

GATEWAY REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The Gateway Regional School District will provide and exemplary education that challenges all students in an instructional setting appropriate to their needs.

REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2018

**Middle School 112/114
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
Darlene McVeigh
Melissa Nazzaro
Aaron Welch

MIDDLEFIELD
Sarah Foley

MONTGOMERY
Madelyn Austin

RUSSELL
Tara Balboni
Sarah Page
Lyndsey Papillon

SECRETARY
Stacy Stewart

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

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
Jason Finnie, Middle/High Principal
Deanna LeBlanc, High/Middle Assistant Principal
Wendy Long, District Grant Writer

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

OTHERS: Peter Spotts, Amy Porter, Bill Levakas, Jason Fogue, Cindy Harris

- Mrs. Crane opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m.
- Peter Spotts is recording the meeting.

7:05 p.m. II. PUBLIC INPUT FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA (3 Minute Limit) - None

III. STUDENT COUNCIL INPUT - None

IV. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS/RECOGNITIONS

A. NEASC – Jason Finnie

- Mr. Finnie spoke about updates in the handbook and program of studies. The middle school is more in sync with the high school with regards to late work. You have the time equal to the period you are out to turn in assignments. There were some clarifications to the discipline code and consequences. They made modifications to options for written apologies or other forms of reparation -getting students to own what they've done. The high school program of studies was changed to be more in line with what colleges are looking for. English to college prep and renaming algebra to college prep and topics in calculus prep. They are making sure students aren't taking too many PE and directed study classes. Only one PE class per day. Students can take one additional PE class beyond the 24 credits.
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- Mr. Finnie said NEASC will be arriving October 28. They will be here late morning and starting at 2:15-3:15 meeting with school committee members and parents. It would be great to have all of the school committee members there. He hopes at least one from each town will be represented. He will share the self-study document via email. This is done every 10 years. It starts with a self study of the 7 standards. Curriculum, instruction, assessments, core values and beliefs, governance, etc. This is a reflective process. Most of Monday is observations. Meetings with central office and administration, Superintendent, student groups, teacher groups, and paraprofessionals. Tuesday, they will finish up and begin writing reports. Tuesday evening they will start to present the reports. Some will present Wednesday morning. They are looking for strengths and needs. They vote to make sure what they observed is accurate and that everyone agrees. The final outcome of all of this is a list of strengths and needs. An affirmation of what they are doing well and what they may need.

Mrs. McVeigh arrived at 7:20 p.m.

- Mr. Finnie said there is a two year report and then a five year report.
- Mrs. Foley asked if you have an unaccredited school does it affect college acceptance for students.
- Mr. Finnie said yes.
- Mrs. McVeigh asked if there are any areas of focus that we may be at risk for.
- Mr. Finnie said there will be needs, but those needs have already been identified. He will share the self study, links.
- Mrs. LeBlanc handed out the middle school expectations for our kids. It is organized by different areas of school.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

A. Superintendent's Goals 2018-2019

Mrs. Foley made a motion seconded by Mrs. Garfield to approve the superintendents FY '19 goals.

- Mrs. McVeigh asked if they align with DESE's rubrics for the superintendent and are there any changes.
- Dr. Hopson said yes they do, and there are some slight changes. There are twice as many as the state requirement.

Mrs. Foley made a motion seconded by Mrs. Garfield to approve the superintendents FY '19 goals.

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

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Sarah F., Terri, Melissa, Sarah P., Darlene, Lyndsey, Aaron, Shirley, Michele

Absent: Martha

VI. NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

A. State Auditor – Unfunded Mandate – OPEB/Worthington

- Dr. Hopson said we just need to get this on the agenda for future discussion.

Mrs. Otterbeck arrived at 7:31 p.m.

- Mrs. McVeigh asked when is our first Joint meeting with the town officials
- Dr. Hopson said let's put it on as an agenda item for that meeting which September 12.
- Mrs. Stewart will notify the select board members that it's the first meeting in September.

B. Elimination of Student Parking Fees

- Dr. Hopson said this is a new item. Collecting \$25 for parking does not cover the cost of the person collecting and the accounting it requires

Mr. Welch made a motion seconded by Mrs. Nazzaro to waive the two-meeting rule to vote on eliminating student parking fees.

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

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Sarah F., Terri, Melissa, Sarah P., Darlene, Lyndsey, Martha, Aaron, Shirley, Michele

Mrs. Winer made a motion seconded by Mrs. Papillon to eliminate student parking fees.

