

**MINUTES**  
**WEST WARWICK SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**APRIL 9, 2013**  
**JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**WEBSTER KNIGHT DRIVE**  
**5:00 P.M.**

*This meeting was called to order by Sean M. Murphy, Chairman.*

**Members Present:**

Sean M. Murphy, Chairperson  
Elizabeth B. Brunero, Vice-Chairperson  
Christopher R. Messier, Clerk  
Joseph Florio, Jr.  
Stephen H. Lawton

**School Committee**

Andrew Henneous, Esquire

**Attorney Present:**

**Administrators Present:**

Kenneth M. Sheehan, Superintendent of Schools  
Margaret Baker, Director of Financial Operations  
Caroline Caswell, Assistant Superintendent  
Denise DiFranco, Assistant Special Education  
Director  
James Monti, Director of Educational Reform,  
Compliance and Technology  
Philip Solomon, Assistant Principal, West Warwick  
High School  
Karen Tarasevich, Principal, West Warwick High  
School  
Kenneth Townsend, Director of Property Services and  
Transportation  
Paul Vigeant, Director of Special Education and Pupil/  
Personnel Services

**Recording Secretary:**

Michelle M. Colozzo

**1. Open Session**

**Open Session**

Mr. Murphy opened the meeting at 5:30 P.M.

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### 2. Roll Call

#### Roll Call

The following members were present:  
Mr. Murphy, Mrs. Brunero, Mr. Messier,  
Mr. Florio, and Mr. Lawton.

### 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 CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER 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 seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero. The following members voted in the affirmative: Stephen H. Lawton, Joseph Florio, Jr., Elizabeth B. Brunero, Christopher R. Messier, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

### 4. Executive Session

#### Executive Session

##### a) Personnel

The School Committee met in Executive Session.

### 5. Open Session

#### Open Session

Open Session began at 6:38 P.M.

### 6. Roll Call

#### Roll Call

The following members were present:  
Mr. Murphy, Mrs. Brunero, Mr. Messier,  
Mr. Florio, and Mr. Lawton.

### 7. Reading of Mission Statement

#### Reading of Mission Statement

Mr. Lawton read the Mission Statement of the West Warwick Public Schools.

*The West Warwick Public Schools, in partnership with the entire community, is dedicated to providing all*

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*learners with access and opportunity to a challenging comprehensive education while developing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills in a safe, personalized learning environment.*

### 8. Pledge of Allegiance

#### Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Florio led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 9. Motion to Close Executive Session Minutes

#### Motion to Close Executive Session Minutes

#### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY JOSEPH FLORIO, JR. THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE CLOSE THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES.** Motion seconded by Christopher R. Messier. The following members voted in the affirmative: Elizabeth B. Brunero, Stephen H. Lawton, Christopher R. Messier, Joseph Florio, Jr., and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

### 10. Student Recognition/ Presentation of Certificates

#### Student Recognition/Presentation of Certificates

The School Committee recognized the following students:

#### Gymnastics – Sportsmanship Award

Lindsey Bennett, Cynthia Desillier, Genevieve Fisher, Gabriela Handy, Decota LeFrancois, Taylor-Ann Malone, Emily Pacheco, Abigail Petrangelo, Kristie Sullivan

Coaches: Alyson Andrews and Michelle Desillier

#### Girls Basketball – Sportsmanship Award

Sarah LaMountain, Amy Carney, Mikaela Grosso (Captain), Lisa Picard, Cara Genest, Mackenzie Ramsay (Captain), Briana Gough, Maya Suggs, Andrea Resendes, Ashley Gaipo

Coaches: Mike Francois, Head Coach, and Charlie Graham, Assistant Coach

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### Hockey – Division III State Champions

Domenic Kiers, Brendan Sheridan, Antonio Rei, Alexander Ventura, Patrick Fields, Jr., Austin Barlow (Captain), Andrew Lachapelle, Brett Coski, Daniel Skorski, Dean Brown, Ivan Forcier, Justin Lake, Megan Sugrue, Jared Olson, Troy Sankey, Corey Andrade, Joshua Marco, Anthony Ventura III, Thomas Pecchia

