

Warwick School Committee Minutes  
Meeting February 10, 2015  
Open Session

The Warwick School Committee met in Open Session at Toll Gate High School on Tuesday, February 10, 2015. Ms. Ahearn called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following in attendance:

**COMMITTEE**

Jennifer Ahearn, Chair  
Eugene A. Nadeau, Vice Chair  
M. Terri Medeiros, Clerk  
Bethany A. Furtado  
Karen Bachus [present at 6:15 p.m.]

**ADMINISTRATION**

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

**MOTION 2015-25:** Moved by Mr. Nadeau, and seconded by Ms. Furtado, 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 7:15 p.m.**

Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem

Also present: Dr. Anne Siesel, Denise Bilodeau, Sara Monaco, Ryan Mullen, David LaPlante, Robert Corrente

**Vote to seal minutes of Executive Session**

**MOTION 2015-26:** Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to seal the Minutes of the Executive Session.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Chair announced:** a vote of 5-0 was taken in Executive Session to accept superintendent's recommendation. Another vote was taken based on recommendation of superintendent passing with a 3-2 vote.

**Student comments:**

Randall Holden Elementary School: - grade 6 – Michelle Antelo and Tyriek Weeks  
Lippitt Elementary School – grade 6 – Brooke Whiteside and Madison Nolan  
Aldrich Junior High School – grade 8 – Maggie Connor and Corey Olson

**Approval of Minutes of Public Session**

**MOTION 2015-27:** Moved by Ms. Bachus, and seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to approve the Minutes of the Open Session for January 13, 2015 and January 20, 2015.

**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 for the Executive Session**

**MOTION 2015-28:** Moved by Ms. Bachus, and seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to approve/accept the Minutes of the Executive Session for January 13, 2015 and January 20, 2015.

**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 Transfers:**

MOTION 2015-29: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, 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 2015-30: 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

**Coaching appointments:**

MOTION 2015-31: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Bachus, approval of coaching appointments: **Christopher Wrench**, assistant coach boys' football Pilgrim High School; **Francis McKay**, assistant coach boys' football Pilgrim High; **Robert Grant**, assistant coach boys' football Pilgrim High School; **Benjamin Upham**, assistant coach boys' ice hockey Toll Gate High School (for one year only) **Norm Bouthillier**, assistant coach boys' outdoor track Toll Gate High School (for one year only) **James Stringfellow**, head coach boys' football Toll Gate High School; **James Morris**, assistant coach boys' football Toll Gate High School; **Erik Stachurski**, assistant coach boys' football Toll Gate High School and **John Fitz-Simon III**, assistant coach boys football Toll Gate High School.

**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:**

MOTION 2015-32: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Bachus, to approve the **retirement of Cheryl Lundh**, department head, Special Services – Toll Gate/Winman, effective February 6, 2015; **retirement of Ellen Moore**, speech language therapist, Oakland Beach Elementary School accepted effective last day of school; and **retirement of Judith Pisani**, elementary PK teacher, Oakland Beach Elementary School effective last day of school.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**GBP Update** – Ms. Bilodeau – Tracking 660 seniors; 612 completed research paper; 129 ready to present tomorrow [2/11/15] – May 14 scheduled for presentations.

**Non-renewals/pre-deprivation hearings** - Dr. D'Agostino: Madam Chair, I recommend the non-renewal of the Administrators identified in your meeting packet and discussed in Executive Session for the reasons discussed at that time.

MOTION 2015-33: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to accept the Superintendent's recommendation.

**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 STAR software renewal:**

MOTION 2015-34: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve contract award to STAR for software renewal.

**MOTION PASSES (4-1)**

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

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**Approval of contract award for Mercury Marine (Government Sales)  
(outboard engine for Warwick Career and Technical Center) - \$5,968.40**

MOTION 2015-35: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Bachus, to approve the contract award to Mercury Marine (Government Sales) for an outboard engine for the Warwick 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 contract award for Phase IV Fire Code –  
Architects & Engineers contract**

MOTION 2015-36: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the contract award for Phase IV Fire Code – architects and engineers contract.

