

Weymouth School Committee Meeting
MJL Humanities Center
October 24, 2019
Minutes

CALL TO ORDER PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE MOMENT OF SILENCE	7:00 PM The regular meeting was called to order. All that were present stood for the pledge.	
MEMBERS Strike out = absent	Lisa Belmarsh, Chair Tracey Nardone, Vice Chair John Sullivan, Secretary Gail Sheehan Kathy Curran Rebecca Sherlock-Shangraw Robert Hedlund, Mayor	Jennifer Curtis-Whipple, Superintendent Mary Ann Bryan, Assistant Superintendent Brian Smith, Assistant Superintendent
CONSENT AGENDA * Items = tabled	Payment of Bills Warrant 18-2020, in the amount of \$678,428.74 Approval of Minutes: Regular Minutes: 9/19/19, 10/10/19 as corrected MOTION: by Tracey Nardone to accept the consent agenda and minutes as corrected SECOND: by Dr. Sullivan UNANIMOUSLY VOTED	
PUBLIC COMMENT	Chair Belmarsh opened for public comment. Sherrie Anne Noble spoke regarding Native American issues that are before the State Legislature with the potential to impact the Weymouth educational community. Ms. Noble, 20 Gaslight Drive stated although not Native American she wanted to express acknowledgement of the Wompanoag and Nipmuc tribe for their contributions to the community. Ms. Nobel appealed to the committee to start thinking about how they would handle the 5 bills in the legislature, three of which would have a direct impact on schools: renaming Columbus day “Indigenous People’s Day,” the prohibition of Native American mascots, and a review of the State Seal. Linda Rorie 693 Commercial Street Ms. Rorie requested page numbers on hard copies of presentations going forward for reference. She also shared her thoughts on MCAS achievement stagnation, recommended a separate line item in the budget for legal counsel, cited MGL 71 Section 37A regarding the Mayor’s approval of funding, expressed opposition to	

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	<p>Universal Full Day Kindergarten due to diminishing effects after third grade, and her opposition of the words, “Climate Change” in MASC Resolution #4.</p> <p>Chair Belmarsh advised that the committee would take public comment after the Universal Full Day Kindergarten Presentation as well.</p> <p>Sharon Ennis 163 Academy Avenue Ms. Ennis expressed her support as a Mother and Public School Teacher for Universal Full Day Kindergarten and its benefits as well as the necessity for education equity. Mrs. Ennis shared a statistic that Weymouth is 1 of 38 districts with where Kindergarten is fee based.</p> <p>Rachel Collins 23 Bengal Road As a Mother and Weymouth Public School 1st grade teacher at the Murphy School Mrs. Collins expressed her support for Universal Full Day Kindergarten. She pointed out that it’s impossible to meet the academic and social emotional needs of kindergarten students in a ½ day program and that only 4% of Massachusetts kindergarten students were enrolled in a ½ day program for the 2019/20 school year. Mrs. Collins’ reiterated the importance of investing in our Kindergarten students with Universal Full Day Kindergarten for their long term success.</p>
REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT	<p>The Superintendent reported on the following:</p> <p>The Career Tech event that was canceled on October 17, 2019 due to the weather. It will be rescheduled and details will be forwarded as soon as they are finalized.</p> <p>The Academy Avenue School will kick off SAL- School Arts Learning (SAL) this month with the 4th grade classes. Grade 3 will be teaming up with Mr. Shapiro next month integrate anything under the arts domain with other subject content. SAL was piloted at the Seach School.</p> <p>Abigail Adams nurses now have a small library with books that are fictional with an underlying health theme. Students may borrow books from the library and we will be happy to help them choose a book that they are interested in. The Superintendent gave kudos to the Abigail Adams nursing staff.</p> <p>Also at Adams, the music classes are engaged in the Science of Sound Project! Students in music are currently designing and building their own musical instruments using household materials.</p>

