



Weymouth

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Weymouth School Committee

Humanities Center & Zoom

May 12, 2022

MEETING MINUTES

(approved 5/26/22)

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 Began at 6:00 pm.

Mrs. Nardone moved to enter into executive session;

- a. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, section 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy of litigation: Kevin Mackin vs. Town of Weymouth Department of Industrial Accidents; Kevin Mackin vs Town of Weymouth, School Committee of Weymouth, et. al., Civil Action No. 2082CV00943
- b. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(2): To conduct strategy session in preparation for contract negotiations with nonunion personnel: Weymouth High School Principal Contract

Motion seconded by Mrs. Curran and passed unanimously.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm

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 held for Anthony "Tony" Ciampa, passed away on April 29, 2022. Tony was a lifelong educator who spent his career in the Weymouth Public Schools. He retired in 2000 as Weymouth High School Assistant Principal.

Consent Agenda:

The Consent agenda included:

- Warrant 44-2022 in the amount of \$\$783,378.04. Dated 5/2/22
- Regular Minutes: 4/28/22
- Executive Session: 4/28/22

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

Student Advisory**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.

Kathy Swain - 134 Mill Street, Weymouth - Mrs. Swain came to the table and spoke about the importance of Middle School athletics and the possibility of free athletics for all. She expressed her opinion on the benefits of opening up athletics to all students including the students who could otherwise not benefit from athletic programs due to the fees.

Lisa Belmarsh - Town Councilor at Large - Chair of the Education Subcommittee came to the table and asked if she could speak after the fee presentation on the agenda. The chair stated this would be allowed.

Report of the Superintendent:

Academy Avenue - Principal Patrick Higgins came to the table with Heike Tuplin Grade 4- the Health & Wellness Team Captain. Students who attended were Ayden Lyons Gr 5, Cameron Lyons Grade 1, Claire McDonald Grade 3, Lucy McDonald Grade K, Sean McDonald K. Topics included: Small Group Instruction and tiered supports, using data to inform instruction: "Meeting the students where they are", working on Reciprocal Teaching and Learning for students in grades 2-5, using leveled readers in ELA, Heggerty and Lively Letters in K.

The committee expressed their thanks and appreciation to Principal Higgins, Ms. Tuplin and the students for attending and presenting.

Wessagusset Elementary School - Principal Fratolillo came to the table with representatives from each grade level to hear about the schools' climate and culture goals, health and wellness activities, and academic initiatives (including alphabet songs, engineering projects, and team-based reading strategies):

Kindergarten

Teacher - Liana Labriola

Students:

Victoria Vickers, Violet Cosgrove, Lola Morin, Rilee Nkisa, Josephine Sullivan

Grade 1:

Teachers - Jennifer Loud and Molly Brown

Students:

Chloe Grover, Emmalynne Chapman, Abigail Levy, Ariella Uyeda

Grade 5:

Teachers - Meghan Carr and Emily Kuhn

Students:

Max Bedoni, Caleb Foley, Carleigh Loring, Charlotte Murphy, Tia Khalil

The committee expressed their thanks and appreciation to Principal Fratolillo, her staff and the students for attending and presenting.

Middle and High School Incidents

Superintendent Wargo talked about an uptick in disruptive behavior(s) at the Middle School and High School levels. Assemblies have been held to remind students of behavioral expectations and SEL teams are going room to room to discuss behavioral expectations with students. The Superintendent reported that district administration is trying to establish a more proactive approach to communicating with families about behavioral concerns.

Committee member Palazzo suggested that it'd be helpful for the School Committee to receive district-wide data on these incidents so she could understand the questions that are being asked of her and respond to constituents appropriately. She would like to have a meeting of the whole to discuss and review this.

Committee member Sherlock-Shangraw asked for an update at the next meeting regarding student requests re: Pride Month (June) Recognition from the last meeting. She expressed her support for the students and supported flying the Pride flag on the flagpoles.

Superintendent Wargo stated he does not have a report yet and is still meeting with the students on these requests.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Fee Cycle - (Action Requested)

Assistant Superintendent shared this is the Fee Cycle schedule that was brought forward in the Budget Sub-Committee meeting. Asking the committee for a vote this evening to move forward. The Chair opened to questions from the committee. Ms. Nardone stated she was not in support of this schedule. Wish we were going in a different direction.

Ms. Palazzo thinks \$175 is high for middle school sports and wonders if next year is the right time to start this.

Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw asked if we have surveyed families? Asked for a copy of the uniform refresh plan and stated it should be publicly available. Cannot support this schedule of fees.

Mrs. Curran stated that fees have not changed in 20 years. She would support this but maybe next year would be better. This year may not be the right time.

Dr. Sullivan does not like the fees. Wishes we could find money for all programs, not just athletics.

The Chair opened to public comment.

Lisa Belmarsh - Town Councilor at Large - Chair of the Education Subcommittee
Ms. Belmarsh shared that we should be able to find a way to increase participation in sports, music etc without raising fees. There are other funding sources right now ARPA, ESSER, Free Cash. Spoke about the importance of participation for students.

Kathy Swain - shared that Weymouth's fees are higher for middle school sports than surrounding schools and again stated the importance of students being able to participate.

Elizabeth Foster-Nolan - 54 Houserock Road - presentation is not as detailed as she expected. Also expressed that this may not be the right time to initiate this fee schedule, maybe the 23-24 school year.

The chair closed public comment.

The Committee voted to table the vote on fees and bring it back to Budget Sub-Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Job description: Communications Coordinator (action requested)

Motion by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw to approve the communications coordinator job description
Seconded by Mr. Buccigross. Motion passed.

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

Assistant Superintendent Curtin - The Chapman team is in the process of reviewing a final list of approximately 6,000 books to be purchased for the Library Media Center.
Everyone is working really hard to get their rooms and materials packed up for the summer move. Gymnasium flooring is going down, continued work on landscaping and outdoor classrooms, painting of the halls, and glass & lighting in the Media Center.

Chapman Project Updates

c. Update and status of Abigail Adams and Johnson - Assistant Superintendent Smith

Assistant Superintendent Smith provided an update on Abigail Adams/JECC. Meetings have been set up with John MacLeod, Chair John Sullivan, Member Kathy Curran and administration. The next to happen will be the Request for Qualifications with the town,, a walkthrough with Principal Perez and her staff to view the space. Updates will be provided at school committee meetings going forward to update the committee as things progress.

Announcements:

- Weymouth Rotary Club -Tom "Terrific" Tanner Pancake Breakfast - May 15th- 8-11:30 Whipple Center
- Weymouth Market-June 1, 2022-3:30pm-WHS, Gold Cafeteria
- WHS Evening High School Graduation, May 23, 2022

Next School Committee Meeting:

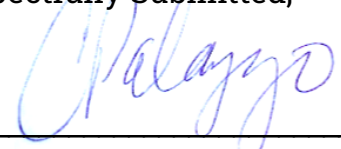
Regular Meeting: Thursday, May 12, 2022 - 7:00pm

The Meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm on the motion of Mrs. Nardone, seconded by Dr. Sherlock-Shgangraw. Motion passed.

Documents Attached to These Minutes:

- Academy Avenue Presentation
- Fee Cycle Schedule
- Communications Coordinator Job Description
- Chapman Update

Respectfully Submitted,



Carrie Palazzo
Secretary