



Weymouth

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Weymouth School Committee

[ZOOM Meeting](#)

May 28, 2020

MEETING MINUTES

(approved 6/18/20)

Members In Attendance: Lisa Belmarsh, Chair; Tracey Nardone, Vice-Chair; John Sullivan, Secretary; Kathy Curran; Rebecca Sherlock-Shangraw; Carrie Palazzo,

Members Absent: Mayor Robert Hedlund

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

The Meeting Came to Order At 7:02pm.

The Chair took roll call attendance.

Consent Agenda:

The consent agenda included:

- Warrant 49-2020 in the amount of \$584,042.97, Dated 6/1/20 presented with an assurance there is money to pay for these items.
- Regular Minutes 3/12/20, 5/14/20
- Executive Minutes 5/14/20
- Budget Sub Minutes 5/19/20

Motion to accept the Consent Agenda by Mrs. Nardone, seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Roll Call vote. Passed unanimously.

Mrs. Curran stated she would like to see the warrant.

Student Advisory

Senior student Abigail Huard shared how grateful she was to be part of student advisory and encourages students to become involved including 8th graders. The Chair wished Ms. Huard good luck and thanked the advisory for being involved even virtually.

Lauren Crisileo shared the advisory met with Principal Strauss and they are thankful for transparency shown between the administration, teachers and students. Finals will not be given this year due to COVID19 however they will still talk about future years.

Katlyn Horan expressed concern about the athletic season, extra curricular activities and clubs in the fall.

The committee thanked the advisory for presenting throughout the year and their voices matter.

Report of the Superintendent

The Superintendent shared:

The Town Council's Budget / Management Committee will be meeting on June 1, 2020 and urged community members to tune in. The School Committee's Budget Sub committee will be on June 3, 2020 and SEPAC will be on June 2, 2020.

A data assessment regarding remote learning will be going out. Dr Stazetsky and Assistant Superintendent Wargo will be analyzing and coding responses. Surveys will be Teachers and students in grades 3-12.

Professional Development included ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) active shooter training and de-escalation for staff Prek-12.

Diagnostic testing program Dibbels is up and ready for grades K-5.

Academy Avenue hosted their first virtual international night and will be hosting a virtual art night.

At Abigail Adams Mr. Materna highlighted Isabell DeAngelos who helped with the AAMS song.

The Chapman School is officially packed and the Superintendent thanked Melanie Curtin, John Barker, Mike Pace, Myra Jones, custodial, and building staff for all of their hard work. Melanie Curtin shared how proud she was of everyone as it was a huge undertaking.

Mackenzie Kanes' essay of professional is courage from Mr. Rand's class was chosen in the top 10.

Senior pick up of materials for graduation will be happening at primary and parochial schools June 1 and 2, 2020 in a parade fashion to celebrate seniors and their accomplishments.

Superintendent Curtis-Whipple thanked Principal Struass, Associate Principal Monahan and all the WHS staff for their support as there was a huge amount of work. Principal Strauss reiterated thanks to staff and the district for all hard work in preparing for June 1 & 2 pickup and June 6. Thanks was given to Principal Strauss in recognition of the signs posted around time.

The return to school committee met to discuss sub groups and objectives and over 250 volunteers signed up. Some sub groups will be larger than others such as Student support and services, athletics and extracurricular activities, education/academics, and CTE. The commissioner will hopefully send guidance mandates and support for the opening of school at the end of June. The district is being proactive in planning.

Mrs. Curran advised that the Town Council Budget / Management meeting has been moved to 5:30pm on June 1, 2020.

Ms. Palazzo verified that the remote learning surveys will be received by students in grade 3-12 and inquired if students would be part of sub groups. The Superintendent advised that they would reach out to building administrators for recommendations.

The Chair advised that it's great to have such involvement and welcome all participation even if not assigned to a committee and the 'Return to School Committee' will remain as a standing agenda item.