Coaches: Peter Ethier, Head Coach; Keith Mosca, Assistant Coach; and Joel Lake, Volunteer Coach

### Individual Awards

Brighton Landroche, Individual Cheerleading State Champion

Richard Grenier, Jr., Academic All-State Boys' Basketball

Mackenzie Ramsay, Academic All-State Girls' Basketball

Brian Bianchi, Member of the Golden Dozen (Statewide)

## 11. Student Representative

### Student Representative

C.J. Levesque, Secretary of the Student Council, reported on recent and upcoming activities and events at West Warwick High School including the following::

- Student Council Donation of \$1000 to Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
- Fundraiser for Student Kim Denice raised \$2300 to assist her and her family during this time
- Last Friday, the Freshman-Sophomore annual Spring dance was held at Valley Country Club—over 100 students attended
- Tickets are currently being sold for the Junior Prom which will be held on Friday May 3rd.

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- Election season begins tomorrow as students will declare their candidacy for class officer positions at tomorrow's Student Council meeting.

### Audience of Citizens

#### 12. Audience of Citizens

None.

### Chairman's Report

#### 13. Chairman's Report

Mr. Murphy extended congratulations to all of the student-athletes here tonight and stated that the School Committee is very proud of them. Mr. Murphy also said he had the pleasure of attending the Middle School Honors Band performance last Friday and he commended everyone involved with that.

Mr. Murphy pointed out that students who participate in extracurricular activities learn discipline and team-building and how to put in the effort to achieve their goals which prepares them for a successful future.

### Superintendent's Report

#### 14. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Sheehan spoke about a fundraiser in which the Senior Softball team will play against the Girls Varsity Softball Team on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, at Amby Smith field at 5 P.M.

#### 15. Consent Agenda

### Consent Agenda

a) Approval: Executive Session Minutes: March 12, 2013

a) Approval: Executive Session Minutes: March 12, 2013

b) Approval: Open Session Minutes: March 12, 2013

b) Approval: Open Session Minutes: March 12, 2013

c) Approval: Special Meeting Open Session Minutes: March 27, 2013

c) Approval: Special Meeting Open Session Minutes: March 27, 2013

d) Approval: Payment of Bills: \$1,005,321.82

d) Approval: Payment of Bills: \$1,005,321.82

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### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.** Motion seconded by Stephen H. Lawton. The following members voted in the affirmative: Stephen H. Lawton, Joseph Florio, Jr., Christopher R. Messier, Elizabeth B. Brunero, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

### 16. Update: Public Relations Committee

#### Update: Public Relations Committee

Mr. Sheehan said there are some people who are on the committee here tonight: Chris Messier, Pat D'Alfonso, Dr. Caroline Caswell, Jim Monti, Sean Doyle, Mrs. Tarasevich, Mr. Vigeant, Tammy D'Amico.

Mrs. Patricia D'Alfonso said that one of the goals is to make sure they have a physical presence at School Committee and Town Council Meetings. She said they have reconstituted their committee—they have new teachers and students and Town Council and School Committee members and parents and community members on board. Mrs. D'Alfonso said they have set their goals and will be meeting three or four more times this year.

### 17. Presentation/Approval: 1 to 1 Computing One Classroom at a Time

#### Presentation/Approval: 1 to 1 Computing One Classroom at a Time

Mr. James Monti, Director of Educational Reform, Compliance and Technology, gave a presentation to the School Committee on this program to address how we can get additional technology into the schools for our students.

### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY JOSEPH FLORIO, JR. THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE 1 to 1 COMPUTING ONE CLASSROOM AT A TIME.** Motion seconded by Christopher R. Messier. The following members voted in the affirmative: Stephen H. Lawton, Elizabeth B. Brunero, Christopher R. Messier, Joseph Florio, Jr., and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

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### 18. Presentation/ Approval: Preschool Fees

#### Presentation/Approval: Preschool Fees

Denise DiFranco, Assistant to the Director of Special Education, gave a presentation on the request for an increase in Preschool fees. Presently the fee is \$10 a week for children to attend two hours per day, and the new fee would be \$25 per week for children to attend two and a half hours per day.

