

**MINUTES**  
**WEST WARWICK SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**JANUARY 14, 2014**  
**JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**WEBSTER KNIGHT DRIVE**  
**5:00 P.M.**

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

- 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:** Andrew Henneous, Esquire
- Administrators Present:** Karen A. Tarasevich, Superintendent of Schools  
Margaret Baker, Director of Financial Operations  
Jeffrey Guiot, Assistant Principal, West Warwick High School  
Gregory Kortick, Athletic Director  
James Monti, Director of Educational Reform, Compliance and Technology  
Philip Solomon, Principal, West Warwick High School  
Kenneth Townsend, Director of Property Services  
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 5:09 P.M.
- 2. Roll Call** **Roll Call**  
The following members were present:  
Mr. Murphy, Mrs. Brunero, Mr. Messier, Mr. Florio, and Mr. Lawton.

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### 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) Paragraphs 2 and 9**

#### **MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY STEPHEN H. LAWTON THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION ACCORDING TO RI GENERAL LAWS 42-46-4 AND 42-46-5, SUBSECTION (a), PARAGRAPHS 2 and 9.**

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.

### 4. Executive Session

#### **Executive Session**

- a) Grievance Hearing: R.I. Council 94, Local 3546
- b) Personnel
- c) Contracts

The School Committee met in Executive Session.

### 5. Open Session

#### **Open Session**

Mr. Murphy opened the public session at 6:33 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. Florio 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 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills in a safe, personalized learning environment.*

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### **8. Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Mrs. Brunero led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **9. Motion to Close Executive Session Minutes**

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

#### **MOTION**

### **10. Student Recognition**

#### **Student Recognition**

The School Committee recognized the following members of the West Warwick High School Football Team and the West Warwick High School Girls Soccer Team in honor of their state championship seasons:

#### **West Warwick High School Football Team**

Kody Greenhalgh, Reece Pacheco, Keevaun Hazard-Page, Jan-Dave Bismonte, Austin Paygai, Christopher Gaipo, Cody Barcomb, Cristian Ovalles, Connor Williamson, David Lamountain, Zachary Padula, Steven Lucier, Daniel Eastham, Matthew Morgan, Patrick O'Connell, Quindel Wilson, Justin Lucier, Brogan Guilmette, Sebastian Arce, Ian Cullen, Nicholas Reza, Eric Chapman, Evan Barrera, Brian Moretti, Travis Caddick, Corry Judd, Thomas Doran, Juan Urena, Pacer Carpenter, Adam Medeiros, Bryan Pacheco, Corey Greaves, Joseph Pontes, Isaac Manuel, Zachary Auriemma, Oscar Trochez, Luis Salazar, Matthew Reid, Calvin Andrade, David DeCosta, Malik Price, Nicholas Joaquin, Ivan Goretoy, Michael Garcia-Portney, Christopher Stafford, Christopher Boudreau, Curtis McCloggan, Jr., Donald Etheridge, Avery Williamson, Trevor Lawton, and Jonathan Menard

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Coaches: Head Coach Shane Lagor, Assistant Coaches Christopher Craik and Mark Janton, and Volunteers Gunny Gonsalves, Jake Petrarca, and David Lamountain

### West Warwick High School Girls Soccer Team

Brighton Landroche, Meaghan McNamara, Kendra Quimby, Sierra Quimby, Abby Kempinski, Faith Couture, Rachel Lachapelle, Bryana Smith, Emily Araujo, Hailee Clarke, Angie Garcia, Alissa Rankin, Ashley Tapis, Deandra Hernandez, Cara Genest, Haley Tyler, Ashley Gaipo, Mackenzie Derderian, Carissa Gaglione

Coaches: Head Coach Daniel Lima and Assistant Coach Steve Derderian

#### **11. Student Representative** Student Representative

None.

#### **12. Audience of Citizens** Audience of Citizens

None.

#### **13. Chairman's Report** Chairman's Report

Mr. Murphy said he gave his remarks previously.

