

Warwick School Committee Minutes  
Meeting November 10, 2015  
Open Session

The Warwick School Committee met in Open Session at Toll Gate High School on Tuesday, November 10, 2015. Ms. Ahearn called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**COMMITTEE**

Jennifer Ahearn, Chair  
Eugene A. Nadeau, Vice Chair  
M. Terri Medeiros, Clerk  
Bethany A. Furtado  
Karen Bachus (present at 6:00 p.m.)

Administration present: Dr. Phillip Thornton, Rosemary Healey, Anthony Ferrucci, David LaPlante  
Attorney Andrew Henneous

The chair announced that the employee involved in the executive session hearing has been notified in writing of his right to have this hearing in open session but has opted to have the meeting in executive session.

MOTION 2015-300: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, 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), (a)(2), (a)(4), (a)(9).

**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 Session reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

**Vote to seal minutes of Executive Session**

MOTION 2015-301: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to seal the Minutes of the Executive Session of November 10, 2015.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Votes taken in Executive Session**

MOTION 2015-302: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to accept the Superintendent's recommendation made in Executive Session.

**MOTION PASSES (4 ayes 1 abstain)**

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

**Approval of Minutes:**

MOTION 2015-303: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to amend the October 13, 2015 Minutes changing November 10, 2016 to November 10, 2015 and amount to \$4,999. [Motion 2015-285 on page 3]

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

MOTION 2015-304: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to approve the Amended Minutes of October 13, 2015.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

MOTION 2015-305: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to approve the Minutes of Open Session for October 19, 2015 and October 28, 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 Executive Minutes**

MOTION 2015-306: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to approve and accept the Minutes of Executive Session for October 13, 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 2015-307: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to approve the transfers presented.

**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 2015-308: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to approve the warrants presented.

**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 2015-309: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, that the appointment of **Kristen White**, school psychologist Step 4 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

**Leave of absence**

MOTION 2015-310: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, that the request for **unrestricted leave for Dawn Manchester**, elementary teacher (Lippitt Elementary) be approved November 23, 2015 through June 17, 2016.

**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 2015-311: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, that the appointment of **Jessica LaShomb**, teacher assistant (Gorton Jr. 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

MOTION 2015-312: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, that the appointment of **Deborah Vroom**, teacher assistant (Robinson Elementary 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

**Retirements/resignations**

MOTION 2015-313: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, that the **resignation of John Rigney**, head custodian (Lippitt Elementary) be accepted effective October 9, 2015; and that the **resignation of Patricia Carroll**, secretary (Winman Jr. High) be accepted effective October 30, 2015).

**MOTION PASSES (4 ayes 1 nay)**

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

**Coaching appointments** - The Chair noted that one of the coaching appointments will be tabled.

MOTION 2015-314: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, that the following coaching appointments be approved: **James DeSimone**, assistant coach girls basketball Pilgrim; **Ryan Meade**, assistant coach boys ice hockey Toll Gate be approved for one year only; **Jonathan Deming**, assistant coach boys indoor track Toll Gate approved for one year only; and **Anthony Meyers**, assistant coach boys wrestling Warwick Veterans approved for one year only.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Public comment:** The Chair announced that public comment will be moved to the beginning of the meeting as many have suggested making a change. We will have 30 minutes with two minutes per person. The following comments were made: ●first time since 1991 public comment this early; rebutting will have to be at the next month meeting; ●student from Pilgrim said we need air conditioning in each classroom, lockers are despicable; outside track bad, football field bad; ●false information spread by director of special education – numbers redefined core class – no spec. educators; ●parent referencing order of business policy(public before new business) misunderstood wanted to speak on individual agenda items, as they move along, not prior to – you are violating own policy; ●encourage and support business math course; ●Google apps (free) only does 70% of what Microsoft does – stick with Microsoft office; ●asked to be on the subcommittee and had no answer; ●did not believe that the consolidation process is moving along the way you say it is; ●science one day a week in elementary; ●pushing class size maxed out; ●cutting teachers literacy 3 times a week have to do better than this; ●we teachers want a fair contract offer on the table; ask your law firm to put a fair offer on the table, 30 hours of negotiation, offer demoralizing; ●weighting issues – West Warwick does good job with special ed – they don't call it weighting; ●sending Pilgrim all disadvantage children; ●think you misunderstood want to speak after agenda item discussed then get up and give our opinion before you vote; ●we know what we need and don't need; ●Vets students concern about leadership academy and switching schools.

