

MINUTES
WEST WARWICK SCHOOL COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 3, 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 (For Executive Session and Budget Workshop)
- School Committee**
- Attorney Present:** Andrew Henneous
- Administrators Present:** Karen Tarasevich, Superintendent of Schools
Gregory Kortick, Athletic Director
James Monti, Director of Educational Reform,
Compliance and Technology
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**
- Open Session**
- Mr. Lawton opened the meeting at 5:30 P.M.
- 2. Roll Call**
- Roll Call**
- The following members were present: Mr. Lawton, Mr. Messier, Mr. Coutu, and Mrs. Keenan. (Mr. Colon arrived after roll call.)

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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 PATRICIA KEENAN 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 Rene Coutu. The following members voted in the affirmative: Christopher Messier, Rene Coutu, Patricia Keenan, and Stephen Lawton. Motion passed 4 to 0.

4. Executive Session

Executive Session

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

The School Committee met in Executive Session.

5. Budget Workshop

Budget Workshop

Mrs. Tarasevich said as required by charter, this is our budget workshop. Mrs. Tarasevich said she is happy to report things are in good shape.

Mrs. Tarasevich said she wanted to publicly thank Mr. Spagna for his work on this—he worked very well and closely with all of the directors—he picked up on our culture in the district and the town and the five-year plan very quickly which is a big part of doing the work, realizing where we are now; our future is bright.

Mr. Spagna said he would go through a quick summary. His presentation included the following:

- The budget for FY 16 is \$54,082,547
- The budget for FY 15 after adjustments made in September was \$52,518,825.
- The increase from FY 15 is \$1,563,722.

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- The increase is due to the following:
 - Salary – classroom teachers increased about \$420,000 for step increases. Salary accounts for approximately 56% of the total budget: \$30,530,788
 - Fringe benefits increase of \$450,000 for certified pension – the state of Rhode Island increased from 14.01% for FY 15 to 14.33% for FY 16.
 - Cost of purchased services – according to the Consumer Price Index of 1.3% which is the latest figure available as of November 2014.
 - Out-of-district tuitions: 3%
 - Vocational/Technical Education: 44%
- Revenue from State Education Aid, Town of West Warwick, Medicaid, and miscellaneous
 - Anticipated state aid: \$21,954,439
 - Local appropriation: \$31,240,216, which is consistent with the adopted five-year plan.
 - Medicaid: \$450,000
 - Miscellaneous Revenue: approximately \$308,000.
 - Total Revenue: \$53,952,914

Anticipating increase in enrollment

Working rates for health and dental: increase of 4%

Mr. Spagna said we are working to stay within the projected revenue of the five-year plan.

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Mrs. Tarasevich introduced Fred Presley, Town Manager, and John Cimino, Director of Finance.

Mr. Spagna said this is the first draft; the budget meeting is in May, and in that time we will be able to make the adjustments we need.

Mrs. Tarasevich said this is the first draft, and over the next couple of months, we are still looking at enrollment; there is still a lot of work to be done in terms of refining, but she is confident we will be balanced at the point of going to the Town Council for approval.

Mrs. Tarasevich thanked Mr. Spagna for his presentation. She asked if there were any other questions or concerns, and there were none.

A copy of the draft budget was given to Mr. Presley, the Town Manager.

6. Open Session

Open Session

Mr. Lawton opened the public session at 6:30 P.M.

7. Roll Call

Roll Call

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

8. Reading of Mission Statement

Reading of Mission Statement

Mr. Coutu 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.

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9. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Messier led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

11. Student Recognition

Student Recognition

The School Committee recognized the following West Warwick High School student-athletes for their achievements in earning All-State Team recognition as nominated by The Providence Journal:

David LaMountain – 2nd Team All-State Football
Michael Faria – 2nd Team All-State Soccer

12. Student Representative

Student Representative

None.

13. Audience of Citizens

Audience of Citizens

None.

14. Chairperson's Report

Chairperson's Report

Mr. Lawton noted how well the parking lots look and said the schools are ready to roll. He commended the Property Services Department.

15. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Tarasevich said she wanted to thank Kenny Townsend and his department and crew for their good work. She said the Big Fish as always was a

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phenomenal production—the energy, commitment, and talent never disappoints. Mrs. Tarasevich said she wanted to also acknowledge Donna Walker and the folks from Sodexo for their help with the dinner show on Saturday night—she wanted to thank her and her workers. Mrs. Tarasevich thanked Mr. Townsend for his work on the set—for the countless hours he puts in, as well as the teachers from the high school and the middle school.