The School Committee thanked Mrs. DiFranco for her presentation.

#### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY ELIZABETH B. BRUNERO THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE INCREASE IN THE PRESCHOOL FEES FROM \$10 TO \$25 PER WEEK FOR ONE FULL YEAR AND THEN COME BACK TO THE SCHOOL TO SEE IF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO ADJUST IT AT THAT TIME.** Motion seconded by Stephen H. Lawton. The following members voted in the affirmative: Christopher R. Messier, Joseph Florio, Jr., Stephen H. Lawton, Elizabeth B. Brunero, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

### 19. Discussion/Approval: FY 2013-2014 School Budget

#### Discussion/Approval: FY 2013-2014 School Budget

Mr. Sheehan recommended that there be continued discussion and approval of the FY 13-14 school budget; a couple of weeks ago, you had a work session of over 3-1/2 hours and a presentation and you also had a work session today.

#### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE FY 2013-2014 SCHOOL BUDGET.** Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero, for discussion. Mr. Murphy asked if any of the members had any comments, and there were none. The following members voted in the affirmative: Stephen H. Lawton, Joseph Florio, Jr., Elizabeth B. Brunero, Christopher R. Messier, and Sean M.

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Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Sheehan said for the information of the audience, for people who have been following this since September, there should be no surprise. He said the presentation was made to the Town Manager in September for the \$50,645,000 amount which mirrors exactly what the members of the School Committee had prepared in the Corrective Action Plan and Deficit Reduction Plan. Mr. Sheehan said it is the number that the Town Council and the Town Manager used in the Corrective Action Plan which was sent to the Auditor General on November 1<sup>st</sup>. He said we hope that it will be smooth sailing since they have had that number since September and they have not come back to us with anything else.

### 20. Approval: Job Descriptions

#### Approval: Job Descriptions:

- a) Accountant/Business Office Supervisor
- b) Accounting Assistant/Senior Payroll Clerk
- c) Administrative Assistant/Payroll

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the attached job descriptions a., b., and c. He said there has been a reorganization by Margaret Baker, Director of Financial Operations for the school district; and in that reorganization, she has reduced one member in that department and created new job descriptions for other workers in that department. Mr. Sheehan also noted that the Rhode Island Department of Education said we need to have an accountant. Mr. Sheehan said that there will be no increase in the total cost; there will be a little bit of savings. He said this also allows us to overlap some pieces in which people will have expertise in other people's positions in case people are absent.

Mr. Sheehan said there is one caveat: he understands Mrs. Baker is asking for a salary increase for those employees who will be gaining additional duties, but he is not asking for the increase primarily because for the past six years, everyone has been doing more but have received no increases. However, he is asking if there is a possibility that we could sit down with

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Council 94 Executive Board and officers regarding the possibility of a stipend, but that would be with the approval of the Council 94 leadership.

**MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE FOLLOWING JOB DESCRIPTIONS WITH THE CAVEAT THAT THERE IS NO INCREASE ATTACHED TO THEM WITH THE ABILITY TO GO BACK TO THE UNION TO LOOK AT A POTENTIAL STIPEND:**

- a) **Accountant/Business Office Supervisor**
- b) **Accounting Assistant/Senior Payroll Clerk**
- c) **Administrative Assistant Payroll**

Motion seconded by Joseph Florio, Jr. The following members voted in the affirmative: Stephen H. Lawton, Elizabeth B. Brunero, Joseph Florio, Jr., Christopher R. Messier, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

**21. Discussion/Approval:  
Assistant to  
Superintendent  
Position - Volunteer**

**Discussion/Approval: Assistant to Superintendent  
Position -- Volunteer**

Mr. Sheehan apologized to members of the School Committee and the public for any confusion with regard to this position. He said he would like to amend that title as it currently appears and ask for the School Committee's approval that the title shall be: "West Warwick School Committee Liaison/Consultant." He said he would like that to be for a period of six months and that the School Committee would revisit it at the conclusion of a six month period of time.

**MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE AMEND THE TITLE TO WEST WARWICK SCHOOL COMMITTEE LIAISON/CONSULTANT.** Motion seconded by Stephen H. Lawton. The following members voted in the affirmative: Stephen H. Lawton, Joseph Florio, Jr., Elizabeth B. Brunero, Christopher R. Messier, and

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Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Sheehan said he would also like to make the recommendation for Mr. Jim Williamson to be appointed to this position for a six-month period of time.

### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY STEPHEN H. LAWTON THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPOINT JAMES A. WILLIAMSON, JR. TO THE POSITION OF WEST WARWICK SCHOOL COMMITTEE LIAISON/CONSULTANT FOR A SIX-MONTH PERIOD OF TIME.** Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero, for discussion.

Mr. Florio stated that he thinks the School Committee can do the job as a whole without approving this position. He said it's not the personality, but he feels the School Committee is able as a group to go forward. Mr. Murphy indicated that there is a lot of turbulence, losing the Town Manager, losing the Finance Director for the Town, having a new Finance Director on the school side; the Superintendent is leaving. Mr. Murphy explained we need somebody that he believes we can always go to who knows what's been going on for the past seven years. He said he has ultimate faith and respect for Mr. Williamson as the person this community needs as a volunteer, not just the School Committee. Mr. Murphy said one major issue we need him for is the Superintendent Search Committee. Mr. Murphy noted that in Mr. Williamson's being appointed to this position, he will not have the ability to vote or act as a School Committee member—it's totally up to the School Committee—this is a volunteer position, non-paid.

The following members voted in the affirmative: Christopher R. Messier, Elizabeth B. Brunero, Stephen H. Lawton, and Sean M. Murphy. The following member voted in the negative: Joseph Florio, Jr. Motion passed 4 to 1.

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**22. Approval: Second Reading of Policy**

**Approval: Second Reading of Policy: Student Google Accounts Policy**

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the second reading of policy: Student Google Accounts.

**MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE SECOND READING OF POLICY: STUDENT GOOGLE ACCOUNTS.**

Motion seconded by Stephen H. Lawton. The following members voted in the affirmative: Stephen H. Lawton, Joseph Florio, Jr., Elizabeth B. Brunero, Christopher R. Messier, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

**23. Approval: Second Reading of Policy**

**Approval: Second Reading of Policy: Student Overnight Use of Technology Resources**

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the second reading of policy: Student Overnight Use of Technology Resources.

**MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE SECOND READING OF POLICY: STUDENT OVERNIGHT USE OF TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES.** Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero, for discussion.

Mr. Lawton asked if this was regarding laptops, and the answer was yes.

The following members voted in the affirmative: Stephen H. Lawton, Elizabeth B. Brunero, Christopher R. Messier, Joseph Florio, Jr., and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

**24. Approval: First Reading: Revised Dating Violence Policy**

**Approval: First Reading: Revised Dating Violence Policy**

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Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the first reading of the Revised Dating Violence Policy.

### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE FIRST READING OF THE REVISED DATING VIOLENCE POLICY.**

Motion seconded by Joseph Florio, Jr., for discussion.

Mr. Messier said the he would like to echo what was told to us earlier about a new policy, that we are updating this, and even though the state is making a requirement for school districts to have this, we have actually had one in place for many years—we are ahead of the curve. Mr. Florio noted that the meeting held on this policy was very good.

### **25. Approval: First Reading of Amendment of Policy**

#### **Approval: First Reading: Amendment of Human Capital Management Policy**

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the first reading of the Amendment of the Human Capital Management Policy.

### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE FIRST READING OF THE AMENDMENT OF THE HUMAN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT POLICY.** Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero. The following members voted in the affirmative: Joseph Florio, Jr., Stephen H. Lawton, Elizabeth B. Brunero, Christopher R. Messier, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

### **26. Approval: First Reading: Volunteer Policy**

#### **Approval: First Reading: Volunteer Policy**

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the first reading of the volunteer policy.

### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY ELIZABETH B. BRUNERO THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE**

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**THE FIRST READING OF THE VOLUNTEER POLICY.** Motion seconded by Stephen H. Lawton, for discussion. Mr. Messier asked if this is a new policy, and Mr. Sheehan said yes. The following members voted in the affirmative: Joseph Florio, Jr., Christopher R. Messier, Stephen H. Lawton, Elizabeth B. Brunero, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Phillip Kelly, President, R.I. Council 94, Local 3546, asked if the policy could be explained. Dr. Caroline Caswell, Assistant Superintendent, gave a little background on how the policy came about. Mr. Kelly pointed that Council 94 has in its contract that if teacher assistants are laid off, then the Foster Grandparents and volunteers are out. Mr. Sheehan responded that if you replace teacher assistants with volunteers who will do the same work, it's called supplanting and violates the contract, but you have Foster Grandparents with different duties.

Mr. Messier noted that since this is the first reading, it might be a good idea to vet out any particular issues that are still on the table. Mr. Sheehan said there are no issues on the table—it's about full implementation of the contracts you have signed with both bargaining units, but he will have a conversation before the next meeting.

### **27. Approval: Amendment of Program of Studies**

#### **Approval: Amendment of West Warwick High School Program of Studies**

Mr. Sheehan said as you aware, in December or January, the School Committee had approved the West Warwick High School Program of Studies. In order to be 100% accurate, he is asking that the School Committee approve the amendment of the West Warwick High School Program of Studies that pertains to a College Mathematics Foundations Course, one credit for a full-year course.

#### **MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY STEPHEN H. LAWTON  
THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE  
THE AMENDMENT OF WEST WARWICK**

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### **HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM OF STUDIES.**

Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero. The following members voted in the affirmative: Christopher R. Messier, Joseph Florio, Jr., Elizabeth B. Brunero, Stephen H. Lawton, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

### **28. Approval: Out-of-State Field Trips**

#### **Approval: Out-of-State Field Trips:**

##### **a) West Warwick High School Grade 11 Students to Six Flags New England, Agawam, Massachusetts, June 2, 2013**

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the out-of-state field trip for West Warwick High School Grade 11 students to Six Flags New England, Agawam, Massachusetts, June 2, 2013.

#### **MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY STEPHEN H. LAWTON THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP FOR WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL GRADE 11 STUDENTS TO SIX FLAGS NEW ENGLAND, AGAWAM, MASSACHUSETTS, JUNE 2, 2013.**

Motion seconded by Christopher R. Messier. The following members voted in the affirmative: Joseph Florio, Jr., Elizabeth B. Brunero, Christopher R. Messier, Stephen H. Lawton, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

##### **b) John F. Deering Middle School Grade 7 Students to Mystic Aquarium, Mystic, Connecticut, June 17, 2013**

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the out-of-state field trip for John F. Deering Middle School Grade 7 students to Mystic Aquarium, Mystic, Connecticut, June 17, 2013.

#### **MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY ELIZABETH B. BRUNERO THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP FOR JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADE 7 STUDENTS TO MYSTIC AQUARIUM, MYSTIC,**

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**CONNECTICUT, JUNE 17, 2013.** Motion seconded by Christopher R. Messier. The following members voted in the affirmative: Joseph Florio, Jr., Stephen H. Lawton, Christopher R. Messier, Elizabeth B. Brunero, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

### 29. Acceptance of Resignation

#### **Acceptance of Resignation: Part-Time Teacher Assistant – Wakefield Hills Elementary School**

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee accept the resignation of Diana Kohler from the position of Part-Time Teacher Assistant at Wakefield Hills Elementary School, effective March 15, 2013.

