

MINUTES
WEST WARWICK SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MAY 14, 2013
JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL
WEBSTER KNIGHT DRIVE
5:30 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
Jeffrey Guiot, Assistant Principal, John F. Deering
Middle School
Greg Kortick, Athletic Director
James Monti, Director of Educational Reform,
Compliance and Technology
Donna M. Peluso, Principal, John F. Horgan
Elementary School
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

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

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
- b) Contract

The School Committee met in Executive Session.

5. Open Session

Open Session

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GO INTO OPEN SESSION. 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.

Open Session began at 6:35 P.M.

6. Roll Call

Roll Call

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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. Messier 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 learners with access and opportunity to a challenging comprehensive education while developing 21st Century Skills in a safe, personalized learning environment.

8. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Lawton 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 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:

- Class elections – all new officers will be announced at the September School Committee meeting
- Last blood drive of the year – dedicated to senior Kim Denice

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- Senior prom – to be held on May 31st at the Atlantic Beach Club in Newport
- Annual Class Olympics
- Senior Barbecue at Maznicki Field
- Senior Class Movie Night

11. Audience of Citizens

Audience of Citizens

None.

12. Chairman's Report

Chairman's Report

Mr. Murphy passed on his report.

13. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Sheehan said it was a pleasure for him to attend the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and dinner last Thursday. There were 11 inductees to the 2013 class, and the athletic coach, official, and administrator chosen for this year was our own Phil Kershaw. Mr. Sheehan said it was very interesting because the other 10 recipients were nationally known—our own Phil Kershaw being included with those 10 other people was quite an achievement.

Mr. Sheehan said the second thing he wanted to talk about was the plaque he had in front of him from the Aspen Institute in recognition of the district's leadership, commitment, and dedication to student success which was presented to Mr. Monti at a seminar. Mr. Sheehan asked Mr. Monti how many school districts in the world received this, and Mr. Monti answered four. Mr. Sheehan said West Warwick was one of four internationally—this is quite an honor. He said if he had to give credit to one person, it would be Jim Monti. Mr. Sheehan said if you look at the Aspen system and the integration of all the systems into one system, this is not done anywhere

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that he knows of, but Mr. Monti has done this. He said when you put this together with the Professional Development Academy and how to use this information due to their efforts, Mr. Monti oversees this as well.

Mr. Sheehan said the third piece he wanted to speak about was two weeks ago, the Commissioner invited us to attend when she gave her State of Education address at the State House. She had also asked Ken Townsend and Jim Monti if they could produce a taped presentation of the highlights of West Warwick High School as it pertains to student growth, specifically NECAP results for the high school. Mr. Sheehan said Ken Townsend did this because Jim Monti was out of town dealing with Aspen.

Mr. Sheehan said it was really an honor to be Superintendent of Schools in West Warwick in the rotunda at the State House and have the Commissioner of Education recognize very few districts in the entire state and cite the work of West Warwick teachers and administrators. Mr. Sheehan said sitting in the front row was Town Council Vice-President Ed Giroux—to hear out of all of the schools in the state, this school system in West Warwick was cited by the Commissioner of Education—that was really gratifying.

14. Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

- | | |
|---|---|
| a) Approval: Executive Session Minutes: April 9, 2013 | a) Approval: Executive Session Minutes: April 9, 2013 |
| b) Approval: Open Session Minutes: April 9, 2013 | b) Approval: Open Session Minutes: April 9, 2013 |
| c) Approval: Special Meeting Open Session Minutes: April 19, 2013 | c) Approval: Special Meeting Open Session Minutes: April 19, 2013 |

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d) **Approval: Special Meeting Open Session Minutes: April 25, 2013**

d) **Approval: Special Meeting Open Session Minutes: April 25, 2013**

e) **Approval: Payment of Bills: \$1,699,561.38**

e) **Approval: Payment of Bills: \$1,699,561.38**

MOTION

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

15. **Update: Public Relations Committee**

Update: Public Relations Committee

Mrs. Dawn Packer gave an update from the Public Relations Committee. Mrs. Packer spoke about the different subcommittees of the Public Relations Committee:

- Data – updating Google documents and communicating with each other
- Verbal – 2-3 minute communications to the Town Council and the School Committee
- Printing – update the brochure and place it outside the Town Council room at the Town Hall and keep in touch with Kendra Miller at the Kent County Times
- Technology – Social Media

16. **Information: Paid Lunch Price Increase**

Information: Paid Lunch Price Increase

Mrs. Maggie Baker said she is here tonight to provide information regarding the paid lunch increase.

