



Weymouth

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Weymouth School Committee

Humanities Center & Zoom

April 28, 2022

MEETING MINUTES

(approved 5/12/22)

Members In Attendance: Dr. John Sullivan, Chair; Tracey Nardone (6:15pm), Vice Chair; Carrie Palazzo, Secretary; Kathy Curran; Rebecca Sherlock-Shangraw; Steve Buccigross

Members Absent: Mayor Hedlund

Also Present: Robert Wargo, Superintendent; Brian Smith, Assistant Superintendent; Melanie Curtin, Assistant Superintendent

The Meeting Began at 6:04pm.

Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw moved to enter into executive session: Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(2):

- a. To conduct collective bargaining sessions: WEA Level III grievance re: Unit A: Talbot Principal Contract.
- b. For the purposes of: Reviewing Executive Session Minutes to retain or release: 2/3/21; 2/25/21; 9/16/21; 10/28/21

Motion seconded by Mrs. Curran and passed unanimously.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm

The chair informed that the meeting is being recorded and available on WETC.

Chair Sullivan led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda:

The Consent agenda included:

- Warrant 42-2022 in the amount of \$391,368.41. Dated 4/19/22
- Regular Minutes: 4/7/22

- Executive Session: 4/7/22

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to accept the consent agenda. Seconded by Ms. Palazzo. Motion passed unanimously.

Student Advisory

Students Josephine Burke and Brooke Lanahan reported on school wide happenings, athletics, and clubs/activities (report attached to these minutes). Updates included Special Olympics and Junior Prom. Sophomore semi will be held on June 10.

Students Terry Zeng and Gabriel Bernard Luis co chairs of the Human Rights Coalition expressed their thanks for the committee's support of diversity and presented a proposal signed by 338 students and staff for Weymouth Pride flags to be flown on June 1 and a rainbow crosswalk in recognition of pride month.

The committee expressed their support for the proposal and for the summit on Saturday.

Public Comment

The Chair reminded that public comment be in accordance with Policy BEDH, items on the agenda and kept to 3 minutes and gave instructions if members wish to speak; name and address should be added in the chat.

There was none.

Report of the Superintendent:

Superintendent Wargo reminded of the Diversity Summit at WHS on Apr 30, 2022 at 8:30am and thanked Mr. Galusha and Ms. Laporto, and advisors for their help in organizing.

The Superintendents presentation included:

- Progress monitoring meetings with Momenta at Pingree
- Ms Collins' Kindergarten class at Murphy
- Academy Ave ST Math Challenge school winner, as reward to students Principal Higgins consented to have pies thrown in his face
- Paul Wahlberg and a chef from Johnson and Wales worked with Culinary CTE students
- HR Director Foley will attend the MPDE (MA partnership for diversity in education) Career fair at Milton High School on Saturday-a flier created by Kelly Powers was shared
- Special Olympics
- Positive feedback from the new Superintendents coach on Weymouth happenings

Mrs. Curran asked for a copy of the Mayor's budget memo. Assistant Superintendent Smith explained that a contract is being worked out with US Foods and that alternate vendors are being used. He expressed his thanks to Julieanne Gamache, Liz Sauro and the CTE students for printing the budget books.

It was requested to have a student advisory report of the diversity summit at the May 12, 2022 meeting.

-Nash Elementary School Student Success-Principal Angelos
Principal Angelos and students Elle Whitaker, Preston Haughton, Gia Palazzo, Reece Deardon, Kayke DeSouza, Sophia Matos, Chase Norkus, and Julia McInnis gave an overview of events happening at the Nash School. Topics covered: partnership with WHS Black Student Union and Human Rights Coalition, ST Math Challenge update, puzzle challenge, and Read Across America. A video message from Ms Staffier's Kindergarten class was shared.

Students presented keychains to the committee made from the Nash 3D printer.

The committee expressed their thanks and appreciation to Principal Angelos and the students for attending and presenting.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Discuss Job Description: Communication Coordinator

HR Director Foley advised that this is not a full time position and clarified that experience is 3-5 years in communication and will target communication in the district with some marketing-not necessarily web management.

b. 2022-2023 School Committee meeting dates (action requested)

Discussion of the dates of the MASC conference as well as having an additional meeting on November 3, 2022 was had.

