Warwick School Committee
Meeting of July 11, 2023
Open Session Minutes

The Warwick School Committee met in Open Session at Veterans Middle School on Tuesday, July 11, 2023. Mr. Testa called the meeting to order at 5:31PM.

COMMITTEE
David Testa, Chair
Shaun Galligan, Co-Chair
Leah Hazelwood, Clerk
Karen Bachus
Michelle Kirby-Chapman

MOTION 2023-162: Moved by Ms. Hazelwood seconded by Mrs. Kirby Chapman, to go into closed session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business exempt from open meetings under General Laws of Rhode Island 42-46-5(a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(4), and (a)(9).

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Bachus, Kirby-Chapman

Return to Open Session at 7:00PM

Votes to Seal Minutes of Executive Session

MOTION 2023-163: Moved by Ms. Hazewood, seconded by Mr. Galligan to seal the minutes of Executive Session

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Bachus, Kirby-Chapman

Votes taken in Executive Session

There were no votes taken in Executive Session

Recognition

Congratulations to Chris Bianco and his student, Josh Howard, for winning gold for Marine Servicing in Atlanta at the SkillsUSA National

Public Comment

Darlene Netcoh - offer congratulations to Chris and Josh. Examples of how great our education system is in Warwick. Presentation on iReady EOY scores and the statement that it's time to change the narrative, and I couldn't agree more. We have outstanding students and teachers. Stop denigrating the Warwick Public Schools. Also want to comment on the Buttonwood land resolution. Interested to know where this land is. I think it's great that this research is done so that the school can turn it over to the City to sell it, and hopefully turn some of that money over to the schools. Schools cost more money because they are the largest department in the city; most employees, all of the students. Overall we have great teachers and a great school system.

Recommended Actions

MOTION 2023-164: Moved by Ms. Hazelwood, seconded by Mr. Galligan approval of minutes of public session May 30, 2023 and June 6, 2023

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Bachus, Kirby-Chapman

MOTION 2023-165: Moved by Ms. Hazelwood, seconded by Mr. Galligan approval of minutes of executive session May 30, 2023 and June 6, 2023

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Bachus, Kirby-Chapman

MOTION 2023-166: Moved by Ms. Hazelwood, seconded by Mr. Galligan approval of July 11, 2023 Warrants

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Bachus, Kirby-Chapman

Announcements-Personnel-As Presented

Professional/Administrative Personnel Items: As Presented
Classified/Middle Management Personnel Items: As Presented
Discussion/Action: See attached spreadsheet - July 11, 2023 Personnel Announcements

MOTION 2023-167: Moved by Ms. Hazelwood, seconded by Mr. Galligan approval

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Bachus, Kirby-Chapman

Donations and Correspondence

Adoption of Policies

MOTION 2023-168: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Hazelwood approval of 1st reading of ING - Therapy Dogs in Schools

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Bachus, Kirby-Chapman

MOTION 2023-169: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Mr. Galligan approval of 1st reading of BDDB - Agenda Format

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Bachus, Kirby-Chapman

New Business

Discussion/Presentation: EOY iReady Presentation

Discussion/Presentation: DEI - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Discussion/Update: FY2023 Monthly Financial Report and Year End Review
- Requisitions Approved $500 - $4,999.00 - Lunch debt $146,608.27

Discussion/Action: The Building Committee is requesting approval from the School Committee to appoint Mr. Brandon Bohl to the School Building Committee - this is required by RIDE

MOTION 2023-170: Moved by Mr. Galligan, seconded by Ms. Bachus approval

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Bachus, Kirby-Chapman

Discussion/Action: Discipline of WTU Employee - motion to uphold Superintendent Dambruch's recommendation as presented in Executive Session

MOTION 2023-171: Moved by Mr. Gallian, seconded by Ms. Hazelwood approval

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Bachus, Kirby-Chapman

Discussion/Action: WTU Contract Negotiations and Contract Extension - motion to approve one year contract as presented in Executive Session

MOTION 2023-172: Moved by Ms. Hazelwood, seconded by Mr. Galligan approval

MOTION PASSES (4-1) (4 ayes - 1 no vote)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Bachus No vote, Kirby Chapman