Mrs. Baker said every year R.I.D.E. sends out a worksheet that has to be filled in, usually by the Food

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Services Manager to see if the district needs to increase pricing. She said in this case, it amounts to an increase of about five cents for breakfast and lunch at the elementary schools and breakfast at the high school and middle school. Mrs. Baker said this is a USDA requirement.

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the increase in paid lunch effective for the 2013-2014 school year.

Mrs. Donna Walker, Food Service Manager for Sodexo, said that it is part of their contract.

MOTION MADE BY JOSEPH FLORIO, JR. THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE PAID LUNCH PRICE INCREASE. Motion seconded by Stephen H. Lawton. 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.

MOTION

17. Approval: Change to 403B Contract with CPI

Approval: Change to 403B Contract with CPI

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the change to the 403B contract with CPI which would permit terminated employees to take loans against their accounts. He said Mrs. Baker is here to provide additional information if necessary.

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE CHANGE TO THE 403B CONTRACT WITH CPI. Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero, for discussion.

MOTION

The question from the School Committee was what were the old requirements, that they couldn't take out money, and Mrs. Baker responded exactly correct. Mr. Messier confirmed there is no financial impact to the district? Mrs. Baker said CPI handles all of our 403B information—they process all of it.

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**18. Discussion/Approval:
Recommendations to
School Committee
from Security Team**

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.

**Discussion/Approval: Recommendations to School
Committee from Security Team**

Mr. Sheehan recommended that there be discussion and approval regarding recommendations from the Security Team. He said Mr. Townsend is here tonight to present to the committee.

Mr. Townsend said they had their first Security Team meeting, and two recommendations came out of that meeting. He said one was that the school department doesn't currently have a policy, and the Security Team recommended that we write a policy for the district. The other recommendation is an approximately \$300,000 upgrade to the district. The committee recommended that the School Committee do everything they can to put those recommendations in place.

Mr. Townsend said they are not going to reinvent the wheel for the policy. He said the District Safety Team had a meeting, and the Trust has a policy we can put in place and tailor it for the West Warwick Public Schools. He said with the School Committee's approval to create the policy, hopefully we will have a policy ready for a first reading at the June meeting.

Mr. Murphy said they are going to try to get the Town Council and School Committee together to view the presentation that Mr. Townsend showed to the Security Team members.

MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R.
MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
UPDATE THE WORDING OF THE AGENDA
ITEM TO: PROVIDING APPROVAL TO THE
SECURITY TEAM TO CREATE AND RETURN
A POLICY TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.**

Motion seconded by Joseph Florio, Jr. The following

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

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PROVIDE APPROVAL TO THE SECURITY TEAM TO CREATE AND RETURN A POLICY TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE. 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.

**19. Discussion/Approval:
Resolutions**

Discussion/Approval: Resolutions:

a) Re: The Use of Student Data

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY JOSEPH FLORIO, JR. THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE TABLE THE RESOLUTION RE: THE USE OF STUDENT DATA BECAUSE WE NEED MORE INFORMATION FROM THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ON THIS. Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero. The following members voted in the affirmative: Stephen H. Lawton, Christopher R. Messier, Elizabeth B. Brunero, Joseph Florio, Jr., and Sean M. Murphy. Motion to table unanimously passed.

b) Re: Local Control of Public Schools and Education Funding

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE RESOLUTION RE: LOCAL CONTROL OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION FUNDING. Motion seconded by Stephen H. Lawton, for discussion.

Mr. Murphy said the School Committee and the town Council should have discretion about charter schools that come into town and take dollars away from the

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public schools. He said they are bad for the schools, they take away from the community, take away tax dollars, and they don't have to follow the state mandates like the public schools have to do.

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.

20. Approval: Second Reading: Revised Dating Violence Policy

Approval: Second Reading: Revised Dating Violence Policy

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the second reading of the revised dating violence policy.