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to accept the school committee meeting agenda schedule with the possibility of adding a meeting in November. Seconded by Ms. Palazzo. Motion passed. Motion passed 5-1.

c. Approval of transfer of funds (\$240K) from Maintenance (040) to Transportation (049) to cover increased costs for transportation (action requested)

Motion by Mrs. Nardone and seconded by Mr. Buccigross to approve the transfer of funds \$240,000.00 from maintenance to transportation. Motion carried.

Assistant Superintendent Smith explained that transportation costs for Special Education are eligible for Circuit Breaker reimbursement if paid from an operating account and not ESSER grant funded accounts.

d. Report out on retention or release of Executive Session Minutes: 2/3/21; 2/25/21; 9/16/21; 10/28/21

Ms. Palazzo summarized the status of executive minute retention/release status.
2/3/21-May be released after attorney review

2/25/21-Minutes will be released

9/16/21-Minutes will be released

10/28/21-Minutes will be retained as the matter is still ongoing.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Student Handbooks - Second Reading

-Middle School

Associate Principal Paulhus advised that the only change will be in language for attendance; wording will be consistent with the high school handbook of documented absence.

Public Comment

-There was none

Mr. Buccigross expressed his opinion of extending the time period for getting a doctor's note within 5 days. Associate Principal Monahan advised that administrators are open to work with all families.

The Athletic Director runs reports every quarter on grades for academic standing and will apprise appropriately.

Motion by Mrs. Nardone and seconded by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw to combine the 2nd and 3rd reading of the middle school handbook. Motion passed.

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to approve the middle school handbook. Seconded by Ms. Palazzo. Motion passed.

-WHS

Clarification was made that if a student was suspended they will not be able to attend a school event in Weymouth or away.

-District

Assistant Superintendent Curtin advised that for the dress code policy on page 16, hats and headwear will be removed from the language.

Public Comment

-There was none.

Motion by Mrs. Nardone and seconded by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw to combine the 2nd and 3rd reading of the district and high school handbooks. Motion passed.

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to accept the district and high school student handbooks. Seconded by Ms. Palazzo. Clarification was made on including hoods in the dress code language. Motion passed.

Families were encouraged to read the handbooks.

b. Job description: Coordinator of Family Engagement (action requested)

The position will be full time and responsible for the entire district PreK-grade 12 and start July 1, 2022, funded by the ESSER grant for the first 2 years. An evaluation of the position for tweaking may happen in the future. It was suggested to include district wide PreK-12 in the title of the posting or in general duties.

Motion by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw to approve the coordinator of family engagement job description with the edit of including PreK-12 district wide in general duties. Seconded by Mr. Buccigross. Motion passed.

c. Updates and Status of Chapman Middle School Opening 2022-Assistant Superintendent Curtin

Assistant Superintendent Curtin advised that traffic patterns and crosswalk locations are being worked on as well as the murals are going up. Sound panels are being installed in the auditorium. Thanks was expressed to John Mullaney and Donnie Norton for the newest video.

Chapman Project Updates

The back entrance canopy for unloading students was requested to be looked at.

Announcements:

- Maria Weston Chapman Day-April 30, 2022. 10am-Weston Field
- Maria Weston Chapman Middle School Information Night; Incoming 6th grade-May 2, 2022-7pm-Abigail Adams Middle School Auditorium
- Budget Sub-Committee Meeting-May 4, 2021, Administration Building/Virtual
- Weymouth Market-May 4, 2022-3:30pm-WHS, Gold Cafeteria
- Annie Junior-Abigail Adams-April 29 and 30
- WHS Evening High School Graduation, May 23, 2022

Next School Committee Meeting:

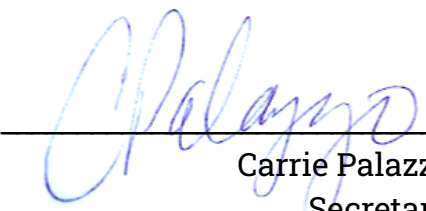
Regular Meeting: Thursday, May 12, 2022 - 7:00pm

The Meeting adjourned at 8:16pm on the motion of Mrs. Nardone, seconded by Ms. Palazzo. Motion passed.

