

Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District School Committee
Thursday, February 1, 2018, 6:00 p.m.
Jr. – Sr. High School Library, 930 Nooseneck Hill Road, West Greenwich, RI
JOINT MEETING

MINUTES

The form and content of these minutes conform to commonly accepted standards and shall become the official record of the meeting after review and approval by the School Committee. By definition, minutes are not a verbatim record of the proceedings.

The Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District School Committee met for a Joint Session with Exeter and West Greenwich Town Council members on Thursday, February 1, 2018 in the Jr. – Sr. High School Library at 6:00 p.m.

Members present: Claudine Pande; Chairperson; Lee Kissinger, Vice Chairperson; Theresa Donovan, Clerk; Diane Bampton Allen and Paul McFadden.

Members absent: Sheryl Green and Aimee Gardiner.

Others present: James Erinakes, Superintendent; Robert Ross, Director of Administration; Marie-Elena Ahern, Director of Curriculum; Exeter Town Council Members Calvin Ellis, Francis Maher, Jr., Raymond Morrissey, Jr., and Daniel Patterson; West Greenwich Town Council Members Robert Andrews, Mark Boyer, Thomas Mulcahey and Mark Tourgee; West Greenwich Treasurer Danielle Andrews; West Greenwich Tax Assessor/Collector Charlene Randall.

Absent: Kevin McGovern, Exeter Town Council Member; Kenneth Findley, Exeter Town Council Assistant; Linda Rekas-Sloan, West Greenwich Town Council Member; Kevin Breene, West Greenwich Town Manager.

I. Call to Order – Chair Pande called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

II. High Level 2018 – 2019 Budget Discussion

- Superintendent Erinakes presented his 2018– 2019 Proposed Budget through the third revision, noting the efforts made to minimize the proportionate impact on each of the contributing municipalities. He stated the major reasons for necessary increases to the local contributions were a significant reduction in State aid and another substantial increase in the cost of health care benefits (estimated at 14%). He said the State aid is a particular challenge due to fluctuating information from the Governor’s proposed budget and projections from the RI Department of Education. Another significant factor for West

Greenwich is the increase in student enrollment from that community, as reflected through the funding formula.

- Superintendent Erinakes answered attendees' questions. He said the School Committee is scheduled to adopt its budget on February 27, 2018 and would try to identify additional areas where reductions could be made.
- Another budget work session was scheduled with the Town Councils for Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 6:00 PM.

(Member Donovan left the meeting at 6:50 p.m. and returned at 7:15 p.m. Chair Pande acted as Clerk during her absence.)

III. Adjournment

MSV - To adjourn - Member Kissinger/Member Bampton Allen - (5-0) - MOTION APPROVED.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

**Theresa Donovan
Clerk**