MOTION

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

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

Mr. Murphy asked are we at the forefront with this policy? Mr. Sheehan answered he thinks most school systems have a very similar policy—it may be in different places, such as the student handbook, etc.

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. Approval: Second Reading: Amendment of Policy

Approval: Second Reading: Amendment of Human Capital Management Policy

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the second reading of the amendment of the Human Capital Management Policy.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY JOSEPH FLORIO, JR. THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE SECOND READING OF THE AMENDMENT OF THE HUMAN CAPITAL

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MANAGEMENT POLICY. 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.

22. Approval: Second Reading of Policy

Approval: Second Reading: Volunteer Policy

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the second reading of the Volunteer Policy.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY ELIZABETH B. BRUNERO THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE SECOND READING OF THE VOLUNTEER POLICY. 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.

23. Approval: West Warwick High School Mission Statement and Core Values and Beliefs

Approval: West Warwick High School Mission Statement and Core Values and Beliefs

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the West Warwick High School Mission Statement and Core Values and Beliefs. He said this came about because of the self-study and the NEASC Committee.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT AND CORE VALUES AND BELIEFS. 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.

24. Approval: Class of 2015 Junior Prom to be held at Mystic Aquarium

Approval: Class of 2015 Junior Prom to be held at Mystic Aquarium

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Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the Class of 2015 Junior Prom to be held at Mystic Aquarium. He said Mr. Brusseau is here to answer any questions.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE CLASS OF 2015 JUNIOR PROM TO BE HELD AT MYSTIC AQUARIUM. Motion seconded by Joseph Florio, Jr., for discussion.

Mr. Lawton asked most kids have no problem driving there? Mr. Brusseau responded most of the kids took limos; we maybe had 20 kids that took the bus—most kids take a limo or a party bus. He said he thinks that maybe 30 kids ended up carpooling or driving. Mr. Brusseau asked if he will have to come back to the School Committee again to get approval for the bus, and Mr. Sheehan responded you would have to come back. Mr. Brusseau said he will do that.

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.

25. Approval: Out-of-State Field Trips

Approval: Out-of-State Field Trips

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the following out-of-state field trips:

- a) John F. Horgan Elementary School Kindergarten Students to Mystic Aquarium, Mystic, Connecticut, June 12, 2013
- d) John F. Deering Middle School Grade 5 Students to Mystic Aquarium, Mystic, Connecticut, May 30, 2013
- e) John F. Deering Middle School Grades 5 and 6 Students to Mystic Aquarium, Mystic, Connecticut, June 13, 2013

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- f) John F. Deering Middle School Grade 8 Students to Battleship Cove, Fall River, Massachusetts, June 18, 2013
- g) Greenbush Grade 1 Students to Mystic Aquarium, Mystic, Connecticut, May 24, 2013

MOTION MADE BY ELIZABETH B. BRUNERO THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE FOLLOWING FIELD TRIPS:

MOTION

- a) **JOHN F. HORGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS TO MYSTIC AQUARIUM, MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT, JUNE 12, 2013**
- d) **JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADE 5 STUDENTS TO MYSTIC AQUARIUM, MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT, MAY 30, 2013**
- e) **JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADES 5 AND 6 STUDENTS TO MYSTIC AQUARIUM, MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT, JUNE 13, 2013**
- f) **JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADE 8 STUDENTS TO BATTLESHIP COVE, FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS, JUNE 18, 2013**
- g) **GREENBUSH GRADE 1 STUDENTS TO MYSTIC AQUARIUM, MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT, MAY 24, 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.

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**b) John F. Deering Middle School Grades 7 and 8
Students to High Meadows Resort, Granby,
Connecticut, June 10, 2014**

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the out-of-state field trip for John F. Deering Middle School Grades 7 and 8 Students to High Meadows Resort, Granby, Connecticut, June 10, 2014. He noted that the date on the agenda was June 10, 2013, but it should have been June 10, 2014.

MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY JOSEPH FLORIO, JR.
THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE
THE OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP FOR JOHN
F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADES 7
AND 8 STUDENTS TO HIGH MEADOWS
RESORT, GRANBY, CONNECTICUT, JUNE 10,
2014.**

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

**c) John F. Deering Middle School Grade 8
Students to Washington, DC, May 6-9, 2014**

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the John F. Deering Middle School Grade 8 Students to Washington, DC, with discussion to be made regarding the dates of the trip.

