

GATEWAY REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE**REGULAR MEETING****WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2013****Gateway Library
7:30 P.M.****(A PORTION OF THIS MEETING MAY BE HELD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION)****I. OPENING OF MEETING**BLANDFORD
Jim KronholmCHESTER
Beth Brett
Shirley WinerHUNTINGTON
Ron Damon
William HathawayMIDDLEFIELD
Sarah FoleyMONTGOMERY
Anne Marie BuikusRUSSELL
Ellen Hirtle
Ruth KennedyWORTHINGTON
Sue Levreault
Gretchen EliasonSECRETARY
Stacy StewartCENTRAL ADMINISTRATION
Dr. David B. Hopson, Superintendent
Stephanie Fisk, Business & FinanceADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
Angela Burke, Technology Director
Wendy Long, District Grant WriterSTUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

OTHERS: _____

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

III. STUDENT COUNCIL INPUT - None

IV. CONSENT ITEMS 2/13/13, 2/27/13, 3/6/13, 3/13/13 (Enc.)

*Mr. Damon made a motion seconded by Mrs. Levreault to accept the minutes of 2/13/13**Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 8 Nays Abstain 3 Absent**Mrs. Kennedy made a motion seconded by Mr. Damon to accept the minutes of 2/27/13**Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 9 Nays Abstain 2 Absent**Mrs. Kennedy made a motion seconded by Mrs. Levreault to accept the minutes of 3/6/13**Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 8 Nays Abstain 3 Absent**Mrs. Kennedy made a motion seconded by Mrs. Levreault to accept the minutes of 3/13/13**Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 9 Nays Abstain 2 Absent***Mrs. Eliason requested to have executive session minutes included in the next packet.**

V. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS/RECOGNITIONS

A. Technology Update

- Technology Update – from Angela Burke and Casey Pease.
- Mrs. Burke spoke about a Space Suit experiment in which students worked with NASA via Virtual field trips, where one school gets to be online with them, and everyone else gets to listen.
- Mrs. Burke displayed an article written by the paper regarding Gateway's use of technology and iPads.
- Netbooks will go into a 5th grade classroom. They will also be compatible with PARCC.
- Mrs. Levreault asked if you get a whole page on such a small Netbook screen.
- Mrs. Burke said it fits a whole page wide, but not tall.
- Casey Pease demonstrated using Google drive, sharing and editing a document with a teacher. He demonstrated several different apps from his iPad.
- Mrs. Eliason asked about the keyboard on the iPad as it is different than a keyboard.
- Casey said you just get used to it.
- Mrs. Eliason asked about typing for the PARCC test.
- Casey feels it won't be a problem.

B. DESE Report From Spring 2012 Visit

- Dr. Hopson gave a brief PowerPoint.
- Casey said students don't try if they know it is only an assessment
- Dr. Hopson said there are some teachers who are discussing this with the students.
- Mrs. Winer asked what tiered is.
- Dr. Hopson said 90% of your students are getting what they need, and the remaining students need interventions.
- Presentation will go on the website.
- Mrs. Winer asked if they are making the report for our benefit and for their benefit too, such as policy setting.

C. Solar Application Update

- Two of the companies are talking about putting solar panels on both the main complex and Littleville.
- Mr. Damon said wouldn't it make more sense to replace the roof before we put the solar panels on the roof.
- Mrs. Kennedy agrees.
- Ms. Fisk said one of the things they are looking at. The money saved should go into the stabilization account to go towards replacing the roof.
- Dr. Hopson said this roof is warranted for another 5-7 years. We are looking into that. The roof is only good for 20 or so years, and the panels are going to be on the roof for 35 years.
- Mrs. Levreault said the middle school roof is the one she is worried about. Could we put panels on the front half of the building and then use the savings to replace the middle school roof. Basically, do it in two stages.
- Dr. Hopson said they will guarantee a certain amount of production and if not they will pay us.
- Mr. Damon asked what is the best guess length of time before we have to do something about the roof.
- Dr. Hopson said if you ask other companies they say we should have replaced it, if you ask sarafil, they say it will last another 20 years. School committee has lots of things to consider.
- Mrs. Kennedy asked what is the percentage benefit verses what we are paying now.
- Dr. Hopson said if we go with Broadway about 2 cents less then we pay now.
- Mrs. Kennedy asked what happens at the end of 20 years.
- Dr. Hopson you can have them remove it, or keep it and it's yours, but you have to pay to maintain it. We can generate 38% of what we use.
- Mr. Damon said in the event we go forward with this, we need to protect the towns from paying for a roof. He feels the benefits from this should go directly to the roof problem.
- Dr. Hopson said you can't bind a school committee 10 years from now.
- Dr. Hopson said Eric Weiss from Hampshire Council of Governments will be here at the next meeting to answer questions.
- Dr. Hopson said two of the questions to think about the replacement of the roof and how will it come off the roof.
- Mrs. Kennedy would like to take a look at one.
- Dr. Hopson said yes, he Mr. Wing and Ms. Fisk are thinking about looking at one too.
- Mr. Damon asked if we could include Chester.
- Dr. Hopson said not at this time.

