

MINUTES
WEST WARWICK SCHOOL COMMITTEE
JANUARY 13, 2015
JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL
WEBSTER KNIGHT DRIVE
5:30 P.M.

This meeting was called to order by Stephen H. Lawton, Chairperson.

Members Present:	Stephen Lawton, Chairperson Christopher Messier, Vice-Chairperson Rene Coutu, Clerk Patricia Keenan Luis Colon
School Committee	Andrew Henneous
Attorney Present:	
Administrators Present:	Karen Tarasevich, Superintendent of Schools Jeffrey Guiot, Principal, John F. Deering Middle School Gregory Kortick, Athletic Director James Monti, Director of Educational Reform, Compliance and Technology Philip Solomon, Principal, West Warwick High School Joseph Spagna, Director of Financial Operations Kenneth Townsend, Director of Property Services Paul Vigeant, Director of Special Education and Pupil/Personnel Services
Recording Secretary:	Michelle M. Colozzo
1. Open Session	<u>Open Session</u> Mr. Lawton opened the meeting at 5:30 P.M.
2. Roll Call	<u>Roll Call</u> The following members were present: Mr. Lawton, Mr. Messier, Mr. Coutu, Mrs. Keenan, and Mr. Colon.

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 2 of 26

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 CHRISTOPHER MESSIER 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 Patricia Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

4. Executive Session

Executive Session

- a) Personnel
- b) Litigation
- c) Contracts

The School Committee met in Executive Session.

5. Open Session

Open Session

Mr. Lawton opened the public session at 6:44 P.M.

6. Roll Call

Roll Call

The following members were present:
Mr. Lawton, Mr. Messier, Mr. Coutu, Mrs. Keenan, and Mr. Colon.

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.

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 3 of 26

8. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Keenan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

9. Motion to Close Executive Session Minutes

MOTION

Motion to Close Executive Session Minutes

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE CLOSE THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Luis Colon, Rene Coutu, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

10. Student Recognition

Student Recognition

The School Committee recognized the Girls' Soccer Team consisting of the following members, for winning the state championship:

Ashleigh Tapia, Brighton Landroche (Captain), Meaghan McNamara, Abby Kempfski, Jillian Kempfski, Brooke Young, Carissa Gaglione, Deandra Hernandez, Meghan Letendre, Faith Couture, Rachel Lachapelle, Bryanna Smith, Emily Araujo (Captain), Hailey Anderson, Angie Garcia, Alisa Rankin (Captain), Karina Carreiro, Kathryn Biliouris, Sydnie Correia, Stephani Franco, Haley Tyler, Ashley Gaipo, Abbey Coutcher, Beatriz Sebastiao, Jadiana Trochez, Mackenzie Derderian, Alicia Resendes, Kayla Gordillo, Cindy Estrada

Coaches: Dan Lima and Steve Derderian

The School Committee recognized the following John F. Deering Middle School and West Warwick High School All-State Music Students:

Jake D'Ambra – Grade 12 – Senior All-State Jazz Ensemble
Courtney D'Amico – Grade 8 – Junior All-State Treble Chorus

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 4 of 26

Eryka Daniels – Grade 9 – Junior All-State Treble Chorus
David DeCosta – Grade 12 – Senior All-State Band
Samantha Dick – Grade 10 – Senior All-State Mixed Chorus
Carissa Gaglione – Grade 10 – Senior All-State Women’s Chorus
Olivia Lancellotta – Grade 7 – Junior All-State Treble Chorus
Madison LaPlante – Grade 8 – Junior All-State Treble Chorus
Sam Leander – Grade 12 – Senior All-State Band and Senior All-State Jazz Ensemble
Dante Lopes – Grade 8 – Junior All-State Band and Junior All-State Chorus
Jillian Marandola – Grade 7 – Junior All-State Treble Chorus
Nick Mulholland – Grade 8 – Junior All-State Band
Jared Rathbun – Grade 11 – Senior All-State Mixed Chorus
Sabrina Rosa – Grade 7 – Junior All-State Treble Chorus
Thomas Sabetta – Grade 9 – Junior All-State Mixed Chorus
Myranda Silva – Grade 8 – Junior All-State Mixed Chorus
Zachary Staten – Grade 9 – Junior All-State Band
Kianna Wilson – Grade 8 – Junior All-State Mixed Chorus

Advisors: Fiona McIntosh, Bridget Beliveau, Patty Bentley, Kerry O’Neill, Metro Narcisi, Richard Marchetti

11. Student Representative Student Representative

Rachel Lachapelle, President of the West Warwick High School Student Council reported to the School Committee on recent and upcoming events/activities at West Warwick High School including the following:

- They had the second blood drive of the year—45 people donated saving 130 lives.