Mr. Sheehan asked do you want to give me a directive of when you will approve the trip for? Mr. Florio said April vacation dates. Mr. Lawton asked if they have ever had the trip in May? Mr. Sheehan said this is the second time they have had the trip outside of vacation dates. After discussion by the School Committee, Mr. Sheehan summarized so the approval of the trip is in fact dependent on the date being amended to April vacation.

MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R.
MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

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APPROVE THE JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADE 8 STUDENTS TO WASHINGTON, DC, CONTINGENT ON THEM CHANGING THE DATE TO APRIL VACATION.

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.

h) Greenbush Grade 4 Students to Mystic Aquarium, Mystic, Connecticut, June 6, 2013

Mr. Sheehan said he is recommending one additional field trip that was not listed due to a paperwork glitch. He is recommending that the School Committee approve the out-of-state field trip request for Greenbush Grade 4 Students to Mystic Aquarium, Mystic, Connecticut, June 6, 2013.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY JOSEPH FLORIO, JR. THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP REQUEST FOR GREENBUSH GRADE 4 STUDENTS TO MYSTIC AQUARIUM, MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT, JUNE 6, 2013. Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero. The following members voted in the affirmative: Christopher R. Messier, Stephen H. Lawton, Elizabeth B. Brunero, Joseph Florio, Jr., and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

26. Approval: Maternity Leaves

Approval: Maternity Leaves:

a) Kindergarten Teacher – Greenbush Elementary School

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee approve the request for maternity leave submitted by Jeanne Greco, Kindergarten Teacher at Greenbush Elementary School, effective July 1, 2013 and extending through September 23, 2013.

MOTION

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

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**THE MATERNITY LEAVE REQUEST
SUBMITTED BY JEANNE GRECO,
KINDERGARTEN TEACHER AT GREENBUSH
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
2013 AND EXTENDING THROUGH
SEPTEMBER 23, 2013.** Motion seconded by
Stephen H. Lawton. The following members voted in
the affirmative: Christopher R. Messier, Elizabeth B.
Brunero, Stephen H. Lawton, Joseph Florio, Jr., and
Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

**b) Kindergarten Teacher – Greenbush Elementary
School**

Mr. Sheehan said he is not making a recommendation
for this item. There was no action on this item of the
agenda.

**27. Approval: Leaves of
Absence**

Approval: Leaves of Absence:

**a) Grade 6 Teacher – John F. Deering Middle
School**

**b) Grade 6 Teacher – John F. Deering Middle
School**

**c) Grade 6 Teacher – John F. Deering Middle
School**

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee
approve the requests for leaves of absence during the
2013-14 school year from Alicia Proulx, Buddy
Comet, and Alicia Sullivan so that they may serve
once again as Induction Coaches for the Rhode Island
Department of Education.

Final authorization will be contingent upon funding
and approval by the Rhode Island Department of
Education.

MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R.
MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
APPROVE THE REQUESTS FOR LEAVES OF
ABSENCE DURING THE 2013-14 SCHOOL**

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YEAR FROM ALICIA PROULX, BUDDY COMET, AND ALICIA SULLIVAN. Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero, for discussion.

Mr. Lawton asked they take a year off? Mr. Sean Doyle said they are on leave of absence from their positions but they are here serving the Department of Education; then they come back and take their position.

Mr. Sheehan said this allows our very good teachers to be trained as Induction Coaches. Mr. Doyle noted that there was a fourth person invited to participate: Judy Packhem. He said it is quite an honor to have four people asked from West Warwick.

Mr. Murphy said they are taking the best of our teachers. Mr. Sheehan stated we have teachers in the district that apply to be Induction Coaches—these people want to do this for many reasons. They are selected from a large group of people, and it is a feather in the cap of West Warwick. Mr. Doyle noted that we have already started to see some of the benefits when the people come back to the district. It was also noted that due to recent layoffs, we have several qualified people ready to step into these positions—we will not skip a beat.

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.

28. Acceptance of Resignation for Retirement Purposes

Acceptance of Resignation for Retirement Purposes: Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Sheehan read the following letter:

Dear Members of the West Warwick School Committee:

Please accept this letter as my official notification of retirement as the West Warwick Superintendent of Schools. I very much appreciate the opportunity that West Warwick has provided me to be your Superintendent of Schools during the past six years.