Documents Attached to These Minutes:

- Student Advisory Report
- Nash presentation
- Job Descriptions: Communications And Family Engagement Coordinator
- 2022-2023 School Committee dates
- Handbook summary pages

Respectfully Submitted,



Carrie Palazzo
Secretary

School Committee Update 4/26

Thank you for the opportunity to report out. As always our report is organized into three sections

1. School-wide happenings 2. Athletics 3. and Activities/Clubs tonight we will start with Athletics and Activities/Clubs

1. For WHS Athletics

- a. Boys Rugby just defeated 3x defending champ Milton 26-24 today.
- b. Today we had special olympics at weymouth highschool for our exceptional athletes who put a smile on all of our faces. We had many different games and fun activities to experience. With Highschool students in all different areas we got to experience all different types of children of all ages. Not only did we have students come from other schools, we had our postgraduate students come for the fun as well. I had a wonderful time playing bag toss with my friends and encouraging them to play with me! Every child had a smile on their face and enjoyed the games presented. At the end every child got a medal for their awesome performance at each station and I wouldn't have wanted to spend my day anywhere else! I can't wait for next year's special olympics! -Nicole Hall, Junior at weymouth high

2. Now onto clubs and activities

- a. The Junior Class has just recently had our Junior Prom which was a huge success. Many students came with their friends and dates to dance and party. We also had Battle of the classes for the first time since 2020 which was another event where many

students got to come and enjoy their classmates competing to win their class 200 dollars. Congratulations to Senior class for winning.

- b. The Sophomore class officers are currently working with the freshman class officers in order to plan the annual Sophomore Semi Formal with a black and gold theme. The date will be June 10th from 7-9:30 in the maroon cafeteria.

3. Under School-wide happenings we have a proposal from the students brought to us via the co-chairs from WHS Human Rights Councils

- Introduce yourselves
- Thank SC for the opportunity to speak during SAG's report
- And thank you for your continued support to WHS HRC and our upcoming Diversity Summit Saturday. It will be a very exciting day and we look forward to returning to update you about the event.
- Most importantly, thank you Superintendent Wargo for your continued support in making Weymouth Public Schools a place that celebrates Equity and Empowers its students
- In keeping with this, we would like to bring forth a joint proposal from 338 students and faculty allies, including a unanimous resolution passed by the WHS HRC and the WHS BSU and in cooperation with Weymouth Pride Project.
- We are proposing that we have Weymouth Pride Flags flown at all Weymouth schools on June 1, the first day of Pride Month. We would also like to paint a rainbow crosswalk at Weymouth High School and potentially keep the rainbow crosswalk permanently. We plan for this to be painted on the crosswalk in front of the gold cafeteria before entry into the student parking lot. This proposal is supported by 338 number of student and staff signatures.
- The Weymouth Pride Flag offers a statement of inclusivity that is an essential first step toward empowering all learners. We want this to welcome all students. To make anyone regardless of race, gender identity or sexual orientation feel welcomed and empowered to be a learner in our school communities. We feel this is an important first step and of course would be done in accordance with flag laws which allow the flying of another flag below that of the American flag as is being done in Framingham with their pride flag.
- The crosswalk is a wonderful statement for our high school especially to make because it is here that WPS students transition to life after high school. So not only does this plan welcome all, but it wishes all the best as they move on to life after WPS. While the end of June marks the

end of pride month, it certainly does not mark the end of our support and celebration of all LGBTQIA+ identities! In accordance with this, we would like to paint the WHS crosswalk with rainbow colors using permanent color. We believe that permanent color solidifies our continued support for this community through visual representation, and we believe it would be a shame if it were to only last for a month!

- Flying the pride flag and painting the crosswalk are not new ideas, in fact there are similar projects that have been done in cities across the country and even in neighboring towns such as Hull, Quincy, Framingham, and Plymouth.