

Warwick School Committee Minutes
Meeting September 9, 2014
Open Session

The Warwick School Committee met in Open Session at Toll Gate High School on Tuesday, September 9, 2014. 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
Karen Bachus, Clerk
Jennifer Ahearn
Eugene A. Nadeau

ADMINISTRATION

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

MOTION 2014-225: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, and 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 – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau – not present for vote Karen Bachus – not present for vote
Jennifer Ahearn – Aye

Open Meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION 2014-226: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the Minutes of the Open Session for August, 12, 2014.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

MOTION 2014-227: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the Minutes of Executive Session for August 12, 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 2014-228: Moved by Ms. Bachus, 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 2014-229: Moved by Ms. Bachus, 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 2014-230: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Ms. Bachus, that the following appointments be approved: **John Valletta**, electricity teacher at the Career Center, Step 1, pending receipt of RIDE certification; **Heather Place**, 60% visual arts teacher, step 3; **Mia Millea**, category 1 elementary special educator, step 3; **Laurence Birmingham**, assistant administrator of special services, step 1 of the Administrative Pay Scale, pending receipt of National and State BCI; **Maryann Killoy**, school nurse teacher, step 10, pending receipt of National and State BCI; **Carol Marginson**, McKinney-Vento Transitional Advocate, at a salary of \$45.00 per hour, not to exceed 400 hours, subject to the continuing availability of federal funds; **Arthur Parise, Jr.**, category 1, elementary teacher, step 1; **Christine Murphy**, secondary librarian, step 9, pending receipt of National and State BCI; **Kelsey Shottek**, science teacher, step 4, pending receipt of National and State BCI; **Christina James-Lolos**, foreign language teacher, step 8; **Rachael Mancuso & Robynne Wildman**, parent educators, subject to the continuing availability of Title 1 Grant and local funds.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Leave of Absence:

MOTION 2014-231: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Ms. Bachus, that the request for unrestricted leave of **Melissa Heywood-Johnson**, English teacher at Toll Gate High School, be approved effective for the 2014-2015 school year.

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 2014-232: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Ms. Bachus, that the **retirement of Thomas Brady**, elementary teacher at Park School be accepted effective August 13, 2014; that the **retirement of Sharon Katseff**, art teacher at Pilgrim High School be accepted effective September 4, 2014; that the **retirement of Nancy Revens**, nurse/teacher on leave of absence, be accepted effective August 12, 2014; that the **resignation of Amanda Meredith**, foreign language teacher at Veterans High School be accepted August 18, 2014; that the **resignation of Marjory Stevens**, science teacher at Toll Gate high School be accepted effective August 25, 2014; and that the **resignation of Janet Simas**, elementary teacher at Norwood School, be accepted effective August 29, 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 2014-233: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, that the appointment of **Tricia Mallozzi**, controller, step 1 of the middle management pay scale, 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

Retirement(s)/Resignation(s)

MOTION 2014-234: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Ahearn, that the **retirement of Jonathan S. Wild**, custodian at Toll Gate High School be accepted effective October 24, 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 2014-235: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Bachus, that the appointment of **Eric Stachurski**, assistant football coach at Toll Gate be approved for one year only; and that the appointment of **Patrick Chin**, assistant girls' volleyball coach at Toll Gate be approved.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

New Business**Approval of Pilgrim High School Boys' Lacrosse becoming full varsity sport Spring 2015**

Ms. Furtado recommended approval of the full varsity status as per action similar to Toll Gate

MOTION 2014-236: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Furtado, approval of the Pilgrim High School Boys' lacrosse becoming a full varsity sport in the Spring of 2015.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Approval of Pilgrim and Veterans High School students to participate in the 2014 National Honor Ensemble Program in Nashville, TN October 26th to 29th, 2014

MOTION 2014-237: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Bachus, approval for Pilgrim and Veterans high School students to participate in the 2014 National Honor Ensemble Program in Nashville, TN October 26th to 29th, 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 Leadership Academy students to participate in the Disney Youth Education Series, Orlando, FL – February 5th to 8th, 2015.

MOTION 2014-238: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Ms. Bachus, approval of Leadership Academy students to participate in the Disney Youth Education Series, Orlando, FL – February 5th to 8th, 2015.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Update on RTI in the district – presented by Sara Monaco – RTI features a multi-tiered system, the first tier utilizes the best practice for all students, where the goal is to have 80% of students meeting expectations. If not, said changes are made in tier 1. Second tier students receive additional instruction and supplemental supports, two to three times a week in a group setting, and third tier students receive supports and additional instruction on an individual basis five times a week. Data from 2013 shows math and reading increased from the fall to the spring (9% in math and 5% in reading). The RTI process was started in 2012-13 school year with professional development sessions working with principals and elementary school faculty. The STAR assessment system was purchased the same year and is used to screen students. Dr. Monaco said we are now entering year three and elementary intervention blocks will be featured five days per week, and will be expanded to include instructional planning.

Update on voice and video recording for school committee minutes – Mr. Ferrucci reported there will be a full proposal next month and some form of public recording could be in place by the November meeting.

Update on athletics and extra-curricular activities – Mr. Mullen reported there is currently enough funds in the budget to keep fall sports and extracurricular activities intact, but it could become an issue as we move into winter and spring sports. The program themselves would remain available; there is no funding for coaches and referees, and the programs would be unable to operate.

