

Warwick School Committee Minutes
Meeting August 11, 2015
Open Session

The Warwick School Committee met in Open Session at Toll Gate High School on Tuesday, August 11, 2015. Ms. Ahearn called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

COMMITTEE

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

The chair noted that those individuals being discussed in executive session have been notified of their right to have the hearing held in open session and have chosen to have the hearing in executive session.

MOTION 2015-204: 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), (a)(2), (a)(4) and (a)(9).

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 7:45 p.m.

Administration present: Lynn Dambruch, Anthony Ferrucci, Rosemary Healey, David LaPlante, Anne Siesel, Sara Monaco, Jennifer Connolly

Vote to seal minutes of Executive Session

MOTION 2015-205: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to seal the Minutes of the Executive Session of August 11, 2015.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

MOTION 2015-206: Call for the vote to accept the Superintendent's recommendation #1 presented in Executive Session.

VOTE: 4 ayes 1 recuse

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

MOTION 2015-207: Call for the vote to accept the Superintendent's recommendation #2 presented in Executive Session.

VOTE: 4 ayes 1 nay

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

MOTION 2015-208: The chair called for the vote to **table** the Superintendent's recommendation #3 presented in Executive Session for action at the November 2015 school committee meeting.

VOTE: 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 Minutes of Public Session

MOTION 2015-209: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to approve the Minutes of the Open Session for July 14, 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 2015-210: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to accept the Minutes of the Executive Session for July 14, 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 transfers

MOTION 2015-211: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Bachus, 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 2015-212: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, 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/transfer re-assignment

MOTION 2015-213: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that the **transfer of Kenneth Rassier**, principal of Holden Elementary School to principal of Greenwood Elementary School be approved; that the appointment of **Ashley Harpin**, integrated preschool teacher, Drum Rock Early Childhood Center, Step 2, be approved pending receipt of National and State BCI; that the appointment of **Katherine Truskoski**, 60% visual arts teacher, category 1, be approved pending receipt of National and State BCI and receipt of Rhode Island State certification; that the appointment of **Ryan Muir**, elementary music teacher, step 2, be approved pending receipt of National and State BCI; that the appointment of **Michael Carnaroli**, music teacher, category 1, step 4, be approved pending receipt of National and State BCI and receipt of Rhode Island State Certification; and that the appointment of **Joshua Sayer**, music teacher, step 2, be approved pending receipt of National and State BCI and receipt of Rhode Island State certification.

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 2015-214: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that the appointment of **Michael Keenan**, cleaner at Toll Gate 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

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Resignation

MOTION 2015-215: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, that the **resignation of Rose Emilio**, paralegal/compliance specialist be accepted effective July 17, 2015.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Professional leave of absence

Resignation

MOTION 2015-216: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, that the **unrestricted leave of Dianne Sacchetti**, guidance counselor at Toll Gate High School be approved effective for the 2015-2016 school year and that the resignation of **Christina James-Lolos**, Spanish teacher at Aldrich Junior High School be accepted effective August 7, 2015.

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 2015-217: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, that the appointment of **Karen Mather**, assistant coach girls' soccer at Veterans Memorial 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

Consolidation update: Ms. Furtado said the group has been meeting on a weekly basis since June 26. The co-chairs on the committee include Ms. Healey and Lynn Dambruch. The scope of the work has been divided into sub-committees and will be reporting back to the main consolidation committee at the August 25 meeting. A comprehensive “to-do list” has been prepared to analyze where the work of the sub-committees will be best focused. Ms. Furtado continued saying we are not releasing any tentative information right now, but we will update the school department website with all pertinent information moving forward. Areas covered by the sub-committees include logistics, public relations, curriculum, staffing, technology, transportation, and legal. The number of members on each sub-committee ranges from one to 11, depending on the committee.

Closure date for Aldrich and Gorton Junior High Schools

MOTION 2015-218: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, that at the end of the 2015-2016 and before the start of the 2016-2017 move closure of Aldrich and Gorton.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Ms. Bachus commented that the sooner we can turn the buildings over to the city, the better. We don't want to repeat the issues we had at Potowomut. Ms. Healey said that excess contents in the buildings would be disposed of in a manner compliant with the City Charter and the school department will work with the city and give them as early a notification as possible. Mr. LaPlante has requested a meeting with the mayor's chief of staff in an effort to get out in front of the transition before it becomes an issue.

