

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Personnel Actions: Removed by E. Nadeau**
Certified Appointments
Non-Certified Appointments
2. **Purchases/Transfers Over \$2,000**
Adirondack Direct/Furniture/Citizens/Local – Removed
Connecting for Children & Families/Contract 09/Grants & Curriculum/Cozi & 21 Century Grant
Dome Construction Co., Inc./Roof Repairs/WACTC/Local – Removed
Good Shepherd Catholic School/Prof. Dev/Grants & Curriculum/Title II
Konica Minolta/Copier Usage 09/District/Local – Removed
Our Lady of Victories/Prof. Development/Grants & Curriculum/Title II
School Link Technologies/Annual Contract/Woon School Lunch/Lunch Revenue – Removed
3. **Field Trip/Conference Requests**
American Speech & Hearing Conference, Chicago, IL/WMS/Article 31/Title II
4. **Home Schooling Requests**
5. **Disposal of Obsolete Equipment**

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

EXEMPTIONS FROM CONSENT AGENDA:

1. PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS (Certified & Non-Certified)

Mrs. Nadeau said she received a letter regarding the re-hiring of two guidance counselors at the WMS in spite of the hiring freeze. She agrees with the letter regarding this rehire and associated costs and whether it's needed in light of the financial problems we are having. Dr. Gerardi explained the need for the appointment of Jane Cotnoir, a retired WMS guidance counselor, to come in and assist with the state testing at the WMS. He said that, because of the size of the school and the fact that all three grades are tested, an experienced person is needed to come in and do it as efficiently as possible. Mr. Dubois asked if there is a cap to the number of hours this person could work. Gerardi thinks it would possibly be about 11 days. Mrs. Majewski thinks that the people that are there need to learn the process themselves in these difficult times.

Motion to approve the appointment of Jane Cotnoir only: M. Williams 2nd: A. Forcier
Roll Call Vote: 5 no. Motion fails.

Mrs. Majewski questioned the ER & D appointments that say they are funded through set-aside local monies. Dr. Gerardi explained that these positions are paid for 100% with Article 31 funds.

2. PURCHASES/TRANSFERS OVER \$2,000:

- ***Adirondack Direct- Stacking Chairs for Citizens Elementary: \$3,290 local funds***

Mrs. Majewski asked what this was for. Mr. Strom called the principal and she indicated that this is a yearly replacement of chairs that are in terrible condition. The bare minimum that she needs is 20 of each and the requested amount has already been cut in half.

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- ***Dome Construction Co., Inc. - Roof Repairs @ WACTC: \$4,586 Local funds***

Majewski asked what the status was of the state paying for these repairs. Mr. Strom and Dr. Gerardi met with the state yesterday. The state wants the local communities to take back the buildings. As they get information on this, they will let the WSC members know. Since the city would own the building, it has to go through them also. Right now, to patch the roof, we need to pay it out of local funds but the cost will be reimbursed by RIDE. They have issued \$5,000 block grants for this type of thing. There is also a classroom without heat.

EXEMPTIONS FROM CONSENT AGENDA: Purchases/Transfers Over \$2,000 (continued)

- **Konica Minolta-2009 Copier Usage for Harris, Coleman, Pothier & Fifth Avenue Schools: \$17,100 local**

Majewski had asked when the last Konica requisition was approved it that covered all the schools in the district and she was told that it did. Mr. Strom said that the schools didn't submit their requests all together. What he wants to do is look at the contracts and see when they expire and then go out to bid. Majewski asked if there are any more schools that will be coming in. Strom will have to look at all the requests that have gone through and go through the files. To his knowledge, this should be the last of the requests. Mrs. Forcier noted that this is a situation where we should work with the City because their contract was half of this cost. "They used the state bid list," she added. Strom told her that there are going to be more and more things that we are going to go off the state bid list for. It may become mandated by the state for certain items, such as the office supplies that we get through W. B. Mason.

- **School Link Technologies - Annual Contract for Woonsocket School Lunch Program: \$5,832.33-Lunch Revenue**

Majewski asked what this was for. Strom explained that it's for the machines that the school lunch program uses for the POS system. We also needed to upgrade their software package in order to provide reports to the state.

**Motion to approve exemptions from the consent agenda, including Personnel Appointments: A. Forcier
2nd: M. Williams (Unanimously Approved)**

