



# Weymouth

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## PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Weymouth School Committee

Humanities Center & Zoom

November 18, 2021

MEETING MINUTES *(approved 12/6/21)*

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

**Members Absent:** Mayor Hedlund

**Also Present:** Robert Wargo, Superintendent; Brian Smith, Assistant Superintendent; Melanie Curtin, Assistant Superintendent

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**The Meeting Came to Order At 7:02pm.**

Chair Belmarsh led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Consent Agenda:**

The Consent agenda included:

- Warrant 18-2022 in the amount of \$771,903,.69. Dated 11/1/21
- Warrant 20-2022 in the amount of \$628,030.22. Dated 11/15/21
- Regular Minutes: 10/28/21
- Executive Session Minutes: 10/28/21
- Meeting of the Whole Minutes: 10/28/21

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to accept the consent agenda. Seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Motion passed unanimously.

**Student Advisory**

Advisory students, Josephine, Brooke, Alanna, and Kalina gave an overview of their update.

Topics included:

-Creation of new inclusivity groups such as Asian Student Alliance.

- Say It! Hear it! Change It' anti racism workshop and community forum event held November 17, 2021 featuring student narratives and speakers Jamele Adams and Sarah Furie who spoke of fostering diversity, equity and inclusion.
- Unified sports held an end of season jamboree.

The committee thanked the students for their report and shared their appreciation for students sharing their voice.

### **Public Comment**

The Chair reminded that public comment be in accordance with Policy BED, 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. **There was no public comment.**

### **Report of the Superintendent:**

The Superintendent expressed his gratitude for the district's Education Support Professionals in recognition of ESP appreciation day.

The Johnson School hosted a turkey trot November 18, 2021.

The Girls Cross Country team led by Coach Mike Miller earned top State Titles.

There will be a vaccination clinic for children aged 5-11 on Saturday, November 20, 2021 from 11am-3pm(first shot) and Saturday, December 11, 2021, 11am-3pm (second shot) at WHS.

Wednesday, Nov 24, 2021 will be a half day before the Thanksgiving break.

The annual Dreamcatcher Roadrace will be held at WHS on Thanksgiving morning at 7:30.

The Superintendent expressed his thanks to Principal Strauss for spearheading and organizing the anti-racism forum and shared his appreciation for all the students and staff that were involved and for those who attended.

An assembly celebrating Veterans was held at Abigail Adams on November 10, 2021 organized by Dennis Jones and Remy Sullivan.

The Superintendent advised that there is an increase in Covid cases and encouraged the community to get vaccinated.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Middle & High School Improvement Plans - Principals Strauss and Meehan, and Associate Principals Monahan and Paulhus**

Assistant Superintendent Curtin shared that the Improvement plan is a bit different this year and the focus is on action steps to achieve goals for Student Achievement as well as Engagement, Empowerment and Equity.

Principal Meehan and Associate Principal Paulus gave a summary of the goals for both Student Achievement and Engagement, Empowerment, and Equity for Middle School students.

Associate Principal Monahan reviewed goals for student achievement at the high school level. Principal Strauss outlined the action steps for Engagement, Empowerment, and Equity.

Discussion of disproportionate treatment, restorative justice, student growth and achievement as well as decreasing disciplinary referrals and attendance. Suspension and percentages were talked over.

All questions asked by the committee were addressed. The Committee thanked the presenters and expressed their appreciation for the concise presentation and the alignment between the 2 schools.

**b. Resolution to Support the Dedication of the New Chapman Middle School Gymnasium to Weymouth Police Sergeant Michael Chesna (action requested)**

The Chair read the resolution into the record. Request by Mayor Hedlund to the Weymouth Memorial Committee to dedicate the new Chapman Middle School Gymnasium to Sergeant Michael Chesna.

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to support the Resolution to Support the Dedication of the New Chapman Middle School Gymnasium to Weymouth Police Sergeant Michael Chesna. Seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Motion Passed unanimously.

**c. Budget Sub-Committee Report**

Dr. Sullivan summarized the meeting held November 16, 2021. Topics included: FY21 State budget update, FY23 budget prep schedule, athletics budget and the new price structure of students paying less to increase attendance, uniform cycle, role of the waiver program and scholarship program. It was reiterated that if students want to participate that there is an opportunity to do so and that if there is a financial barrier to reach out to building administrators.

