

**GATEWAY REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2016**

**Room 214/216 Jr. High School**

**7:30 P.M.**

All those attending the school committee meeting should sign in at the security booth.

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

**I. OPENING OF MEETING**

BLANDFORD  
Michele Crane  
Terri Garfield

CHESTER  
Shirley Winer  
Diane Dunn

HUNTINGTON

MIDDLEFIELD  
Sarah Foley

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,Ms Principal  
Jason Finnie, High/Jr. High Principal  
Sara Laing, Chs,Lit, Ms Assistant Principal  
Wendy Long, District Grant Writer  
Anthony Sabonis, High/Jr. High Assistant Principal  
Alice Taverna, Pupil Services Director

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

OTHERS: \_\_\_\_\_

**7:35 p.m. II. PUBLIC INPUT (3 Minute Limit) - None**

- Mrs. Crane opened the meeting at 7:35 p.m.
- Mrs. Austin, Mrs. Buikus and the reporter are recording the meeting.
- Mrs. Crane passed around the Perspective’s Magazine created by the seniors.
- Mrs. Winer said the Stone Wall publication is out again.

**III. STUDENT COUNCIL INPUT**

- Brennan Foley said Graduation went well. The guest speaker was very kind, funny, and he talked a lot. Fortunately there was no rain.

**IV. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS/RECOGNITIONS - None**

**7:45 V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/ACTION ITEM**

**A. Recommendation to participate in the National School Lunch Program.**

*Mrs. Foley made a motion seconded by Mrs. Balboni to approve the recommendation to participate in the National School Lunch Program.*

*Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 10 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)*

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Anne-Marie, Diane, Sarah, Terri, Heather, Lyndsey, Shirley, Michele

**B. Recommendation to Accept School Choice for the 2016-2017 School Year.**

*Mrs. Winer made a motion seconded by Mrs. Garfield to approve the recommendation to accept School Choice for the FY '17 school year.*

- Mrs. Winer asked if there is a pattern.
- Dr. Hopson said most students choosing in are from Westfield and Worthington. Outgoing choice is all over the place. We have more coming in now then the last couple of years.
- Mrs. Buikus asked if we will be able to take elementary children.
- Dr. Hopson said yes. It will pretty much be the same as before. He said 2<sup>nd</sup> grade had two teachers instead of three because of the numbers.
- Mrs. Buikus said some have three teachers in a grade.
- Dr. Hopson said yes. Mrs. Coburn was concerned about the number of preschool and special needs. She will determine how many openings she has.
- Mrs. Foley asked if we have children who choice in specifically for welding.
- Dr. Hopson said we have the only metal fabrication program, but he doesn't know that students choice in specifically for that.

*Mrs. Winer made a motion seconded by Mrs. Garfield to approve the recommendation to accept School Choice for the FY '17 school year.*

*Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 10 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)*

Yeas: Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Anne-Marie, Diane, Sarah, Terri, Heather, Lyndsey, Shirley, Michele

**C. Superintendent requests authorization for the District Treasurer or Assistant District Treasurer under provisions of M.G.L., Chapter 71 Section 16 (9) and with the approval of the Chairperson for the Gateway Regional Committee, to incur temporary debt (borrow from time to time) in anticipation of revenue to be received from any source for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016. This is for short-term borrowing in case assessments are not received in time, etc.**

*Mrs. Papillon made a motion seconded by Mrs. Foley to approve the following recommendation: . Superintendent requests authorization for the District Treasurer or Assistant District Treasurer under provisions of M.G.L., Chapter 71 Section 16 (9) and with the approval of the Chairperson for the Gateway Regional Committee, to incur temporary debt (borrow from time to time) in anticipation of revenue to be received from any source for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016. This is for short-term borrowing in case assessments are not received in time, etc.*

*Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 10 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)*

Yeas: Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Anne-Marie, Diane, Sarah, Terri, Heather, Lyndsey, Shirley, Michele

*Mrs. Winer made a motion seconded by Mrs. Garfield to go into executive session at or before 8:30 p.m. for the purposed of Litigation: Kennedy, et al. v. Commonwealth of Massachusetts, et al. - No.:HSCV2014-00210 not to return to open session.*

*Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 10 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)*

Yeas: Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Anne-Marie, Diane, Sarah, Terri, Heather, Lyndsey, Shirley, Michele

**VI. NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS - None**

**VII. CONSENT ITEMS 5/25/16 (Enc.)**

*Mrs. Dunn made a motion seconded by Mrs. Balboni to approve the minutes of 5/25/16.*

*Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 10 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)*

Yeas: Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Anne-Marie, Diane, Sarah, Terri, Heather, Lyndsey, Shirley, Michele

## **VIII. COMMUNICATIONS**

### **A. School Committee - None**

### **B. Chairperson**

- Mrs. Crane said Graduation was lovely. There was nice weather, sunshine, and the students who spoke did a nice job. They acknowledged what a special place Gateway is and the community quality. Everyone knows everyone and they each receive special attention.
- Mrs. Foley said at the senior awards, the valedictorian and salutatorian were holding hands as they entered the awards. It was a friendly rivalry at awards ceremony.

### **C. Superintendent**

Central Office Update (Enc.)

- Dr. Hopson said DESE has approved the contracts. (teachers, custodians, and café) We have two copies for Mrs. Crane to sign; one for café and one for custodians. We will have the teachers' soon. The secretaries have been postponed as they have a new union representative.

### **D. Business Manager**

- Ms. Fisk received a resignation from Brian Wing. He is going to Williston. He will be in charge of about 70 buildings there. She attended the Collaborative Task Force meeting where Jeff Wulfson was the guest. She typed up an overview and handed a copy to everyone. She went over the sheet she handed out.
- She said we already do a lot of dual enrollment with Westfield State and HCC
- Mrs. Winer said the last time we brought up the 4-day school week, DESE was set against it.
- Dr. Hopson said the consultant issue came up. DESE has just approved the RFP requesting quotes. The RFP has been simplified. We will see if it stays in the \$35,000.
- Mrs. McVeigh asked Jeff Wulfson about school use and MSBA payback. Because we are closing down wings of the building could we approach Westfield State to lease the space. Gateway has the best technology in the state. They could have satellite courses here at Gateway. She also asked about who to talk to when school buildings are closed with regards to MSBA payback, if the towns are utilizing their buildings. Westfield is not going to be in Russell for ever. What would they consider for reusing the schools and not having to pay back? It was an interesting meeting it is too bad none of you were able to be there.
- Ms. Fisk said MSBA is not very flexible.

### **E. Administration**

- Mrs. Long said the middle school orientation is Wednesday June 15 from 6-7:30 in the auditorium. An all call out went to those families. There is a parent survey out right now to see what the preferences and needs are for families for communication. It went out in red folders at the elementary level, will be available at the orientation, and are online. The high school starts finals on Friday. Next week is end of year wrap up. Littleville has field day Wednesday and 8<sup>th</sup> grade awards are the last day of school.

## **IX. COMMITTEE REPORTING**

### **A. Superintendent's Evaluation**

Evaluation Survey Update

- Evaluation met tonight.
- Goals for next year and the results of the survey will be included in the next packet.

### **B. Legislative Liaison - None**

### **C. Policy Subcommittee - None**

### **D. Building Liaisons**

- Mrs. Balboni said Littleville had their spirit week. Middle school had Harry Potter day, which was great because it was all around literature. The spring concert was long but excellent.
- Mrs. Austin asked if we could keep the building open without bussing.
- Ms. Fisk said it is illegal for regionals.

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

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**XI. INFORMATION****Information**

June School Committee meetings  
Family 'Paint & Dodgeball' event at Middle School  
Middle school, junior high Spring Concert  
Superintendent's Corner May 27, 2016  
Staff honored at reception hosted by school committee

**Warrant**

AP#1088 \$31,281.83                      PR# 024 \$377,653.60

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**XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION****A. Litigation: Kennedy, et al. v. Commonwealth of Massachusetts, et al. - No.:HSCV2014-00210**

*Mrs. Winer made a motion seconded by Mrs. Garfield to go into executive session at or before 8:30 p.m. for the purposed of Litigation: Kennedy, et al. v. Commonwealth of Massachusetts, et al. - No.:HSCV2014-00210 not to return to open session.*

*Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 10 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)*

Yeas: Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Anne-Marie, Diane, Sarah, Terri, Heather, Lyndsey, Shirley, Michele

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**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

*Mrs. Dunn made a motion seconded by Mrs. Balboni to adjourn at 8:07 p.m.*

*Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 10 Nays Abstain Absent (Roll Call Vote)*

Yeas: Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Anne-Marie, Diane, Sarah, Terri, Heather, Lyndsey, Shirley, Michele

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Respectfully Submitted,  
Stacy L Stewart,  
School Committee Secretary