COMMUNICATIONS: Mrs. Forcier met with Ms. DiCristofero from the RI Task Force on Substance Abuse regarding a presentation that the RI Interscholastic League is making on the "Life of an Athlete". The cost is \$100 and she would like to attend, but can't. She thought that the district might be able to put together a team with Mr. Nasuti to attend. She also mentioned a workshop called, "Third Eye", regarding students policing themselves and said she would like to attend with someone else on the WSC. Mark Kurtzman said that they are going to start the program at the WHS this year. The workshop is being held at CCRI in Warwick on Oct. 30 & 31 from 8 am to 1:30 pm. Ms. Williams asked for copies of these items.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Ms. Majewski reported that a PAC meeting was held on September 17th. Dr. Gerardi was introduced and Dr. Garcia made a presentation. The PAC is willing to send a couple of delegates to be on the Uniform Subcommittee, but doesn't think they can coordinate it at this time. They are already working on the middle school transition. Names for people wanting to be on the Uniform Subcommittee should be given to Mr. Dubois. SELAC will be meeting on the first Thursday in October. She spoke about the need to include public comment for the new special education draft policy at a future meeting. She received the new policy from RIDE about peanut allergy. She will look over this information and submit a draft policy. Mr. Dubois listed the names of volunteers he has for the Uniform Subcommittee. He thinks the subcommittee will have its first meeting in about a month. There shouldn't be a problem getting this legislation passed as soon as the General Assembly reconvenes in January.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Approval of Policy P4-1.1 Age Requirement for Admission of Kindergarten – 2nd Passage – Dr. Gerardi, A. McGuire/Forcier**

Motion to approve: A. Forcier
Roll Call Vote: 5 yes. Motion passed.

2nd: M. Williams/E. Nadeau

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Approval of Fund Raiser for WHS – Dr. Gerardi**

Dr. Gerardi asked for approval of a fundraiser by the WHS Senior Class.

Motion to approve: A. Forcier
Roll Call Vote: 5 yes. Motion passed.

2nd: M. Williams

New Business continued:

2. Discussion of Naming rights for Woonsocket Middle School – Dr. Gerardi

Dr. Gerardi got a request from the Building Committee saying that they felt the naming rights for the two new middle schools should come from the WSC. He wanted to know if the WSC would like him to continue investigating this matter. Mrs. Forcier asked if he spoke to the City Council members because she thought it would fall under their jurisdiction to form a committee for naming the schools. Atty. Ackerman said it seems that it would be a school committee decision. He felt that the school department has the responsibility for management and control of the schools, but he will look into it. Mr. Strom asked about the naming of Pothier School and how that was handled. Mary Keegan told him the name was moved from the old school after it was closed. Mrs. Nadeau said that the Building Committee discussed the athletic fields and libraries being named after those that make an endowment and a plaque put up, but "we are not for sale to the highest bidder". Mr. Strom doesn't think that in these financial times this would become an issue. Nadeau contended that there are still people out there with money. Mrs. Majewski felt that the name of Woonsocket should still be in there and suggested naming specific wings of the buildings for those who give endowments. She feels that since the people of Woonsocket lobbied for these schools, Woonsocket should be in the name. Ms. Williams felt that it should remain Woonsocket Middle School since it was a community effort. "Maybe we could add the word 'complex' to the name," she suggested. Mr. Dubois is glad the WSC is in agreement about this issue. He has no problem with an athletic field being named for someone who makes an endowment and suggested naming one building The Hamlet Building and the other building The Villa Novan Building. Forcier agreed, saying that "the taxpayers are paying the bill".

CONFERENCES: None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Robert Gerardi

Gerardi reported that he has been working with Mr. Strom on the deficit and has notified the appropriate parties. He has met with the Mayor and has spoken to the City Council members.

Motion to receive and place on file: A. Forcier

2nd: E. Nadeau (Unanimously Approved)

SCHOOL COMMITTEE GOOD & WELFARE:

A. Forcier: Passed.

E. Nadeau: Passed.

M. Williams: She commended the Bernon Heights staff, Ms. Tincknell and Dr. Gerardi for being proactive in locating the missing child. She spoke about an article in the Providence Journal on science and it being discouraging. There was a picture of a Barrington student, who probably has access to many more resources than our students have. "It seems like in the world the rich are up here and the poor are down there, and the feeling is let's keep it that way." She wants to sponsor a school for the Spelling Bee. She doesn't know if she can as a WSC member. Atty. Ackerman didn't see a conflict, unless she has a relative in the contest.

M. Dubois: He noticed the members of the AJROTC out in front of the WHS in their uniforms getting ready for their trip the other day. "It was so impressive. It was a nice sight to see." He is very impressed with the Tardy Policy and how it's working out at the WHS. "There isn't all that foot traffic in the morning when I'm on my way to work." He asked Atty. Ackerman if he could sponsor a school for the Spelling Bee also, since he is going to be a judge. Dubois said the donation would come from his wife. Ackerman didn't see a conflict, and if there were, it would probably extend to his wife also. Dubois noted that a personnel cut was made this evening; and, "unfortunately, it's a sign of the times. These little perks and extras are not going to be approved. We have to come up with a budget reduction plan within 30 days."

L. Majewski: She made a couple of announcements. She wants the public hearing for the draft special education policy and the transportation contract scheduled for the next WSC agenda. Also, she would like an update on the budget corrective action plan. She asked Mr. Strom to see if he can find anything on the Konica contract if he has time and commended him on the work he is doing with Dr. Gerardi on the budget.

Motion to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.: E. Nadeau

2nd: M. Williams (Unanimously Approved)

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy G. Belisle, WSC Recording Secretary