Mrs. Tarasevich said she wanted to congratulate Phil Kershaw for his nomination to the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Hall of Fame and our own Greg Kortick for his selection as Athletic Director of the Year.

Mrs. Tarasevich said that some other big news for the district is the graduation rate went from 75% to 81%, a phenomenal increase in itself. We are among just a handful in the state to have our schools go up over 5%. Mrs. Tarasevich said thank you to everyone in the district for their hard work

16. Consent Agenda

- a) **Approval: Executive Session Minutes: January 13, 2015**
- b) **Approval: Open Session Minutes: January 13, 2015**
- c) **Approval: Payment of Bills: \$1,780,031.35**
- e) **Approval: Home Instruction Plans**

Consent Agenda

- a) **Approval: Executive Session Minutes: January 13, 2015**
- b) **Approval: Open Session Minutes: January 13, 2015**
- c) **Approval: Payment of Bills: \$1,780,031.35**
- e) **Approval: Home Instruction Plans**

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. Motion seconded by Rene Coutu. The following members voted in the affirmative: Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu,

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Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion passed 4 to 0.

17. Discussion: Sub-Committees

Discussion: Sub-Committees

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee continue the discussion from last month regarding sub-committees. She said Mr. Henneous did some research for us since the last meeting as to which sub-committees are required by the R.I. Department of Education. His findings about what we are required to have are the wellness committee and the facilities needs committee which we do have in place. Mrs. Tarasevich said Mrs. Walker is in charge of the Wellness Committee and is supposed to schedule a meeting. Mr. Townsend is in charge of the Facilities Needs Committee, and a meeting is scheduled for February 12th at 5 o'clock.

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that we continue with those sub-committees; any others, we will convene on an as needed basis. Mr. Messier said he wouldn't be able to attend the meeting at 5 o'clock; he could get here for 5:30. Mr. Townsend said the notice hadn't been sent out yet, so he will set up the meeting for 5:30.

18. Approval: First Reading: Student Assessment Policy

Approval: First Reading: Student Assessment Policy

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the first reading of the Student Assessment Policy. She said to give some background, the PARRC will be replacing the NECAP, and it is aligned with the Common Core to make sure students are college and career ready. As outlined in the policy, we are ensuring students take all of our exams which helps us to identify students' needs and allow us to be better able to personalize instruction and have the resources we need.

Mrs. Tarasevich said if students don't take the PARRC, it counts as a zero which affects our rankings; and we encourage families and students to be in school for the assessment.

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Mr. Messier said he has heard people talk about PARRC, and one of their issues is a lot of people don't seem to understand the Common Core. He suggested setting up a workshop on Common Core and the PARRC assessment.

Mrs. Tarasevich agreed that parent education is really important. Mr. Monti said we have had several forums this year, and a large part of it was the Common Core and how we are addressing that.

Mrs. Tarasevich said if Mr. Messier is finding further parent education is important, then we will certainly do that. Mr. Messier said he understands Common Core and how they align it, but it's difficult to explain it to other people. He said something we should do is use this committee as a facilitation point to get the word out. Mrs. Tarasevich asked if he was asking for a presentation at the next School Committee meeting. Mr. Messier said he doesn't know if there would be enough time for that—it doesn't even have to be through the School Committee. Mr. Monti asked if Mr. Messier is requesting a workshop for parents or School Committee. Mr. Messier said a presentation explaining what the Common Core is and how we are implementing it here in the district because there are a lot of people out there asking.

Mr. Monti said whenever there's a math or a literacy night that we are doing, that is a big part of the conversation. He said the issue is we don't always get the attendance we would like because everyone is busy. Mr. Monti said we have documents already created, and he will make sure they are on the website. He said we have been very involved in every department, when teachers are building IEP's for Special Education students, they are completely aligned with the Common Core, for 2-1/2 years now. He said we want to keep the momentum going.

Mrs. Tarasevich said she applauds Mr. Monti and his department—they have really done a good job.

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MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE FIRST READING OF THE STUDENT ASSESSMENT POLICY. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion passed 4 to 0.

- 19. Approval: Second Reading: Social Suspension Policy – John F. Deering Middle School**

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

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

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE SECOND READING OF THE SOCIAL SUSPENSION POLICY FOR JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL. Motion seconded by Rene Coutu. The following members voted in the affirmative: Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion passed 4 to 0.