#### **MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF DIANA KOHLER FROM THE POSITION OF PART-TIME TEACHER ASSISTANT AT WAKEFIELD HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, EFFECTIVE MARCH 15, 2013.** Motion seconded by Stephen H. Lawton. The following members voted in the affirmative: Joseph Florio, Jr., Elizabeth B. Brunero, Stephen H. Lawton, Christopher R. Messier, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

### 30. Consent to Superintendent's Appointments

#### **Consent to Superintendent's Appointments**

##### **a) Long-Term Substitute Grade 5 Teacher – John F. Deering Middle School**

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointment of Meghan McGovern to the position of Grade 5 Teacher at John F. Deering Middle School.

#### **MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GIVE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF MEGHAN MCGOVERN TO THE POSITION OF LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE GRADE 5 TEACHER AT JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL.** Motion seconded

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by Stephen H. Lawton, for discussion.

Mr. Vigeant said that Meghan McGovern has a Bachelor's Degree from Keene State College in New Hampshire where she specialized in Elementary Education and Psychology. She has been serving as a substitute teacher for the district since June 2007, and she is currently Head Co-ed Tennis Coach at the high school. She is also a West Warwick graduate and resident.

The following members voted in the affirmative: Elizabeth B. Brunero, Joseph Florio, Jr., Stephen H. Lawton, Christopher R. Messier, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

The School Committee congratulated and welcomed Meghan McGovern.

### **b) Teachers – RTI After-School Tutoring Program – West Warwick High School**

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointments of Lori Tashjian as Math Teacher and Wayne Brusseau as Special Education Teacher in the RTI After-School Tutoring Program at West Warwick High School.

### **MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY ELIZABETH B. BRUNERO THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GIVE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF LORI TASHJIAN AS MATH TEACHER AND WAYNE BRUSSEAU AS SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER IN THE RTI AFTER-SCHOOL TUTORING PROGRAM AT WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL.** Motion seconded by Christopher R. Messier. The following members voted in the affirmative: Stephen H. Lawton, Joseph Florio, Jr., Christopher R. Messier, Elizabeth B. Brunero, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed

### **c) Two (2) Part-Time Custodians – John F. Horgan and Greenbush Elementary Schools**

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Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointments of the following individuals as part-time custodians: Edgar Perez for John F. Horgan Elementary School and Christopher Morrison for Greenbush Elementary School.

### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY STEPHEN H. LAWTON THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GIVE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENTS OF THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AS PART-TIME CUSTODIANS: EDGAR PEREZ FOR JOHN F. HORGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND CHRISTOPHER MORRISON FOR GREENBUSH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.** Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero. The following members voted in the affirmative: Joseph Florio, Jr., Christopher R. Messier, Elizabeth B. Brunero, Stephen H. Lawton, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

#### **d) Head Boys Baseball Coach – John F. Deering Middle School**

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointment of Chris Coffua to the position of Head Boys Baseball Coach at John F. Deering Middle School.

### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY STEPHEN H. LAWTON THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GIVE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF CHRIS COFFUA TO THE POSITION OF HEAD BOYS BASEBALL COACH AT JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL.** Motion seconded by Christopher R. Messier, for discussion.

Mr. Vigeant said Mr. Coffua is a graduate and resident of West Warwick who has coached for the Connie Mack and Cal Ripken leagues.

The following members voted in the affirmative:

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Christopher R. Messier, Joseph Florio, Jr., Elizabeth B. Brunero, Christopher R. Messier, Stephen H. Lawton, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

The School Committee congratulated and welcomed Chris Coffua.

### **e) Assistant Girls' Outdoor Track Coach – West Warwick High School**

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointment of Kelly O'Brien to the position of Assistant Girls' Outdoor Track Coach at West Warwick High School.

#### **MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GIVE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF KELLY O'BRIEN TO THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT GIRLS' OUTDOOR TRACK COACH AT WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL.** Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero. The following members voted in the affirmative: Joseph Florio, Jr., Stephen H. Lawton, Elizabeth B. Brunero, Christopher R. Messier, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

### **f) Assistant Co-Ed Baseball Coach – West Warwick High School**

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointment of Harry Ryan to the position of Assistant Co-Ed Baseball Coach at West Warwick High School.