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 5 of 26

- January 20th starts mid-term exam week.
- The annual Pennies for Patients collection is going on now. They hope to beat the record of \$1000 last year—their goal is \$3,000.
- The Winter Ball will be held on Friday, January 23rd, at Aldrich Mansion. Over 100 students have purchased tickets.

12. Audience of Citizens

Audience of Citizens

Christine Weaver of 58 Exchange Road, West Warwick, addressed the School Committee. She said she is here before the School Committee because her children were thrown out of school due to miscommunication and false accusations. She said she has written a letter about the things that transpired.

Mr. Lawton said when the meeting is over, we will set up a meeting with the Superintendent.

13. Chairperson's Report

Chairperson's Report

Mr. Lawton said Shane Lagor has been the football coach for the last seven plus years and also a teacher. He won the 2005 Super Bowl. More importantly, Shane touched a lot of lives. These boys were taught respect, how to be accountable for their actions, and how important family is. Mr. Lawton said he wanted to thank him.

Mr. Lawton said this is the last weekend for the (high school production of) "Big Fish," Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Anyone who would like tickets can see Ken Townsend.

14. Discussion/ Reconfiguration of Sub-Committees

Discussion/Reconfiguration of Sub-Committees:

- a) Policy
- b) Technology
- c) Health and Wellness
- d) Facility Needs
- e) Recreation

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 6 of 26

- f) Public Relations
- g) Safety and Security

Mrs. Tarasevich asked that this agenda item be tabled.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY LUIS COLON THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE TABLE THE DISCUSSION/RECONFIGURATION OF SUB-COMMITTEES. Motion seconded by Rene Coutu. The following members voted in the affirmative: Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, and Stephen Lawton. Motion to table unanimously passed.

15. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Tarasevich said it's a very busy time of year; we jump right back in from Christmas break to the busiest time of year. We are working on the budget, mid-term exams at the high school, and scheduling and planning for next year are well underway now. She wants to thank everybody involved, administration and teachers for their input and the commitment to that process and all the while, the five year plan that we worked out with the town last year in terms of fiscal stability over time. We are getting ready for the PARRC exams starting in March. Throughout the spring, we will be hearing from the schools about that.

At the last meeting, we talked a little bit about the regional summit in April, Making Students Future Ready, during April vacation, a half-day on the 21st and a full day on the 22nd. We are very excited, it is a regional summit, districts as far away as Baltimore, about 250 people from other school districts and folks from Washington, D.C., and RIDE.

Last year a big topic of conversation in the Spring was the Kent County Mayoral Academy, with West Warwick being one of three communities, and the respective challenges it would cause our community to the end result of our name being pulled from that application. The Superintendent's Association has been talking a lot about charter schools and mayoral

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 7 of 26

academies, funding obligations and fiscal impact, a significant problem. It is a significant problem and the Superintendent's Association has made a recommendation to the Board of Education that there be a freeze on accepting further applications until the fiscal impact and formula around that has been ironed out—it would cost us money. Mrs. Tarasevich said she wanted to let the School Committee know the conversation is out there and that the request has been made by the Superintendent's Association—she will keep the School Committee posted.

Mrs. Tarasevich said she wanted to thank Ken Townsend and everyone involved in the play—it is a lot of investment of time and energy—it is much appreciated as always.

16. Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

- | | |
|--|--|
| a) Approval: Executive Session Minutes: December 2, 2014 | a) Approval: Executive Session Minutes: December 2, 2014 |
| b) Approval: Open Session Minutes: December 2, 2014 | b) Approval: Open Session Minutes: December 2, 2014 |
| c) Approval: Payment of Bills: \$808,494.32 | c) Approval: Payment of Bills: \$808,494.32 |
| e) Approval: Home Instruction Plans | e) Approval: Home Instruction Plans |

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. Motion seconded by Luis Colon. The following members voted in the affirmative: Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

17. Approval: Bid Award: Trucks

Approval: Bid Award: Trucks

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the bid award submitted by Hurd

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 8 of 26

Auto Mall, 1705 Hartford Avenue, Johnston, RI, for the purchase of three (3) series 250 vans and one (1) 250 series pick-up truck in the amount of \$93,696.00.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE BID AWARD SUBMITTED BY HURD AUTO MALL, 1705 HARTFORD AVENUE, JOHNSTON, RI, FOR THE PURCHASE OF THREE (3) SERIES 250 VANS AND ONE (1) 250 SERIES PICK-UP TRUCK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$93,696.00. Motion seconded by Luis Colon, for discussion.

