

MINUTES
WEST WARWICK SCHOOL COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 21, 2013
WEST WARWICK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
10 HARRIS AVENUE
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
Attorney Present:**

Aubrey Lomardo, Esquire

Administrators Present:

Karen A. Tarasevich, Superintendent of Schools
Margaret R. Baker, Director of Financial Operations

Recording Secretary:

Michelle M. Colozzo

1. Open Session

Open Session

Mr. Murphy opened the meeting at 5:00 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**

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

4. Executive Session

Executive Session

- a) **Contracts: Discussion: Retiree Medical Benefits**
- b) **Personnel: Discussion: Title 1 Coordinator**

The School Committee met in Executive Session.

5. Open Session

Open Session

The School Committee returned to Open Session.

6. Roll Call

Roll Call

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

7. Motion to Close Executive Session Minutes

MOTION

Motion to Close Executive Session Minutes

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE CLOSE THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES.

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.

8. Action: Title I Coordinator

Action: Title I Coordinator

Mrs. Tarasevich said that this item has resolved itself—there is no need for action.

There was no action taken by the School Committee.

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9. Action: Retiree Medical Benefits

Action: Retiree Medical Benefits

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee grant approval to continue to negotiate with retirees and their counsel who are Medicare eligible or will be Medicare eligible to encourage them to switch to Medicare.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GRANT APPROVAL TO CONTINUE TO NEGOTIATE WITH RETIREES AND THEIR COUNSEL WHO ARE MEDICARE ELIGIBLE OR WILL BE MEDICARE ELIGIBLE TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO SWITCH TO MEDICARE. 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.

10. Audience of Citizens

Audience of Citizens

Mrs. Marcelline Zambuco said she and Russell Marsocci were here to listen and bring back information to the coalition and healthcare committee.

11. 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. Murphy asked Mrs. Tarasevich if she would like to speak about the clothing for the students. Mrs. Tarasevich said that Angels Among Us had contacted Mr. Murphy and generously offered to clothe 25 full families. She said every year we have people come forward and want to adopt students or families, but this was for every member of the family, so a lot of people will benefit.

Mr. Messier noted that a lot of above and beyond things are happening in the elementary schools. Mrs. Tarasevich said there are always clothing drives and food drives. Mr. Messier said if teachers notice a

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child getting off the bus without a coat, they will go and get them one.

Mrs. Tarasevich said people are incredibly generous, especially this time of year. Mr. Messier said it's not the parents or people in the community, it's our teachers doing it, out of their own pay.

Mr. Murphy noted that the football playoff game will be at 1 o'clock on Saturday. Mr. Lawton noted that the Girls' Soccer Team won the playoff.

Mr. Florio spoke about the pies that the students at Tollgate prepare. He said they took 40 orders, and had to stop taking them.

Mr. Messier said he is disappointed with the School Committee tabling Chapter 1 of the Policy Manual. He said we have been talking about this, and he wants to move forward—things have to be done.

Mr. Florio said according to the by-laws, the School Committee can't talk about policy at a special meeting; it has to be done at a regular meeting.

Mr. Murphy said to speak to him or to the Superintendent if you would like it on the next agenda.

12. Adjournment

Adjournment

MOTION

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

Meeting adjourned at: 6:10 P.M.

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Respectfully submitted,

Christopher R. Messier, Clerk

Michelle M. Colozzo, Recorder