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Although it hasn't always been the easiest road to travel, I haven't had to navigate it alone. I have always been encouraged by all of the School Committee members to "do the right thing for kids." I have always been supported by the members of the West Warwick School Committee; very few superintendents could state claim to that.

I would be remiss if I didn't take the time to also thank all of the members, past and present, of the West Warwick Administrative Leadership Team; they are truly second to none, and without them the school doors in West Warwick would have been closed years ago.

In addition, the entire community needs to know the level of commitment, dedication, and expertise by which the teachers, support staff and P.D.A. professionals work each and every day; we owe them a debt of gratitude. Someone once said "behind every successful man, there is a great woman," and my office is no different. My office secretaries (Administrative Assistants, if you will) Nancy Rotenberg and Michelle Colozzo are the true brain trust of the operation and without them, the trains wouldn't run on time.

Lastly, I need to personally recognize the West Warwick School Committee Chairs, Dan Burns, Lindagay Palazzo, Jim Williamson, and Sean Murphy. Collectively, they have allowed me and my leadership team to enhance education for ALL of the students in the district. They have fought the big battles and have won. The recipients of their diligent efforts have been the students in this district, and we have a great student body.

Whether on the athletic field, the academic classroom, drama production, music concert, art festival or specialized classroom setting, our students have never disappointed me. So it is with a heavy heart that I submit this missive. My last day of employment will be June 30, 2013. I wish all of you well in your future endeavors.

Mr. Sheehan also commended the work of present and former School Committee members: Betty Brunero for her work bringing full-day Kindergarten to West Warwick and Bruce Vanasse and Jim Williamson for their work in retaining the middle school athletic program.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT WITH REGRET THE RESIGNATION FOR RETIREMENT PURPOSES OF KENNETH M. SHEEHAN, SUPERINTENDENT OF

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SCHOOLS. Motion seconded by Stephen H. Lawton, for discussion.

The School Committee thanked and applauded Mr. Sheehan.

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.

29. Acceptance of Resignation for Retirement Purposes

Acceptance of Resignation for Retirement Purposes

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee accept the resignation for retirement purposes of Martha Perkins from the position of Special Education Teacher at John F. Deering Middle School.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY ELIZABETH B. BRUNERO THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION FOR RETIREMENT PURPOSES OF MARTHA PERKINS FROM THE POSITION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER AT JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL. 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. Acceptance of Resignation

Acceptance of Resignation: Science Teacher – West Warwick High School

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee accept the resignation of Kelly Gallo from the position of Science Teacher at West Warwick High School.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF KELLY GALLO FROM THE POSITION OF SCIENCE TEACHER AT WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL. Motion seconded by Joseph Florio, Jr.

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

31. Acceptance of Resignations

Acceptance of Resignations: Teacher Assistants – Special Education ESY Program

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee accept the resignations of Linda Czop and Bernadette Pimentel from the positions of Teacher Assistants in the Special Education ESY Program.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE RESIGNATIONS OF LINDA CZOP AND BERNADETTE PIMENTEL FROM THE POSITIONS OF TEACHER ASSISTANTS IN THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ESY PROGRAM. 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.

32. Consent to Superintendent's Appointments

Consent to Superintendent's Appointments

a) Certified Staff – Special Education Extended School Year Program

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointments of Leah Paliotta to the position of Speech/Language Pathologist and Erin Grisby to the position of Social Worker for the Special Education Extended School Year Program.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GIVE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF LEAH PALIOTTA TO THE POSITION OF SPEECH/LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST AND ERIN GRISBY TO THE POSITION OF SOCIAL WORKER FOR THE

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SPECIAL EDUCATION EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAM. Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero, for discussion.

Mr. Vigeant said that Leah Paliotta is a Speech/Language Pathologist who received her Bachelor's Degree from UMass Amherst where she majored in Communications and her Master's Degree from URI where she majored in Speech Language/Pathology and minored in Audiology. She presently works for the South Coast Educational Collaborative, since June 2000.