Mr. Colon said there were other bids, but this was the best option, and he agrees with it.

The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Patricia Keenan, Luis Colon, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

**18. Approval: Bid
Award: Window
Shades – West
Warwick High School
and John F. Deering
Middle School**

**Approval: Bid Award: Window Shades – West
Warwick High School and John F. Deering Middle
School**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the bid award submitted by The Window Shoppe, 1517 Post Road, Warwick, RI, for the purchase of window shades for West Warwick High School and John F. Deering Middle School in the amount of \$11,550.00.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE BID AWARD SUBMITTED BY THE WINDOW SHOPPE, 1517 POST ROAD, WARWICK, RI, FOR THE PURCHASE OF WINDOW SHADES FOR WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL AND JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,550.00. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan, for discussion.

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 9 of 26

Mr. Messier asked didn't we just do blinds last year? Mr. Townsend said we had done some for the NEASC visit, but we didn't finish the project. Mr. Messier asked we are not replacing the ones we did last year, and Mr. Townsend said no, they are still good.

Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

19. Discussion/Approval: FY 14 Surplus Expenditure

Discussion/Approval: FY 14 Surplus Expenditure

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that there be a discussion and approval of the FY 14 Surplus Expenditure; as noted in the School Committee packet, the request is for three already approved projects, and this is recommending that the expenditures come from the surplus for the solar project, the Chromebooks lease-purchase, and the financial system upgrade.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE FY 14 SURPLUS EXPENDITURE. Motion seconded by Luis Colon, for discussion.

The School Committee had a brief discussion regarding the lease-purchase of the Chromebooks, and Mr. Spagna answered questions.

The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Patricia Keenan, Luis Colon, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

20. Approval: West Warwick High School 2015-2016 Program of Studies

Approval: West Warwick High School 2015-2016 Program of Studies

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the West Warwick High School 2015-2016 Program of Studies. She said she would like to thank Mr. Solomon for the nice presentation and the nice explanation of the changes in the packet.

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 10 of 26

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL 2015-2016 PROGRAM OF STUDIES. Motion seconded by Luis Colon, for discussion.

Mr. Messier asked about electronic course selection. Mrs. Tarasevich said that the whole course catalog and course selection is electronic as well as the student handbook. At the beginning of the year, we let parents know that it is available on line but we can provide paper copies if they would like. Mrs. Tarasevich commended Mr. Phil Solomon and everyone at the high school—they have done a nice job of revising the catalog, making changes and being creative in new courses.

The School Committee had a brief discussion regarding the History of Film and Comparative Religions courses, and Mr. Solomon answered questions.

The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Patricia Keenan, Luis Colon, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

21. **Approval: First Reading: Social Suspension Policy – John F. Deering Middle School**

Approval: First Reading: Social Suspension Policy – John F. Deering Middle School

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the first reading of the Social Suspension Policy for John F. Deering Middle School.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE FIRST READING OF THE SOCIAL SUSPENSION POLICY FOR JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Luis Colon, Rene Coutu, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 11 of 26

**22. Approval:
Memorandum of
Agreement**

**Approval: Memorandum of Agreement Between
the West Warwick School Committee and the West
Warwick Teachers' Alliance Re: Collaborative
Model for Inclusion Service Delivery**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee table the Memorandum of Agreement Between the West Warwick School Committee and the West Warwick Teachers' Alliance Re: Collaborative Model for Inclusion Service Delivery.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE TABLE THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE WEST WARWICK SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND THE WEST WARWICK TEACHERS' ALLIANCE RE: COLLABORATIVE MODEL FOR INCLUSION SERVICE DELIVERY. Motion seconded by Luis Colon. The following members voted in the affirmative: Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion to table unanimously passed.

