GATEWAY REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

Blandford Town Hall
7:00 P.M.

I. OPENING OF MEETING

Mrs. Crane called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Mrs. Austin, Mrs. Buikus, and the Country Journal reporter are recording the meeting.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>BLANDFORD</th>
<th>CHESTER</th>
<th>HUNTINGTON</th>
<th>MIDDLEFIELD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michele Crane</td>
<td>Shirley Winer</td>
<td>Ron Damon</td>
<td>Sarah Foley</td>
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<td>Terri Garfield</td>
<td>Martha Otterbeck</td>
<td>Jeff Wyand</td>
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<td>MONTGOMERY</td>
<td>RUSSELL</td>
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<td>Anne-Marie Buikus</td>
<td>Tara Balboni</td>
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<td>Madelyn Austin</td>
<td>Heather Morgan</td>
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<td>Lyndsey Papillon</td>
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<tr>
<th>CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION</th>
<th>ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. David B. Hopson, Superintendent</td>
<td>Joanne Blocker, Director of Academics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephanie Fisk, Business &amp; Finance</td>
<td>Jason Finnie, High/Jr. High Principal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kurt Garivaltis, Pupil Services Director</td>
<td>Wendy Long, District Grant Writer</td>
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STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

OTHERS: Westfield News and Country Journal reporter

II. PUBLIC INPUT (3 Minute Limit)

None.

III. STUDENT COUNCIL INPUT

None. Mrs. Crane will meet with the student council next week on behalf of the committee to touch base.

IV. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS/RECOGNITIONS

A. First Semester Field Trips - Mr. Finnie indicated that there were no requests for out-of-state field trips for the first semester. Dr. Hopson informed the school committee that the policy committee would be looking at the field trip policy at their next meeting.

B. Coordinated Review Update - Mr. Garivaltis gave an overview of the Coordinated Program Review focusing on the findings that require district actions. The PowerPoint was shared online with the school committee. They are welcome to ask Mr. Garivaltis questions as they review the report.

Mr. Wyand asked if there are any fines for any of these citations. Mr. Garivaltis said that there are no monetary fines. The district has one calendar year to correct the findings. There will be a mid-cycle review in three years.

C. Strategic Planning Part II – Online - Mrs. Crane indicated that this was embedded in the central office update. Dr. Hopson reviewed the next step for online education. Dr. Hopson asked the committee if they were fine with reading this information online, and the consensus was yes. Mrs. Crane has been thinking about the district strategic plan for the meeting in October for setting school committee goals.
V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/ACTION ITEM
A. FY ’17 Fall Grants Approval - Mr. Damon moved, seconded by Mrs. Otterbeck to approval the fall grants for FY ’17 as presented by Mrs. Long. The first three grants are the Food Services Equipment Grant, Teen Dating Violence Continuation Grant, and Autism Speaks Local Grant. There are two grants that have been posted since the last meeting. The two additional grants are the Safe and Supportive School Grant and the Digital Connections Partnerships Grant and Loan Program.

YEAS – 13  NAYS – 0  ABSTAIN – 0  ABSENT – 1 (Mrs. Rousseau)

B. Mrs. Otterbeck moved, seconded by Mrs. Dunn to approve the superintendent attending the Future of Educational Technology Conference (FETC).

YEAS – 13  NAYS – 0  ABSTAIN – 0  ABSENT – 1 (Mrs. Rousseau)

VI. NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS
A. Position on Charter School Cap Vote - Mrs. Crane indicated that Mr. Duggan asked if the school committee would take a position on the charter school cap. Mrs. Foley had paperwork she was given from a school committee in Westfield, which is the position of the MTA. Mrs. Crane said the actual question on the ballot is to lift the cap and increase the number of charter schools. Mrs. Crane will draft a resolution to send out in the packet next time. Mrs. Otterbeck thought that it would be important for us as a committee to have and support a position.

B. FY ’17 Budget Transfers - Ms. Fisk reviewed the budget transfers that were sent in the packet. There were no questions.

VII. CONSENT ITEMS  8/24/16 Minutes

Mrs. Otterbeck, moved, seconded by Mrs. Balboni to approve the minutes of 8/24/16. There were no corrections.

YEAS – 9  NAYS – 0  ABSTAIN – 4 (Buikus, Foley, Morgan, Wyand) ABSENT – 1 (Rousseau)

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS
A. School Committee
Mrs. Balboni attended the Charting the Course workshop in Lee. It was very engaging, and she is recommending that school committee members attend if they have not done so already.

Mrs. Buikus requested that the new contracts be posted on the website.

B. Chairperson
Mrs. Crane asked members on the warrant signing committee to come in to sign warrants tomorrow.

C. Superintendent
Dr. Hopson mentioned that the district has started negotiations with the secretaries.

He also informed the committee that the district has also posted for a tutor to assist a student in readiness for the MCAS test.

Dr. Hopson informed the committee that the first meeting regarding the possibility of blizzard bags with a group of four teachers representing elementary, middle and high school as well as administrators has taken place.

Mrs. Papillon asked what the conditions would be if a student doesn’t turn the work in, what does it mean for teachers, and does correcting the work mean that the day counts for the teachers as well? Dr. Hopson explained that the blizzard bag group will be looking at all of the information, and a report will be made to the school committee in October for their approval.

D. Business Manager – None.
VIII. COMMUNICATIONS - CONTINUED

E. Administration - Mrs. Long informed the committee the after-school program has not received grant funding, and Mrs. Madden has also submitted her resignation to the Collaborative. Mrs. Long reminded the committee that it is Homecoming Weekend with the Shipman Concert beginning Friday night, soccer games on Saturday and breakfast at the Chester Common Table on Sunday. The Foundation board meets Monday night. Applications are coming in for the next round of funding.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTING

A. Superintendent’s Evaluation - Mrs. Crane will continue to chair and Mrs. Foley will be the secretary for the Superintendent’s Evaluation Committee.

B. Legislative Liaison – Mrs. Papillon informed the committee that the Reading Recovery program received funding for this year. Mrs. Papillon will be attending the MASC/MASS conference.

C. Policy Subcommittee - Policy will meet September 28th at 6 p.m. in Chester.

D. Building Liaisons - Mrs. Foley informed the committee that the girls’ soccer team is undefeated and they defeated Renaissance.

X. OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA - None

XI. INFORMATION

Information
Gateway Students Return August 30
Lunch price change announced
Gateway Alumni: Save date for Homecoming Weekend
Superintendent’s Corner August 22, 2016
After-school grant declined – program planning underway
September Calendar Highlights
Teachers tackle cyber-bullying on opening staff day
Gateway Staff Participate in Active Shooter Drill
Superintendent’s Corner August 29, 2016
Gateway Homecoming Weekend

Warrant
AP#1014 $43,389.50
AP#1016 $39,437.84
AP#1019 $55,520.61

PR# 05 $404,566.75

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Otterbeck moved, seconded by Mrs. Winer to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m.