

MINUTES
WEST WARWICK SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 4, 2012
JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL
WEBSTER KNIGHT DRIVE
4:00 P.M.

This meeting was called to order by James A. Williamson, Jr., Chairman.

Members Present:

James A. Williamson, Jr., Chairman
Sean M. Murphy, Vice-Chairman
Elizabeth B. Brunero, Clerk
Joseph Florio, Jr.
Vincent D. Bradley

Attorney Present:

David G. Lussier, Esquire

Administrators Present:

Kenneth M. Sheehan, Superintendent of Schools

Recording Secretary:

Michelle M. Colozzo

1. Open Session

Open Session

Mr. Williamson opened the meeting at 4:25 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Roll Call

The following members were present:

Mr. Williamson, Mrs. Brunero, Mr. Murphy,
Mr. Florio, and Mr. Bradley.

**3. Motion to go into
Executive Session**

**Motion to go into Executive Session according to
RI General Laws 42-46-4 and 42-46-5, Subsection
(a) Paragraph 2**

MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY ELIZABETH B. BRUNERO
THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GO INTO
EXECUTIVE SESSION ACCORDING TO RI
GENERAL LAWS 42-46-4 AND 42-46-5,
SUBSECTION (a), PARAGRAPH 2. Motion**

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seconded by Joseph Florio, Jr. The following members voted in the affirmative: Vincent D. Bradley, Sean M. Murphy, Joseph Florio, Jr., Elizabeth B. Brunero, and James A. Williamson, Jr. Motion unanimously passed.

4. Executive Session

Executive Session: Discussion and Development of a Corrective Action Plan

The School Committee met in Executive Session.

5. Open Session

Open Session – 4:30 P.M.

6. Roll Call

Roll Call

The following members were present:
Mr. Williamson, Mr. Murphy, Mrs. Brunero,
Mr. Florio, and Mr. Bradley.

**7. Motion to Close
Executive Session
Minutes**

Motion to Close Executive Session Minutes

MOTION MADE BY ELIZABETH B. BRUNERO THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE CLOSE THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES. Motion seconded by Joseph Florio, Jr. The following members voted in the affirmative: Sean M. Murphy, Vincent D. Bradley, Joseph Florio, Jr., Elizabeth B. Brunero, and James A. Williamson, Jr. Motion unanimously passed.

MOTION

**8. Discussion and
Development of a
Corrective Action Plan**

Discussion and Development of a Corrective Action Plan

Mr. Sheehan began by giving the exact number of the deficit: \$1,666,892. He said the number became final at the closing of the books for FY 12 and the unaudited negative balance is now \$1,662,892. Mr. Williamson said so we are just shy of \$1.7 million—what we are looking at is approximately \$340,000 a year over a five-year period.

Mr. Sheehan said that the good news is that you have \$85,527 left as a surplus as of right this second, but the bad news is that special needs students moved into

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the district and they all have IEP's so that seven full-time teacher assistants were not added into the budget. However, we had five part-time teacher assistants that were in the budget that we don't need.

Mr. Williamson said that given that we are adding seven full-time teacher assistants, we are probably looking at between \$300-\$350,000. Mr. Sheehan said we had five part-time but part-time don't get benefits, so he would think you are looking at probably a net of about \$170,000. Mr. Williamson said so we went from an \$85,000 surplus to \$90,000 in the red. Mr. Sheehan said he just wants to make sure you have accurate numbers.

The School Committee discussed the settlement agreement and the deficit.

Mr. Sheehan distributed the following draft items for a Corrective Action Plan.

2012-13 CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Privatize Maintenance/Custodial Services (RFP)

Increase Transportation Distances

Conduct Education Program Audit

Freeze all non-union employee salaries (2012-2014)

Review policies and protocols associated with Warwick Career Center

Elimination of Middle School Sports Program

Evaluate High School Sports Programs for elimination

Review all Out-of-District (Alternative Placement) IEP's

Reduce 5 teaching positions 2013-14 school year

Reduction of _____ Teacher Assistants

Increase in Town Appropriation to School Department

Anticipated Increase in State Aid Funds

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Anticipated Savings from Council 94 negotiations

Reorganization of Business Office Re: Reduction of Staff

1 Year 50% FY 13 Town's Potential Surplus

Review state mandates for possible waiver submission

Review possible legislative relief

Mr. Bradley asked is this a plan or a laundry list. Mr. Sheehan said the Corrective Action Plan comes from the School Committee—this is a laundry list, some of his thoughts, and the School Committee has seen some of these things before. He said he is trying to provide the School Committee with a laundry list and will get more definite numbers through Maggie Baker. He said he would recommend that we conduct an education program audit—it looks good to the town and the state, and it says that the curriculum does comply or comport with the Basic Education Plan. Mr. Sheehan said if we do eliminate services, is there a way for those kids to get those services somewhere else; let's say we cut services at the high school, could those students get services at the Career Center?

The School Committee discussed the items on the list and scheduled another meeting for next Thursday, September 13th, at 4 o'clock, at the Administration Building.

**9. School Committee
Discussion for the Good
and Welfare of the
School System**

**School Committee Discussion for the Good and
Welfare of the School System**

The School Committee discussed their concerns about a situation that had occurred when the new Greenbush principal was in Massachusetts. It was decided that the School Committee will meet with the principal next Thursday about this situation.

10. Adjournment

Adjournment

**MOTION MADE BY JOSEPH FLORIO, JR.
THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ADJOURN**

MOTION

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THE MEETING. Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero. The following members voted in the affirmative: Vincent D. Bradley, Sean M. Murphy, Elizabeth B. Brunero, Joseph Florio, Jr., and James A. Williamson, Jr. Motion unanimously passed.

Meeting adjourned at: 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth B. Brunero, Clerk

Michelle M. Colozzo, Recorder