**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 RFP** – Mr. Ferrucci said that the Superintendent, Ms. Ahearn and he had met to review the bid proposal of SMMA. He said we contacted the company and proceeded to engage in dialogue where we stated our intent was to maintain the overall integrity of the proposal, but to reduce costs due to budgetary limitations. SMMA prepared a proposal containing 9 alternatives that could be considered for cost reductions to their original bid. Mr. Ferrucci recommended a revised contract offer for consideration.

SMMA's original bid amount	\$280,243
Alternate 4 – Add outreach to community (includes surveys and other means of reaching out:	+ \$11,000
Alternate 6 – Reduce A/E representation from 7 to 3 professionals	<36,000>
Alternate 8 – Reduce SMMA's involvement in community meetings from 12 to 8 and 6 to 4 respectively.	<9,000>
Alternate 9 – reduce number of master plan scenarios from up to 3 to up to 2	<8,000>
<b>Total revised contract recommended</b>	<b>\$238,243</b>

Discussion: Ms. Medeiros had a concern about adding \$11,000 for a community outreach alternative and wanted clarification on other means. She commented not taking away from all this work and how this was revised, I would have liked to have given the top two choices a chance to come back and revise. Ms. Furtado said she appreciated all the work gone into the SMMA bid proposal, but she couldn't support a quarter-of-a-million-dollar contract for a company to tell the district what it already knows. She said she felt that the conclusion of SMMA will be parallel to the conclusion drawn by the LTFPC that met for three years. Mr. Nadeau commented that while the LTFPC was comprised of above-board, intelligent individuals, it only looked at six schools and not all 23 in the district. He said in good conscience he voted to go to a consultant. He asked that this be approved. Ms. Ahearn said the proposal was revised down to \$238,000 and the other top bidder came in above \$400,000. Even if that was reduced by 20 percent, it would still be more than \$300,000. Ms. Bachus remarked she believes this needs to go outside the district to be researched by professionals and the process has to be clean, fair and unbiased.

MOTION 2015-37: Moved by Ms. Bachus, and seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to approve the bid to SMMA as amended.

**MOTION PASSES (3-2)**

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

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**FY2015 Monthly Financial Report (Mr. Ferrucci) - For the period ending 1/30/15:**

Total Revenue received \$140,674,186  
Total Expenditures 77,753,918  
Total Encumbrances 9,451,160

[Excludes salaries and fringe benefits]

Summary Review of non-salary and fringe benefits costs				
School Committee	School Committee	School Committee	Year to date	Percentage of
Approved Budget	Revised Approved Budget	Revised Approved	Exp.&Encumber	Non Staff Costs
7/15/14	8/12/14	9/15/14	1/30/15	
\$25,807,010	\$ 28,295,510	\$28,471,510	\$21,877,114	77.4%

**Bids/Change Orders:**

MOTION 2015-38: Moved by Ms. Bachus, and seconded by Mr. Nadeau, that the bid for fuel delivery be awarded to Santa Buckley, as per bid tabulations.

**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:**

**Ms. Medeiros** commented on the spaghetti supper held at Pilgrim High which raised \$10,000. She also said that VOWS has been rescheduled and the Special Education Committee will meet 2/11/15 at Park School. **Mr. Nadeau** commented on the number of snow days and thought we should look at the April vacation so that school ends close to what was scheduled.

**Dr. D'Agostino** commented on the maintenance personnel working around the clock for almost a month removing snow and thanked them for keeping schools going and safe despite the number of inches of snow. He said we are looking for a vacation survey – looking for input from community, teachers, parents, students, etc. to hear from you what we should do with February vacations in the future. He also said there have been amendments to the school calendar. Seniors are required to complete 171 days and adjustments are being made for graduation dates because of snow days. CCRI is holding June 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> and also June 16<sup>th</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Public Comment** – **Darilyn Gorton** said there are not enough secondary substitutes. We need professional development regarding PARCC testing coming up in March. She also said she was looking forward to the transition to Google. **Darlene Netcoh** said there is too much testing going on and when does the instruction fit in. She talked about the technology online for taking testing, saying the format and mode are problematic. She suggested having an informational night for parents so they can see what the test looks like.

MOTION 2015-39: 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: 8:50 p.m.**