

GATEWAY REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2015

**Room 214/216 Jr. High
7:30 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

HUNTINGTON
Ron Damon
William Hathaway
Jeff Wyand

MIDDLEFIELD
Sarah Foley

MONTGOMERY

RUSSELL
Ruth Kennedy

WORTHINGTON
Sue Levreault

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
Wendy Long, District Grant Writer
Alice Taverna, Pupil Services Director

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

OTHERS: _____

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

- Mark Richards from Woodland Way in Russell is concerned about his bus stop. It just changed from winter to regular bussing. He is looking to have winter bussing all year long.
- Dr. Hopson said he and Ms. Fisk will look at it.
- Derrick Mason, Russell finance, said GTAC will be meeting Saturday from 9:30-11:00 a.m. at Stanton Hall. This is an opportunity for people to interact with town officials on a monthly basis in a much broader forum.

III. STUDENT COUNCIL INPUT

- Brennan Foley reported the junior and freshman classes sponsored a paint class. The junior class is planning for the prom. Tickets are\$ 60. They are planning for Disney next year. They are also planning for SAT's in May and ACT and ASVAB in June. Guidance counselors are meeting with students. College planning night is tomorrow from 6-7. MCAS started today for freshman and sophmores. Military college apparel day is Friday. They are working on an alternative to the semi-formal. April 2 is the cabaret starting at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$2 for students. Concert band is going to MICCA competitions and playing 3 selections. The choir competed and got bronze and men in group got best male performance. Drama club working hard toward they're debut on April 10th and 11th. Model UN went to a conference at UMASS and every student won something except for one, and they also won best small delegation. Gateway students will be talking about drinking and driving before prom.

IV. CONSENT ITEMS 3/4/15 (Enc.) 3/11/15, 3/18/15

Mrs. Levreault made a motion seconded by Mr. Damon to approve the minutes of 3/4/15.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 8 Nays Abstain 2 Absent

V. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS/RECOGNITIONS

- A. Chester/Littleville/Middle School Update** – Moved to the next meeting due to the weather.
-

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

A. School Committee

- Mrs. Kennedy went to the competition of the show choir in Andover. She encourages everyone to come on the 2nd. We have got to be proud of our show choir. Boys got best stage presence.
- Mrs. Foley asked what happened in Andover.
- Mrs. Kennedy said the New England show choir show down. Competition for show choir's and this is the 4th year Gateway has been in it.
- Mrs. Kennedy said on April 11 from 1-3 there will be a PARCC presentation. She has a surprise for everyone in the beginning. She is hoping to have refreshments.

B. Chairperson

- Mrs. Crane called attention to a letter in support of the Pupil Services Director and 6 letters of support for the Grant Writer. She also received a phone call from the managing editor of the union news complementing Mrs. Long. Mrs. Long sent a letter to Mrs. Crane to the committee she felt she should share with the committee being concerned about Mrs. Kennedy's comment stating she didn't apply for the grant she suggested. When in fact we received that grant.
- Mrs. Kennedy said she did mention it because she didn't get information that it came through. It wasn't to be slanderous.
- Mrs. Crane said this is just a reminder to be respectful of each other, the community and those who work for us.
- Mrs. Kennedy has a 13 page email between Dr. Hopson and Mrs. Suriner that relates to what to say and not to say. Mrs. Kennedy wants to make the email between Dr. Hopson and Mrs. Suriner public.

C. Superintendent – Central Office Update (Enc.)

MASC Legal Bulletin (Enc.)

- The legal bulletin asking we consider having MASC part of the representatives at the table for arbitration decisions. Along with MTA. We will put it under new business for the next meeting.
- Mr. Wyand confirmed it is a pool of already determined decisions they can follow.

D. Business Manager

- Ms. Fisk is finalizing the bid for regional transportation to go out in April and be due in May. Closer with SBA about the closing of buildings payback. She is progressing on getting the bid ready for the well replacement, which should be around the end of April. It is slightly less than \$200,000. Part of it is in this year and part is in next year. As soon as the quotes are in we will have a better estimate. Assessment letters went out to the towns on Tuesday, March 23.

E. Administration

- Mrs. Blocker applauded the teachers, building administrators, technology and the students for preparing for the MCAS and PARCC. They put a lot of time and effort into it.
-

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTING

A. Superintendent's Evaluation

- Next meeting will be April 8, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the superintendent's office

B. Finance Subcommittee

- Nothing scheduled. Mrs. Suriner is away for the next couple of weeks.
- Mrs. Crane received a copy of a letter from Mrs. LeBarron that was sent to the legislators regarding Chapter 70 and supporting education.

C. Legislative Liaison - Nothing new.

D. Policy Subcommittee - Nothing New

E. Building Liaisons - Nothing New

F. Community Curriculum Committee

- They are working on ideas for next fall.

7:45 - VII. OLD BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

A. Worthington Withdrawal

Separation Agreement

- Dr. Hopson received information in your packet

Mrs. Kennedy made a motion seconded by Mrs. Otterbeck to go in executive session at 8:03 p.m. for the purpose of litigation not to come back to open session.

Yeas: Ruth, Bill, Jeff, Terri, Shirley, Sarah, Ron, Martha, Michele

Abstain: Sue

- Mrs. Levreault left the meeting at 8:03

IX. NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

X. OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Future Agenda Items

XI. INFORMATION

Information

College Planning Night workshop for 9th-11th grades and families

Second term honor roll for high school

View and Vote for Gateway

Middle school Effort Awards

Students to begin PARCC testing

PNA Survey at Gateway March 30

Survey gone out to Gateway/Worthington families

Junior HS second term Effort Awards

Chester PTO News

Annual 'Caberet' is April 2

Gateway Regional Wins Big at NYC

"PAINT NIGHT" Fundraiser at Gateway

Gateway Kindergarten Screeneing

Superintendent's Corner March 16, 2015

NHS members lead "Read Across America" Day

Warrants

AP#1067 \$93,024.72

PR# 19 \$359,798.08

AP#1070 \$243,202.79

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Kennedy made a motion seconded by Mrs. Otterbeck to go in executive session at 8:03 p.m. for the purpose of litigation not to come back to open session.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 9 Nays Abstain 1 Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Ruth, Bill, Jeff, Terri, Shirley, Sarah, Ron, Martha, Michele

Abstain: Sue

- A. Union Negotiations
- B.** Litigation

XIII. ADJOURNMENT *Mr. Damon made a motion seconded by Mrs. Kennedy to adjourn at 8:44 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted,
Stacy L. Stewart
School Committee Secretary