#### **14. Superintendent's Report** Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Tarasevich said she would like to wish everyone a happy new year and hopes that they had good holidays. She said as usual, there are great things happening in the district, and she would like to bring a few to everyone's attention tonight. Mrs. Tarasevich said at the high school, they have started an initiative called Wonderful Wizards for staff and students. She is also really happy to say what it is—basically recognition for students and staff for their good deeds—people recognized for helping other people without expectation of reward or recognition, displaying responsibility and leadership, general acts

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of kindness at any given time such as helping out students with special needs without being asked, kind words and kind actions without any expectation of reward or recognition.

Mrs. Tarasevich said also very exciting is that our own Audra McPhillips has been acknowledged in the U.S. Department of Education newsletter for a video she did around hint cards. Mrs. Tarasevich said to be recognized on a national level clearly is a credit to Audra's hard work, also a tribute to the district, and to see it recognized at the national level is phenomenal. Mrs. Tarasevich extended congratulations to Mrs. McPhillips.

Mrs. Tarasevich said we should be getting scores any day now from the fall testing. She said additional testing for seniors will be coming up—she knows Mr. Solomon and the administration at the high school are working hard.

Mrs. Tarasevich said that the play “In the Heights” is underway; there will be performances on Friday and Saturday nights and Sunday afternoon. She said it's always a great performance and requires a lot of time and effort and energy by the kids and the adults involved—she encourages everyone to go. Mrs. Tarasevich said she wants to thank Mr. Townsend for his dedication and hard work—every year he puts in countless hours to help with the production.

Mrs. Tarasevich said on January 27<sup>th</sup> at 6 o'clock, here in the John F. Deering Media Center, a public budget workshop will be held. She said the budget is in the process of being developed; it is in draft form, and that night will be the first public session.

Mrs. Tarasevich said her last item for tonight is around graduation requirements, about NECAP testing and students being required to demonstrate proficiency. She said one of the requirements is students who don't take the NECAP are assessed by alternative assessment but are not eligible by R.I.D.E. guidelines to receive a high school diploma.

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Mrs. Tarasevich said they are also asking us to prepare a policy and Mr. Vigeant is here to speak about that policy which will be presented for approval next month.

Mr. Vigeant said as Mrs. Tarasevich indicated, all children are required to participate in state assessments; the majority will be taking NECAP or PARC. The bottom 3% will be taking an alternative assessment, and those decisions will be made by each child's individual IEP team. Mr. Vigeant said this has been controversial. He said in May 2011, the Board of Regents made it pretty clear that students who are assessed through the alternative assessment system do not meet the minimum assessment necessary to graduate with a high school diploma. As an alternative, they have decided that each LEA needs to develop a certificate option for these students, not a certificate of attendance—that was eliminated in 2010.

The state came up with guidelines that they are recommending each LEA follow. Mr. Vigeant said this will be the first year that we will graduate students with a certificate not a diploma—the requirement is to have a policy in place by June 2014 for the group of students who will be eligible. He said in the packets, the School Committee members have been provided with a draft copy of the policy, and the first reading will be at the next meeting.

Mr. Vigeant said he wanted to give the School Committee an introduction to this policy. He said he also has worked with other districts, particularly districts that Mr. Henneous and Mr. Anderson recommended so it was really developed by a joint committee.

Mr. Solomon said for students who don't meet the NECAP requirement and are eligible, there is our district diploma waiver policy which is another policy to follow. The vast majority will get a West Warwick Public Schools diploma through the waiver process. Students who don't get it through the waiver will have a safety net of the Certificate of Academic

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Achievement. This does serve two populations: it was initially intended for those who are using the alternative assessment and also the population that used to get a high school diploma who didn't meet the requirements. Mr. Florio asked are those the kids that are getting their diplomas in August—does that come under this criteria? Mr. Solomon said that doesn't—they are earning a regular diploma—those students meet all NECAP requirements.

The School Committee thanked Mr. Vigeant and Mr. Solomon.

### 15. Consent Agenda

a) **Approval: Executive Session Minutes: December 10, 2013**

b) **Approval: Open Session Minutes: December 10, 2013**

c) **Payment of Bills: \$1,458,930.73**

#### Consent Agenda

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#### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.** Motion seconded by Joseph Florio, Jr. 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.

