Approved **Minutes #10/24/12**

GATEWAY REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2012

Chester Elementary School
7:30 P.M.

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

I. OPENING OF MEETING

BLANDFORD	CHESTER	HUNTINGTON	MIDDLEFIELD
Michele Crane	Beth Brett	Ron Damon	Sarah Foley
Jim Kronholm	Shirley Winer	William Hathaway	
		Laurie Webb	

MONTGOMERY	RUSSELL	WORTHINGTON	SECRETARY
Anne Marie Buikus		Sue Levreault	Stacy Stewart
Sandra Haas		Gretchen Eliason	

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

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
Elizabeth Bienia, Chs, Lit, MS Assistant Principal
Joanne Blocker, Director of Academics
Angela Burke, Technology Director
Wendy Long, District Grant Writer

OTHERS:_____

7:35 p.m. II. PUBLIC INPUT FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA
A.
B.

III. STUDENT COUNCIL INPUT

IV. CONSENT ITEMS 10/10/12 (Enc.)

Mrs. Crane made a motion seconded by Mrs. Levreault to approve the minutes of 10/10/12.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 7 Nays Abstain 5 Absent

V. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS/RECOGNITIONS

A. Title I Tutoring Update – Joanne Blocker, MaryBeth Radke

- Mary Radke Title I Tutor – Global assessment, teachers do running records, children on the cusp, we talk to teachers and check to see if this is where they think they are. They use RTI, (response to intervention). Teachers are looking at MAP. Assessment process at the beginning, middle and end of the year. Last year we were able to graduate students out of title I. Retention over the summer is a big concern. LLI intervention. Kids went home with a bag of books over the summer. The other summer program was an online program. Many of kids had maintained levels and some who moved up levels.
- Mrs. Winer asked where the summer programs took place.
- Mary said books went home for one program and there was a meeting at the beginning of the other for parents to get passwords.
- This fall there is an afterschool tutoring program.

- Mrs. Eliason asked when you are working with title I students over the year, what do the services look like?
- Mary – not all kids get the same service. The majority see her for 30 minutes per day in a small group of 3 or less. She tries to schedule it during their reading block, so they are not missing other academics.
- Mrs. Eliason said many of students have attention issues. How many of the students have a diagnosed disability.
- Mary, it is very rare that they have a diagnosed disability. She doesn't see kids on an IEP for reading.

B. Chester Elementary Update – Elizabeth Bienia

- Ms. Bienia said we are in the 2nd year of Lucy Caulkins. They ve had publication parties and Kindergartendners are writing three-page stories with illustration.
- Completed first round of MAP testing. K, 1, 2 take it with ear phones and are prompted.
- Mrs. Winer asked if there was improvement form kindergarten to 1st grade.
- Ms. Bienia said absolutely.
- Chester has great library staff and a new library media specialist – Bill Brown. He has been working with Michele to make our library work better.
- They have a great PTO; one of the best PTO's she's ever seen – they support every field trip they take at least for the bussing. This Friday they are hosting is a Halloween dance. They applied for a playground grant which they did not get, so they are in the process of doing another fundraiser to help fund the playground.
- Mr. Kronholm asked if all the classrooms are being used.
- Ms. Bienia there is one that has storage, and extra preschool room which is a music room. They do have extra classroom space.
- Mr. Kronholm asked what the typical class size is.
- Ms. Bienia said between 19 and 24. The 4th grade has two teachers this year because there are 27 students.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Student Representative - None

B. School Committee

- Mrs. Winer said Chester is opposed to having other people vote for their school committee with regards to one man one vote.
- They were also shocked to learn their their new school committee representative has not been to a meeting since being sworn in.

C. Chairperson - None

D. Superintendent – Central Office Update (Enc.)

- Ms. Fisk mentioned that our grant funding to offset insurece has ended. It will be on the towns.
- At the Roles and Responsibilities meeting it was suggested that school committee set goals. School committee can either set them now or over the course of the next several months and school can make any changes to the district imprvment plan the summer or make school committee goals relate to district goals.
- School committee goals will be added to the next agenda.

