

GATEWAY REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2016

Russell Town Hall

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

Shirley Winer
Martha Otterbeck
Diane Dunn

HUNTINGTON

Ron Damon
Kara Rousseau
Jeff Wyand

MIDDLEFIELD

MONTGOMERY

Anne Marie Buikus
Madelyn Austin

RUSSELL

Tara Balboni
Heather Morgan
Lyndsey Papillon

SECRETARY

Stacy Stewart

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

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

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Joanne Blocker, Director of Academics
Megan Coburn, Chs,Lit Principal
Jason Finnie, Middle/ High Principal
Sara Laing, Chs,Lit, Assistant Principal
Wendy Long, District Grant Writer
Anthony Sabonis, Middle/High Assistant Principal
Alice Taverna, Pupil Services Director

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

OTHERS: _____

7:05 p.m. II. PUBLIC INPUT FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA (3 Minute Limit)

- Mrs. Crane opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- Mrs. Buikus, Mrs. Austin, and the reporter are recording the meeting.

III. STUDENT COUNCIL INPUT - None

IV. REORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE

- There was discussion about voting for the chair by ballot. School Committee will be voting by ballot for the chair per our policy. It was stated the chair has to be voted by ballot.

A. Chairperson

Mrs. Garfield nominated Mrs. Crane as Chair.

Mr. Damon made a motion seconded by Mrs. Papillon to have the secretary cast one vote for Mrs. Crane as Chair.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 10 Nays 1 Abstain Absent 2 (Ballot Vote)

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Ron, Diane, Terri, Heather, Lyndsey, Martha, Kara, Michele

Nays: Anne-Marie
Absent: Shirley, Jeff

B. Vice-Chairperson

Mrs. Garfield nominated Mrs. Otterbeck as Vice Chair.

Mr. Damon made a motion seconded by Mrs. Papillon to have the secretary cast one vote for Martha Otterbeck for vice chair.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 11 Nays Abstain Absent 2 (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Anne-Marie, Ron, Diane, Terri, Heather, Lyndsey, Martha, Kara, Michele
Absent: Shirley, Jeff

C. Secretary (Stacy Stewart)

Mr. Damon nominated seconded by Mrs. Otterbeck for Stacy Stewart as secretary.

Mr. Damon made a motion seconded by Mrs. Otterbeck to have the secretary cast one vote for Stacy Stewart as secretary.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 11 Nays Abstain Absent 2 (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Anne-Marie, Ron, Diane, Terri, Heather, Lyndsey, Martha, Kara, Michele
Absent: Shirley, Jeff

REORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE (Continued)

D. District Treasurer (Deborah Kuhn)

Mrs. Dunn nominated seconded by Mr. Damon Deb Kuhn as District Treasurer.

Mr. Damon made a motion seconded by Mrs. Otterbeck to have the secretary cast one ballot for Deb Kuhn as District Treasurer.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 11 Nays Abstain Absent 2 (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Anne-Marie, Ron, Diane, Terri, Heather, Lyndsey, Martha, Kara, Michele
Absent: Shirley, Jeff

E. Legislative Contact

Mrs. Balboni nominated Lyndsey Papillon as Legislative Contact.

Mr. Damon made a motion seconded by Mrs. Otterbeck to have the secretary cast one ballot for Mrs. Papillon as Legislative Contact.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 12 Nays Abstain Absent 1 (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Anne-Marie, Ron, Diane, Terri, Heather, Lyndsey, Martha Kara, Shirley, Michele
Absent: Jeff

F. Counsel for the Committee (Dupere Law Office)

Mrs. Dunn nominated seconded by Mrs. Otterbeck for Dupere Law Offices as Counsel for the committee.

Mr. Damon made a motion seconded by Mrs. Otterbeck to have the secretary cast one ballot for Dupere as Counsel for the committee.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 13 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Anne-Marie, Ron, Diane, Terri, Heather, Lyndsey, Martha, Kara, Shirley, Jeff, Michele

G. Negotiator for the Committee (Dupere Law Office)

Mr. Damon nominated seconded by Mrs. Otterbeck for Dupere Law Offices as Negotiator for the committee.