Public Comment

The Chair reminded everyone that public comment is for items on the agenda and that if wish to speak to add your name and address and topic. Dr. Sullivan gave an overview of using the chat feature to request an opportunity to speak.

Public comment can also be made under Old Business for 'Policies under 2nd reading'

There was no public comment.

New Business

a. Alternative Pathways - Melanie Curtin and Margaret Verlicco

Mr. Wargo emphasised that the core value is to meet the needs of all students and expressed how proud he was that the alternative pathways program and the MTSS supports are in line with that value. Mr. Wargo introduced Melanie Curtin and Dr. Meg Verlicco who gave an overview of the presentation. Topics included accomplishments, priorities and cost savings. Ann Donovan for the Accept Collaboration evaluated and gave recommendations. An outline of the three tiered targeted interventions was given. Supports are offered in the least restrictive

environment and also in the Therapeutic Learning Classroom as well as Chard. Street. Chard Street houses 11 students and offers creative ways for students to succeed and stay in the district.

Dr. Sullivan commented that he appreciates the savings and is happy to see the recommendations from outside consultants are resulting in the district doing right by the kids.

Mrs Curran inquired what Tier 2 supports looks like the at the High School and Dr. Verlicco informed there are different modules that run based on the student's needs for targeted intervention such as self regulation, peer groups, lunch buddies, etc. Ms. Curtin advised that the supports change as they depend on age and individual situation. Mr. Strauss added that the Tier 2 staff and SEL coaches are vitally important.

Mrs. Nardone clarified that at Chard Street that there is a mental health component and Ms. Curtin advised that the main goal is to engage the students with wrap around services that support the students as well as parents.

The Superintendent thanked the CTE department, maintenance and custodial staff for all the hard work in preparing the building and stated that it's a work in progress with the potential to service more at risk students in a general equitable education setting.

The Chair commented that current research models support the concept and if there is a caring person in a students life they have a better chance of being a successful adult and that is provided at Chard Street.

All questions asked by the committee were addressed.

The committee thanked Ms. Curtin and Dr. Verlicco for the update and presentation. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

b. Policy Section E -Support Services - First Reading

Mrs. Nardone gave an overview of the proposed changes

c. Policy Section F - Facilities Development - First Reading

Mrs. Nardone gave an overview of the proposed changes

d. Policy Section G - Personnel - First Reading

Mrs. Nardone gave an overview of the proposed changes

e. Policy Section H - Negotiations - First Reading

Mrs. Nardone gave an overview of the proposed changes

Mrs. Curran advised that she is not in favor of changing FFA at this time and that both versions of the policy should be available publicly and would like further discussion. Mrs. Nardone shared that it is stated in the Policy sub minutes that Mrs. Curran is not in favor.

Dr. Curtis-Whipple shared that it is not appropriate for the well being of students to have memorials on campus. There will be a memorial garden for staff who've passed at the New Chapman.

Motion by Mrs. Curran to bring Policy Sections E, F, G, H to the next school committee meeting for second reading. Seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Roll call vote. Passed unanimously.

f. Fee Schedule Updates (Action Requested)

Assistant Superintendent Smith gave an overview of the fee increase recommendations. 3% Increases for WHS Early Child care, Johnson Pre-School, and for Weycare. 10% increase for Summer School. Increases included for adult lunch to \$4.00, Primary lunch, \$3.00, secondary \$3.25, primary breakfast \$1.10 and secondary breakfast \$1.50.

Dr. Sullivan commented that Weymouth has been below the required rate for some time and that the increase is a fair ask.

Mrs. Curran inquired about the Assistant Director of Weycare position and The Superintendent advised that as of now the position is being maintained. Dr. Curtis-Whipple stated that fees will not be collected if a program is not running.

Mr. Smith stated that due to implementation of tuition-free full day kindergarten, that fee would be reduced to \$0.

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to accept the fee schedule updates presented by Mr. Smith. Seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Roll Call Vote, Passed 5-1; Mrs. Curran voted no.

