

MINUTES
WOONSOCKET SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2016
Woonsocket Middle School @ Hamlet
60 Florence Drive, Woonsocket, RI 02895

Meeting called to order by Chairman Soren Seale at 6:15 p.m. in Open Session.

Roll Call by Superintendent Patrick McGee:

Soren Seale, Chairman	Present
Donald Burke, Vice-Chairman	Present
Susan Pawlina, Secretary	Absent
Paul Bourget	Present
Valerie Gonzalez	Absent

Motion to convene in closed session for the purpose of discussing the job performance of an administrator in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(1), and for the purpose of discussing a matter relating to the privacy of a student, in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(8). This individual has been notified in writing that this public body intends to convene in closed session to discuss job performance and the individual has declined to have this discussion take place in open session: P. Bourget 2nd: D. Burke Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes APPROVED

Motion to reconvene into open session at 7:00 p.m.: S. Seale 2nd: P. Bourget
Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes APPROVED

Chairman Seale stated to the public that the School Committee (SC) convened in closed session to discuss the job performance of an administrator in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws §42-46-5(a)(1) and for the purpose of discussing a matter relating to the privacy of a student, in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws §42-46-5(a)(8). The administrator had been notified in writing that this public body intended to convene in closed session to discuss job performance and the individual declined to have this discussion take place in open session. In closed session the SC voted to uphold the decision of the Superintendent in regards to the student matter.

Motion to seal the closed session minutes of April 13, 2016: S. Seale 2nd: P. Bourget
Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes APPROVED

Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call by Superintendent Patrick McGee:

Soren Seale, Chairman	Present
Donald Burke, Vice-Chairman	Present
Susan Pawlina, Secretary	Absent
Paul Bourget	Present
Valerie Gonzalez	Absent

PUBLIC GOOD & WELFARE:

Globe Park Elementary School: Mr. Lapierre, Grade 3 Teacher and his students did a project that went across all the content areas for black history month and the students picked important black musicians; they did research on these individuals, wrote a reports and presented those reports; they covered social studies, language arts, technology and music. He introduced some of his students and they presented and performed, to the public, their project. He thanked Mr. Dausco, Music Teacher for accompanying them with the guitar, Heather Neil, who wrote the grant for the iPads they used to do some of this project, and the parents and Principal Lynn Prentiss for their support.

Lisa Culleton, Woonsocket Resident: She is here to represent the Coleman Elementary PTO. They were informed that Principal Holt is being forced and thinks this would be a disservice to their children. Coleman has had a turnover in the last couple of years. Principal Holt is incredible and with her participation, hard work and dedication, she and the PTO raised several thousands of dollars to help the school and students. She wanted to let the SC know how she and the other PTO parents feel and that Principal Holt should stay at Coleman.

RECOGNITIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS: Dr. Patrick McGee, Superintendent

- Globe Park: He recognized Mr. Dausco, Mr. Lapierre, Principal Lynn Prentiss and the students from Globe Park that performed this evening; they did a wonderful job.
- Dr. Jenny Chan-Remka: Congratulated Assistant Superintendent Dr. Jenny Chan-Remka for being recognized the 2016 Squire Award Honoree from the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI). She was honored during a ceremony at the Crowne Plaza on April 1, 2016. The Society of Knights Award recognizes the outstanding professional achievements, community service and service to the college and/or the alumni association by CCRI graduates.
- Leo Savoie Talent Show: On Friday, April 15th, Leo Savoie Elementary School will hold its talent show at the Woonsocket High School from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Motion to receive and place on file: P. Bourget 2nd: D. Burke (Unanimously approved by the SC)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**➤ March 23, 2016 Open Minutes**

Motion to approve: D. Burke 2nd: P. Bourget Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes APPROVED

➤ March 23, 2016 Closed Minutes

Motion to approve: S. Seale 2nd: P. Bourget Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes APPROVED

CONSENT AGENDA**Motion to approve: P. Bourget****2nd: D. Burke****ROLL CALL VOTE: 3 YES****APPROVED**

COMMUNICATIONS: None. Financial Update – B. Peryea

B. Peryea gave a financial update as of March 31, 2016. At this time, we are still showing approximately a half million dollar surplus which has been trending there for the last few months. He sees purchases coming down the line before June 30th that will decrease the surplus. However, we should still end up with a small surplus this year. He then proceeded to give the SC some financial highlights.

