

Parents Communication Advisory Committee

7 p.m. Warwick Public Schools Administration Bldg.

Meeting Minutes April 7, 2011

Mission: To advise and make Warwick Public Schools – School Committee

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); Barbra Supsky (Gorton, Vets); Marc Comtois (Hoxie); Tracy McDermott (Wyman); Paula Breslin (Pilgrim, Aldrich); Deidre Weedon (Cedar Hill)

Julie R. Connors-Costello (Greenwood); JA Wallace (Interested Citizen):

Paul Jansson (Co-Director Buildings and Grounds); Bob Bushell (Director-Elementary Education)

School Committee members - M. Terri Medeiros, Eugene Nadeau

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Patricia Nazareth

Motion to accept minutes of March 3, 2011

Paul Jansson presented:

- **Update on current Fire Codes**

- 5 year plan (attached documents)
- Discussion of fire codes- common sense vs. codes

Paul Jansson presented:

- Security cameras in schools
- Funded by a 2008 Federal Grant..Homeland security
- 9 largest cities and towns in RI
- Goal is to prevent local invasion – people entering schools w/ guns
- ‘Be Safe Company’ cameras are located in corridors pointing at doors
- 80 cameras and software were purchased
- Wiring is being done first then cameras to be installed... elementary schools first
- Infrared w/motion detectors
- Digital system to main computer bank - individual not viewing monitors... rolling 7 days of storage
- 2010 2nd phase 80 cameras 12 – 15 cameras in secondary schools
- Concerns from parents and staff asked for a letter to be sent from administration.. Dr. Horoschak’s letter is on WPS website
- Daytech brand cameras do have audio capabilities... but they have been disabled
- 100% funded by Homeland security grant
- Eugene Nadeau noted he had received several calls from local PTO’s on subject

Info on Science Blog from Cedar Hill School- Deidre Weedon

- Science4parents.wordpress.com
- Editor – Ron Poirier

- **Link will be added to PCAC website... email blast about the link**
- **Elementary science taught by classroom teacher in all of RI except Warwick**
- **Budget item- classroom teachers professional development regarding teaching science cross curriculum**
- **Parent group initiated afterschool science program LaPerche Elementary, Smithfield RI**

among highest test scores in RI

General Info

- **No Consolidation in Sept. a year from Sept. possible advance knowledge will be given**
- **All day K voted down @ general assembly 3.1 million to add all-day K in all Warwick schools**
- **School Budget update – Eugene Nadeau**
- **May 30th to city council**
- **Contract negotiations**
- **Trying to be accurate w/millions in transition**
- **State budget impacts school budget**

Next meeting May 5, 2011 – location to be determined

Motion to adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Nazareth