Mrs. Balboni made a motion seconded by Mrs. Papillon to have the secretary cast one vote for Dupere Law Offices as Negotiator for the committee.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 13 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Anne-Marie, Ron, Diane, Terri, Heather, Lyndsey, Martha, Kara, Shirley, Jeff, Michele

H. Sick Bank Committee (2 members)

- Sarah, Ron, Michele

I. Negotiations Committee

- Madelyn, Tara, Shirley, Ron

J. Superintendent's Evaluation Committee

- Michele, Sarah, Shirley, Tara, Terri, Kara

K. Policy Committee

- Diane, Jeff, Terri, Michele

L. Warrant Signing Committee

- Jeff, Ron, Michele, Shirley, Diane, Anne-Marie

V. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS/RECOGNITIONS - None

7:35 - VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

A. Recommendation to hire Pupil Services Director

Mr. Damon made a motion seconded by Mrs. Balboni to accept Dr. Hopson's recommendation, to hire Kurt Galivaltis as Pupil Services Director.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 12 Nays Abstain 1 Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Ron, Diane, Terri, Heather, Lyndsey, Martha, Kara, Shirley, Jeff, Michele

Abstain: Anne-Marie

B. Approval of Superintendent's FY '17 Goals

Mrs. Winer made a motion seconded by Mrs. Papillon to approve the FY '17 Superintendent's Goals.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 13 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Anne-Marie, Ron, Diane, Terri, Heather, Lyndsey, Martha, Kara, Shirley, Jeff, Michele

8:00 - VII. NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

8:30 p.m.

A. High/Middle School Handbook Changes 2016-2017 (Enc.)

- Mr. Finnie said verbal assault has been added to the list of offences in the handbook, Tobacco products has been expanded. The new guest form is more extensive for prom and semi. There is a more rigorous process for guests now. The new SBIRT new screening is now a mandate.
- Mr. Wyand asked about the absences change.
- Mr. Finnie said it makes sure we have the documentation for anyone who needs a 504 plan.
- Mr. Wyand was concerned about the definition of a long period of time.
- Mr. Finnie will clarify the definition.

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS 6/22/16 (Enc.)

Mrs. Otterbeck made a motion seconded by Mrs. Garfield to approve the minutes of 6/22/16 with corrections.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 11 Nays Abstain 2 Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Anne-Marie, Ron, Diane, Terri, Lyndsey, Martha, Shirley, Jeff, Michele
Abstain: Heather, Kara

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

A. School Committee - None

B. Chairperson

- Mrs. Crane reminded everyone about school committee training.
- She will touch base with Pat Corriera about goal setting.
- The early bird deadline for the MASC/Joint Conference is July 15 if anyone is interested in going.

C. Superintendent

Central Office Update (Enc.)

- Dr. Hopson said Ms. Fisk will update us on the budget. MARS is on board as the consultant mandated by DESE. We have 80% of the information collected. They will be visiting in fall and a draft report should be out in February. Mr. Garivaltis is our new pupil services replacement. We are looking for a new history teacher in the high school.
- Secretaries have a new representative and are setting up initial dates for negotiations.

D. Business Manager

- Ms. Fisk said the Governor has signed the final budget and DESE has put out numbers. They left the options to us. We could go to the towns and ask for more money or make the changes. No one can have an increase in their assessments. We could leave it that far out of balance but she doesn't feel comfortable with that. She increased earned interest, Medicaid receipts, and Charter reimbursements. Every town will receive new assessments. All towns will have a decrease except for Russell, they are at 0%. School committee does not have to vote because we are not using E & D.
- Dr. Hopson said minimum contribution is down by \$55,000. Ms. Fisk went through and it left us a balance of \$33,000. She increased revenue so we have a balanced budget at this point.

E. Administration

- Mrs. Long said LTM worked on redesign aspects of the website to make improvements so it will be easier and function better. Look for those changes in 2 to 3 weeks.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTING

A. Superintendent's Evaluation

- The next Superintendent's Evaluation meeting is September 14, 2016 at the Blandford Town Hall.

B.. Legislative Liaison – None

C. Policy Subcommittee

- The next Policy Subcommittee meeting is September 28, 2016 at the Chester Elementary School.
- The next school committee meeting is August 24, 2016 at the Middlefield Town Hall.

D. Building Liaisons - None

XI. OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**Future Agenda Items**

XII. INFORMATION**Information****Warrant**

AP#1097 \$151,526.72

PR#26 \$399,810.99

AP#1000 \$574,518.28 FY '17

PR#26.2 \$917,489.35

PR#26.1 \$30,933.58

**8:35-9 p.m. XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION
or earlier**

Litigation: Kennedy, et al. v. Commonwealth of Massachusetts, et al. - No.:HSCV2014-00210

- No Executive Session or Update

XIX. ADJOURNMENT*Mrs. Otterbeck made a motion seconded by Mr. Damon to adjourn at 7:45 p.m.**Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 13 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)*

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Anne-Marie, Ron, Diane, Terri, Heather, Lyndsey, Martha, Kara, Shirley, Jeff, Michele

Respectfully Submitted,
Stacy L Stewart,
School Committee Secretary