



Weymouth

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Weymouth School Committee

Humanities Center & Zoom

February 17, 2022

MEETING MINUTES

(approved 3/10/22)

Members In Attendance: Dr. John Sullivan, Chair; Tracey Nardone, 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 Came to Order At 7:27pm.

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

Chair Sullivan led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was observed in honor of WPS student Nathan Paul and also for William F Hughes.

Consent Agenda:

The Consent agenda included:

- Warrant 32-2022 in the amount of \$883,187.85. Dated 2/7/22
- Regular Minutes: 2/3/22
- Meeting of the Whole: 2/3/22
- Executive Session: 2/3/22
- Policy Sub-Committee Minutes: 2/7/22
- Budget Sub-Committee Minutes: 2/9/22

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to accept the consent agenda. Seconded by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw.
Motion passed unanimously.

Student Advisory

Due to grief and mourning at the high school, the advisory will appear at a future meeting.

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.

Chair Sullivan informed that there will be an additional opportunity for public comment after the Abigail Adams Repurposing presentation.

-Rachel Dillon, 151 Forest St.

As a Mom of 3 students shared her concerns for using Abigail Adams as an early education center and inquired if redistricting would be visited again.. Her concerns included:

Having only Prek-K busses and extended time on the bus for PreK and K students

Families for multiple children at different schools attending on time

Cost to families-Champions program would may have to be utilized

-Danielle Graziano, SEPAC and 430 Ralph Talbot St.

Expressed thanks to Mr. Angelos for allowing parents to see class space and Dr. Verlicco for talking about the impact of classroom space.

Spoke on the anxiety students feel about not attending their home school, space issues and shared support and the benefits for utilizing Adams as a PreK and Kindergarten building.

-Josephine Burke, 265 Broad St.

The WPS student shared her thoughts on utilizing Adams as a transitional middle school for 4th and 5th grade students and pointed out the large size of Adams and the lack of outdoor space and play structure for PreK and K students.

Report of the Superintendent:

Motion by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw and seconded by Mr. Buccigross to take out of order Abigail Adams Repurposing. Motion passed. Presentation will follow the Superintendent's report.

The Superintendent expressed condolences for the passing of Nathan Paul and thanked the WHS administrative team for their leadership during this tragedy.

WHS Conferences are tonight and tomorrow, February School vacation is next week and March 8, 2022 will be an early release day for all students.

The Superintendent advised that Covid numbers are decreasing and are down to 5.3%. 19 school covid cases were reported this week. Masks will be optional on February 28, 2022 however students will be supported if they wish to wear a mask.. Masks are required to be worn on buses

and in health offices. If a student tests positive they must isolate for 5 days. They are able to return when they are symptom free and must wear a mask for 5 days after returning.

Testing kits have been passed out and it was urged to test the weekend before returning from February school vacation. Testing kits for opt in are being procured through DESE. A reminder was given to check the expiration dates on kits.

The Superintendent recognized Pat Doyle and TJ Quigley for their efforts for stepping in at the hockey game over the weekend.. Further information was requested on the repercussions of the game on Saturday night.

Superintendent Wargo shared pictures of his visit to data meetings at Talbot, Seach and Pingree. Data points will be shared in a presentation at the first school committee meeting in March.

Principal Strauss joined Superintendent Wargo and shared that more information is to come on eighth grade moving up ceremony and dance.

The Superintendent will be seeking recommendations from the Committee on the selection process of administrator positions posted and ones that will be posted.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Abigail Adams Building Repurposing

Superintendent Wargo reviewed the background of the project and presented options for the use of the building.

Option A-converted to the ninth elementary school (original)

Option B-Relocate JECC to Adams

Option C-Relocate JECC and all Kindergarten

All options will include the Family Engagement Center as well as district offices.

The Superintendent added that centralized PreK and Kindergarten will enable students to stay in the district for all grades rather than going to charter or private schools.

Redistricting maps were reviewed pointing out that class space is an issue and that there is limited room for specialists currently. The proximity of Adams to Academy was discussed.

There will be a community forum to provide information and gather input. Impacts to families, students, staff, as well as transportation and cost to families are considerations.

Much discussion of the language of the original vote and measure, Adams educational plan, debt exclusion override, MSBA language, van/bus transportation for PreK and K with older students, start and end times, relocating JECC, and complications for redistricting was had. Adams would

open in the fall of 2023 for the 23-24 school year. The alternative building next to Adams houses archive files and maintenance supply and equipment.

Advantages and disadvantages were talked over. Ms Palazzo inquired if there were more than the 3 options and if Nash or Seach could be used for the PreK center. She also inquired if any Kindergarten classrooms would be on the 2nd floor.