Mr. Vigeant said that Erin Grisby is going to be working as a Social Worker. He said she received her Bachelor's Degree from Montana State University where she majored in Sociology and received her Master's Degree from Eastern Washington University where she majored in Social Work. She has worked in Jamestown since 2012.

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.

The School Committee congratulated and welcomed Leah Paliotta and Erin Grisby.

b) Classified Staff – Special Education Extended School Year Program

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointments of the following classified staff to the positions listed below:

Special Education ESY Program:

Maria Haughey, Teacher Assistant
Alicia Spears, Teacher Assistant

**MOTION MADE BY JOSEPH FLORIO, JR.
THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GIVE
ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE**

MOTION

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APPOINTMENTS OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSIFIED STAFF TO THE POSITIONS LISTED BELOW: SPECIAL EDUCATION ESY PROGRAM: MARIA HAUGHEY, TEACHER ASSISTANT AND ALICIA SPEARS, TEACHER ASSISTANT. Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero. 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) Part-Time Clerk – Proficiency-Based Summer School – West Warwick High School

Mr. Sheehan recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointment of Robin Langlais to the position of Part-Time Clerk in the Proficiency-Based Summer School at West Warwick High School.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GIVE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF ROBIN LANGLAIS TO THE POSITION OF PART-TIME CLERK IN THE PROFICIENCY-BASED SUMMER SCHOOL AT WEST WARWICK HIGH 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.

33. Audience of Citizens

Audience of Citizens

None.

34. School Committee Discussion for the Good and Welfare of the School System

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

Mr. Florio said he just wanted to say we will be going through some difficult times, changing from one lawyer to another lawyer and from one superintendent to another superintendent. He said that there are

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going to be some challenging times, but he thinks that we as a community and with the department heads, and as a School Committee, that we will face these challenges and meet these challenges and we will be o.k.—he thinks we have a good system being left in place and he thinks we can move ahead.

Mr. Murphy said he wanted to thank the administrators and the directors for their reports. He said that he thinks some of this information should go into the brochure for the Public Relations Committee because sometimes people don't get to know about these things.

35. Recognition: Former School Committee Attorney

Recognition: Former School Committee Attorney

The School Committee recognized former School Committee attorney David Lussier.

Mr. Gary Pucino addressed the School Committee and spoke about the great working relationship and friendship he has had with David Lussier going back many years. He spoke about first seeing Mr. Lussier when he was refereeing CYO games and Mr. Lussier would be there coaching his team and getting upset with him about the calls he did or didn't make.

Mr. Pucino went on to say then he began working for the school department in the Accounts Payable department and he met Mr. Lussier when he gave him his check for legal services he provided for the school department. Mr. Pucino said they started having a great conversation about their families because they both came from Natick.

Mr. Pucino said he has worked with Mr. Lussier for 26 of his 32 years in West Warwick including contract negotiations for Council 94. He said they had their differences, but when the smoke cleared, they were always professional to one another and respected one another.

Mr. Pucino said to Mr. Lussier, on behalf of myself and the school department, it was a pleasure to get to

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know you, and we have developed a friendship over the years that I will not forget. You have been a true professional every step of the way, your dedication and hard work and your willingness to assist others throughout your years here at West Warwick Public Schools were second to none.

Mr. Pucino said, in closing, he knows Mr. Lussier still has his law practice in town and he knows his love for Providence College Basketball and the Red Sox will still be the hot topics over lunch at AJ's Restaurant.

Mr. Pucino said to Mr. Lussier, it has been a pleasure working with you all these years, and I know the entire school department and community of West Warwick wish you a friendly farewell and express our heartfelt appreciation for your 32 years of service at the West Warwick Public Schools.

Mr. Lussier said he would like to thank the School Committee. He said he had the privilege of serving the School Committees present and past and eight superintendents in West Warwick. Mr. Lussier said one of the greatest things he has enjoyed here in West Warwick is meeting people and dealing with the staff and the union—it's been a pleasure, and that is what he enjoyed the most. Mr. Lussier said that the people and the staff in West Warwick are second to none, and the administrators are excellent.

The School Committee congratulated and applauded Mr. David Lussier.

36. Adjournment

MOTION

Adjournment

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ADJOURN THE MEETING. Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero. 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.

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Meeting adjourned at: 7:44 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher R. Messier, Clerk

Michelle M. Colozzo, Recorder