested
		Expense	(July)	(thru 3/24)	Budget (3/24)	Budget
251,450.00	160,447.00					

**Public comment:**

A teacher from Gorton asked that consideration be made to add the librarian back as this is impeding her students' education. Ms. Smith asked for an inventory of the furniture, as last year cafeteria tables were purchased and now chairs. She questioned where the furniture from the closed schools went. Darlene Netcoh commented that Toll Gate needs major repairs and that there are three rooms that are not handicapped accessible. Ken, a special education teacher at Vets, asked that the roof at Vets please be repaired and commented that the elevator is very old and needs to be on the agenda.

MOTION 2014-106: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Ahearn, to adjourn the meeting.

**MOTION PASSES (4-0)**

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye      M. Terri Medeiros – Aye  
Eugene A. Nadeau - Aye      Karen Bachus – not present for vote  
Jennifer Ahearn - Aye

**Meeting adjourned: 9:50 p.m.**