



# Weymouth

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## PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Weymouth School Committee

VIRTUAL - ZOOM

<https://bit.ly/WSC32620>

March 26, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Approved 4/9/20

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**Members In Attendance:** Lisa Belmarsh, Chair; Tracey Nardone, Vice-Chair; John Sullivan, Secretary; Kathy Curran; Rebecca Sherlock-Shangraw; Carrie Palazzo, Mayor Robert Hedlund(7:03pm)

**Members Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Jennifer Curtis-Whipple, Superintendent; Brian Smith, Assistant Superintendent; Robert Wargo, Assistant Superintendent.

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**The Meeting Came to Order At 7:00pm.** The Chair took roll call attendance. Dr. Sullivan went over directions of how public comment will be handled; waving hand in front of camera for online attendees and saying your name if attending via phone. WETC will also be recording to view on <http://weymouth.tv/>

**Consent Agenda:**

The consent agenda included:

- Warrant 40-2020 in the amount of \$1,063,097.66, Dated 3/30/20 presented with an assurance there is money to pay for these items.

Motion to accept the Consent Agenda by Mrs. Nardone, seconded by Dr. Sullivan.

Passed unanimously

**Public Comment**

To be held after the budget presentation.

The Chair thanked all for adhering to social distancing and then the Superintendent led the pledge of allegiance.

### **New Business**

#### **a. Submission of proposed FY21 School Department Budget \$76,199,856 (action requested)**

Assistant Superintendent Smith gave an overview of the trimmed down presentation originally shown March 12, 2020. Topics included Budget Drivers, Level Service Budget, FY20 to FY21 Comparison, and FY21 Needs List. The total proposed budget is \$76,119,856 which includes increases in Personnel at \$1,447,370, Expenses at \$345,670, Compliance Needs at \$706,922, and Non Union additional increase at \$57,645. Increase from FY20-FY21 is 2.44% for level service and 3.47% for total budget.

The Superintendent added that items with an \* are new to the needs list and that highlight yellow items are a compliance need. Positions and areas highlighted were an increase in special education needs, expansion in alternative pathways, HR and Procurement Analyst due to increase of workload, Tech integration, Robotics and Metal Fab Teacher at WHS for CTE, Kindergarten Teachers, Paraprofessionals and Specialists. Assistant Principals (.5 )and how necessary they are needed at the primary level was discussed.

The Chair reminded that the full budget presentation is available to view on the website:

<https://www.weymouthschools.org/district/budget-sub-committee/pages/fy-21-budget-documents>

Chair Belmarsh also thanked Principals, Curriculum Staff, Department Heads and Administration for their hard work in presenting a realistic picture of what is needed to make the schools as strong as they can be. Future talks on priorities will need to take place. She also thanked staff, students, families, administration and Mike Murphy and Union collaboration for dedication over the last couple of weeks.

### **Committee Discussion**

Mrs. Curran stated that she feels the entire budget should be proposed with everything and that budget number is \$78,665,000, which includes the proposed budget plus the needs list. She further stated that she would be voting no.

Chair Belmarsh affirmed that a memo from the Mayor's office received today indicated that in these uncertain times the budget will have to be watched closely and that more discussions would be forthcoming.

Mayor Hedlund shared that the timing of the memo was coincidental with the budget vote this evening. The Mayor also stated that there is a confirmed case of COVID19 at Town Hall and that difficult times are ahead and it might be a struggle to meet level services, but that meeting level service at minimum was his goal. He clarified that he was trying for level service as opposed to level funding. The Mayor thanked everyone for all of their hard work.

Chair Belmarsh thanked The Mayor for attending and expressed get well wishes for the employee that is sick. She also clarified that level service is for what the district is seeking and that level funded is for what is currently funded.

### **Public Comment**

There was none

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to approve the proposed FY21 School Department Budget of \$76,199,856 . Seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Roll Call Vote. Passed 5 to 2. Mrs. Curran voted No and Mayor Hedlund voted present.

A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

The Superintendent expressed her thanks to everyone for their hard work and support, and 'all hands on deck' during this unprecedented event that will have budgetary impact as there has been an uptick in spending (ie. cleaning supplies). Dr. Curtis-Whipple stated that working hard to be status quo and business as usual. She gave a shout out to Paula Magnasco and the nursing team as well as John Barker and Mike Manning for gathering masks and medical supplies to be donated to WPD and WFD. Also thanked South Shore Bank for bag donation for lunches and the Pinheiro Family for book donations.

**The Next Meeting of the Weymouth School Committee** anticipated to be held on Thursday, April 9, 2020, 7pm - MJL Humanities Center, WHS

### **Announcements:**

Weymouth Market - April 1, 2020, 3:30pm - WHS Gold Cafeteria: Market will occur in a drive thru manner

**The Meeting Adjourned at 7:43 pm** on the motion of Mrs. Nardone. Seconded by Dr Sullivan. Passed unanimously by roll call vote.

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**Documents Attached to These Minutes:**

- Preliminary Budget Proposal Summary

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John P. Sullivan", is positioned above a horizontal line.

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John P. Sullivan, Ph.D.  
Secretary