**23. Approval:
Memorandum of
Agreement**

**Approval: Memorandum of Agreement Between
the West Warwick School Committee and the West
Warwick Teachers' Alliance Re: Per Diem
Substitute Teacher Rates**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the memorandum of agreement between the West Warwick School Committee and the West Warwick Teachers' Alliance re: Per Diem Substitute Teacher Rates.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY LUIS COLON THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE WEST WARWICK SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND THE WEST WARWICK TEACHERS' ALLIANCE RE: PER DIEM SUBSTITUTE TEACHER RATES. Motion seconded by Christopher Messier, for discussion.

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 12 of 26

Mr. Lawton asked if these went up. Mrs. Tarasevich said they are more in line with our practice especially for school nurse-teachers. She said Mr. Vigeant can attest to the difficulty of getting substitute school nurse-teachers.

The following members voted in the affirmative: Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu, Christopher Messier, Luis Colon, and Stephen H. Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

24. Approval: Out-of-State Field Trips

Approval: Out-of-State Field Trips:

- a) **Request submitted by Cathy Boutin to travel with approximately 100 Deering Middle School students by commercial bus to Washington, DC, April 27-30, 2016**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the request submitted by Cathy Boutin to travel with approximately 100 Deering Middle School students by commercial bus to Washington, DC, April 27-30, 2016.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE REQUEST SUBMITTED BY CATHY BOUTIN TO TRAVEL WITH APPROXIMATELY 100 DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS BY COMMERCIAL BUS TO WASHINGTON, DC, APRIL 27-30, 2016.

Motion seconded by Luis Colon, for discussion.

Mr. Messier said he has heard a lot of great things about that trip. Mrs. Tarasevich said it is a great opportunity for the students.

The following members voted in the affirmative: Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

- b) **Request submitted by Metro Narcisi to travel by commercial bus with approximately 45 West**

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 13 of 26

Warwick High School music students to the Berklee College of Music Festival in Boston, MA, January 31, 2015

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the request submitted by Metro Narcisi to travel by commercial bus with approximately 45 West Warwick High School music students to the Berklee College of Music Festival in Boston, MA, January 31, 2015.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE REQUEST SUBMITTED BY METRO NARCISI TO TRAVEL BY COMMERCIAL BUS WITH APPROXIMATELY 45 WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC STUDENTS TO THE BERKLEE COLLEGE OF MUSIC FESTIVAL IN BOSTON, MA, JANUARY 31, 2015. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan, for discussion.

Mrs. Marianne Costa spoke about what a wonderful day the Berklee Festival is, and if people have the opportunity to go to it, they should go and see it for themselves.

Mr. Messier spoke about the compliments he hears at the Rhode Island Association of School Committees about our music program.

The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

- c) Request submitted by Metro Narcisi to travel by commercial bus with approximately 100 high school music students to McGill University, Montreal, Canada, April 14-17, 2015**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the request submitted by Metro

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 14 of 26

Narcisi to travel by commercial bus with approximately 100 high school music students to McGill University, Montreal, Canada, April 14-17, 2015.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY LUIS COLON THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE REQUEST SUBMITTED BY METRO NARCISI TO TRAVEL BY COMMERCIAL BUS WITH APPROXIMATELY 100 HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC STUDENTS TO MCGILL UNIVERSITY, MONTREAL, CANADA, APRIL 14-17, 2015.

Motion seconded by Rene Coutu, for discussion.

Mrs. Keenan noted that right now there are warnings regarding travel outside of the country.

Mrs. Tarasevich said that her recommendation is that the School Committee approve the trip while keeping our eye on the travel warnings; we wouldn't want to put our kids in harm's way.

Mr. Messier suggested amending the motion to approve the request and review it when we get closer to the date of the trip. The School Committee decided to amend the original motion.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY LUIS COLON THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT AMENDMENT OF THE MOTION. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Christopher Messier, Rene Coutu, Patricia Keenan, Luis Colon, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY LUIS COLON THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE FIELD TRIP REQUEST AND REVIEW IT WHEN WE GET CLOSER TO THE DATE OF THE TRIP.

Motion seconded by Christopher Messier. The following members voted in the affirmative: Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu, Christopher Messier, Luis Colon, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 15 of 26

The following members voted in the affirmative: Christopher Messier, Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

d) request submitted by Colleen Pigott to travel with approximately three hundred (300) Grades 7/8 Deering Middle School students to High Meadows, North Grandby, CT, on June 10, 2015

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the request submitted by Colleen Pigott to travel with approximately three hundred (300) Grades 7/8 Deering Middle School students to High Meadows, North Grandby, CT, on June 10, 2015.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE REQUEST SUBMITTED BY COLLEEN PIGOTT TO TRAVEL WITH APPROXIMATELY THREE HUNDRED (300) GRADES 7/8 DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS TO HIGH MEADOWS, NORTH GRANDBY, CT, ON JUNE 10, 2015. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan, for discussion.