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	<p>The Seach School is starting an ELL mentor program for students and families. The school currently has 15 different languages spoken by families. This program is a great source of community outreach.</p> <p>USDA Farm to School Implementation Grant - John Galluzzo YMCA</p> <p>Assistant Superintendent Bryan gave an overview of the The Farm to School Grant-\$92,778.00, distributed by the United States Department of Agriculture. Funds are to support schools' abilities to pursue farm to school initiatives through projects like increasing local foods served through child nutrition programs and providing educational opportunities to teach children about food and agriculture.</p> <p>Grant funds can be used for training, supporting operations, planning, purchasing equipment, developing school gardens, developing partnerships and implementing farm to school programs.</p> <p>The grant, which covers a period of one year, was awarded to the South Shore YMCA who will collaborate with Holly Hill Farms and the Weymouth Public Schools food service provider Chartwells to pursue farm to school projects in Weymouth.</p> <p>Teri Flemming and Jeremy Angelos, John Belber of Holly Hill Farm, and John Galluzzo of the YMCA came to the table and shared their excitement for the program and for the experiential learning it provides for Weymouth students. the government funds about 75% and the YMCA about 25% of the grant. Plans are in place to have working garden beds on site at each school to eventually use the fruits and vegetables grown by students in food services process at the Weymouth Public Schools.</p> <p>Carrots and potatoes from the Wessagusset garden was brought as an example. Students can try the '2 bite club' for garden bed food tasting, such as kale.</p> <p>A request was made to revisit School Committee in the spring with an update.</p> <p>Mrs. Sheehan requested that the Superintendent's evaluation be put on next agenda's meeting.</p>
	<p><u>School Improvement Plan: Johnson Early Childhood Center - Maura Perez, Principal JECC</u></p> <p>Principal Perez came to the table and gave an overview of the presentation. Topics included student enrollment and demographics, special education including referral trends, NAEYC Decision Report, DESE Indicators, and Curriculum Data and</p>

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assessments. Also discussed, Areas of strength and accomplishment as well as performance. Technology and Social Emotional Learning was also covered. Challenges with staffing, decreased state grant funding, and increased students challenges were also discussed

Mrs. Curran asked if the handicapped lifts had been replaced. They are in the process of being replaced.

Dr. Sullivan inquired about the staff parking situation and Assistant Superintendent Smith advised that a request will be put on the Capital Plan for an identified space away from wetlands to pave for staff parking that will maintain traffic flow and fire lanes.

All questions by the committee were addressed. The committee thanked Principal Perez for her thorough presentation and her hard work.
The presentation ended with a video
A copy of the presentation is attached to these notes.

Assistant Superintendent Smith left at 8:09pm and returned at 8:13pm

MOTION: by Mrs. Nardone to take Universal Full Day Kindergarten out of order
SECOND: Dr. Sullivan
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

Universal Full Day Kindergarten-Review Staffing, Cost, Space for School Year 2020/21

Superintendent Curtis-Whipple and Assistant Superintendent Smith came to the table and gave an overview of the presentation. Topics included the benefits of full day Kindergarten and how it impacts children, additional staffing needs including teachers, paraprofessional and specialists, cost needs and breakdown, building space and redistricting were also talked about.

The additional funding needed for Universal Full Day Kindergarten (staff for 20 classrooms) would be \$770,056 in addition to the revolving current Kindergarten budget as the district would not be collecting tuition is \$718,770 for a total of \$1,488,826

Chair Belmarsh commented that there are serious budget implications and the district needs to take steps early on to ensure Universal Full Day Kindergarten moves forward and so parents and the district can plan. The Chair remarked that hopefully chapter 70 funding would potentially go up and charter school

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assessments could go down due to students electing to go to Weymouth Public School instead of other kindergarten providers.

Mrs. Nardone reiterated her long time support for Universal Full Day Kindergarten and inquired about projected class size. The Superintendent advised that class size would follow the contract.

Dr. Sullivan emphasized that the projected total is only 1% of the budget and funding should be a priority and hopes the support of the town will come on board.

Ms. Sherlock-Shangraw excitedly shared her support of Universal Full Day Kindergarten and posed the question that if not funded where would the money come from. The Superintendent advised that other positions would have to be looked at but ultimately does not want something else taken away to support the important Universal Full Day Kindergarten Initiative.

Mrs. Sheehan shared that she is concerned about cost and, specialist and classrooms shifts.

Mrs. Curran advised waiting until Adams opens as a new primary school when the new Chapman comes online, and asked about the availability of space in the current primaries. Dr Curtis-Whipple explained that some former classrooms that are now being used for other purposes would return to being classrooms. In addition, some specialists would no longer have their own classrooms.

Class shifts was also a topic of discussion and like every year will depend on enrollment numbers.

The school committee will vote on Universal Full Day Kindergarten at the next meeting in order to provide enough time for parent notification, planning, and student registration.

All questions asked by the committee were addressed. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

Mary Ann Bryan left the table at 8:45pm and returned at 8:48pm

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kimberly Ferrera
105 Charles Diersch Street

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Ms. Ferrera shared her support of Universal Full Day Kindergarten as the mom of a child on an IEP and a child in a CEP class. Mrs. Ferrera also discussed the challenges that the ½ day program poses for children that require pull out services, such as speech or OT and how it significantly impacts their day.

Linda Rorie

693 Commercial Street

Ms. Rorie stated that she is in support of Full Day Kindergarten however not the 'free' part and suggested lowering the cost of the full day program and giving out more vouchers.

