

WEYMOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Meeting of the Whole
MEETING NOTES

Date: July 25, 2019

Present: Chair Belmarsh, Dr. Sullivan, Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw, Mrs. Curran and Superintendent Curtis-Whipple, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Nardone (late)

Absent: Mayor Hedlund, Mrs. Sheehan

Call to Order

At 5:11 p.m. Chair Belmarsh called the meeting to order.

Review of Superintendent Evaluation:

Chair Belmarsh reviewed the School Committee goals and goal document from the Superintendent.

Chair Belmarsh reviewed each committee member's submission of the evaluation. Chair Belmarsh reviewed the definitions of each category on the evaluation. She stated that this is an awkward process that is so public. There is not another administrator who has to do this publicly and wanted to acknowledge that. She also shared that the Committee does not see the Superintendent every day. The Chair has the most contact with the Superintendent and can help the committee fill in what we do not see.

The Chair shared that they will review the goals that the Superintendent layed out, that were agreed to by the Committee and if all of those things were accomplished, the goals were met.

Dr. Curtis-Whipple reviewed her goals and how she is working on them and the status.

Goal 1: Implementing phase 1 of the Bent Report.

Dr. Curtis-Whipple reviewed the current organization chart that was shared with the Principals and the 111 staff. The next document is a current list of roles and responsibilities of each department.

She will continue checking in with new reporting structures however, these are more streamlined and more efficient and will work some of the kinks out.

Mrs. Curran asked about the Nurse Leader and who she will be reporting to. She will report to both the Superintendent and Special Education. Dr. Curtis-Whipple explained that with all of the evaluations to be done it is not fair to the principals to not have more coaching. Therefore she has instituted co-evaluators.

Chair Belmarsh stated that she feels that Dr. Curtis-Whipple met all of the goals under Goal 1. Dr. Curtis-Whipple had office hours at every school which is above-and-beyond. It is a strong way of connecting with people and an opportunity for them to meet with you 1:1. It is also a way to clear up inaccurate info and rumors.

Goal 2: Full Day Kindergarten

Upon review of Committee members comments on the evaluation, Dr. Curtis-Whipple disagrees that she is not meeting the goal of full day K. This is in process and has many details that need to be worked out.

There was confusion on Mrs. Sheehan's comments regarding an item - it was determined it was not aligned with the Superintendent's goals and should not have been on the form. The form will be updated and resent for final submissions.

The Committee discussed that the goal was to prepare for full day K which the Superintendent did. It was the committee's decision within the budget process to not go forward this year.

Goal 3: Work with Weymouth Police Department and School Resource Officer Team

Dr. Curtis-Whipple has been working with Officer Flanagan who covers Pre-K through Grade 4 on lesson plans for each grade. Dr. Curtis-Whipple will go in to each grade and teach the lesson, Officer Flanagan observes and then meets with Dr. Curtis-Whipple so that he can execute the plan to each of the schools.

We have provided expanded offerings to the community. We have a current MOU signed with WPD and the Norfolk District Attorney's office. We have been told that the District Attorney's office will be using our MOU as a template with other districts.

We are working on the truancy letters, sharing resources, will be checking daily attendance rates and schools that have high attendance rates will be celebrating their achievements. All of our adjustment counselors will do what they can to help with the wrap around pieces.

Chair Belmarsh shared that the SRO's are working really well with the counselors and the principals. Again it is hard to evaluate as we cannot know everything. We only know when things are not going well. SRO's should not be directing traffic. Thank you for working so closely with them.

Dr. Curtis-Whipple shared that Officer Hamacher at the high school is working with kids who are having a hard time. He will be performing RAD training over the winter break.

Dr. Curtis-Whipple met with the Chief about pending changes. She voiced concern about the changes that will be happening. She would like to maintain the current staffing.

Goal 4: Induction

Dr. Curtis-Whipple has met all of the goals and continues to work with a mentor, Claire Kohn. It is important for continued growth.

Chair Belmarsh asked if there were any questions.

Mrs. Curran stated that she tried to fill out the form on google docs but could not share it. She stated she and Mrs. Sheehan were sharing their documents on google docs.

Review School Committee Goals

Chair Belmarsh reviewed the School Committee Goals

1. **Complete outstanding School District contracts** - we have Maintenance and Custodial coming up in 2020.
2. **Maintain Policy Handbook.**
3. **Evaluate a Plan for Free Full Day Kindergarten for the District.**
4. **Approve the Weymouth School Department Budget** - Assistant Superintendent Smith is working on a budget book
5. **Support MSBA Feasibility Study for Chapman-** will need to change this to support Chapman Building project.
6. **Complete Superintendent Evaluation –** The School Committee will develop the Superintendent's evaluation for the dates of July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 to include:
 - Complete Goals
 - Mid-year check in (Formative)
 - Final Summative Evaluation
7. **Increase School Community Confidence with Stronger Communication-** need to continue this and increase awareness with the community.

Some ideas:

Ask the Superintendent

Ask School Committee

Weymointheknow program - somehow work schools into it. WE will have a new studio at Chapman when it is built - this could be something we could do in house.

Mrs. Curran stated we need to get parents engaged, family engagement is the key.

Dr. Curtis-Whipple shared that she has had a preliminary discussion with Appgeo regarding redistricting. We will need to engage the community and need people to weigh in. Dr. Curtis-Whipple would like to try to move to full day K ahead of schedule. It is too crazy to redistrict next year as we won't have the 9th primary school year. One other item we will be looking into is changing school start and end times when the new school opens. It will be a lot but all should happen at the same time.

Committee also discussed hiring additional outside assistance to do community outreach and communication. All members agreed that this was a good idea. Dr. Curtis-Whipple will continue to look for firms and assistance. We need to have further discussion about this at future meetings.

MASC/MASS Joint Conference 2019 - Nov 6, 2019 - Nov 9, 2019

We have held 4 slots for the Conference in November. Ms. Belmarsh, Mrs. Curran, Mrs. Nardone and Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw will all attend.

Open Forum

Dr. Curtis-Whipple shared that she and Eileen are working on the schedule of topics for upcoming School Committee meetings. She also shared that Dr. Ron Ho resigned. He is returning to his previous district.

On a motion by Dr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Sheehan the Weymouth School Committee Meeting of the Whole was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Sullivan – Secretary