

MINUTES
WOONSOCKET SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2016
Woonsocket Middle School @ Hamlet
60 Florence Drive, Woonsocket, RI 02895

Meeting called to order by Vice-Chairman Donald Burke at 7:00 p.m. in Open Session.

Roll Call by Superintendent Patrick McGee:

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

Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC GOOD & WELFARE:

Denise Auclair, Parent Advisory Council (PAC): She wanted to let people know that this year she and Cindy Stepanian worked with the Woonsocket Prevention Coalition to secure volunteers for the post-graduation party for graduating seniors. She wanted to acknowledge and thank everyone who donated time, funding, and food. This party was a huge success; she identified all the activities that were available for the students and gave a big thanks to the professional entertainment, the Mentalists. Donators included Roger Bouchard, Woonsocket Prevention Coalition, Club Lafayette, the Woonsocket Rotary Club, Sodexo and the Woonsocket High School and WACTC Culinary program which baked and donated cupcakes and desserts. Woonsocket High School Track Captain Elizabeth Diamoso's mom baked several chocolate chip banana breads. Volunteers were Alyssa Casiferao and Bertha Dion from Woonsocket Prevention Coalition, parents Ray and Rebecca Blanchard, Sue Taft and Denise Auclair, Teachers Kevin Simpson, Nancy Giordano (our Athletic Director), Robin Crane, her sister Roxane, Mary Beth Sabor, Mr. Bouley, and the custodians who helped in any way they could. They would like to make this happen again next year but they will need many more volunteers.

Jeffrey Partington, President, WTG: He stated that while he applauds the efforts of the School Committee (SC) to make sure that everyone has competitive pay, there are three positions that are being considered for more than 1%. He understands that there are inadequacies that have happened over the years but it is difficult to support great jumps in salary when the teachers have not had one in a long time. In the future please include everyone in these considerations.

RECOGNITIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS: Dr. Patrick McGee, Superintendent

➤ *2016-17 Local Digital Innovator* – Congratulations to Beth Campanelli, teacher at Governor Pothier Elementary School, for being named the 2016-2017 Local Digital Innovator by the Public Broadcasting System's Learning Media Department.

➤ *Girls Softball Team* – Congratulations to the Woonsocket High School Lady Softball Novans on winning the Division II Girls Softball Championship on Sunday, June 12th at Rhode Island College. The Lady Novans came from behind in the last inning to defeat Moses Brown by a score of 9-8.

➤ *CCF and URI SMILE Program* – He read the letter from Carol Englander, Director of the SMILE Program in Rhode Island regarding Stewardship SMILE Projects in Woonsocket Make the Community Proud. Connecting for Children and Families (CCF), a non-profit organization, has funded the SMILE (Science and Math Investigative Learning Experiences) Program Clubs at Citizens', Coleman, Villa Nova and Woonsocket High School. Harris and Hamlet are funded by URI SMILE. The Woonsocket Education Department funds teacher professional development and provides other in-kind contributions. The investment of CCF, URI SMILE, and the Woonsocket Education Department has greatly benefited both the students and this community. These students are motivated to promote their community by learning about things such as the importance of the local watershed, and have chosen projects that enhance their community and protect the environment. SMILE students at each school have completed stewardship projects that have enriched the community and improved the quality of life for community members, all while learning about science, technology, engineering, and math. These afterschool programs led by Woonsocket teachers have given these students opportunities to apply their knowledge to community improvement. Many of the Woonsocket High School students involved in SMILE have moved on to College with experience and awareness that will help them to further explore career opportunities that help to protect the environment.

The commendations are listed on the first page. There are several items listed in bullets such as the collaborative process used to develop the core values and beliefs about learning which included multiple stake holders and the community. Included in the list is the progress made on curriculum development in science and math which is based on current research. Woonsocket has worked hard and continues to work hard on these and many more items.

There are areas that we need to improve on such as curriculum and community resources. These are items that we have been working on .The curriculum is established but the technology needs to be incorporated into the plan to make these improvements. Roof leaks, bathroom upgrades, the gym divider at the high school, implementation of science labs, all of these items are included in the five-year capital improvement plan.

Mr. Henderson and his leadership team and steering committee will put together a progress report which is due April 1, 2017 which will attend to these areas and the plan for correction.

The actual NEASC report is very thick. P. McGee will send the e-copy of the report. D. Burke stated that the teachers were very dedicated and delivered the curriculum despite limited financial resources. Kudos to the staff and teachers that have done this for many years. L. Stanley wanted to report the NEASC team was amazed at how accomplished Woonsocket is given some of the serious limitations in Woonsocket. Woonsocket has a very dedicated staff. P. McGee thanked Linda Stanley and the members of the NEASC Steering Committee. They did a tremendous amount of work and a tremendous job. He also thanked staff and administration at the high school. Preparing for a NEASC visit is no easy task.

Motion to place on file: V. Gonzalez

2nd: S. Pawlina (Unanimously approved by SC)

SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS – None.

CONFERENCES/DISCUSSIONS – None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. None.
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NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion/Approval on Bid #17-02 – Janitorial Supplies – P. McGee

Motion to discuss and approve: D. Burke

2nd: V. Gonzalez

B. Peryea noted that they held back on the paper towel order because he is looking into replacing paper towels with hand dryers which could save the district money within a couple of years and keep the bathrooms cleaner.

Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes

APPROVED

2. Discussion/Approval on the appointment of the Globe Park Principal – P. McGee

Motion to discuss and approve: V. Gonzalez

2nd: S. Pawlina

P. McGee read the letter of recommendation for Ms. Tina Silva as Principal for the Globe Park Elementary School.

Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes

APPROVED

3. Discussion/Approval on the appointment of the Chief Technology Officer – P. McGee

Motion to discuss and approve: V. Gonzalez

2nd: S. Pawlina

P. McGee read the letter of recommendation for Mr. Alfred Notarianni as the Chief Technology Officer.

Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes

APPROVED

4. Discussion/Approval on Non-Union Administrative pay increases – P. McGee

Motion to discuss and approve: V. Gonzalez

2nd: S. Pawlina

Motion to table this item for further study: D. Burke

2nd: V. Gonzalez

Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes

TABLED

5. Discussion/Approval on the Director of Literacy & Title I (PreK-Grade 12) job description and to post for said position – P. McGee

Motion to discuss and approve: V. Gonzalez

2nd: S. Pawlina

Motion to amend to approve Director of Literacy & Title I job description only: 1st: D. Burke

2nd: V. Gonzalez

Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes

APPROVED

P. McGee explained that the current Director of Title I Literacy and Grants will retire in October. The purpose of this request is to get approval to modify the job description. She currently works on Title I, Title II, and Title III federal grants, RTI and Literacy. She also works with district wide assessments. The preference is that this position will focus on Title I, the largest grant we receive. Dr. Remka will take on Title II and work with the ESL Coordinator on Title III. In addition, she will also work on state assessments, curriculum and work with Dr. Sullivan on IDEA. The goal was to officially add Literacy to this job description.

Motion to approve the amended Director of Literacy and Title I (PreK-Grade 12) job description:

Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes APPROVED

6. Discussion/Approval on the Home Tutoring Policy – P3-8.5 – 1st Passage – P. McGee

Motion to discuss and approve: V. Gonzalez 2nd: S. Pawlina

Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes APPROVED

7. Discussion/Approval on the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Policy – P4-7.5 – 1st Passage – P. McGee

Motion to discuss and approve: S. Pawlina 2nd: V. Gonzalez

D. Burke said since the policy was created, the state assembly has added a new law which states that the policy must be visibly present in school buildings. P. McGee said this will be done.

Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes APPROVED

8. Discussion/Approval on the Dual Enrollment Policy – P3-3.10 – 1st Passage – P. McGee

Motion to discuss and approve: V. Gonzalez 2nd: S. Pawlina

This policy adheres to the requirements mandated by the Governor's Office and the Rhode Island Department of Education. WED has been in compliance but now there is an official written policy.

Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes APPROVED

9. Discussion/Approval on the Elementary Assistant Principal job description and to post for said position – P. McGee

Motion to discuss and approve: V. Gonzalez 2nd: S. Pawlina

This position is for the Governor Pothier and Citizens' Elementary Schools. They hope to have someone in place by the new school year.

Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes APPROVED

10. Discussion/Approval on the Special Education Administration Restructuring of Job Descriptions – P. McGee

Motion to discuss and approve: V. Gonzalez 2nd: S. Pawlina

These positions was previously approved by SC; the only changes to these positions is that we are changing them from a union to a non-union; they will be administrative positions now.

Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes APPROVED

11. Discussion/Approval on the Woonsocket Even Start Assurance for Adult Education – P. McGee

Motion to discuss and approve: V. Gonzalez 2nd: S. Pawlina

Nancy Giambusso stated that this is a family literacy program and Even Start has been in the district for 22 years. It is basically the insurance page that needs to be signed in order to submit the grant to keep it active. Programs include, GED, ESL, Family Literacy, work with parents, interactive literacy and family activities.

Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes APPROVED

12. Discussion/Approval on the Capital Improvement Fund Transfer – P. McGee

Motion to discuss and approve: V. Gonzalez 2nd: S. Pawlina

B. Peryea recommended to change this transfer from \$ 575,000 to \$375,000 and reserve this amount into the capital improvement fund. This is a transfer from unrestricted funds in our general fund to a separate fund that would only be used for capital improvements for the close of FY 2015-2016.

Motion to amend the amount of the transfer to \$375,000: D. Burke 2nd: V. Gonzalez

Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes APPROVED

Motion to approve capital fund transfer as amended: D. Burke 2nd: V. Gonzalez

Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes APPROVED

13. Discussion/Approval on the Technology Fund Transfer – P. McGee
B. Peryea would like to recommend a reduction from \$300,000 to \$200,000.

Motion to amend the amount of the transfer to \$200,000: D. Burke 2nd. V. Gonzalez
Motion to approve technology fund transfer as amended: D. Burke 2nd: V. Gonzalez
Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes APPROVED

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT: Dr. Patrick McGee, Superintendent

➤ *District Improvement Plan* – The committee was provided with copies of the district improvement plan/formative assessment. The plan will be discussed in further depth once S. Seale is present. The document outlines the priorities in the district improvement plan. The document has been under review and assessment to outline outcomes and target goals and objectives to move the district forward. The committee will have time to review and bring questions back for discussion. The document has been created in an easy to read format and will be monitored and reorganized for priorities as the situations warrant.

Motion to receive and place on file: V. Gonzalez 2nd: S. Pawlina (Unanimously approved by the Committee)

SCHOOL COMMITTEE GOOD & WELFARE:

- *D. Burke – End of School Year* – Would like to congratulate teachers and students on a successful school year. He wishes everyone well in the remaining weeks of summer and encourages everyone to keep up with summer reading assignments.

Motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.: V. Gonzalez 2nd: S. Pawlina (Unanimously approved by the Committee)

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Blais
WSC Recording Secretary