

**Warwick Public Schools – School Committee
Parents Communication Advisory Committee
7 p.m. Warwick Public Schools Administration Bldg.**

Meeting Minutes February 3, 2011

Mission: To advise and make recommendations to the School Committee as to how we can better facilitate communication by and between parents, school administration and the Warwick School Committee.

Present:

Voting Members: David Testa (J.B. Francis, Aldrich; Chair); Patti Nazareth (Greenwood); Michelle Barrett (Greenwood); Ed Racca (Sherman); Barbra Supsky (Gorton, Vets) ; Marc Comtois (Hoxie); Tracey McDermott

Eugene Nadeau (S.C.) Patrick Maloney (S.C., JB Francis); Peter Horoschak (Superintendent);

Ron Poirier (Math/Science Supervisor WPS)

Jen Man, Jen Ahearn, Brendan Ahearn, April Ferns, JoAnn Capaldi, John Rauch, Deidre Weedon(Cedar Hill)

Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m. by David Testa

- Parents of Cedar Hill students raised question on Science curriculum**
- What are curriculum requirements and what are the standards?**

Ron Poirier presented:

- **What are the standards?**
- **Need to align curriculum to GSE grade span expectations**
- **Grades 4-6 part of science curriculum was put in the hands of the classroom teachers**
- **Budgetary reasons for changing method of teaching science**
- **Integrated into curriculum of classroom**
- **4th grade – life science- integrated into curriculum of classroom by way of readings in anthologies...1 day of training**
- **Supervisors are not allowed in classrooms by contract**
- **Classroom teachers are required to teach a 45minute block per week**
- **Evaluation is the role of the principal**
- **Principal is responsible for enforcing 45minutes block per week**
- **NECAP – scores poor in Science vs scores on Math and ELA**
- **Inquiry is a different way of teaching, it is not translating well into testing**
- **Warwick is the only city/town in RI w/ science specialists in elementary**
- **Grants available for Science...DANA center**

Parents need to be accountable in part for being aware of situation

Access science book online www.pearsonsuccessnet.com log on grade level password is “password”

Currently science is a fragmented program-accountability needs to be stressed

Using afterschool programs to bolster science

Looking at everyday life and seeing science in life.

Science kits are rotated through system

e-mail to Ron Poirier to receive Grade Level Expectations

How much time is available in one day to implement all the requirements?

Resource being strained the most is classroom time

School systems highest cost is personnel

Parent Apathy is large problem

PCAC – getting word out this is a vehicle for parent communication

Cedar Hill- take away

1. Meet w/ principal

2. Ron to observe science teaching-itinerant

3. Evaluation of structure of budget–itinerant or professional development

4. Talk to classroom teachers at a curriculum meeting

Science scores need to be addressed

Parents need to be at budgetary meetings because this is a direct result of budget cuts

New Business –

• PCAC Data base has about 1900 names

• Building use over 150 custodian required..principal can open building

• Ask for budget update at each School committee meeting

- **Diploma/Graduation Requirements**

New board of Regents

Tiered diploma system

School committee has not taken a position

This year's juniors will be held accountable for new rules and NECAP scores

School Committee – (Patrick Maloney, Eugene Nadeau)

- **Public Meeting February 8, 2010**

Motion made /seconded to accept minutes of October 7, 2010 as distributed.

Next meeting –

7 p.m. March 3, 2011 Administration Building

Motion to adjourn 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Nazareth