Mr. Damon made a motion seconded Mrs. Winer to go into executive session at or before 9:30 p.m. for the purpose of negotiations update not to return to open session.

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

Yeas: Bill, Anne-Marie, Sandra, Gretchen, Shirley, Michele, Ron, Sue, Sarah, Laurie, Jim, Beth

D. Business Manager

- Ms. Fisk went over some Cherry Sheet Changes for school choice. She budgeted for $648,883 and the figure on the chery sheet is $687,927. This figure will not be finalized until June.
- Mrs. Eliason asked for an update on school choice suveys.

E. Administration

- Title I is hosting a family night November 13 for Chester Elementary and on November 14for middle school.

- Friday, November 16 Vincent Dowling is doing a benefit performace in the Auditorium to raise money for Megan Clouter a former Gatewy student who is no longer in the district, but has a serious illness.

VII. AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTING

A. Superintendent's Evaluation - None

B. Finance Subcommittee

- Met tonight talked more about benchmark Meeti agin in December at 6:30 p.m. and went over the quarterly report

C. Policy Subcommittee - None

VIII. OLD BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

A. Regional Agreement Amendments

- Nothing new at this time.

B. Approveal of the following Policies:

Executive Session BEC
Non-discrimination AC
Non-discrimination On The Basis Of Sex ACA
Equal Employment Opportunity GBA
Professional Staff Hiring GCF
Instructional Materials IJ
Equal Educational Opportunities JB
Student-To-Student Harrassment JBA
School Choice JFBB
School Choice JFBB-1
Emergency Plans EBC
Student Health Services And Requirements
Video/Audio Taping of TEAM Meetings

- Mrs. Brett asked if there were any objections to voting on the policies as a whole.
- Mrs. Eliason asked what the need is for video/audio taping of TEAM meetings.
- Dr. Hopson summaryize what legal time for sped and director looking to tape it unless there is a need for it for the disability. This is pretty standard. If you want to hold that and have Ms. Taverna come in and explain why she wants this.
- Mrs. Buikus asked if can the parent tape them.
- Dr. Hopson said essentially the only time people tape them is if they want to take the district to court and he doesn't think it can be used in in court anyway.
- Mrs. Buikus said wouldn't' it be a good thing. Do the parents have an advocate and are they allowed to have another person there?
- Dr. Hopson said there is no limit to who the parent can have there.
- Mrs. Eliason's concern is there is a lot of information that ocmes out of this meeting and it is seomthing they can used to go back to. She understands why a school distict would request it, but we need to make sure parents understand the process.
- Dr. Hopson the process is pretty straight forward. Parents have to sign off on the IEP and they get meeting minutes.
- Mrs. Long said the Gateway Special Education Parent Advisory committee is sponsoring a parent's rights workshop on November 13.

Mr. Damon made a motion seconded by Mrs. Levreault to approve all of the above policies with the exception of Video/Audio Taping of TEAM Meetings.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 10 Nays Abstain 2 Absent

8:15 - 9:00 p.m. **IX. NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS**
A

X. OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Future Agenda Items

XI. INFORMATION

Information

18th Annual Search Under Way for Nation's Top Youth Volunteers
Superintendent's Corner October 12, 2012
Just afew more members needed to sustain local Weight Watchers group!
Fall Senior nights
Littleville offering after schoo mini-courses
Senior sweatpants sale
Students, foundation honor Gateway Teacher
Winter Weather Closings At Gateway
Online access to student grades available to Gateway parents
Superintendent's Corner October 5, 2012
Twenty-Three Gateway Seniors qualify for Adams Scholarship

Warrants

AP# 1030 $200,409.58 PR# 08 $373,951.23

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Damon made a motion seconded Mrs. Winer to go into executive session at or before 9:30 p.m. for the purpose of negotiations update not to return to open session.

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

Yeas: Bill, Anne-Marie, Sandra, Gretchen, Shirley, Michele, Ron, Sue, Sarah, Laurie, Jim, Beth

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Damon made a motion seconded by Mrs. Levreault to adjourn at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Stacy L. Stewart
School Committee Secretary