- 20. Approval: First Reading: Safe School Act Statewide Bullying Policy**

Approval: First Reading: Safe School Act Statewide Bullying Policy

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the first reading of the Safe School Act Statewide Bullying Policy.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY PATRICIA KEENAN THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE FIRST READING OF THE SAFE SCHOOL ACT STATEWIDE BULLYING POLICY. Motion seconded by Rene Coutu, for discussion.

Mr. Messier said he has an issue with some of the wording on this policy: letter “e” which says “Materially and substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school.” He said

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that could be anything—it could be a student with an IEP who is having a complete meltdown in the lobby.

Mr. Henneous said he certainly appreciates Mr. Messier's position, but this policy is from the state.

Mrs. Tarasevich said she hears what Mr. Messier is saying and can picture something like that happening, but she reads this as behavior directed towards someone else. If a student is having a meltdown, that is something else; it's the context. He said what he is fearful about is how someone would use this policy. Mr. Messier said he understands it's a state policy, but he also has a concern about the timeframe allotted for an investigation and the response time to get back to someone. He said in the next policies, there are timeframes, that people need to get a response in 30 days. Mr. Messier said he thinks it's kind of interesting that if someone is being bullied, we don't have to get back to them.

Mr. Henneous said this is a state policy; the other two policies are federal policies. He said this is the policy used in the past with the exception of the review by the Office of Civil Rights.

Mr. Messier asked why aren't we adapting the state policy, adding timelines for notifying people? Mr. Henneous said his advice would be not adding timelines or notifying. Mrs. Tarasevich said from her own experience at the building level, her concern would be about a timeline. She said certainly it's a district expectation that things are investigated thoroughly and completely as soon as possible, but you never know what the investigation might include. Mr. Henneous said sometimes parents are involved or the police.

Mr. Messier said he is not saying you have to give an answer, but we should have some type of timeframe where we have to report out to someone.

Mrs. Tarasevich said her concern would be given the variations in any situation, you never know what

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might be involved, for instance, depending on the age level of the students. She said clearly the expectation is that any incident be addressed immediately and fully.

Mr. Messier said he thinks bullying is an issue today, and he thinks we are doing well as a district; but as a parent, he would like to know if he files a complaint, he would like to know that within 30 school days, he would get a response, whether it is we need more time or we have an answer—he would like an update.

Mr. Lawton asked is it correct that because it is a state policy, we can't adapt it? Mr. Henneous said his advice is to leave it as it is. He said it could hamper the investigation—a person could say you didn't do it in the appropriate time. As that policy is written, a person will get an appropriate reason in a reasonable time. Mrs. Tarasevich said she thinks it's more of an instance of the bullying being initially reported, if maybe it's more of an educational piece around that rather than an investigation piece.

Mr. Messier said he has heard of parents reporting to the principal their child is being bullied and they say they will look into it, and they never hear anything else. Mrs. Tarasevich said she thinks it's fair enough when the proper authorities, the principal/teacher, are notified, that they report back to you. She said she will follow up with the principals on that.

A roll call vote was taken, and the following members voted in the affirmative: Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu, and Stephen Lawton. The following member voted in the negative: Christopher Messier. Motion passed 3 to 1.

21. Approval: First Reading: Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability Policy

Approval: First Reading: Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability Policy

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the first reading of the Section

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504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability Policy.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE FIRST READING OF THE SECTION 504/ADA PROHIBITION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION BASED ON DISABILITY POLICY. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion passed 4 to 0.

22. Approval: First Reading: Anti-Discrimination/Anti-Harassment Policy

Approval: First Reading: Anti-Discrimination/Anti-Harassment Policy

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the first reading of the Anti-Discrimination/Anti-Harassment Policy.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY RENE COUTU THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE FIRST READING OF THE ANTI-DISCRIMINATION/ ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Christopher Messier, Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu, and Stephen Lawton. Motion passed 4 to 0.

23. Discussion: 2015-2016 School Calendar

Discussion: 2015-2016 School Calendar

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that there be a discussion regarding the 2015-2016 School Calendar. She said people may have already seen in the paper that there have been discussions around changing the school calendar mostly around the February vacation—people think it's too soon after Christmas.