#### **MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GIVE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF HARRY RYAN TO THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT CO-ED BASEBALL COACH AT WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL.** Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero. The following members voted in the affirmative:

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Stephen H. Lawton, Joseph Florio, Jr., Elizabeth B. Brunero, Christopher R. Messier, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

### 31. Approval: Teacher Assistant Layoffs

#### Approval: Teacher Assistant Layoffs

Mr. Sheehan said that it is with regret that he recommends that the School Committee approve the layoff of the 32 teacher assistants named on the list that the School Committee received. He said this will take place at the conclusion of the 2012-2013 school year.

#### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY JOSEPH FLORIO, JR. THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE TEACHER ASSISTANT LAYOFFS OF THE 32 INDIVIDUALS NAMED ON THE LIST THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECEIVED.** Motion seconded by Christopher R. Messier, for discussion. Mr. Lawton asked about the recall policy for these people. Mr. Sheehan said it is usually in reverse seniority order, but we can take into consideration new certifications, special skills, a lot of things that may be pertinent in some particular jobs—people may have certain certifications such as Autism, CPI, Physical Restraint, etc, but primarily it's in reverse layoff order. The 32 teacher assistants include 25 full-time and 7 part-time. Mr. Messier asked the full-time people will still be employed, but they will switch to part-time? Mr. Sheehan replied most of the full-time people will be employed part-time without benefits. Mr. Messier asked about the part-time employees, and Mr. Sheehan said the part-time people may be laid off altogether.

Mr. Murphy asked if we are losing services, and Mr. Sheehan spoke briefly about the \$1.5 million in cuts that had previously been approved by the School Committee and said most of those cuts would affect Special Education; there were \$588,000 in personnel cuts. He said obviously the level of services will be affected—we have reduced programs or hours; therefore, we decreased the number of teacher assistants as well.

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Mr. Messier said that he wanted to go on record that he is not happy we have to lay off teacher assistants knowing they will lose benefits, especially people who are West Warwick residents; with everything going on in the economy, it's not going to affect this community well.

Mr. Phillip Kelly pointed out that the teacher assistants are also losing pay—they are going from full-time pay to part-time pay. He said that all he has heard is about keeping stability, and by putting in two part-time people, he doesn't personally feel we are keeping stability for the children. He knows it's a dollars and cents game, but it's something he thinks we will be paying for down the road.

Mr. Sheehan said when the School Committee has passed a budget requesting \$891,000 in additional revenues for the School Department, and it is now contingent not just on the Town Council but that the town would vote for an increase of 4% in taxes, and if that doesn't get passed, this School Committee has to cut more than a million dollars after cutting \$1.5 million already. He said if we are not successful, this School Committee has to balance the budget within five days and be approved by the Town Council. Mr. Sheehan said he doesn't know where you will come up with that—that's why the vote is so important. Mr. Murphy said he thinks everyone on the board shares those sentiments.

The following members voted in the affirmative: Stephen H. Lawton, Elizabeth B. Brunero, Christopher R. Messier, Joseph Florio, Jr., and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed with regret.

### **Audience of Citizens**

#### **32. Audience of Citizens**

Gary Trott, 60 Phenix Avenue, directed a question to Mr. Sheehan about this year's and next year's budget figures. Mr. Sheehan spoke briefly about the funds that are needed, and how the numbers were derived.

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**33. 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 continued discussing the budget and being able to provide for our students' present and future educational needs.

**34. Adjournment**

**Adjournment**

**MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY ELIZABETH B. BRUNERO THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ADJOURN THE MEETING.** Motion seconded by Christopher R. Messier. The following members voted in the affirmative: Joseph Florio, Jr., Stephen H. Lawton, Christopher R. Messier, Elizabeth B. Brunero, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

Meeting adjourned at: 8:33 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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Christopher R. Messier, Clerk

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Michelle M. Colozzo, Recorder