Motion to receive and place on file: P. Bourget 2nd: D. Burke (Unanimously approved by the SC)

SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Health and Wellness Subcommittee – D. Burke:** The committee continues to work on the policy. Next Wednesday they planned a work session to work all day on the policy; shortly thereafter they will present a rough draft of the policy. For the week after that, there will be a Health and Wellness Subcommittee meeting on that Monday; an agenda for that meeting will be posted shortly. During that week, they will going back to the RI Food Bank to meet with the RI Health and Wellness Collaborative to continue the work on policies with other school districts.
- **Technology Subcommittee – S. Seale:** This committee met a couple of weeks ago; a very productive meeting; made significant progress in determining what the actual technology needs of the district are. They have the baseline very well established and now working on what the needs are in order to close that gap both from an instructional standpoint and from addressing the testing standpoint (PARCC exam). The next meeting will be held within the next couple of weeks and they will start solidifying some of these plans by addressing technology purchases and a strategy for administering the PARCC exam.
- **Policy Subcommittee – S. Seale:** Committee met last Wednesday. They worked on the attendance policy which is almost completed; they just need final input from the high school to address a couple of specific areas as it relates to the high school. He anticipates that this policy will be coming to the SC for approval shortly.

Motion to receive and place on file the Subcommittee Reports: P. Bourget

2nd: D. Burke (Unanimously approved by the SC)

CONFERENCES/DISCUSSIONS – None.**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. None.
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NEW BUSINESS:

1. Vote to suspend and issue preliminary decision to terminate employment of an administrator – P. McGee
Chairman Seale noted that this agenda item is withdrawn at this point.

2. Discussion/Approval on Bid #17-01: Before and After School Day Care Provider – B. Peryea
Motion to discuss and approve: S. Seale 2nd: P. Bourget
S. Seale said we approving for two providers which are Kids Klub and the YMCA; the YMCA will provide services at Harris Elementary during the year and off-site during the summer; Kids Klub will provide services at Globe, Pothier, and Bernon Elementary.
Roll Call Vote: 3 yes APPROVED

3. Discussion/Approval on the appointment of the Woonsocket Education Department's Special Education Director – P. McGee
Motion to discuss and approve: S. Seale 2nd: P. Bourget
P. McGee reads the letter of recommendation to appoint Dr. Janet Sullivan as the Director of Special Education for the Woonsocket Education Department.
Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes APPROVED

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - None.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE GOOD & WELFARE:

- **Donald Burke** – He would like to recognize Peter, Owner of Olly's Pizzeria; Peter has created a gallery in his restaurant of all the student athletes of the week as published by the Woonsocket Call. Thanked him for the celebration of our student athletes, not just in Woonsocket, but throughout the Blackstone Area. At the end of the year he plans to offer a \$500.00 scholarship to one of those student athletes. Over the last several weeks he has the great fortune of visiting the schools. To date, he has visited Bernon and Savoie. He has had the opportunity to read to a couple of 1st grade classrooms at Bernon and Citizens. He is impressed with the quality of teaching that is going on in the classrooms, the curriculum the teachers offer and very impressed with the students. He hopes he can go and visit some more schools in the near future.
 - **Paul Bourget** – Stated the best part of being on the SC is visiting the schools, meeting with principals and visiting the classrooms to meet the teachers and see the students hard at work. Last week he and P. McGee visited the WMS and WHS; over the last couple of weeks, he has visited the elementary schools. At the WMS, he met with the principal to talk about the needs, technology and the challenges he meets. There is a burning desire to be successful and they want this as well. They had an interesting discussion about transitioning 8th graders to 9th graders and how the 8th graders are now being very involved with preparing a portfolio which will get them attached to their education. He later met with the WHS Principal to talk about the challenges, personnel and students. While there, he visited the Bio-Tech Classroom and the Art Classrooms which were very impressive; what is being taught will help students get to the next level. He noted that being appointed to the SC is the best appointment he has had in years.
 - **Soren Seale** – He attended reading week at Savoie and Bernon. One thing that they have been doing for the last couple of years is to have student athletes from the WHS go to Bernon to read so every classroom has a reader. This is a fantastic thing and he really enjoyed reading to the two classrooms at Bernon; the students were very well behaved; one of those classrooms was a primary self-contained classroom which was amazing. He enjoyed reading at Savoie and was able to read to his children's class. Reading week is coming up in the near future at Pothier Elementary.
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P. Bourget noted that the National Honor Induction Ceremony is scheduled for May 19th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the WHS.

Motion to adjourn at 7:54 p.m.: P. Bourget 2nd: D. Burke (Unanimously approved by the SC)

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly A. Blais, WSC Recording Secretary