

GATEWAY REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

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

JOINT BUDGET/REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2018

Middle School 112/114

7:00 P.M.

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

I. OPENING OF MEETING

BLANDFORD

Michele Crane
Terri Garfield

CHESTER

Jason Fogue
Martha Otterbeck
Shirley Winer

HUNTINGTON

Darlene McVeigh
Melissa Nazzaro

MIDDLEFIELD

Sarah Foley

MONTGOMERY

Madelyn Austin

RUSSELL

Tara Balboni
Sarah Page
Lyndsey Papillon

SECRETARY

Stacy Stewart

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

Dr. David B. Hopson, Superintendent
Stephanie Fisk, Business & Finance

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Megan Coburn, Chs,Lit Principal
Jason Finnie, Middle/High Principal
Kurt Garivaltis, Pupil Services Director
Deanna LeBlanc, High/Middle Assistant Principal
Darlene Rehor, Elementary Assistant Principal

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

OTHERS: Chris Tamburrino, Peter Spotts, Wayne Precanico, Bill Levakis, Dan Jacques, Joe Kearns, John Baldasaro, Ruth Kennedy, Josh Garcia, Attorney Jim Lampke, Attorney Daniel Lampke, Attorney Russell Dupere

- Mrs. Crane opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- Mr. Spotts is recording the meeting.

7:05 p.m. II. PUBLIC INPUT FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA (3 Minute Limit) - None

III. STUDENT COUNCIL INPUT

- Robert Austin said winter sports have started. The girls' basketball team won their first game. The boys had their first game yesterday. As school match wits has their qualifying match on the 15th. NHS went shopping for their Toys for Tots drive. A gentleman gave them a donation while they were shopping. Toys will be delivered this week to local families in need. The MS concert band and choir held their holiday performance last night. The HS school band and choir is hosting theirs tomorrow night. Pet food and donations are being collected for spirit points. Showcases contest last was last week. And spirit week activities included white out, ugly sweater day, candy cane day, and class colors.

IV. JOINT EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Joint Executive Session with Town Officials Regarding Worthington's Withdrawal

Mrs. Otterbeck made a motion seconded by Mrs. Foley to go into executive session for the purpose of a joint executive session with town officials regarding Worthington's Withdrawal to return to open session.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 12 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Sarah F., Jason, Terri, Melissa, Sarah P., Darlene, Lyndsey, Martha, Shirley, Michele

Returned to open session at 8:18 p.m.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

A. Motion to Recognize the GEA/MTA/NEA as the Collective Bargaining Unit for Gateway Food Services Employees.

Mrs. Otterbeck made a motion seconded by Mrs. Garfield to Recognize the GEA/MTA/NEA as the Collective Bargaining Unit for Gateway Food Services Employees.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 12 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Sarah F., Jason, Terri, Melissa, Sarah P., Darlene, Lyndsey, Martha, Shirley, Michele

B. Policies

- a. IJNDD – Policy on Social Media
- b. IJOB – Community Resource Persons/Speakers
- c. IMG – Animals in School
- d. JCA – Assignment of Students to Schools
- e. JEA – Delete (Compulsory Attendance Ages)
- f. JEB – Entrance Age
- g. JFABD – Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights and Services
- h. JFABE – Educational Opportunities for Military Children
- i. JFABF – Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care
- j. JFBB – School Choice

Mrs. Garfield made a motion seconded by Mrs. Foley to approve Policies a-j.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 12 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Sarah F., Jason, Terri, Melissa, Sarah P., Darlene, Lyndsey, Martha, Shirley, Michele

7:30 VI. NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

A. Chapter 74 Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

- Will be included in the Budget Presentation.

B. December Grant Approvals (Enc.)

Mrs. Foley made a motion seconded by Mrs. Papillon to suspend the two-meeting rule to vote on the December Grant Approvals.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 12 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Sarah F., Jason, Terri, Melissa, Sarah P., Darlene, Lyndsey, Martha, Shirley, Michele

Mrs. Otterbeck made a motion seconded by Mrs. Garfield to Approve the December Grants.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 11 Nays Abstain 1 Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Sarah F., Jason, Terri, Melissa, Sarah P., Darlene, Lyndsey, Martha, Michele
Abstain: Shirley

C. Request Letter of Support from MASC Regarding Claw Back Support

- MARS facilitated discussion suggested having Mrs. Crane write a letter to pursue support from MASC. We included Mr. Myers' information in the packet regarding claw back.
- The committee would like to move forward with this.