The question was asked if we are busing these students, and the answer was yes.

The following members voted in the affirmative: Luis Colon, Rene Coutu, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed

25. Approval: Maternity Leave

Approval: Maternity Leave: Special Education Teacher – West Warwick High School

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the request for maternity leave submitted by Alison Lagor, Special Education Teacher at West Warwick High School, commencing

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 16 of 26

on February 18, 2015 and continuing through the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR MATERNITY LEAVE SUBMITTED BY ALISON LAGOR, SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER AT WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL, COMMENCING ON FEBRUARY 18, 2015 AND CONTINUING THROUGH THE REMAINDER OF THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

26. Approval: Parental Leave Extension

Approval: Parental Leave Extension: Grade 1 Teacher – Greenbush Elementary School

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee table this agenda item.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE TABLE THE PARENTAL LEAVE EXTENSION: GRADE 1 TEACHER – GREENBUSH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. Motion seconded by Rene Coutu. The following members voted in the affirmative: Patricia Keenan, Luis Colon, Rene Coutu, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion to table unanimously passed.

27. Approval: Discretionary Leave

Approval: Discretionary Leave: Teacher Assistant – John F. Horgan Elementary School

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the request for discretionary leave submitted by Tara Andersen-Serena, Special Education Teacher at John F. Horgan Elementary School. Mrs. Tarasevich then amended her recommendation to: that the School Committee approve the request for discretionary leave submitted by Tara Andersen-Serena, Special Education Teacher

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 17 of 26

Assistant at John F. Horgan Elementary School,
effective January 26, 2015 – May 6, 2015.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR DISCRETIONARY LEAVE SUBMITTED BY TARA ANDERSEN-SERENA, SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER ASSISTANT AT JOHN F. HORGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 26, 2015 – MAY 6, 2015. Motion seconded by Luis Colon. The following members voted in the affirmative: Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

28. Acceptance of Resignation for Retirement Purposes

Acceptance of Resignation for Retirement Purposes:

a) **Special Education Teacher – John F. Horgan Elementary School**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee accept with great regret the resignation for retirement purposes from Donna Paliotta, Special Education Teacher at John F. Horgan Elementary School. Mrs. Tarasevich said we all know Donna Paliotta started in Special Education and she stuck with Special Education for her entire career; we wish her well in a well-deserved retirement.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT WITH GREAT REGRET THE RESIGNATION FOR RETIREMENT PURPOSES FROM DONNA PALIOTTA, SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER AT JOHN F. HORGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. Motion seconded by Rene Coutu. The following members voted in the affirmative: Luis Colon, Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously carried.

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 18 of 26

**b) Supervising Assistant – Wakefield Hills
Elementary School**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee accept the resignation for retirement purposes from Pamela Amaral, Supervising Assistant at Wakefield Hills Elementary School, effective June 17, 2015 or on the last day of the 2014-2015 school year.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION FOR RETIREMENT PURPOSES FROM PAMELA AMARAL, SUPERVISING ASSISTANT AT WAKEFIELD HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, EFFECTIVE JUNE 17, 2015 OR ON THE LAST DAY OF THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

**29. Approval:
Terminations (During
Probationary Period**

Approval: Terminations (During Probationary Period):

a) Part-Time Custodian – Maisie Quinn School

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the termination of a part-time custodian during the probationary period at Maisie E. Quinn School, effective December 4, 2014.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE TERMINATION DURING THE PROBATIONARY PERIOD OF A PART-TIME CUSTODIAN AT MAISIE E. QUINN SCHOOL, EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 4, 2014. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Luis Colon, Rene Coutu, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 19 of 26

b) Part-Time Bus Monitor

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the termination during the probationary period of a Part-Time Bus Monitor for the West Warwick Public Schools, effective January 8, 2015.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY LUIS COLON THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE TERMINATION DURING THE PROBATIONARY PERIOD OF A PART-TIME BUS MONITOR FOR THE WEST WARWICK PUBLIC SCHOOLS, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 8, 2015. Motion seconded by Rene Coutu. The following members voted in the affirmative: Christopher Messier, Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