### 16. Presentation: NEASC

#### Presentation: NEASC

Ms. Christine Kirch said what she is here to talk about is really more of an invitation than a presentation. She said she is the co-chair of the Accreditation Committee and she has homework for the School Committee. Ms. Kirch gave a handout to the School Committee. She said we have been in the trenches for a whole year now and hopefully our school musters up and meets the requirements. Ms. Kirch said the visit starts on April 6<sup>th</sup>, and we need the School Committee

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to come on April 6<sup>th</sup> to be part of the panel where the visiting committee will speak to you. She said there is also a reception where the School Committee is invited to meet the Visiting Committee. Ms. Kirch said the Visiting Committee will be here for three intense days—they come on Sunday and leave on Wednesday. Ms. Kirch asked does anyone have any questions? Mr. Florio asked what time? Ms. Kirch said she has given the School Committee the sample schedule—she won't know until the chairperson contacts us and gives us the exact time.

Mrs. Tarasevich said she wants to thank Christine Kirch—this has been a couple of years in the making and involved a lot of hours, spearheaded by Christine and the other co-chair Haley Windsor, but Christine has taken the lead for a long time, good job. Ms. Kirch said the committee reports are all done.

Ms. Kirch said her next hat is Co-Chair of the School Improvement Team and Co-Chair of the Parent-School Council. She said there is a Parent-School Council meeting on Thursday at 6:30, and she is going to work with parents to prepare for Career Day at West Warwick High School. Ms. Kirch said they haven't had it for a couple of years, but it really works well in April or May. She said if the School Committee members know anyone—people that would be willing to give us a few hours to come up to talk to the students, please let her know.

Mr. Murphy asked if they would be able to utilize the cafeteria for Career Day. Ms. Kirch said in the past, they have used classrooms—they stopped the school schedule and cleared out periods at the end of the day, thanks to the principal. Ms. Kirch said they will have oceanographers, Centreville Bank, the National Guard. She said kids move through a few sessions. Mr. Murphy asked can we get the Secretary of the State and the Better Business Bureau? Ms. Kirch said we have parents involved in the parent school council—it went up 600%. This is something that would get parents involved at the high school, so we are trying to get to work on this.

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The School Committee thanked Christine Kirch.

### 17. Approval: Home Instruction Plans

#### Approval: Home Instruction Plans

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the home school plan submitted by the following parent to provide home schooling for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year: Jamie Stine.

#### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE HOME SCHOOL PLAN SUBMITTED BY THE FOLLOWING PARENT TO PROVIDE HOME SCHOOLING FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 2013-2014 SCHOOL YEAR: JAMIE STINE.** 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.

### 18. Approval: West Warwick High School Program of Studies

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

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the West Warwick High School Program of Studies for the 2014-2015 school year.

#### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM OF STUDIES FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR.** Motion seconded by Stephen H. Lawton, for discussion.

Mr. Messier asked about the notations such as A1, A2, A3. Mr. Solomon said it is the alignment of learning standards tied to the Mission Statement—how they align with our expectations.

The following members voted in the affirmative: Elizabeth B. Brunero, Joseph Florio, Jr., Stephen H.

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Lawton, Christopher R. Messier, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

**19. Approval: Out-of-State Field Trip Requests**

**Approval: Out-of-State Field Trip Requests**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the out-of-state field trip request submitted by Jennifer Degraide, Head Cheerleading Coach at West Warwick High School, to travel with approximately twenty-three cheerleaders to the Western Massachusetts Cheerleading Invitational in Chicopee, Massachusetts, on February 15-16, 2014.

**MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY STEPHEN H. LAWTON THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP REQUEST SUBMITTED BY JENNIFER DEGRAIDE, HEAD CHEERLEADING COACH AT WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL TO TRAVEL WITH APPROXIMATELY TWENTY-THREE CHEERLEADERS TO THE WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS CHEERLEADING INVITATIONAL IN CHICOPEE, MASSACHUSETTS, ON FEBRUARY 15-16, 2014.**

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.

**20. Approval: Second Reading: Chapter 1 – West Warwick Public Schools Policy Manual**

**Approval: Second Reading: Chapter 1 – West Warwick Public Schools Policy Manual**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the second reading of Chapter 1 of the West Warwick Public Schools Policy Manual.

**MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE SECOND READING OF CHAPTER 1 OF THE WEST WARWICK PUBLIC SCHOOLS POLICY MANUAL.** Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero. The following members voted in the affirmative: Stephen H.

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

Mr. Murphy asked Mr. Williamson as we go forward, for further School Committee meetings, we will continue to go forward with future chapters?

Mr. Williamson said by passing the first chapter, it will be a similar process. Mr. Murphy said we do have a policy committee as well; we will bring it back to them. Mr. Williamson said he is working on the second chapter, but with the budget coming to the forefront, it's not going as fast as he thought it would. He said the second chapter is rather intense, so it's not going as fast as he would like, it might be another month.

### 21. Approval: Maternity/Parental Leaves

#### Approval: Maternity/Parental Leaves

##### a) Grade 2 Teacher – Greenbush Elementary School

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the request for maternity/parental leave submitted by Kristen Smith, Grade 2 Teacher at Greenbush Elementary School, beginning January 6, 2014.

#### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY ELIZABETH B. BRUNERO THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR MATERNITY/ PARENTAL LEAVE SUBMITTED BY KRISTEN SMITH, GRADE 2 TEACHER AT GREENBUSH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, BEGINNING JANUARY 6, 2014.** Motion seconded by Christopher R. Messier. 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.

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

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the request for maternity/parental leave submitted by Heather Tyler, Kindergarten Teacher at Greenbush Elementary School, beginning April 7, 2014.

**MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR MATERNITY/PARENTAL LEAVE SUBMITTED BY HEATHER TYLER, KINDERGARTEN TEACHER AT GREENBUSH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, BEGINNING APRIL 7, 2014.** Motion seconded by Stephen H. Lawton. 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.

**21. Approval: Parental  
Leave Extension**

**Approval: Parental Leave Extension: Grade 2  
Teacher – Greenbush Elementary School**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the request submitted by Coreen Gingerella, Grade 2 Teacher at Greenbush Elementary School, for a parental leave extension until the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year.

**MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE REQUEST SUBMITTED BY COREEN GINGERELLA, GRADE 2 TEACHER AT GREENBUSH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, FOR A PARENTAL LEAVE EXTENSION UNTIL THE BEGINNING OF THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR.** Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero, for discussion.

Mr. Florio asked what was the reason for the extension? Mrs. Tarasevich said it's contractual—

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they have a right to request a leave. Mr. Florio said so they don't have to give a reason, and Mrs. Tarasevich said that's correct.

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.

### 23. Approval: Maternity Leaves

#### Approval: Maternity Leaves:

##### a) Physical Education Teacher – John F. Deering Middle School

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the request for maternity leave submitted by Jill Hefner, Physical Education Teacher at John F. Deering Middle School, beginning January 20, 2014 and continuing through April 21, 2014.

#### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR MATERNITY LEAVE SUBMITTED BY JILL HEFNER, PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER AT JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL, BEGINNING JANUARY 20, 2014 AND CONTINUING THROUGH APRIL 21, 2014.** 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.

##### b) English Teacher – West Warwick High School

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the request for maternity leave submitted by Lisa Narcisi Stewart, English Teacher at West Warwick High School, beginning February 26, 2014 and continuing until approximately May 29, 2014.

#### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY STEPHEN H. LAWTON THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE**

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**THE REQUEST FOR MATERNITY LEAVE SUBMITTED BY LISA NARCISI STEWART, ENGLISH TEACHER AT WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL.** Motion seconded by Christopher R. Messier, for discussion.

Mr. Messier asked will she give us an exact date when she gets closer? Mrs. Tarasevich referred to the letter, and Mr. Messier said it's in the letter.

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.

### 24. Acceptance of Resignation

#### Acceptance of Resignation: Part-Time Bus Monitor – West Warwick Public Schools

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee accept the resignation submitted by Kathleen Petrarca from the position of Part-Time Bus Monitor for the West Warwick Public Schools, effective at the end of the day on January 21, 2014.

#### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION SUBMITTED BY KATHLEEN PETRARCA FROM THE POSITION OF PART-TIME BUS MONITOR FOR THE WEST WARWICK PUBLIC SCHOOLS, EFFECTIVE AT THE END OF THE DAY ON JANUARY 21, 2014.** 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.