**Update on facility consolidation** – Ms. Furtado reported that subcommittee meetings are ongoing with updates on the website. Ms. Healey reported all that volunteers should have been contacted by now. At Toll Gate on Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. URI representatives will be coming to speak regarding middle school certification application process. Dr. Thompson made comments on his list of improvements: looking at roofs and boilers; running schedules; students going to career center and taking bus miss out on school time; lockers redone on list.

**Update on capital projects:** Mr. Ferrucci the capital projects priority list presented in August was divided into four groups. Based on meetings and walking tours we have revisited the priority list. The “first section” is aligned with \$3,000,000 available from current cash and priority issues to be address by these funds are: ◦prepare existing buildings for change of enrollments associated with closing Veterans as a high and repurposing as middle school; ◦prepare 2 high schools to receive additional students; ◦improve athletic facilities. The only change from the August 2015 report is to add additional funds for items such as painting, ceiling tiles, doors/window treatments and student lockers. We added \$175,000 each to Veterans and Pilgrim. We moved the replacement of the elevator too meet ADA requirements is moved to Section 4, future bond approval requests. Section Two – The August report aligned with gaining operational efficiencies by replacing antiquated heat and HVAC systems. The source of these funds was to be secured through Performance Contracting. Recent attempts to secure lease documents to execute this program have not been successful. We are proposing to move the Veterans project (boiler and HVAC system) to the third section, seeking funds from current voter authorizing bonding. We don't anticipate any further HVAC system installations for the upcoming year. The third section of the list is aligned with the remaining bond authority as approved in 2006. The projects are those affecting health and safety within the buildings. The current remaining bond authority is \$9,210,400. In order to secure cash to pay we will have to approve a resolution seeking the funds. Upon receipt of the resolution, we will need to seek cash proceeds from RIBEC. If all parties approve seeking 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 Veterans boiler and HVAC system have been added to this section of funding. The increase of \$3,500,000 was offset by moving the district's #4 through #10 priority roof projects to the fourth section (seeking new voter approval). We are recommending to the School Committee to seek \$5,150,000 from the city – the projects to be addressed are: ◦ replace Veterans Hearing system (\$3,500,000); ◦ Veterans Health and safety issues (\$950,000) and ◦ Pilgrim health and safety issues (\$700,000). The Fourth Section is a list of significant capital projects that are either potential health and safety issues or will enhance the district's buildings and infrastructure. The funding of this section will require both city voter approval of new bonds and RIDE approval if housing aid is sought from the state. The number of projects and amount of debt to be incurred will be based on what the community, votes, school committee, mayor and city council are willing to support as new debt. The new total projected bond request currently stands at \$26,500,000.

After reviewing the Resolutions, Ms. Ahearn recommended any language referring to paying debt services on the bond should be stricken.

MOTION 2015-315: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to remove any language in the Resolutions presented referring to paying debt services on the bond be stricken.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

MOTION 2015-316: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to send the Resolutions as amended.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Warwick Veterans Leadership Academy trip-February 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016 (Orlando Florida)**

Request for Leadership Academy seniors to Disney in February 2016 from Wednesday February 3<sup>rd</sup> through Saturday February 6, 2016. The students will raise the funds themselves.

MOTION 2015-317: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve this trip.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Contract Award for all grade 4 students to participate in a Save the Bay Marine Science Program**

Recommended contract in the amount of \$20,000 to Save the Bay for 4<sup>th</sup> grade students to participate in a marine science program. The amount is budgeted.

MOTION 2015-318: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the recommendation.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Contract award for bid document management system to Bid Express**

This recommendation is to award a contract for bid document management services in which the school district will not incur costs.

MOTION 2015-319: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Nadeau, to approve the contract award to Bid Express.