Leadership team for new junior high school – Ms. Furtado said there has also been discussion of getting a leadership team in place to head the new re-purposed Vets junior high to let current staff, students, parents, city leaders, and the public know that we are cognizant of the fact that we will need strong leadership in the building in order to move consolidation forward. We want a dynamic leader in the building to make the next phase of Warwick education shine. Dr. Holland commented the sooner the

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department can get a principal appointed at the building, the better. The position would be posted by the end of September. Ms. Medeiros said it is important not to forget that students can also help with the transition to new schools. Keep in mind the seventh grade student leaders, who will be eighth-graders and positive communicating students that can assist with the transition. In order to move forward as a city, it's important to remember we are not three distinct areas, but one city. Our diploma is a city-wide diploma. Ms. Bachus said she thought it would be fair to let students who are already at Vets receive a diploma that says they graduated from Vets.

All National Honors Ensemble to Nashville TN (October 25th to October 28th, 2015)

MOTION 2015-219: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the trip to All National Honors Ensemble to Nashville TN - October 25th to October 28th, 2015.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Elementary Report cards – Dr. Siesel stated that our report cards are over 18 years old. She said previously came before the School Committee to notify this project was going on. We let the public know we were seeking input putting a survey up on website which was available to different groups for input; the *Beacon* did an article; we were seeking as much input as possible. She proposed a pilot for the upcoming school year: Holliman, Scott and Sherman. It is a trimester system – first report December, second March and third end of year. Currently we are on quarterly system – so we needed three schools to pilot. She said she was seeking approval to move forward with this project.

MOTION 2015-220: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, approval of the proposed pilot for elementary report cards with caveat to research contract ramifications before implementation.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Update on roll out of chromebooks for math dedicated initiative for grades 6-11 – Dr. Holland remarked there is no director of technology although it has been advertised we have not found anyone willing to come to Warwick. It was proposed to move forward with purchasing a cart-set for each classroom for grades 6 through Algebra 2. The price of the units have come down – now \$257.28 each. They will remain in the math classrooms.

MOTION 2015-221: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, approval

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Contract award – IXL Math license renewal

MOTION 2015-222: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, approval of the IXL Math license renewal.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

[\$42,750. has been budgeted]

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Contact award – STAR software support renewal

MOTION 2015-223: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Ms. Furtado, approval of the contract award for STAR software support renewal.

MOTION PASSES (4 ayes 1 nay)

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

[\$79,507 has been budgeted]

Contract Award – RILink Renewal

MOTION 2015-224: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Ms. Furtado, approval of the contract award for RILink renewal.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

[\$28,802.50 has been budgeted]

Capital Projects priority list – Mr. Ferrucci reported a recommended capital projects priority list for consideration and adoption has been put together. The first section is aligned with \$3,000,000 available from current cash remaining with the City. Issues to be addressed by these funds are: prepare existing building for the change of enrollment associated with closing Veterans as a high school and repurposing as a middle school; prepare our two high schools to receive additional students; and improve our athletic facilities. The second section is aligned with gaining operational efficiencies by replacing antiquated heat and HVAC systems. We anticipate reducing operating expenses as well as relieving potential of having emergency repairs done at times when capital funds are no longer available. The source of these funds is through a program titled “Performance Contracting.” If performance contracting is not utilized some of the more critical boilers and heating systems will have to be moved to either section one or section three. Total performance contracting projects total \$10,350,000. The third section is aligned with the remaining bond authority as approved back in 2006. The current remaining bond authority is \$9,210,400. This group of projects is health and safety issues within the buildings. The School Committee will have to approve a resolution seeking funds. Upon receipt of the resolution, both the Mayor and the City Council will need to agree to seek cash proceeds from RIBEC. If all parties approve seeking the funds, the only decision to be determined will be which entity will be responsible for paying the new principal and interest payments associated with this new debt. The fourth section is those significant capital projects that are potential health and safety as well as projects that will enhance the district’s buildings and infrastructure. The funding will require both City vote approval of new bonds and RIDE approval if housing aid is to be sought. The number of projects and the amount of debt will be based on the willingness to support new debt. Total new bonding request totals \$18,000,000.

