

Warwick School Committee
Meeting of April 18, 2018
Open Session

The Warwick School Committee met at Veterans Jr. High School on Wednesday, April 18, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE

Bethany A. Furtado Chair
Eugene A. Nadeau Vice Chair (present at 7:15 p.m.)
M. Terri Medeiros
Karen Bachus
David Testa

Mr. Ferrucci informed the Committee there is a reduction in state aid in the amount of \$575,000 due to 150 fewer students enrolled. The Chair asked if the budget could sustain a 10% cut in non-staff related costs. Mr. Ferrucci responded that 10% *would* not be sustainable. Most of the nonstaffing cuts have been made and there are contractual obligations. Ms. Furtado said she would like to make a motion to reinstate \$20,000 to VOWS line item 53212.

MOTION 2018-93: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Medeiros, to reinstate \$20,000 to the VOWS line item 53212.

MOTION PASSES (3 ayes 1 nay)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau – (not present for vote)
Karen Bachus – Nay David Testa - Aye

Ms. Medeiros said she had some concerns about certain line items, but felt it wasn't the time to discuss how we redistribute funds from city and fees charged by city.

Mr. Testa said we need to reinstate math interventionist positions and made the following motion.

MOTION 2018-94: Moved by Mr. Testa to reinstate the math interventionists, seconded by Ms. Furtado.

MOTION PASSES (4 – 0)

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

Ms. Bachus said she would like to reinstate three reading interventionists who were cut due to closing of three schools. Discussion followed with Ms. Rabbitt explaining the current model has at least one reading interventionist in each school. It is not one to one but groups of students.

MOTION 2018 – Moved by Ms. Bachus to restore the reading interventionists – there was no second to this motion.

Ms. Bachus said she would like to restore guidance counselors back into elementary, saying they serve many functions.

MOTION 2018 – Moved by Ms. Bachus to restore guidance counselors back into the schools (no second)

MOTION 2018-95: Moved by Ms. Bachus to put department heads back for middle schools, seconded by Ms. Medeiros for discussion

Call for vote on Motion for department heads back into middle schools.

MOTION FAILS (3 nays 1 aye)

Bethany A. Furtado – Nay M. Terri Medeiros – Nay
Eugene A. Nadeau – not present for vote Karen Bachus – Aye David Testa - Nay

Discussion about personal finance course – this will become a graduation requirement for those entering high school for the fall incoming class.

Public comment

Darlene Netcoh remarked she had sent emails with a bullet list of what department heads do, and she thanked the committee for putting math interventionists positions back. She also commented that reading specialists need to be restored. Nathan Cornell asked about elementary consolidation and asked that reading recovery be reintroduce. Ms. Cobden said we need to find grants and need to make it known we are having fiscal problems and building problems. The administration and school committee need to go the State House saying lobbying might get us some extra help.

MOTION 2018-96: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Testa, to accept the 2018-19 amended Budget.

MOTION PASSES (4 ayes 1 nay)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau – Aye Karen Bachus – Nay David Testa - Aye

MOTION 2018-97: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Testa, to adjourn the meeting

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Bethany A. Furtado – Aye M. Terri Medeiros – Aye
Eugene A. Nadeau – Aye Karen Bachus – Aye David Testa - Aye

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.