**MOTION PASSES (4-0)**

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

**Contract award for Microsoft software renewal**

It was recommended to award a contract to renew software licenses to SHI International Corp in the amount of \$58,541.06, which is the amount budgeted in the Technology's FY2016 budget.

MOTION 2015-320: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the contract award to SHI International Corp.

**MOTION PASSES (4-0)**

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

**Contract Award for Chromebook charging stations**

It was recommended to award a contract for chromebook charging stations to Whalley Computer Associates. This amount is budgeted in Technology's FY2016 budget.

MOTION 2015-321: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the contract award to Whalley Computer Associates for chromebook charging stations in the amount of \$38,920.

**MOTION PASSES (4-0)**

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

**Contract award for Pilgrim hot water heating system replacement –**

MOTION 2015-322: Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the contract award to Trane Commercial Systems in the amount of \$71,877 to replace the domestic hot water system 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

**Business Math Course** – Dr. Siesel sought approval of the business math course, which is a one semester course to be offered in the business department. It is a practical application of math skills applied to business topics. Ryan Mullen worked with business teachers to develop the curriculum.

MOTION 2015-323: Moved by Mr. Nadeau, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the business math course.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Junior High Exploratory Courses**

The Jr. High exploratory courses will be offered to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who are not in a Tier 3 literacy class. The exploratory courses are part of the redesign process of consolidation [arts, career, communication and stem]. Further curriculum development will be done this year. These courses need approval now so that scheduling can begin.

MOTION 2015-324: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the junior high exploratory courses.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**Educational Community Outreach Committee** – Ms. Ahearn said she had received a resolution from City Council regarding the creation of this committee. Last week a meeting was held and she did not know the committee was created. Edgar Ladouceur, Chair of the committee, appointed Ms. Bachus to the committee and she asked if Mr. Ladouceur could appoint a school committee member. Attorney Henneous responded saying they could, the school committee member cannot speak for the school committee body, but they can be there as a member.

**FY2016 yearend projection and revised budget adoption**

**Mr. Ferrucci** presented a detailed report showing additional surplus for FY2015 – He said we are seeking approval to add additional surplus from FY2015 revenue to FY2016 budget to maintain a projected balance budget. These additional funds are divided into two groups – Committee Funds from FY2015 and Unrestricted Funds from FY2015. The use of these funds will cover the following:

FY2015 Committed Surplus: SMMA contract \$83,385 and Alio purchase order \$59,779 – Total committee surplus funds used \$143,164.

FY2015 Unrestricted surplus: breakage not achieved for FY2015 \$1,419,091 and fringe benefit budget reductions <\$299,367>

Other non-staff expenditures \$160,941

Use of unrestricted surplus funds to cover these cost increases \$1,279,862; use of additional miscellaneous revenue to cover these cost increases \$803 – total additional funds \$1,423,829.

He said by using both committed surplus funds and unrestricted surplus funds from FY2015 and some minor increases in miscellaneous revenues, the FY2015 budget is projected to be balanced for the fiscal year. We are requesting that the School Committee consider adopting this Revised FY2015 budget and if approved would total \$162,295,805.

**MOTION 2015-325:** Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the FY2016 Revised Budget.

**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 2015-236:** Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that the bid for cosmetology equipment and supplies be awarded in the amount of \$22,909.16 to The Burmax Company.

**MOTION PASSES (5-0)**

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

**MOTION 2014-237:** Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that the bid for architectural/engineering services be awarded to Symmes Maini & McKee Associates (SMMA) on an as needed basis 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:**

Ms. Furtado congratulated the girls' soccer team for making semi-finals and asked they be recognized at the December meeting. She noted that the Special Advisory Committee will be meeting 11/18. Mr. Nadeau commented that no one has ever looked into what work to rule means, so he did his "homework". After receiving feedback, he compiled a list of 27 items related and he read those items. Ms. Medeiros responded to a comment that "she" didn't belong as she didn't have children; by saying she had 27 years as an educator and listed the number of requirements and laws she must follow for her daycare.

**MOTION to adjourn:** Moved by Ms. Ahearn, seconded by Ms. Furtado,

**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.