7:30 VII. JOINT BUDGET SESSION WITH TOWN OFFICIALS

A. Administrator Presentations

- Mrs. Coburn gave a PowerPoint presentation.
- Mr. Myers said the numbers in preschool are terrific. There is an increase in Gateway, This is huge for Gateway.
- Mrs. Coburn said we have a huge transient population.
- Mrs. Balboni asked if they are coming in or out,
- Mrs. Coburn said they are fosters, moving in with relatives, or into apartments.
- Mr. Garivaltis said we have 16 kids in DCF custody. 9 of them are homeless.
- Mrs. Kennedy said when you say disabilities what is the range?
- Mr. Garivaltis said neurological, communications, physical disability, IEP's, speech and language, social emotional, etc.
- Mr. Levakas asked how we compensate for the revenue we are losing from the grant.
- Dr. Hopson said operating expenses.
- Mr. Levakis said so there are no cuts.
- Dr. Hopson said no.
- Mrs. McVeigh said so you can have the same child in multiple categories (students receiving additional support).
- Mrs. Coburn and Mr. Garivaltis said yes.
- Mrs. Winer as someone who learned about dyslexia what is the current definition.
- Mr. Garivaltis said Dyslexia is a specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin. It is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities. These difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction. Secondary consequences may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can impede growth of vocabulary and background knowledge." where you have trouble organizing letters, spelling,

Mrs. Balboni made a motion seconded by Mrs. Papillon to extend the meeting to 9:30 p.m. or earlier.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 12 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Sarah F., Jason, Terri, Melissa, Sarah P., Darlene, Lyndsey, Martha, Shirley, Michele

- Mr. Finnie gave a PowerPoint presentation.
- Mrs. LeBlanc spoke about the social emotional leaning and the supports being put in place. Inclusive practice, PBL's and tiered supports.
- Mr. Finnie said the projected needs include a teacher for the Chapter 74 program. Part A is due on Friday. The second part is due in April and includes the creation of a Program Advisory Council. It cannot be comprised of school members or school committee members. It needs to be fully formed by the end of April. He found two places that are willing to participate; one in Westfield and one in Easthampton. Students will get dual enrollment credits and EEC hours. We will be discussing an articulation agreement with an accredited community college. Mr. Finnie will be reaching out to the community and students.
- Mr. Garivaltis talked about special education at the end of each.
- Mrs. McVeigh asked a student can be between x and \$300,000 and the state would be working with the schools. Let's say the max is \$300,000. How much does gateway have to pay.
- Mr. Garivaltis said the most expensive school is about ½ million dollars. What you are talking about is circuit breaker. The district would pay \$48,000. You would receive reimbursement the following year.
- Mrs. Nazzaro said the stabilization isn't to cover \$200,000 or \$300,000 per year; it is funding to pay until you get the money back the following year.

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS 11/14/18 (Enc.)

- Moved to next meeting

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. School Committee
- B. Chairperson
 - School Committee Goals
- C. Superintendent
 - Central Office Update (Enc.)
- D. Business Manager
- E. Administration
- F. Town

X. COMMITTEE REPORTING

- A. Superintendent's Evaluation - Next Meeting 1/9/19
- B. Legislative Liaison
- C. Policy Subcommittee – Next Meeting 12/12/18
- D. Building Liaisons

XI. OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Future Agenda Items

XII. INFORMATION

Information

Education Foundation Supports the Arts at Gateway
 Gateway hosts annual College Week
 Superintendent's Corner November 9, 2018
 Gateway Thanksgiving Break
 Save the date for Annual Holiday Brunch and Concert!
 Gateway doubles attendance at 2nd Annual Lunch & Learn
 GEF Parker Atkin letter to the editor
 RSVP's sough for annual Senior Citizens Brunch and Concert
 Superintendent's Corner November 15, 2018
 December School Committee meeting
 Students organize "Stop the Bleed" Training at Gateway
 Superintendent's Corner November 26, 2018
 Gateway College Week
 Annual Grandfriends Day a success for elementary schools

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

Warrant

AP#1034 \$159,508.79	PR#010 \$376,790.25
AP#1040 \$61.98	PR#011 \$374,639.79
AP#1039 \$91,126.86	

8:35-9 p.m. XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – earlier in meeting or earlier
XIX. Adjournment:

Mrs. Nazzaro made a motion seconded by Mrs. McVeigh to adjourn at 9:29 p.m.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 12 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Sarah F., Jason, Terri, Melissa, Sarah P., Darlene, Lyndsey, Martha, Shirley, Michele

Respectfully Submitted,
Stacy L Stewart,
School Committee Secretary