Mrs. Tarasevich said the calendar she provided in the School Committee packet is the model the Superintendent's Association has proposed, and as far as she knows, only four districts are adopting it. She said she put it in the packet for the School Committee's information. Before the next meeting,

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she will be meeting with the President of the West Warwick Teachers' Alliance to get their input. What they are thinking about is convening a joint committee to get consensus; certainly she wouldn't be making a recommendation about changing the February vacation for next year; it would be the year after that because people plan vacations.

Mr. Messier brought up the issue of custody situations where kids might split the vacations between households—that could be an issue—some parents might need to go back to court.

Mrs. Tarasevich said she will report back on the calendar at the March meeting.

24. Approval: Chartering Flagship Trailways to Provide Transportation

Approval: Chartering Flagship Trailways to Provide Transportation to/from West Warwick High School to Mystic Aquarium for West Warwick High School Junior Class Prom, May 9, 2015:

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the request from Wayne Brusseau, Junior Class Advisor, to charter Flagship Trailways to provide transportation to/from West Warwick High School to Mystic Aquarium for West Warwick High School Junior Class Prom, May 9, 2015.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE REQUEST FROM WAYNE BRUSSEAU, JUNIOR CLASS ADVISOR, TO CHARTER FLAGSHIP TRAILWAYS TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION TO/FROM WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL TO MYSTIC AQUARIUM FOR WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR CLASS PROM, MAY 9, 2015.

Motion seconded by Rene Coutu, for discussion.

Mr. Messier noted that the number of students is less than 45; he hopes we have more than 45.

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The following members voted in the affirmative:
Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu, Christopher Messier,
and Stephen H. Lawton. Motion passed 4 to 0.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA: 24 (B): APPROVAL: OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP: JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADE 8 STUDENTS TO BOSTON MUSEUM OF SCIENCE, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, FEBRUARY 25, 2015. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion passed 4 to 0.

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the out-of-state field trip request for John F. Deering Middle School Grade 8 Students to Boston Museum of Science, Boston, Massachusetts, February 25, 2015.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY PATRICIA KEENAN THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP REQUEST FOR JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE GRADE 8 STUDENTS TO BOSTON MUSEUM OF SCIENCE, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, FEBRUARY 25, 2015. Motion seconded by Christopher Messier, for discussion.

Mr. Messier asked how many kids will be going and how much does it cost? The answers were 30-35 and \$10 each.

The following members voted in the affirmative:
Rene Coutu, Christopher Messier, Patricia Keenan,
and Stephen Lawton. Motion passed 4 to 0.

25. Approval: Memorandum of Agreement

Approval: Memorandum of Agreement By and Among the West Warwick School Committee (“District”) and the West Warwick Teachers’

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Alliance, Local 1017, AFT, AFL-CIO (“Union”)

Re: Leave of Absence

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the Memorandum of Agreement By and Among the West Warwick School Committee (“District”) and the West Warwick Teachers’ Alliance, Local 1017, AFT, AFL-CIO (“Union”) Re: Leave of Absence.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BY AND AMONG THE WEST WARWICK SCHOOL COMMITTEE (“DISTRICT”) AND THE WEST WARWICK TEACHERS’ ALLIANCE, LOCAL 1017, AFT, AFL-CIO (“UNION”) RE: LEAVE OF ABSENCE. Motion seconded by Rene Coutu, for discussion. Mr. Messier noted that it is clearly written so that no one comes back to us, and Mr. Henneous said that’s correct. The following members voted in the affirmative: Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion passed 4 to 0.

- 26. Approval:
Discretionary Leave:
Grade 4 Teacher –
John F. Horgan
Elementary School**

Approval: Discretionary Leave: Grade 4 Teacher – John F. Horgan Elementary School

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee approve the request for discretionary leave during the 2015-2016 school year submitted by Rebecca Bannon, Grade 4 Teacher at John F. Horgan Elementary School.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR DISCRETIONARY LEAVE DURING THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR SUBMITTED BY REBECCA BANNON, GRADE 4 TEACHER AT JOHN F. HORGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Patricia Keenan,

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Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion passed 4 to 0.

27. Acceptance of Resignations for Retirement Purposes

Acceptance of Resignation for Retirement Purposes:

a) Full-Time Teacher Assistant – West Warwick High School

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee accept with regret the resignation for retirement purposes from Suzanne Paul, Teacher Assistant at West Warwick High School, effective 5/29/15 (completion of program for her 1:1 student).

