

**BUILDING (CAPITAL) COMMITTEE MEETING  
THURSDAY, August 06, 2015  
3:00 PM**

**MCFEE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
108 HIGH STREET  
WOONSOCKET, RI 02895**

*Attendees:* Joel Mathews, Peter Fontaine, Dr. Patrick McGee, Garrett Mancini, Tom Wrona, Cindy Johnson, Brad Peryea, Angela Holt, George Lacouture, William Webb, and Carnell Henderson

Chairman Mathews called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

1. Approval of minutes from meeting on March 31, 2015 by Chairman Mathews; seconded by Mr. Wrona.
2. First order of business of this committee is to begin a discussion on whether there should be a consideration by the School Committee to make the two middle schools: one 5-6 grade and the other a 7-8 grade academy. Also there was a review of Scott Dunlap's, A13 Architects, document.

Educational personnel from WED should take a look at one of the middle schools to see how it would be set up as a 5-6 and 7-8 grade academy.

Chairman Mathews mentioned as far as numbers concerned, WED could proceed. Mr. Wrona asked whether 5<sup>th</sup> grade would be considered middle or individual teacher model.

To be determined that between now and next meeting by Dr. McGee and staff:

- The teaching capacity of 5-6 grades.
- Whether WED would educate these children as middle school students as opposed to individual teacher models.

Chairman Mathews also mentioned that these schools would be treated as two separate schools with staggered starting times to separate 5<sup>th</sup> grade from 8<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Fontaine mentioned the biggest expense would be moving. He also mentioned transportation costs but said we definitely would have capacity in terms of size of buildings. Chairman Mathews asked Mr. Fontaine for workable figures as far as transportation and moving costs for next meeting. Mr. Mancini asked if there were examples from other districts and were there changes in performance by students. Dr. McGee is going to look into this for next meeting. Chairman Mathews will prepare a chart that will show what enrollment will look like if 5<sup>th</sup> grade is not in elementary schools. This will help determine if one or two schools are needed.

3. The Woonsocket Career and Tech Center: City Council wants more information on how 3.1 million will be spent. Chairman Mathews mentioned that WED will spend a portion on programs and equipment to better serve students in the Tech facility. As of the last 2 years enrollment has dropped 33% from other districts not going to Tech according to Mr. Peryea.

Mr. Peryea is talking to RIDE to determine how the money will be reimbursed.

Electric Boat to hire 20,000 people in the next 10 years. 50% will come from welding. As far as equipment, Mr. Webb mentioned a virtual welding machine. This would make the Tech a premiere piece in Southern New England. New England Tech would gladly show their welding program. Automotive and construction would also benefit from program.

In addition another program being looked at is engineering robotics. Mr. Webb invited the Committee members to tour the Career and Tech.

To move forward these three areas need to be defined:

- Mr. Fontaine is to determine which items on list by Robinson, Green and Beretta are urgent enough to fix.
- Mr. Webb is to estimate a cost factor in adding programs and equipment.
- Mr. Peryea to determine how reimbursement from RIDE will work.

Mr. Peryea asked if Building Committee was responsible for approval of bills for emergency work on sprinkler system. Chairman Mathews replied that the School Committee would be the responsible party.

4. New Business. Mr. Mancini asked Mr. Henderson about WHS entrance. He wanted to know if there were funds to clean or paint panels. Mr. Henderson said we have to paint. Dr. McGee mentioned our painter is very busy.

Mr. Fontaine mentioned the use of Riverzedge. Also, he said it would be good to get the public involved.

Mr. Lacouture proposed a motion to move RGB's performance review to Executive Session; Mr. Fontaine seconded.

Chairman Mathews motioned to adjourn, Mr. Wrona seconded.