Dr. Sherlock Shangraw requested that the feasibility study be placed back on the blog and brought attention to policies FCB for formal closing of a building and FBR concerns with being in compliance with the steering committee. She requested community meetings for transparency and for community participation and feedback before the next school committee meeting on March 10, 2022.

Mrs. Curran shared her support of option C. The Chair expressed the need for improved JECC facilities and support for a more centralized location and shared support for the space available for specialists and for special education students and reiterated that they want to do what is best for the kids and their achievement.

Cost savings of having a building offline was discussed.

Public Comment

-Kim Ferriera

Shared her support and the benefits of centralized PreK and Kindergarten and highlighted the accessibility and inclusion for all students for an equitable experience.

-Elizabeth Foster Nolan, 54 House Rock Rd

Shared her support of combining PreK and Kindergarten into 1 building at a central location with the family engagement center for equity and inclusion and expressed her opinion for the district to avoid redistricting.

-Rich Cassani, 132 Lorraine St-Via Zoom

Shared his opposition of centralized PreK and Kindergarten and expressed support for students attending neighborhood schools from K up.

b. Job Descriptions - Superintendent Wargo:

The Superintendent sent the chart of positions in the Friday update to the committee.

Primary School Assistant Superintendent

The current description has been amended. The position will be funded by ESSER III and then worked into the operating budget.

Having a Teaching license will be added back into qualifications.

Assistant Curriculum Director

The current description has been amended. There will be 4 positions-Wellness, Counseling, ELL, and Fine and Performing Arts; teaching a couple of classes may be required. Positions will be placed on the new organizational chart. Job descriptions will be amended for each content area position.

Department Head

The current description has been amended.

There will be a department head for each of the content areas at the high school and 1 each at the high school and middle school for special education.

5 Assistant Principals, 7 department heads, and 4 Assistant Curriculum Director positions will be posted.

Clarification was made on the position of the Assistant to the Superintendent; there is no change to the position and title.

c. Report of the Budget Subcommittee-2/9/22

Dr. Sullivan summarized the meeting of February 9, 2022. Topics included:

- ESSER I (\$678K), II (~\$3M), III (\$6.7M) allocations
 - The CTE Cosmetology renovation was denied from ESSER III
 - Cost Center budgets were reviewed for: Special Education, Curriculum, Professional Development, Health Services, Athletics, Maintenance, Transportation, and District
- Specific information can be found on the School Committee webpage:

<https://www.weymouthschools.org/district/budget-sub-committee>

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to accept the report of the budget sub committee. Seconded by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw. Motion passed.

d. Report of the Policy Subcommittee-2/7/22

Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw summarized the meeting of February 7, 2022. Members present were Ms. Palazzo, Mrs. Nardone, and Assistant Superintendent Curtin. Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw was named chairperson. Section D of the policy manual was reviewed. The policy manual has been uploaded to the website:

<https://www.weymouthschools.org/district/policy-sub-committee/pages/weymouth-public-schools-policy-manual>

Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw asked members to review the School Committee Handbook which was last reviewed in 2001. Suggested edits are to be forwarded to Assistant Superintendent Curtin.

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to approve the report of the February 7, 2022 policy sub committee. Seconded by Ms. Palazzo . Motion passed.

e. Approve MOA Custodians (action requested)

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to approve the Custodian MOA. Seconded by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

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

Assistant Superintendent Curtin shared that there will be a presentation on March 8, 2022 at 7pm at the WHS Humanities Center with Principal Meehan and Paulhus with HMFH visuals. The community can attend in person or through Zoom. Staff is currently being worked on.

Chapman Project Updates

Announcements:

-Weymouth Scholarship applications available, deadline for submission is March 15, 2022:

<https://www.weymouth.ma.us/scholarship-fund-committee>

-SEPAC Parent Support Group-February 22, 2022, 7pm

-ARC of the South Shore-Sing 2 at the Cameo, 10am-rolling sensory cart will be available

-Budget Sub-Committee-March 2, 2022, 6:00pm, Administration

The Chair advised that the meeting time could be at 6:30pm

-Weymouth Market-March 2, 2022-3:30pm-WHS, Gold Cafeteria-Market will return to pre-Covid model of in person pick up

Next School Committee Meeting:

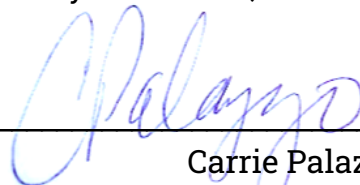
Regular Meeting: Thursday, March 10, 2022 - 7:00pm

The Meeting adjourned at 9:40pm on the motion of Mrs. Nardone, seconded by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw. Motion passed.

Documents Attached to These Minutes:

- Repurposing of Abigail Adams presentation
- Primary School Assistant Principal job description
- Department Head job description
- Assistant Curriculum Director job description
- Chapman Updates

Respectfully Submitted,



Carrie Palazzo
Secretary