Mrs. Curran explained that she felt she had to vote no because she did not support tuition for full day kindergarten being set at \$0 in the current times.

g. Approval of modular classroom construction to the current school buildings at Talbot, Murphy, and Academy Ave. Primary School pursuant to G.L. 43, section 34 (Action Requested)

The Chair explained that to be in compliance the School Committee votes on construction or alteration of school buildings.

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to approve the modular classroom construction to the current school buildings at Talbot, Murphy, and Academy Ave. Primary School pursuant to G.L. 43, section 34. Seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Roll call vote. Passed unanimously.

Old Business

a. School Handbooks - Second Reading

I. Primary-Kathy Guilfooy and Richard Bransfield

Public Comment - There was none.

II. Middle-Matt Meehan & Rebecca Paulhus

Public Comment

Mark Ricci-inquired if any verbiage will be added regarding remote learning and behavior. The Superintendent advised that there is a possibility for a COVID19 and/or remote learning flier insert. Principal Strauss added that there have not been any issues with behavior at WHS.

III. High School-Alan Struass, Karen Monahan, Rebecca Paulhus, Karen Bonner

Principal Strauss announced that in talks with the Department of Health there is a possibility of a live graduation on August 7, 2020. More information to come. He also thanked WETC, the Post Prom Committee, and the Weymouth Police Department for all the help, support and planning.

Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw that the High School administration for listening to her comments and making the updates to the attendance policy.

Mrs. Curran stated that further discussion regarding cell phones is needed and thought that the 1 to 1 initiative helped with this.

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to combine the second and third reading of the Primary, Middle and High School handbooks. Seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Roll call vote. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to approve the Primary, Middle and High School handbooks. Seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Roll call vote. Passed unanimously.

b. Policy Section A - Second Reading

Mrs. Curran advised that the incorrect policy of BGB was uploaded and suggested combining Policy A, C, D.

c. Policy Section B - Second Reading

No comments/changes

d. Policy Section C - Second Reading

No comments/changes

e. Policy Section D - Second Reading

No comments/changes

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to combine second and third reading of policies A, B, C, D with the notation made that BDB will be uploaded correctly. Seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Roll call vote. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to approve policies A, B, C, D. Seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Roll call vote. Passed unanimously.

f. Update on Modularity, Adams Renovation and Transportation Building (Town Measure 20072 - Amend Measure 19017)

Chair Belmarsh advised that Mr. McLeod presented last week and there is a measure before the Town Council adding the transportation building to the Adams renovation and that this would remain an agenda item to bring awareness of the project. Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw raised the point of the alleged disagreement that Mr. Langill discussed at a budget / management subcommittee meeting and the Chair confirmed she didn't know of any disagreement. Mrs. Curran shared that the details have been vague since the beginning and inquired about the educational plan for Adams and wants it done right. The Chair agreed. It was reiterated that Adams has to remain a school as per the MSBA agreement.

g. Chapman School Building Update

The building is all packed! There is a tentative school building committee meeting on June 9. The Superintendent confirmed that there will *not* be a yard sale and that donations will be going to Haiti.

Graduation can be viewed on WETC channel or live streamed. There may be an opportunity to volunteer to help with the event on August 7, 2020.

Announcements:

- Weymouth Market-June 3, 2020-NEW time-2:30pm-4:30pm-WHS Gold Cafeteria: Market will occur in a drive thru manner
- Budget Sub Committee-June 3, 2020-6:00pm, virtually
- Policy Sub-June 10 at 5:30, virtually
- School Committee Meeting-Thursday, June 18, 2020 – 7:00pm -

The Meeting adjourned at 9:22pm on the motion of Tracey Nardone, seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Roll call vote - passed unanimously.

Documents Attached to These Minutes:

- ALternative Pathways presentation
- Primary, Middle, High School Handbook changes
- Fee updates
- Modular, Adams Renovation, Transportation Presentation
- Policy Sections E, F, G, H

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John P. Sullivan", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

John Sullivan
Secretary