The Superintendent advised that it is cost prohibitive for families in a sliding scale scenario as the district absorbs the cost difference.

Kathy Prince

925 Middle Street

Ms. Prince shared her support of Universal Full Day Kindergarten as a grandmother of 5 and is delighted that the committee seems to be in favor of Universal full day kindergarten and that Weymouth students should be entitled to the program as is 95% of Massachusetts. She also raised the question of what the community can do to show support of Universal Full Day Kindergarten.

Carrie Palazzo

16 Keating Circle

Ms. Palazzo shared her support of Universal Full Day Kindergarten and reiterated that it is an investment in academic and social and emotional wellness of the children of Weymouth and in turn the families are investing their money back to the town. Mrs. Palazzo passionately appealed to the community and teacher to advocate by email, calling, connecting social media to support Universal Full Day Kindergarten and to get it on the budget, with no cuts.

Annmarie Maxwell

36 Wolver Street

The Mom of 3 shared the she and her family moved to Weymouth because of the new Chapman School and with her first child entering Kindergarten next year, she wanted the committee know that if Full Day Kindergarten is not an option, Weymouth families may have to look to other places outside of town.

Becky Haugh

34 Evans Street

As a Town Councilor and mom of Weymouth Public School students, Councilor Haugh expressed her support for Universal Full Day Kindergarten and reiterated that the time is now and Weymouth shouldn't wait anymore.

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Amy Carr
31 Morrell Street

As a parent and educator Ms. Carr shared her support for Universal Full Day Kindergarten and the financial challenges families face with ½ day Kindergarten for before school and after school care and would like the full day program offered to all students in the community.

Katelyn Widow
51 Gilbert Road

Ms. Widow shared her support for Universal Full Day Kindergarten and that for students that attended full Pre at JECC to move to a ½ day Kindergarten program doesn't make sense and hopes that Full Day Kindergarten moves forward.

Superintendent Curtis Whipple thanked Kimberly Ferrara for sharing her thoughts regarding the challenges of the ½ day program when children are receiving pull out services.

Dr Sullivan shared that he believed this part of a Weymouth Renaissance and highlighted that this is the 1st vote he has taken in four years that would be adding something new, rather than catching up from what we lost in the recession.

Chair Belmarsh shared that Senator O'Connor supports Universal Full Day Kindergarten and is trying to find grant funding opportunities.

Universal Full Day Kindergarten will be voted on at the next meeting under old business.

Mary Ann Bryan left the table at 9:11pm and returned at 9:13pm

MCAS Data and School Accountability Report - Dr. Pamela Stazesky, Manager Data & Assessment

Dr. Stazesky and Assistant Superintendent Bryan came to the table and gave an overview of their presentation. They advised that they would be giving a somewhat abbreviated presentation due to the late hour, but that the full presentation would be available for interested parties to read. Topics included Next Generation (New) and Legacy (Old) MCAS results for ELA, Math and Science, State vs Weymouth results, Student Growth, Resources, Accountability System, Chronic Absenteeism. The Weymouth Accelerated Improvement Plan, Strategic Levers, State Indicators and effective use of data were also discussed.

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All questions asked by the committee were addressed.
A copy of the presentation is attached to these notes.

Mrs. Nardone left the table at 9:19pm and returned at 9:27
Mrs. Sherlock Shangraw left the table at 9:21pm and returned at 9:27
Superintendent Curtis-Whipple left the table at 9:24 and returned at 9:30

Dr. Sullivan stated the MCAS aren't quite where they should be but the necessary interventions are in place and can't wait to see what happens in the next few years.

Mrs. Sherlock Shangraw reiterated that the data supports the need for the new Chapman.

Mrs. Sheehan expressed concern about the math scores.

Superintendent Curtis-Whipple left the table at 9:55pm and returned at 9:57pm
Assistant Superintendent Bryan left the table at 9:55pm and returned at 9:56pm

Request to engage legal services of attorney Joe Emerson for the purposes of representation in labor and employment matters

MOTION: by Mrs. Nardone to accept the request to engage legal services of attorney Joe Emerson for the purposes of representation in labor and employment matters

SECOND: by Dr. Sullivan
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

Policy Sub-Committee Report-10/21/19

Mrs. Sheehan read her report into the record. Topics discussed were field trip policy IJOA and the cost, Section J of the Policy hand book with Jim Hardy.

Ms. Sherlock-Shangraw corrected that she stated we should be proactive not reactive.

The policy meeting adjourned at 6:50pm and the next meeting will be on December 2, 2019.