Discussion/Action: Bid Award - Athletic Supplies & Equipment for the 23-24 School Year

MOTION 2023-173: Moved by Mr. Galligan, seconded by Ms. Hazelwood approval

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Bachus, Kirby-Chapman

Discussion/Action: Bid Award - Alternative Learning Program Services 2024-2025 school year

MOTION 2023-174: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Mr. Galligan approval

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Bachus, Kirby-Chapman

Discussion/Action: Contract Award - Vex Robotics, Inc., purchase of district wide curriculum supplies, materials and technology applications and licenses. budgeted expense for the robotics program Vets and Winman

MOTION 2023-175: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Mr. Galligan approval

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Bachus, Kirby-Chapman

Discussion/Action: Contract Award - Amazon - open purchase order for purchasing textbooks for nonpublic Warwick resident students. **This is a budgeted expense**

MOTION 2023-176: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Ms. Hazelwood approval

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Bachus, Kirby-Chapman

Discussion/Action: Contract Award - Panorama Education, Inc., Panorama License Fee

MOTION 2023-177: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Mr. Galligan approval

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Bachus, Kirby-Chapman

Discussion/Action: Calendar Update - Amend 2023-2024 WPS District Calendar - RIDE made some minor changes to our calendar. They did not have the Presidential primary date, 4/2/24, had to add a day at the end of the year, school will end on 6/18/24. Also wanted us to talk about professional development, we have 3, they do not count as school days. Teachers trained in Right to Read. Students are attending school less than 180 days.

MOTION 2023-178: Moved by Ms. Bachus, seconded by Mr. Galligan approval

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Bachus, Kirby-Chapman

Discussion/Action: Buttonwoods Resolution - The City of Warwick State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations Resolution of the Warwick School Committee. Tom Kravitz - City Planner, we are trying to liquidate some school properties. Buttonwoods, 3027 West Shore Road Property was used as a senior center. School committee reports going back to the 1850s. School was in poor condition and needed to be demolished. Mayor and city solicitor shared with opposing attorney's. The School Committee endorses this resolution. Approve tonight and record evidence and proceed with the sale.

MOTION 2023-179: Moved by Mr. Galligan, seconded by Ms. Hazelwood approval

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Bachus, Kirby-Chapman

Public Comment

Darlene Netcoh - just an addendum to the presentation about the scores. Those tests are not efficiency tests. Making the state test for high schools is a big one. Regarding the calendar, that Right to Read act intended one thing, but RIDE twisted it into something else. RIDE got the power to decide what made a teacher proficient. Teachers are doing a lot of work on their own. Three Professional Development days are not enough to do all of this work. Shame on RIDE for making teachers' lives miserable when they didn't need to. Teachers who are already certified, have Master Degrees in reading have to do this. This is an undue burden on them. How big of RIDE to allow three Professional Development Days.

Caitlin Regan - Special Educator at Warwick Neck. I just wanted to clarify a little bit about how the April Professional Development day was originally on the RIDE calendar for 4/23/24, and then RIDE changed the PD day to statewide PD 4/2/24. Most other districts decided to take that April 2nd day as therapy day so they changed their 4/23/24 day to 4/2/24 instead of just the day off and adding one to the end of the school year so that would have been helpful for us. Also very excited to hear about the alternative learning academy. Hope to learn more information as that bid comes closer in our contract.

Patricia Cousineau - on behalf of the Elementary office, would like to thank Mr. Susla for his years of service as Principal at Lippitt and to the Lippitt community. Now he's moving on to Scott School first grade - congratulations.

Leah Hazelwood - would like to thank Kevin Oliver and his team for the great job they did for the graduation ceremony. WISE Union for what they did. Thank you.

Future Meetings

Warwick School Building Committee Meeting, August 2, 2023, 7:30AM
Monthly School Committee Meeting, August 8, 2023, 7:00PM
Policy Sub Committee Meeting, September 6, 2023, 4:00PM

MOTION 2023-180: Moved by Mr. Galligan, seconded by Ms. Hazelwood approval

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Ayes, Testa, Galligan, Hazelwood, Kirby-Chapman

Meeting adjourned at 8:25PM