### 25. Consent to Superintendent's Appointments

#### Consent to Superintendent's Appointments

- a) **Interim Maisie Quinn School Administrator/Assistant to the Director of Special Education**

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Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointment of Jessica Perry to the position of Interim Maisie Quinn School Administrator/Assistant to the Director of Special Education, for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year.

### **MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GIVE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF JESSICA PERRY TO THE POSITION OF INTERIM MAISIE QUINN SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR/ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION, FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 2013-2014 SCHOOL YEAR.** Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero, for discussion.

Mr. Vigeant said it is his pleasure to introduce and present Ms. Perry's background. He said Ms. Perry has a Bachelor's Degree from URI in Psychology and Sociology and a Master's Degree from Rhode Island College in Teaching. She has taken numerous courses at Providence College to achieve both a Secondary Special Education certification as well as Administrative certification in Special Education. She began substituting in 2004 and was hired in September 2005 serving as a Special Education Department Chairperson Grades 9-12 since September 2009 and has done an outstanding job. Mrs. Tarasevich said Jessica Perry does a great job on everything Mr. Vigeant spoke about. We are very lucky that she will help us out with that position.

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.

The School Committee congratulated Jessica Perry.

**b) Long-Term Substitute Physical Education Teacher – John F. Deering Middle School**

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Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointment of Patrick Holmes to the position of Long-Term Substitute Physical Education Teacher at John F. Deering Middle School, effective January 21, 2014 through April 21, 2014.

### **MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY ELIZABETH B. BRUNERO THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GIVE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF PATRICK HOLMES TO THE POSITION OF LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER AT JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 21, 2014 THROUGH APRIL 21, 2014.**

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

Mr. Vigeant said Mr. Holmes has a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Rhode Island in Physical Education and Health Education. He is also certified in Adaptive Physical Education. He started as a substitute teacher for us in December 2013 and has also served as a Long-Term Substitute Physical Education Teacher in Portsmouth and at Durfee High School.

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

The School Committee congratulated and welcomed Patrick Holmes.

### **c) Long-Term Substitute Grade 2 Teacher – Greenbush Elementary School**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointment of Meghan McGovern to the position of Long-Term Substitute Grade 2 Teacher at Greenbush Elementary School, effective January 7, 2014.

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### 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 2 TEACHER AT GREENBUSH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 7, 2014.** Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero, for discussion.

Mr. Vigeant said this is not the first time Meghan McGovern has been in front of the School Committee. Mr. Vigeant said she is a graduate of Keene State College with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education/Clinical Psychology. She began serving as a substitute in June of 2007 and also served as Head Co-Ed Tennis Coach at the high school. She is often requested by teachers and principals.

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

The School Committee congratulated and welcomed Meghan McGovern.

#### **d) Long-Term Substitute Special Education Teacher – John F. Horgan Elementary School**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointment of Sarah Bentley to the position of Long-Term Substitute Special Education Teacher at John F. Horgan Elementary School, effective January 2, 2014 through January 31, 2014.

### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY JOSEPH FLORIO, JR. THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GIVE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF SARAH BENTLEY TO THE POSITION OF LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER AT JOHN F. HORGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL,**

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**EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2, 2014 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2014.** Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero, for discussion.

Mr. Vigeant said Sarah Bentley is a graduate of Rhode Island College with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and Special Education and did her student teaching at Wakefield Hills Elementary School serving as a substitute teacher since February 2011.

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.

The School Committee congratulated and welcomed Sarah Bentley.

### **e) Proficiency-Based Saturday Ramp-Up Program Coordinator**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointment of Kathleen DiMartino to the position of Proficiency-Based Saturday Ramp-Up Program Coordinator at Wakefield Hills Elementary School.

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GIVE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF KATHLEEN DIMARTINO TO THE POSITION OF PROFICIENCY-BASED SATURDAY RAMP-UP PROGRAM COORDINATOR AT WAKEFIELD HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.** Motion seconded by Joseph Florio, Jr., for discussion.

### **MOTION**

Mr. Vigeant said Mrs. DiMartino is not here tonight. He also noted that the candidates for Agenda Items f., g., and h. are also not here tonight.