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to accept the budget subcommittee report. Seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Motion passed unanimously.

**d. Policy Sub-Committee Report**

Mrs. Nardone reviewed the meeting of November 15, 2021 addressing a change in dress code and running a pilot program. The subcommittee agreed to bring the pilot program before the school committee for vote.

Motion by Dr. Sullivan to accept the report of the policy sub committee. Seconded by Mrs. Nardone. Motion passed unanimously.

**e. Handbook: WHS Change in Dress Code Pilot 2021-2022 (action requested)**

As discussed at the policy subcommittee, Student Voice is proposing a pilot program from November 22, 2021-April 28, 2022 to eliminate hats, headware, and helmets except for religious reasons with the approval of the Principal as well as removing it from the 2022 handbook. Teachers also have the right to ask students to remove their hat. Data will be tracked and the subject will be revisited.

Motion by Dr. Sullivan to approve the WHS Change in Dress Code Pilot Program from 11/22/21-4/28/22. Seconded by Mrs. Nardone. Mrs. Curran voted present. Motion passed.

'You're a good man, Charlie Brown' WHTC students joined the meeting advising of showtimes and dates for the upcoming weekend. Tickets are available at the door and are \$12, \$10 for students and seniors.

**f. Field Trip-WHS-DECA District I Competition-Quincy Marriott-Quincy, MA-January 6-7, 2022 (action requested)**

Assistant Superintendent Curtin outlined the field trip details.

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to approve the WPS DECA field trip. Seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Motion passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**a. Career and Technical Education Admission Policy and Application-2nd reading**

Opened for public comment. There was none.

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to combine 2nd and 3rd reading of the CTE Admission Policy and Application. Seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to accept the CTE policy and application. Seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Motion passed unanimously.

**b. Finalize Superintendent Evaluation and School Committee Goals (action requested)**

The Superintendent advised that the Superintendent goals are now more closely aligned with the School Committee goals. Alignment will enable clarity and both parties to work in unison. The rubric will help in evaluation and indicators 3, 4, and 7 were highlighted. This agenda item will be placed on the December meeting where the timeline can be adjusted if need be. It was suggested for a Meeting of the Whole to be had for further discussion of the entry plan before formally presenting at the School Committee.

**c. Updates and Status of Chapman Middle School Opening 2022-Assistant Superintendent  
Melanie Curtin**

The next School Building committee will be held December 14, 2021. The Principal position will be finalized next week. FFE and Technology packages are complete, and building is on schedule.

Discussion who Maria Weston Chapman was and the themes for Chapman art of Empathy, Inclusivity and Diversity was had.

**Chapman Project Updates**

**Announcements:**

Weymouth High Theatre Company - You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown!

November 19 and 20th - 7:00pm.

November 21, 2021 - 2:00pm

SEPAC-November 30, 2021-Virtual-Angela Ferrara presenting

Weymouth Market-December 1, 2021-3:30pm-WHS, Gold Cafeteria-Market will return to pre-Covid model of in person pick up

Community Connections Night-December 1, 2021, 4:00-7:00pm

SEPAC Fundraiser through "Inclusive Lens", photo session sitting fee is \$50

A rolling sensory cart is available for events through Friends of the Weymouth SEPAC-contact [sepac.wps@gmail.com](mailto:sepac.wps@gmail.com)

**Next School Committee Meeting:**

Regular Meeting: Thursday, December 9, 2021 - 7:00pm

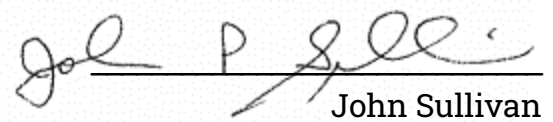
**The Meeting adjourned at 8:37pm** on the motion of Mrs. Nardone, seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Passed unanimously.

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**Documents Attached to These Minutes:**

- Student Advisory Update
- Middle & High School Improvement Plans
- New Chapman Gymnasium Resolution supporting Sergrean Michael Chesna
- WHS CTE Admission Policy and Application
- Chapman Update

Respectfully Submitted,

  
John Sullivan  
Secretary