- Mrs. Balboni asked how many students are parking.
- Ms. Fisk said forty-eight. She said it was \$180 at one point but there were incentives and it was hard to track students down etc. We will still have parking tags so we know who is out there. We are paying for a bus and kids aren't riding it verses I live close so I can't ride the bus. Some schools number the parking spots.
- Dr. Hopson said it was initially put in place when we lost 2.1 million dollars. We are not in that spot right now.

Mrs. Winer made a motion seconded by Mrs. Papillon to eliminate student parking fees.

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

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Sarah F., Terri, Melissa, Sarah P., Darlene, Lyndsey, Martha, Aaron, Shirley, Michele

VII. CONSENT ITEMS 7/11/18 (Enc.)

Mr. Welch made a motion seconded by Mrs. Balboni to approve the minutes of 7/11/18.

- Mrs. Austin said some of the names on the subcommittee are on the list and not in the minutes.
- Mrs. Crane said that was her fault as she had asked people who weren't at the meeting if they would like to be on subcommittees.
- Mrs. Balboni said we are not voting on them its volunteer..

Mr. Welch made a motion seconded by Mrs. Balboni to approve the minutes of 7/11/18.

Motion Carried (VOTE) Yeas 9 Nays Abstain 3 Absent (Roll Call Vote)

Yeas: Tara, Terri, Melissa, Sarah P., Darlene, Lyndsey, Aaron, Shirley, Michele

Abstain: Madelyn, Sarah F., Martha

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS

A. School Committee

- Mrs. Foley said the Googlepalooa training was very good. Google trained presenters came and talked about Google-type applications.
- Dr. Hopson said there were sixty-eight attendees.
- Mrs. Balboni said the bus list was great.
- Mrs. Long said the credit goes to Deb Burkott, Dr. Hopson, the communications council, etc.
- Ms. Fisk said they can log onto the Rediker portal.
- Mrs. Long said there are a lot of changes of students so the date when it was updated is next to the student.

B. Chairperson - None

C. Superintendent

Central Office Update (Enc.)

- Dr. Hopson said we are only a week away from school. We are still looking to fill a couple positions. He invited anyone to come on Monday there is a light breakfast. There is also professional development and mandated training. The courtyard has the preschool stuff in it. The preschool numbers stayed the same.

D. Business Manager

- Ms. Fisk handed out the first quarter transfers to be voted on at the next meeting. We should be receiving around \$80,000 from the rural schools coalition

E. Administration

- Mrs. Long said if you are a Gateway parent and are on the app you need to change the school settings if you are in a transition year. She also said when we intend to apply for a grant we seek school committee approval. The safe and supportive schools competitive grant just came out and she will be looking for a vote at the next meeting.

F. Town

- Mrs. McVeigh said they had a hill town collaborative meeting last week. They are trying to align the goals between the towns and the district. PVPC chose Novas as the vendor for the IT grant.
- Mrs. Winer said she doesn't know what this is about.
- Dr. Hopson said the towns went out to get grant money around shared services particularly in IT. He jumped on as the school district.
- Mrs. McVeigh said what PVPC is trying to do is similar to what HCOG did to get the rates down and improve your services.
- Dr. Hopson said there should be a list of services which each town can pick from.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTING

A. Superintendent's Evaluation - None

B. Legislative Liaison - None

C. Policy Subcommittee

- Policy met tonight. They have about twenty-seven more policies to look at which should take another two meetings. There will be a list of policies to review next time.

D. Building Liaisons - None

X. OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Future Agenda Items

XI. INFORMATION

Information

Superintendent's Corner July 26, 2018

Superintendent's Corner July 11, 2018

Fall Sports Sign-Ups underway

The warrant signing committee had reviewed the following warrants, found them to be in order, and approved them.

Warrant

AP#1107	\$134,128.30	PR#001	\$95,091.68
AP#1004	\$164,379.49	PR#002	\$90,142.92
AP#1108	\$8,883.97	PR#003	\$101,303.21
AP#1005	\$68,803.82		
AP#1009	\$73,445.04		

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Papillon made a motion seconded by Mr. Welch to adjourn 7:55 p.m.

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

Yeas: Madelyn, Tara, Sarah F., Terri, Melissa, Sarah P., Darlene, Lyndsey, Martha, Aaron, Shirley, Michele

Respectfully Submitted,
Stacy L. Stewart
School Committee Secretary