The following members voted in the affirmative: Stephen H. Lawton, Elizabeth B. Brunero,

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Joseph Florio, Jr., Christopher R. Messier, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

### **f) Proficiency-Based Saturday Ramp-Up Teachers**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointments of the following teachers to the positions of Proficiency-Based Saturday Ramp-Up Teachers at Wakefield Hills Elementary School:

Kaitlyn Armstrong, Susan Emerson, Alana Gutierrez, Jessica Ouellette, Joanne Pigott, and Diane Tourangeau

### **MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY STEPHEN H. LAWTON THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GIVE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENTS OF THE FOLLOWING TEACHERS TO THE POSITIONS OF PROFICIENCY-BASED SATURDAY RAMP-UP TEACHERS AT WAKEFIELD HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: KAITLYN ARMSTRONG, SUSAN EMERSON, ALANA GUTIERREZ, JESSICA OUELLETTE, JOANNE PIGOTT, AND DIANE TOURANGEAU.** 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.

### **g) Saturday School/Literacy Program Teachers – John F. Horgan Elementary School**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointments of the following teachers to the positions of Saturday School/Literacy Program Teachers at John F. Horgan Elementary School: Deborah Bryan, Maria DePalma, Ololade Williams, Kimberly Hawes, Amy Horne, Kristen Jaswell, Jessica Quaranto, and Mary Ribeiro.

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**MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY ELIZABETH B. BRUNERO THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GIVE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENTS OF THE FOLLOWING TEACHERS TO THE POSITIONS OF SATURDAY SCHOOL/LITERACY PROGRAM TEACHERS AT JOHN F. HORGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: DEBORAH BRYAN, MARIA DEPALMA, OLOLADE WILLIAMS, KIMBERLY HAWES, AMY HORNE, KRISTEN JASWELL, JESSICA QUARANTO, AND MARY RIBEIRO.** 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.

**h) Proficiency-Based Saturday Ramp-Up Teacher Assistants – Wakefield Hills Elementary School**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointments of Pamela Amaral and Della Lepore to the positions of Proficiency-Based Saturday Ramp-Up Teacher Assistants at Wakefield Hills Elementary School.

**MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GIVE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENTS OF PAMELA AMARAL AND DELLA LEPORE TO THE POSITIONS OF PROFICIENCY-BASED SATURDAY RAMP-UP TEACHER ASSISTANTS AT WAKEFIELD HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.** Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero, for discussion.

It was noted that there are 90 students involved—job well done.

The following members voted in the affirmative: Joseph Florio, Jr., Stephen H. Lawton, Elizabeth B.

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Brunero, Christopher R. Messier, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

**i) Part-Time Special Education Teacher  
Assistant/Personal Care Attendant/Self-  
Contained Floater in Severe/Profound Program  
– John F. Deering Middle School**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointment of Amy Remillard to the position of Part-Time Special Education Teacher Assistant/Personal Care Attendant/Self-Contained Floater in Severe/Profound Program at John F. Deering Middle School.

**MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY ELIZABETH B. BRUNERO THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GIVE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF AMY REMILLARD TO THE POSITION OF PART-TIME SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER ASSISTANT/PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT/SELF-CONTAINED FLOATER IN SEVERE/PROFOUND PROGRAM AT JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL.** Motion seconded by Christopher R. Messier, for discussion.

Mr. Vigeant said Mrs. Remillard has a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Rhode in Music History and Literature. She began as a day-to-day substitute in September of 2013.

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.

The School Committee congratulated and welcomed Amy Remillard.

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**j) Part-Time Special Education Teacher  
Assistant/Personal Care Attendant/Self-  
Contained Floater in Severe/Profound Program  
– West Warwick High School**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee give advice and consent to the appointment of Nathan Gomes to the position of Part-Time Special Education Teacher Assistant/Personal Care Attendant, Self-Contained Floater in the Severe/Profound Program at West Warwick High School.

**MOTION**

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GIVE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE POSITION OF PART-TIME SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER ASSISTANT/PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT, SELF-CONTAINED FLOATER IN THE SEVERE/PROFOUND PROGRAM AT WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL.** Motion seconded by Elizabeth B. Brunero, for discussion.