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT WITH REGRET THE RESIGNATION FOR RETIREMENT PURPOSES FROM SUZANNE PAUL, TEACHER ASSISTANT AT WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL, EFFECTIVE 5/29/15 (COMPLETION OF PROGRAM FOR HER 1:1 STUDENT). Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion passed 4 to 0.

b) Full-Time Teacher Assistant – Wakefield Hills Elementary School

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee accept with regret the resignation for retirement purposes from Linda Czop, Teacher Assistant at Wakefield Hills Elementary School, effective at the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT WITH REGRET THE RESIGNATION FOR RETIREMENT PURPOSES FROM LINDA CZOP, TEACHER ASSISTANT AT WAKEFIELD HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. Motion seconded by Rene Coutu. The following

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members voted in the affirmative: Patricia Keenan, Rene Coutu, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion passed 4 to 0.

c) Full-Time Teacher Assistant – Wakefield Hills Elementary School

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee accept with regret the resignation for retirement purposes from Paula Gardosik, Teacher Assistant at Wakefield Hills Elementary School, effective at the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT WITH REGRET THE RESIGNATION FOR RETIREMENT PURPOSES FROM PAULA GARDOSIK, TEACHER ASSISTANT AT WAKEFIELD HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, EFFECTIVE AT THE END OF THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, and Stephen Lawton. Motion passed 4 to 0.

d) Full-Time Teacher Assistant – West Warwick High School

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee accept with regret the resignation for retirement purposes from Joao Patita, Teacher Assistant at West Warwick High School, effective at the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY RENE COUTU THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT WITH REGRET THE RESIGNATION FOR RETIREMENT PURPOSES FROM JOAO PATITA, TEACHER ASSISTANT AT WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL, EFFECTIVE AT THE END OF THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR. Motion seconded by Christopher Messier. The following members voted in the affirmative: Patricia

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Keenan, Christopher Messier, Rene Coutu, and Stephen Lawton. Motion passed 4 to 0.

e) **Grade 5 Teacher – John F. Deering Middle School**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee accept with regret the resignation for retirement purposes from Denise Richardson, Grade 5 Teacher at John F. Deering Middle School, effective April 21, 2015.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT WITH REGRET THE RESIGNATION FOR RETIREMENT PURPOSES FROM DENISE RICHARDSON, GRADE 5 TEACHER AT JOHN F. DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL, EFFECTIVE APRIL 21, 2015. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Christopher Messier, Patricia Keenan, and Stephen Lawton. Motion passed 4 to 0.

28. **Consent to Superintendent's Appointments**

Consent to Superintendent's Appointments:

a) **Part-Time Special Education Preschool Teacher Assistant – Wakefield Hills Elementary School**

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that the School Committee provide advice and consent to the appointment of Neale Garnett-Turgeon to the position of Part-Time Special Education Preschool Teacher Assistant at Wakefield Hills Elementary School effective January 23, 2015.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PROVIDE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF NEALE GARNETT-TURGEON TO THE POSITION OF PART-TIME SPECIAL EDUCATION PRESCHOOL TEACHER ASSISTANT AT WAKEFIELD HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, EFFECTIVE

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JANUARY 23, 2015. Motion seconded by Patricia Keenan, for discussion.

Mr. Vigeant provided information regarding Neale Garnett-Turgeon's education and experience.

The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier, and Stephen H. Lawton. Motion passed 4 to 0.

The School Committee congratulated and welcomed Neale Garnett-Turgeon.

29. Audience of Citizens

Audience of Citizens

None.

30. 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. Messier spoke about the St. Patrick's Day Parade. He said he has been the only School Committee member walking in the parade the last two or three years; he was hoping there would be more people walking. He said also we are working to get the Jazz Band in the parade—they were there last year; and if there are any title or championship teams, they are trying to get them as well. Mr. Messier asked if there was any issue with the high school and middle school mascots marching in the parade—they have a Big Wizard and a Little Wizard.

Mrs. Keenan asked how many budget workshops are required, and Mr. Spagna said one. Mrs. Tarasevich said we used to have three or four but there was even worse attendance. Mr. Spagna said he would assume we come back to the School Committee for acceptance of the budget before it goes to the town.

31. Adjournment

Adjournment

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY CHRISTOPHER MESSIER THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ADJOURN THE MEETING. Motion seconded by Patricia

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Keenan. The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Patricia Keenan, Christopher Messier and Stephen H. Lawton. Motion passed 4 to 0.

Meeting adjourned at: 7:16 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rene Coutu, Clerk

Michelle M. Colozzo, Recorder