MOTION: by Chair Belmarsh to accept the policy sub committee report with correction

SECOND: by Dr. Sullivan
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

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Budget Sub-Committee Report-10/16/19

Mrs. Nardone read her notes into the record. The committee met on October 16 and topics discussed were Universal Full Day Kindergarten, Summer school/Q5, Chapman Middle School, Capital improvement plan, JECC replacement boilers, Abigail Adams auditorium seat replacement, security entrances that have been completed, CTE, 1:1 devices for grades 7-12. The meeting adjourned at 7:16pm and the next meeting will be on November 6

MOTION: by Dr Sullivan accept the budget sub committee

SECOND: by Mrs. Sheehan

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

Assistant Superintendent Smith pointed out that next year, grades 7-12 will all have devices and the Capital Improvement plan will collected cost centers from department heads

SUPPLEMENTARY MOTION: by Dr. Sullivan to accept the budget sub committee report as corrected

SECOND: by Mrs. Sheehan

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

Assistant Superintendent Smith left the table at 10:05pm and returned at 10:08pm

Assistant Superintendent Bryan left the table at 10:06pm and returned at 10:10pm

MASC Resolutions

Delegate Tracey Nardone will vote on behalf of the committee on the following resolutions at the MASC Conference. Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw provided summaries of each resolution. The full text, which was available in member packets, is attached to these minutes.

Resolution 1: Banning Polystyrene from Schools

MOTION: by Dr.. Sherlock-Shangraw to Approve Resolution 1

SECOND: by Dr. Sullivan

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

Resolution 2: Pertaining to Educator Diversity and Professional Licensure

MOTION: by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw to support Resolution 2

SECOND: by Dr. Sullivan

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MAJORITY VOTED 5 to 1 to not support: Mrs. Curran, Dr. Sullivan, Chair Belmarsh, Vice Chair Nadone, Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw
Mrs. Sheehan voted to support****

Resolution 3: School Transportation

MOTION: by Dr. Sherlock Shangraw to **not** support Resolution 3

SECOND: by Mrs. Nardone

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

Resolution 4: Climate Change

MOTION: by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw to support Resolution 4

SECOND: by Mrs. Nardone

MAJORITY VOTED TO SUPPORT

Mrs. Curran Opposes

Resolution 5: Full funding of Transportation of Costs for Students in Foster and State Care

MOTION: by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw to support Resolution 5

SECOND: by Mrs Nardone

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

Resolution 6: Universal Quality Pre-Kindergarten Access in Massachusetts

MOTION: by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw to support Resolution 6

SECOND: by Mrs. Nardone

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

Resolution 7: Poverty and Children

MOTION: by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw to support Resolution 7

SECOND: by Mrs. Nardone

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

Resolution 8: Resolution and Access to Menstrual Supplies

MOTION: by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw to support Resolution 8

SECOND: by Dr. Sullivan

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED:

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	<p><i>Resolution 9: Charter School Reform</i></p> <p>MOTION: by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw to support Resolution 9 SECOND: by Mrs. Nardone UNANIMOUSLY VOTED</p>
OLD BUSINESS	<p><u>Chapman School Building Update</u> At the meeting last week, playground equipment was discussed. There are no meetings scheduled at this time. Window Screens were also discussed. The Public Forum dated for 10/30/19 meeting is canceled and will be rescheduled. The committee will provide an update as to when it will be rescheduled.</p> <p>All presentations, minutes and other information regarding the School Building can be found at: www.anewchapman.org</p>
Announcements	<p>SEPAC-December 3, 2019-6:60pm, Library, Abigail Adams (no November meeting due to election) Full Day PD-November 5, 2019-No School for Students Weymouth Market-November 6, 2019, 3:30pm, WHS Gold Cafeteria Town Wide Parent Council-November 12, 2019, 7:00pm, Humanities Center School Committee Candidates only forum will be on Tuesday at 7pm and will be televised WETC live WEF Fundraiser is Friday, November 8, at the hall located at 610 Broad St.-Tim Kelly will perform. Tickets are \$25 and can be obtained by calling Carol Karlberg at (781) 724-9868 or (781) 335-3512. Have a happy halloween and stay safe</p>
NEXT MEETING	<p>Meeting of the WSC Thursday, November 14, 2019 - 7pm - MJL Humanities Center, WHS</p>
ADJOURNMENT	<p>MOTION: by Vice Chair Nardone at 10:24pm SECOND: by Dr. Sullivan UNANIMOUSLY VOTED</p>
ATTACHED DOCUMENTS	<p>Payment of Bills Warrant 18-2020, in the amount of \$678,428.74</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Regular Minutes: 9/19/19, 10/10/19 as corrected</p> <p>School Improvement Plan Universal Full Day Kindergarten MCAS Data and School Accountability report Request to Engage Legal Services Attorney Budget Sub-Committee</p>

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	Policy Sub-Committee MASC Resolutions 1-9
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Submitted by:

John Sullivan, Secretary