30. Consent to Superintendent's Appointments

Consent to Superintendent's Appointments:

a) Long-Term Substitute .6 School Nurse-Teacher – Maisie E. Quinn School (FUNDING SOURCE: LOCAL)

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee provide advice and consent to the appointment of Patrick Roth to the position of Long-Term Substitute .6 School Nurse-Teacher, at Maisie E. Quinn School, effective immediately.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PROVIDE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF PATRICK ROTH TO THE POSITION OF LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE .6 SCHOOL NURSE-TEACHER AT MAISIE E. QUINN SCHOOL, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. Motion seconded by Luis Colon. The following members voted in the affirmative: Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, Christopher Messier, and Stephen H. Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 20 of 26

**b) Long-Term Substitute Grade 1 Teacher –
Greenbush Elementary School (FUNDING
SOURCE: LOCAL)**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee provide advice and consent to the appointment of Katelyn Gosselin to the position of Long-Term Substitute Grade 1 Teacher at Greenbush Elementary School, effective December 19, 2014 through March 19, 2015.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY LUIS COLON THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PROVIDE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF KATELYN GOSSELIN TO THE POSITION OF LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE GRADE 1 TEACHER AT GREENBUSH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 19, 2014 THROUGH MARCH 19, 2015. Motion seconded by Rene Coutu. The following members voted in the affirmative: Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

**c) Long-Term Substitute Grade 5 Teacher – John
F. Deering Middle School (FUNDING
SOURCE: LOCAL)**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee provide 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, effective December 11, 2014 through February 13, 2015.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PROVIDE 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, EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 11, 2014 THROUGH FEBRUARY 13, 2015. Motion seconded by Patricia

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 21 of 26

Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

**d) Long-Term Substitute Special Education
Preschool Teacher – Greenbush Elementary
School (FUNDING SOURCE: LOCAL)**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee provide advice and consent to the appointment of Jennifer Carrier (contingent upon RIDE certification) to the temporary position of Special Education Preschool Teacher at Greenbush Elementary School, effective January 5, 2015 through the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER
THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PROVIDE
ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE
APPOINTMENT OF JENNIFER CARRIER
(CONTINGENT UPON RIDE CERTIFICATION)
TO THE TEMPORARY POSITION OF SPECIAL
EDUCATION PRESCHOOL TEACHER AT
GREENBUSH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL,
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 5, 2015 THROUGH THE
END OF THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR.**

Motion seconded by Luis Colon, for discussion.

Mr. Vigeant provided information regarding Jennifer Carrier's education and experience.

The following members voted in the affirmative: Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

The School Committee congratulated and welcomed Jennifer Carrier.

**e) Long-Term Substitute Grade 1 Teacher –
John F. Horgan Elementary School (FUNDING
SOURCE: LOCAL)**

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 22 of 26

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee provide advice and consent to the appointment of Jessica Singleton to the position of Long-Term substitute Grade 1 teacher at John F. Horgan Elementary School, effective January 5, 2015 through April 15, 2015.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PROVIDE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF JESSICA SINGLETON TO THE POSITION OF LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE GRADE 1 TEACHER AT JOHN F. HORGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 5, 2015. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan, for discussion.

Mr. Vigeant provided information regarding Jessica Singleton's education and experience.

The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

The School Committee congratulated and welcomed Jessica Singleton.

**f) Long-Term Substitute Grade 2 teacher –
John F. Horgan Elementary School (FUNDING
SOURCE: LOCAL)**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee provide advice and consent to the appointment of Victoria Ahrens to the position of Long-Term Substitute Grade 2 teacher at John F. Horgan Elementary School, effective January 5, 2015 through the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY LUIS COLON THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PROVIDE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF VICTORIA AHRENS TO THE POSITION OF LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE GRADE 2

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 23 of 26

**TEACHER AT JOHN F. HORGAN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.** Motion seconded by
Rene Coutu, for discussion.

Mr. Vigeant provided information regarding Victoria
Ahrens' education and experience.

The following members voted in the affirmative:
Christopher Messier, Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu,
Luis Colon, and Stephen Lawton. Motion
unanimously passed.

The School Committee congratulated and welcomed
Victoria Ahrens.

