MINUTES
WEST WARWICK SCHOOL COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 5, 2026
WEST WARWICK PUBLIC SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
10 HARRIS AVENUE
WEST WARWICK, RI 02893
8:00 A.M.

This meeting was called to order by Luis Colon, Chairperson.

Members Present:	Luis Colon, Chairperson Rene Coutu, Vice-Chairperson Angela Coburn Dennis Peacock Glen Terilli
Administrators Present:	Karen Tarasevich, Superintendent of Schools Christopher Mann, Director of Facilities and Transportation
Recording Secretary:	Michelle Colozzo
1. Open Session	**Open Session** Mr. Colon opened the meeting at 8:00 A.M.
2. Roll Call	**Roll Call** The following members were present: Mr. Colon, Mr. Coutu, Mrs. Coburn, Mr. Peacock, and Mr. Terilli.
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),** **a) Discussion: Contract: Chief Operations Officer RIGL §42-46-5(a)(1)**
MOTION	**MOTION MADE BY ANGELA COBURN THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION ACCORDING TO RI**

GENERAL LAWS 42-46-5 AND 42-46-5, SUBSECTION (a).

a) Discussion: Contract: Chief Operations Officer RIGL §42-46-5(a)(1)

Motion seconded by Rene Coutu. The following members voted in the affirmative: Dennis Peacock, Glen Terilli, Rene Coutu, Angela Coburn, and Luis Colon. Motion unanimously passed.

4. Motion to Close Executive Session

Motion to Close Executive Session

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY RENE COUTU THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION. Motion seconded by Glen Terilli. The following members voted in the affirmative: Angela Coburn, Dennis Peacock, Glen Terilli, Rene Coutu, and Luis Colon. Motion unanimously passed.

5. Open Session - 8:15 A.M.

Open Session - 8:15 A.M.

6. Roll Call

Roll Call

The following members were present: Mr. Colon, Mr. Coutu, Mrs. Coburn, Mr. Peacock, and Mr. Terilli.

7. Motion to Seal Executive Session Minutes

Motion to Seal Executive Session Minutes

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY DENNIS PEACOCK THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE SEAL THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES. Motion seconded by Glen Terilli. The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Angela Coburn, Glen Terilli, Dennis Peacock, and Luis Colon. Motion unanimously passed.

8. Discussion/Approval: West Warwick Teachers' Alliance Contract

Discussion/Approval: West Warwick Teachers' Alliance Contract

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that there be a discussion/approval of the West Warwick Teachers' Alliance Contract.

Mrs. Tarasevich said that Paul Bovenzi is the new president of the teachers' alliance. She said negotiating a lot of times is not easy, and we are really lucky to have Paul leading the team and the team that he has; it was a good and productive and respectful negotiation, and the negotiating team came in good faith willing and wanting to collaborate; they understand the position of the town and the school department combined with what is best for kids and families. She thanked Paul and she said she appreciated his efforts. Mr. Colon said he echoed those remarks; when you have respectful people at the table, it's very nice. He said we had to get creative, but we did it and we did it together.

Mr. Bovenzi said he told his team that he used to think that both sides should walk away happy, but now he thinks both sides should walk away a little upset. He said he is always happy to be collaborative, and he appreciates that you are too.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY DENNIS PEACOCK THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE WEST WARWICK TEACHERS' ALLIANCE CONTRACT. Motion seconded by Rene Coutu. The following members voted in the affirmative: Angela Coburn, Glen Terilli, Rene Coutu, Dennis Peacock, and Luis Colon. Motion unanimously passed.

9. Discussion/Approval: Contract: Chief Operations Officer

Discussion/Approval: Contract: Chief Operations Officer

There was no action on this item.

10. Discussion/Approval: Design Development for Maisie Quinn School, West Warwick High School, and John F. Horgan Elementary School to Rhode Island Department of Education

Discussion/Approval: Design Development for Maisie Quinn School, West Warwick High School, and John F. Horgan Elementary School to Rhode Island Department of Education

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that there be a discussion/approval of the design development for Maisie Quinn School, West Warwick High School, and John F. Horgan Elementary School to the Rhode Island Department of Education.

Mrs. Tarasevich said this is the next step in the approval process through R.I.D.E. for this leg of the project; this is the biggest part. The school building committee has already approved it, and now the school committee is approving it, and then it goes off to R.I.D.E.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY ANGELA COBURN THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE DESIGN DEVELOPMENT FOR MAISIE QUINN SCHOOL, WEST WARWICK HIGH SCHOOL, AND JOHN F. HORGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. Motion seconded by Dennis Peacock. The following members voted in the affirmative: Rene Coutu, Glen Terilli, Dennis Peacock, Angela Coburn, and Luis Colon. Motion unanimously passed.

11. Discussion/Approval: Transpar Proposal re: Route Efficiency Study

Discussion/Approval: Transpar Proposal re: Route Efficiency Study

Mrs. Tarasevich recommended that there be a discussion/approval of the Transpar Proposal re: Route Efficiency Study, and Chris Mann is here to address any questions. Mrs. Tarasevich said in short, this is a study to address the efficiency of our transportation routes–in the end to have efficient routes which would save us money. This is an initiative that R.I.D.E. has instituted in a lot of

districts. There are two parts: the first dollar amount is $9,800 for the study; and then based on that study if we move forward with the work, it would be another $29,000, which could be reimbursable, attached to our building project. Once the boundaries are determined, we need to find the most efficient bus routes.

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY RENE COUTU THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE TRANSPAR PROPOSAL RE: ROUTE EFFICIENCY STUDY. Motion seconded by Glen Terilli. The following members voted in the affirmative: Dennis Peacock, Angela Coburn, Glen Terilli, Rene Coutu, and Luis Colon. Motion unanimously passed.

12. Audience of Citizens

Audience of Citizens

Paul Bovenzi, President of the West Warwick Teachers' Alliance, told the school committee if any of them ever wanted to reach out and have a discussion, he is always willing to sit down. He said he's a collaborative guy who would rather get in front of problems before they become too big.

13. Adjournment

Adjournment

MOTION

MOTION MADE BY RENE COUTU THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ADJOURN THE MEETING. Motion seconded by Angela Coburn. The following members voted in the affirmative: Glen Terilli, Dennis Peacock, Angela Coburn, Rene Coutu, and Luis Colon. Motion unanimously passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rene Coutu, Vice-Chairperson

Michelle Colozzo, Recorder