Bullying Report – Ms. Healey said that due to a higher number of student disciplinary infractions tracked on the secondary level, more detailed statistics concerning the nature and kind of such incidents are maintained. Bullying events are defined as assault on a student, fighting, harassing, stalking, sexual harassment and threat and intimidation. For the bi-annual reporting for the 2014-2015 school year the data entry process will be further refined for better analysis of bullying events by location and time and with a more specific description of the incident. Elementary reporting for 2013-2014 revealed wide variations in reported incidents in different schools. Such variations are most likely the result of variations in categorization of events as bullying. Variations exist in reporting founded and unfounded events of bullying. The process will be further refined for the next reporting period with a view towards consistent reporting. It was noted that annual reports will come in January and June and every school will use standardized reports.

Approval of contract award for Professional Development to Reading and Writing Project

MOTION 2014-239: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, approval of contract award for Professional Development to the Reading and Writing Project. [\$6,000 budgeted]

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 instructional supplies to Handwriting Without Tears

MOTION 2014-240: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, approval of contract award for instructional supplies to Handwriting Without Tears. [\$20,126.25 budgeted]

MOTION PASSES (4 ayes 1 nay)

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

Approval of contract award for elementary math textbooks (Pearson)

MOTION 2014-241: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Bachus, approval of contract award to Pearson for elementary math textbooks. [\$9,362.52 budgeted]

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 Adobe software licenses for Pilgrim High School –

MOTION 2014-242: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, approval of contract award for Adobe software for Pilgrim High School. (license: \$21,755.00 – budgeted)

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 awards for technology hardware to support schools [estimated cost \$17,920]

MOTION 2014-243: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Ahearn, approval of contract awards for technology hardware to support schools.

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 IXL Learning annual licenses for instructional math software program

MOTION 2014-244: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Furtado, approval of contract award for IXL Learning annual licenses for instructional math software program. [\$38,120 budgeted]

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 new City Auditor Firm

MOTION 2014-245: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, approval of contract award for new City Auditor Firm.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Approval to amend the contract award for Google PD educational collaborators –

MOTION 2014-246: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, approval to amend the contract award for Google PD educational collaborators.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

School Supplies – Mr. Nadeau commented on the back to school costs for students and read a list of things that students had to bring to school. He said he had a conversation with the Superintendent about the list. Dr. D’Agostino said that many things on that list are being supplied by the school department and he has made sure that the principals are aware. Ms. Ahearn said that a number of parents had contacted her that their child had not received a book in the classroom and asked Dr. Siesel to look into this. Dr. Siesel responded that she has no money in her budget to purchase additional books, and that it is the department chair responsibility at the elementary level.

FY2015 Fiscal Monthly Report (Mr. Ferrucci)

For the period ending 8/28/14

Total Revenue received	\$120,445,136
Total Expenditures	10,277,963
Total Encumbrances	\$ 6,413,045

[Excludes salaries and fringe benefits]

Summary Review of non-salary and fringe benefits costs

School Committee Approved Budget 7/15/14	School Committee Revised Approved Budget 8/12/14	School Committee Revised Approved	Year to Date Exp.&Encumber 8/28/14	Percentage of Non Staff Costs
\$25,807,010	\$28,295,510		\$7,958,408	30.8%

He noted the following critical issues identified by budget managers: **professional development substitutes** budget is half of what has been deemed needed to meet upcoming schedules. There are funds available to support professional development through October 2014. Failure to increase funding will result in the suspension of all planned PD after October 15, 2014. The planned use of **textbook funds** to purchase the next phase of curriculum initiatives as approved in April 2014 budget presentations and now in jeopardy due to textbook funding cuts. **Athletics and extracurricular activities** are scheduled for further investigation. These issues are raised to make everyone aware that we are ready to carry out the budget cuts and what the potential impact will be to the district once the cuts are institutes. As an alternative another recommended revised budget could be prepared for the October meeting to address these three issues.

Ms. Ahearn wanted to vote on her motion from the last meeting regarding the \$195,000 for math coaches that had been tabled. Ms. Healey said that when the agenda was initially created for the September meeting the budget item was included, but it was no longer listed and could not be discussed. Ms. Ahearn said she wanted to go forward with it anyway, and to put it back on the agenda. Ms. Healey apologized and said if she were to go forward with the motion, she risked being fined, including paying attorney fees, and if any action were to be taken, she [Ms. Healey] would have to leave the meeting. It was decided that a special meeting would be called to address this matter.

Bids/change orders

MOTION 2014-247: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Bachus, that the bid for tunnel abatement at Veterans high School in the amount of \$13,760 be awarded to AA Asbestos Abatement as per the bid tabulation.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

MOTION 2014-248: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, that the bid for Google Vault in the amount of \$11,103.62 be awarded to Hub Technical Services, LLC.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

MOTION 2014-249: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, that the change order for summer projects as reported be approved.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Home School Policy (JEG) – 1st Reading – Ms. Healey said this is an update to the policy not a change to the policy.

MOTION 2014-250: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Ms. Bachus, to approve the first reading of the home school policy JEG.

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: Dr. D’Agostino thanked everyone involved for a great opening of schools. David LaPlante commented that Paul Jansson’s last day will be Friday and he complimented him on the fact that there were only \$23,000 of change orders out of \$3.5 million in construction. This was mostly because of Paul’s work.

Public Comment: A parent from Scott School commented on there being only a part-time nurse at the school and said that it was only common sense to have a full time nurse with all of the children, and that the principal and the teachers should not be attending to nurse duties. She said there are some children who need insulin, and they can’t go to that school because there is not a full-time nurse. Another parent asked why there was full time kindergarten in only five schools. A comment was made about the home schooling policy and request was made to have a discussion before the second reading.

MOTION 2014-251: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to adjourn.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Meeting adjourned 9:25 p.m.