**g) Saturday School Coordinator – John F. Horgan
Elementary School (FUNDING SOURCE:
TITLE 1)**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School
Committee provide advice and consent to the
appointment of Lynn Dion to the position of Saturday
School Coordinator at John F. Horgan Elementary
School.

MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER
THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PROVIDE
ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE
APPOINTMENT OF LYNN DION TO THE
POSITION OF SATURDAY SCHOOL
COORDINATOR AT JOHN F. HORGAN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.** Motion seconded by
Rene Coutu. The following members voted in the
affirmative: Patricia Keenan, Luis Colon, Rene
Coutu, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton.
Motion unanimously passed.

**h) Part-Time Special Education Preschool Teacher
Assistant – Maisie Quinn School (FUNDING
SOURCE: LOCAL)**

**i) Part-Time Special Education Preschool
Teacher Assistant – Maisie Quinn School
(FUNDING SOURCE: LOCAL)**

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 24 of 26

- j) Part-Time Special Education Teacher Assistant
– Wakefield Hills Elementary School
(FUNDING SOURCE: LOCAL)**
- k) Part-Time Special Education Preschool
Teacher Assistant (A.M.) – Greenbush
Elementary School (FUNDING SOURCE:
LOCAL)**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee provide advice and consent to the appointments of the following individuals to the positions listed below:

- h) Lauren Henderson - Part-Time Special Education Preschool Teacher Assistant – Maisie Quinn School (FUNDING SOURCE: LOCAL)
- i) Alison McGunnigle - Part-Time Special Education Preschool Teacher Assistant – Maisie Quinn School (FUNDING SOURCE: LOCAL)
- j) Caroline Hirsh - Part-Time Special Education Teacher Assistant – Wakefield Hills Elementary School (FUNDING SOURCE: LOCAL)
- k) Diane Randall - Part-Time Special Education Preschool Teacher Assistant (A.M.) – Greenbush Elementary School (FUNDING SOURCE: LOCAL)

MOTION

**MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER
THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PROVIDE
ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE
APPOINTMENTS OF THE FOLLOWING
INDIVIDUALS TO THE POSITIONS LISTED
BELOW:**

- h) LAUREN HENDERSON - PART-TIME
SPECIAL EDUCATION PRESCHOOL
TEACHER ASSISTANT – MAISIE QUINN
SCHOOL (FUNDING SOURCE: LOCAL)**

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 25 of 26

- i) ALISON MCGUNNIGLE - PART-TIME SPECIAL EDUCATION PRESCHOOL TEACHER ASSISTANT – MAISIE QUINN SCHOOL (FUNDING SOURCE: LOCAL)**

- j) CAROLINE HIRSH - PART-TIME SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER ASSISTANT – WAKEFIELD HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (FUNDING SOURCE: LOCAL)**

- k) DIANE RANDALL - PART-TIME SPECIAL EDUCATION PRESCHOOL TEACHER ASSISTANT (A.M.) – GREENBUSH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (FUNDING SOURCE: LOCAL)**

Motion seconded by Luis Colon. The following members voted in the affirmative: Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

31. Audience of Citizens

Audience of Citizens

Mr. Sean Doyle, President, West Warwick Teachers' Alliance, addressed the School Committee.

He said he had been planning on speaking just briefly about charter schools. His goal of speaking is not to dispute the merit of charter schools; it's highly politicized and he wants to remind the School Committee that last year the House of Representatives did commission a study group to look at charter schools. It's important to our district for reasons the superintendent highlighted earlier. We were very close to completing the five year plan when the Mayoral Academy put West Warwick's name on the application without notifying anyone. The funding formula for charter schools doesn't seem to favor public schools where most kids attend.

The other thing is he still can't believe the process hasn't changed—an outside entity or corporation can make application for a charter school and doesn't need

School Committee Minutes

January 13, 2015

Page 26 of 26

the approval of either the School Committee or the Town Council. Elected officials have been seeking that change—that School Committees and Town Councils be allowed to vote on whether they could enter the town and consider all the budgetary factors. It’s timely because the legislative session is underway right now. Mr. Doyle thanked the School Committee.

**32. 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.

33. Adjournment

Adjournment

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ADJOURN THE MEETING. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Luis Colon, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier and Stephen H. Lawton. Motion unanimously passed.

Meeting adjourned at: 7:43 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rene Coutu, Clerk

Michelle M. Colozzo, Recorder