MOTION 2015-225: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, agree that we should target and move forward on the capital projects priority list.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Monthly Fiscal Report FY2015

FY2015 Monthly Financial Report – Mr. Ferrucci – For the period ending 7/31/15:

Total Revenue received	\$120,437,220
Total Expenditures	2,167,715
Total Encumbrances	2,587,745

[Excludes salaries and fringe benefits]

[continued of next page]

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Summary Review of non-salary and fringe benefits costs			
School Committee Approved Budget 7/15/15	School Committee Revised Approved Budget 7/15/15	School Committee Revised Approved	School Committee Revised Approved Budget
\$25,770,266	\$ 25,945,266		
	Year to date Exp.&Encumber 7/31/25	Percentage of Non Staff Costs	
	\$ 1,807,987	7.0%	

Superintendent's recommended FY2016 revised budget

Mr. Ferrucci reported the request to revise the budget is based on the fact that the year-end projections for FY2015 projects a \$1,017,000 surplus. We are seeking approval to add the additional revenue of \$1,000,000 to the budget and add additional expenses to meet the districts priorities as recommended:

- Director of technology \$150,000
- Other professional purchase services 50,000
- Technology hardware specifically targeted to meet math curriculum 695,000
- Technology hardware providing some support for this area as 105,000
technology hardware budget was cut to zero

Total Increase in budgeted expenses: \$1,000,000

We are requesting adopting this REVISED FY2016 budget. If the revised budget is approved the total is \$160,871,976.

MOTION 2015-226: Moved by Ms. Medeiros, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve and accept the FY2016 revised budget presented in the amount of \$160,871,976.

MOTION PASSES (4 ayes 1 nay)

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

Bids/change orders

MOTION 2015-227: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Ahearn, that the bid for one to one device be awarded to the various vendors in the amounts indicated.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

[accept bids as recommended – buy at \$257.28 – not committed to 6,000]

Adoption of Policies - Policy JHFF – Allergies in Schools (2nd reading)

MOTION 2015-228: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Ahearn, to approve the second reading of the Policy JHFF-Allergies in Schools.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Policy IGCE – Early College, Dual and Concurrent Enrollment (2nd Reading)

MOTION 2015-229: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the second reading of the Policy IGCE as amended.

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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**Policy ACC - Physical or Mental Abuse and Sexual Abuse,
Sexual Misconduct and Sexual Molestation Prevention**

Policy (2nd Reading)

MOTION 2015-230: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado to approve the second reading of the Policy ACC Physical or Mental Abuse and Sexual Abuse, Sexual Misconduct and Sexual Molestation Prevention Policy as amended.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Policy ACB - Student Sexual Harassment (2nd Reading)

MOTION 2015-231: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the second reading of Policy ACB Student Sexual Harassment as amended

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Policy ACA Freedom from Sexual Harassment (personnel) (2nd reading) -

MOTION 2015-232: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the second reading of Policy ACA Freedom from Sexual Harassment (personnel) as amended.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Policy AC Non-discrimination

MOTION 2015-233: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the Policy AC Non-discrimination as written.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

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

Information: School Committee Members:

Comments by Mr. Nadeau and Ms. Ahearn on the publication of a non-confidence vote brought forward saying what does this resolution serve, it does not serve our students, we have worked on policy and procedures and it does not serve the reputation of our schools.

Public comment: Mrs. Kennedy thanked the committee for approving the Nashville trip and said financial support was diminished last year and hoped they would reconsider and asked for some financial support. Ms. Netcoh commented on smartboards and technically were suppose to move with teachers. Mr. Testa commented on doing projects that needed to be done ten years ago, and said the City is responsible for the interest on the debt. Mr. Landrie said there is a social worker shortage this year.

MOTION 2015-234: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, 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 9:45 p.m