Mr. Vigeant said Nathan Gomes has a Bachelor's Degree from James Madison University in Virginia in Media Art Design. He has been working on a day-to-day basis in the High School Severe/Profound Program, and we are pleased to have him to serve our district.

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

The School Committee congratulated and welcomed Nathan Gomes.

**26. Approval: Request  
for Discretionary  
Leave**

**Approval: Request for Discretionary Leave:  
Special Education Teacher – West Warwick High  
School**

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Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the request from Jessica Perry, Special Education Teacher at West Warwick High School, to take a discretionary leave for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year.

### MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY STEPHEN H. LAWTON THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE REQUEST FROM JESSICA PERRY, SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER AT WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL, TO TAKE A DISCRETIONARY LEAVE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 2013-2014 SCHOOL**

**YEAR.** 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.

### 27. Audience of Citizens

#### Audience of Citizens

Mr. Steven Gerundio of 30 McNiff Street addressed the School Committee. He said he would like to bring up the Code Red. He said none of the parents were notified. Mr. Gerundio said we need a Resource Officer for the elementary schools—why don't we get a private security firm? Mr. Murphy said our Security Team will be meeting with Mr. Townsend, the Facilities Director, to look into ways to improve that along with the fire code, certain types of doors and cameras. Mr. Gerundio said on Day 2 we didn't receive a letter; we didn't receive a phone call.

Mrs. Tarasevich said for confidential reasons, we can't discuss any more than what was sent home in the message. She said she appreciates his concerns—parents absolutely should be informed. She said the principal did type a letter to go home.

Ms. Amanda Roberts said the letter didn't go home. The notice got put in the teachers' mailboxes, but teachers didn't have any more free time so they didn't have an opportunity to get to their mailboxes.

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Mrs. Tarasevich said that's important feedback for her to have. Hopefully we won't have this situation again, but she will make sure teachers have access to the letters.

Mrs. Tarasevich said in terms of a full alert, it was sent out to staff and families, but it went to staff but it didn't go to families—that was the glitch in the system and it has been fixed. Mrs. Tarasevich apologized for the technical problem; she does realize the need for people to be informed. She will make absolutely sure moving forward that this doesn't happen again.

Mr. Gerundio asked Mrs. Tarasevich if she could elaborate on what happened.

Mrs. Tarasevich said what the letter and the phone call said was that because of a concerned parent and based on the situation at the time, the principal locked the building down and rightfully so until we had more information and a better sense of what was happening. She said the police were there. We were erring on the side of caution until we had more information.

Ms. Amanda Roberts addressed the School Committee. She said she has a daughter at Horgan and a son at Quinn. She said she is kind of upset with what's going on at Quinn and not getting a notice from Mr. Ackerman. She said she is part of the PTA at Horgan and she asked why can't the PTA help with getting notices to teachers instead of attempting to cover classes.

Mrs. Tarasevich said she appreciates the suggestion, but now that that was brought to her attention, she will have that conversation with all of the administrators to make sure staff is on hand to get it to the teachers. Ms. Roberts said we are here to help. Ms. Roberts asked what is going on with the head lice issue. Mr. Murphy said Ms. Roberts could take the issue up by either talking to the principal or calling the superintendent. Ms. Roberts asked if the school is going to be cleaned. Mr. Townsend said the school is

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cleaned on a nightly basis, but we can't spray pesticides.

Mrs. Tarasevich said there has been one concern that was brought to her attention, and she looked into it fully like Mr. Townsend said, in terms of facilities, proper custodial and maintenance protocols are in place, and she has talked to the families about the supports they need. She said it's not been her impression or knowledge that there has been an issue school-wide. Ms. Roberts said she gets a notice every other week and she got one today.

Mr. Murphy said they will address this with the Superintendent, and he thanked Ms. Roberts for coming forward.

### 28. School Committee Discussion for the Good and Welfare of the School System

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

None.

### 29. 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, Elizabeth B. Brunero, Christopher R. Messier, and Sean M. Murphy. Motion unanimously passed.

Meeting adjourned at: 7:44 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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Christopher R. Messier, Clerk

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Michelle M. Colozzo, Recorder

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