

GATEWAY REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The Gateway Regional School District will provide an exemplary education that challenges all students in an instructional setting appropriate to their needs.

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2021 - 7:00 P.M.

******FY '20 & 21 Retirement Recognition will be held from 6:30-7:00 p.m.***
Please use same link as school committee meeting***

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78703145727?pwd=SDF0aFJNNmJMT1Nrb2Jna0FidW1uZz09>
Meeting ID: 787 0314 5727
Passcode: 63fV71

(A PORTION OF THIS MEETING MAY BE HELD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION)

I. OPENING OF MEETING

<u>BLANDFORD</u>	<u>CHESTER</u>	<u>HUNTINGTON</u>	<u>MIDDLEFIELD</u>
Michele Crane	Jason Forgue	David Lubbers	Sarah Foley
Terri Garfield	Martha Otterbeck	Melissa Nazzaro	

<u>MONTGOMERY</u>	<u>RUSSELL</u>	<u>SECRETARY</u>
	Tara Balboni	Stacy Stewart
	Sarah Page	

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION
Dr. David B. Hopson, Superintendent
Stephanie Fisk, Asst. Superintendent

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
Martha Clark, High/Middle AP
Megan Coburn, Chs,Lit Principal
Jason Finnie, Middle/High Principal
Kurt Garivaltis, Pupil Services Director
Deanna LeBlanc, Curriculum Director
Darlene Rehor, Elementary AP

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES
Brian Forgue

OTHERS: Ruth Harper, Jim Duggan, Val Zeh, Elizabeth Hamaoui, Kristen Smidy, Tom Kulig, Matt Bonenfant, Ramona Thieme, Kathie Preuss, Angela Dalton, Wendy Long, Mary Krupa, Gail Gingras, Melissa McCaul

II. PUBLIC INPUT FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA (3 Minute Limit)

A.

III. STUDENT COUNCIL INPUT

- Brian Fogue said AP tests are going on right now. Stressful but confident and happy they will be done by May 25. Spring Fling is similar to reindeer games which they usually have. NHS met after school and they are planning for the induction ceremony on May 26, 2021. Mr. Duggan determined senior and senior students are the only ones present besides a couple of advisors. It will be live streamed. Baseball and softball season is going on. It was real to him and his dad.
- The town of Chester has made a significant improvement to remove a non participating school committee member. attorney general's office to get a recall to go through. As soon as this summer Chester will elect a school committee member who will participate and have students in the best interest.
- Mrs. Crane said we need to find someone to participate.
- Brian said Joe Pasani is hoping to take his place. Graduation is June 4 and each senior will get 6 guests.

IV. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS/RECOGNITION

A.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

- A. Recommendation to Participate in School Choice for the FY '22 School Year
- Dr. Hopson said this is for incoming students only.

Mrs. Foley made a motion seconded by Mrs. Balboni to accept School Choice for the FY '22 School Year.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 9 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Tara, Sarah F., Jason, Terri, David, Melissa, Sarah P., Martha, Michele

B. Approval of FY '22 Student Activity Accounts

Mrs. Otterbeck made a motion seconded by Mrs. Foley to approve the FY '22 Student Activity Accounts.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 9 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Tara, Sarah F., Jason, Terri, David, Melissa, Sarah P., Martha, Michele

C. Wrestling

Matt Bonenfant said MIAA approved wrestling for the spring. Remember that baseball and EEA documents say they still need to wear masks. This is the last competitive sport we have left to participate in. Wrestling will take place in the MS gym. Keeps 50% capacity in the middle school locker room. To go to meets they have to have 10 practices in before they can participate in a meet. The season will end before the last day of school goes. June 11th is the end date and Monday of next week is the start date. Both meets take place on the road. We have one senior and we can work on a senior night. He recommends using a minivan for travel to save on budget. Only those who wrestled in the past season can participate in any competition. Any new wrestler is a practice only wrestler. There are seven returning interested wrestlers.