D. District Goals and Objectives Update

- Dr. Hopson gave a brief PowerPoint.
- Mrs. Eliason said there are some things in district goals that won't work for school committee because we just don't have access to that information.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Student Representative - None

B. School Committee

- Mrs. Buikus asked if school committee can get badges. She is suggesting that school committee be reimbursed for expenses now that we are getting everything online and printing it out on their own.
- Dr. Hopson said you may as a school committee put it in the budget.
- Mrs. Buikus said Westfield pays their school committee \$500 per year.

C. Chairperson - None

D. Superintendent – Central Office Update (Enc.)

- Dr. Hopson sent an email out about the white substance. A dog came in. The drug was found in a sweatshirt a student borrowed outside of school. The child did the right thing and turned it in. It has been turned over to the drug force and is out of our hands. It was handled well because of our cooperative working relationship between state and local police.

E. Business Manager - None

F. Administration

- Mrs. Long said there is a big health fair happening on April 6 for everyone.
- Thursday the 11th is the Cabaret.
- April 22, the Monday after spring break is the volunteer dinner in conjunction with the Concussion and drug and alcohol use and the teen brain workshop.
- Mrs. Burke is taking a group of six girls to an event at UMASS called 'Girls Connect' on Saturday April 6. The event is to promote girls going into math, science, robotics, and biotechnology fields.

VII. AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTING

A. Superintendent's Evaluation

- School Committee received the evaluation form in packet.
- Mrs. Burke will help people if they need it.
- Mrs. Winer suggested it would be helpful to tell people where to find the evidence.

B. Finance Subcommittee - None

C. Policy Subcommittee – None

D. School Committee Goals Subcommittee - None

7:45 - VIII. OLD BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

A. FY '14 Budget - None

B. Regional Agreement Amendments - None

C. Recommendation to award a one-year extension for the regional transportation contract to Lecrenski Bros. Inc. for the 2013-2014 school year.

Mr. Damon made a motion seconded by Mrs. Levreault to award a one-year extension for the regional transportation contract to Lecrenski Bros. Inc. for the 2013-2014 school year.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 12 Nays Abstain Absent

D. Approval of FY '14 Calendar

Mrs. Winer made a motion seconded by Mrs. Hirtle to approve the FY '14 Calendar.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 12 Nays Abstain Absent

E. 2013-2014 School Committee Meeting Schedule

- Mrs. Brett is suggesting we eliminate the July meeting.

Mr. Kronholm made a motion seconded by Mrs. Hirtle to eliminate the July 10th meeting.

- Mrs. Levreault has a problem with eliminating the meeting. There are five Wednesdays in July. That is when we re-organize.
- Mrs. Brett is leaving it up to the committee, as she will be resigning. She is just concerned with low attendance.

Mr. Kronholm made a motion seconded by Mrs. Hirtle to eliminate the July meeting.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 12 Nays Abstain Absent

Mrs. Kennedy made motion seconded by Mrs. Hirtle to amend the meeting date to July 24.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 12 Nays Abstain Absent

F. Approval of High School/Junior High Out of State Field Trips: Senior Class to Hampton Beach, 7th Grade Bronx Zoo, 8th Grade High Meadows, and Guidance field trip to Lincoln Technical Institute

Mr. Damon made a motion seconded by Mrs. Kennedy to approve the following High School/Junior High out of state field trips: : Senior Class to Hampton Beach, 7th Grade Bronx Zoo, 8th Grade High Meadows, and Guidance field trip to Lincoln Technical Institute.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 12 Nays Abstain Absent

IX. NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

- Mrs. Kennedy would like to put a weekly or bi-weekly article in the paper. She would like to write from a non school committee position.
- Mrs. Brett asked if we could have a sample.
- Mr. Kronholm has a problem with it.
- Mrs. Kennedy will give two articles one as a member and one with personal opinion.

X. OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Future Agenda Items

School Choice Presentation – Wendy Long

XI. INFORMATION

Information

Superintendent's Corner March 15, 2013
 High School NHS members launch mentoring project
 'Minute to Win It' at Gateway
 "Hoops for Heart" at Middle School
 Mark your calendar for "Cabaret"

Warrant

AP# 1071 \$103,867.59

PR# 19 \$388,666.52

AP# 1074 \$35.88

9:00-10 p.m. XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION
or earlier

XIII. ADJOURNMENT Mrs. Kennedy made a motion seconded by Mrs. Levreault to adjourn at 9:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stacy L. Stewart
School Committee Secretary