Mrs. Otterbeck made a motion seconded by Mrs. Balboni to approve Wrestling.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 9 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Tara, Sarah F., Jason, Terri, David, Melissa, Sarah P., Martha, Michele

D. School Committee FY '22 Meeting Schedule

Mrs. Balboni made a motion to approve the FY '22 School Committee Meeting Schedule with one change - moving the November meeting to the first week.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 9 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Tara, Sarah F., Jason, Terri, David, Melissa, Sarah P., Martha, Michele

VI. NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

A. Superintendent requests authorization for the District Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer under the provisions of M.G.L., Chapter 71, Section 16 (9), and with the approval of the Chairperson of the Gateway Regional Regional School Committee, to incur temporary debt, (borrow from time to time) in anticipation of revenue to be received from and source for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021. This is for short term borrowing in case assessments are not received on time, etc.

- Move to Old Business.

B. Recommendation to Participate in the National School Lunch Program.

- Mrs. Crane said the lunch ladies have done yeoman's work. They have done a wonderful job. They have their capes on. They were superheroes this year.

- Move to Old Business

C. Budget transfers

- Ms. Fisk said these will come up for a vote at the June meeting. Some under expenditures in transportation so want to look at purchasing some new vans.
- Mr. Garivaltis said that would be fabulous.
- Move to Old Business.

VII. CONSENT ITEMS 4/14/2021 (Enc.)

Mr. Forgue made a motion seconded by Mrs. Balboni to approve the minutes of 4/14/2021.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 7 Nays Abstain 2 Absent (Roll Call Vote)

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS

A. School Committee

- Mr. Forgue met with Mrs. LeBlanc about curriculum and updates that are happening- He is very enthusiastic about the changes. Our performance on MCAS on math in middle school needs some help. We have a lot of plans and it is exciting.

B. Chairperson

1. June Meeting Remote/In person

- Dr. Hopson if you wanted to meet in person put the school committee on stage - probably won't have to do a combination of in person and remote.
- Mrs. Crane asked what the committee would prefer.
- Mrs. Nazzaro would like to be in person in June.
- Mrs. Garfield would like to be in person.
- Mrs. Balboni said it seems like it would be a good idea.
- June meeting will be in person

2. Warrant Signing Subcommittee

- Mrs. Crane was concerned about enough warranty signers over the summer, due to the turnover. (over the summer and the beginning of the fall)
- Mr. Lubbers is not sure he is qualified but is a quick learner.
- Mrs. Crane went over the process. She said it allows us to do the bookkeeping we do.
- Mr. Lubbers is not elected yet. Appoint Mr. Lubbers to the warrant signing committee in June plus July and August if re-elected.
- Mrs. Nazzaro said there is good availability usually Tuesday late, Wednesday, and Thursday.
- Mrs. Crane will have Linda Coffey email him.

3. Graduation Attendance

- Mrs. Crane asked if they can all attend as in the past.

- Mr. Finnie said the big challenge will be the stage and the need to be 6 feet apart. It will be similar to last year; no shaking hands.
- Mrs. Crane said to let Mr. Finnie know if you are interested in attending by a week from today. Sarah Foley, Michele, Tara, Martha, Jason, and David said they would attend. There will be student performers, but very limited. - graduates can be 3 feet apart. It will take place on the booster field. Chief Garriepy is willing to help out. Seating in groups of 6 will be general seating.

C. Superintendent - None

D. Assistant Superintendent - FY 22 3rd Quarter Report

- Ms. Fisk said under expenditures in transportation and the delay in filling positions will be some of the transfers.

E. Administration

- Mr. Finnie said Brian Forgue did a great job overviewing everything he was going to go over.

F. Town

- Meetings are coming up. All in June

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTING

- A. Superintendent Search
- B. Legislative Liaison
- C. Policy Subcommittee
- D. Building Liaisons

X. OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Future Agenda Items

XI. INFORMATION

Information

The warrant signing committee had reviewed the following warrants, found them to be in order, and approved them.

Warrants

AP#1072 \$48,937.79	PR#22 \$375,326.86
AP#1073 \$2,147.96	PR#23 \$355,902.47
AP#1074 \$21.49	
AP#1075 \$185,558.71	
AP#1078 \$47,750.56	
AP#1080 \$11.20	

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

8:35 or earlier

A. Negotiations: Union (GEA)

XIII. ADJOURNMENT at 9 p.m. unless extended by majority vote.

Mrs.Foley made a motion seconded by Mrs. Balboni to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 9 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Tara, Sarah F., Jason, Terri, David, Melissa, Sarah P., Martha, Michele

Respectfully Submitted,
Stacy L Stewart
School Committee Secretary